

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 4504/2026
(arising out of SLP (Crl.) No. 11822/2025)

K.K. RAJAGOPAL

..... APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE REP. BY THE INSPECTOR OF
POLICE

..... RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appellant, K.K. Rajagopal, is aggrieved by the order dated 09.06.2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras in Criminal R.C. No. 274/2023, confirming the conviction and sentence imposed upon him by the learned Judicial Magistrate, Court No. 1, Salem, vide judgment dated 25.02.2020 passed in C.C. No. 449/2005, for the offences punishable under Sections 468 and 120(b) of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.
3. The case against the appellant, a Duty Doctor in Kamala Hospital, was that he had altered the entry made in the accident register maintained at the hospital, by modifying the time of the accident as 07.30 p.m. in the place of 02.30 p.m.
4. We find from the record that the accident register, which was allegedly modified by the appellant, was never produced in evidence.

5. Reliance was placed by the trial court upon the investigation report said to have been submitted by the investigator appointed by the Insurance Company, wherein he had recorded to the effect that the appellant had made such a modification. In the absence of the primary evidence, viz., the accident register, which the appellant allegedly modified, the trial court was not justified in returning a finding of guilt against him and sentencing him to imprisonment for a period of six months.
6. The High Court was equally in error in overlooking this crucial aspect and in confirming the conviction and sentence imposed upon the appellant.
7. We may also note that, by order dated 04.08.2025, this Court granted exemption from surrendering to the appellant and while issuing notice on 14.08.2025, the said order was extended.
8. The appeal is, accordingly, allowed, setting aside the judgment dated 25.02.2020 in C.C. No. 449/2005 and the confirmation thereof by the impugned order passed by the High Court in CrI. R.C. No. 274/2023.
9. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J.
(SANJAY KUMAR)

.....J.
(SANJEEV SACHDEVA)

NEW DELHI;
SEPTEMBER 22, 2026.

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CRIMINAL) No. 11822/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 09-06-2025 in CRLRC No. 274/2023 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras]

K.K.RAJAGOPAL

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE REP. BY THE INSPECTOR OF POLICE

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 176344/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT AND IA No. 176345/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.)

Date : 22-09-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KUMAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA

For Petitioner(s) Mr. S. Nagamuthu, Sr. Adv.
Mr. M.p. Parthiban, AOR
Ms. Priyaranjani Nagamuthu, Adv.
Mr. Bilal Mansoor, Adv.
Mr. Shreyas Kaushal, Adv.
Mr. S. Geyolin Selvam, Adv.
Mr. Alagiri K, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek S, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. B. Karunakaran, AOR
Ms. Jeyasri, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel, the Court made the following
O R D E R

Leave granted.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(BABITA PANDEY)
AR-CUM-PS

(PREETI SAXENA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

(Signed order is placed on the file)

