



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____/2026
@ SLP (CRL) NO.8147/2026

ARUN PATI TRIPATHI

.....

APPELLANT

VERSUS

STATE OF JHARKHAND

.....

RESPONDENT

WITH

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____/2026
@ SLP (CRL) NO.8121/2026

O R D E R

1. Heard.
2. Leave granted.
3. The appellants apprehending their arrest in the light of FIR No.09/2025 registered by P.S.: Anti-Corruption Bureau for the offences punishable under Section 61(2) read with Sections 318, 336, 340, 316, 45 and 49 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and Sections 7(c), 12 and 13(2) read with Section 13(1)(a) of the

Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 are seeking for being enlarged on anticipatory bail since their prayer before the courts-below has been negatived.

4. The case of the prosecution is Jharkhand State Beverages Corporation Limited had engaged two placement agencies for manpower supply at its retail liquor stores and these agencies had submitted fake bank guarantees and investigation revealed a deep rooted conspiracy where appellants alongwith Anwar Dhebar had allegedly paid Rs.5 Crores as a bribe to Vinay Kumar Choubey, then Principal Secretary, Excise and Prohibition Department, Government of Jharkhand in January, 2022 to secure the advisory role for Chhattisgarh State Marketing Corporation Limited. The prosecution specifically attributes the role to Arun Pati Tripathi to be the chief conspirator and accused of paying the bribe amount and subsequently, facilitating the appointment of specific placement agencies in Chhattisgarh and

Jharkhand which resulted in financial loss to the State. By the impugned order, the prayer of the appellants has been rejected on the ground that fake guarantees had been submitted by two placement agencies and it was found that the appellants had close links with main accused. Hence, on the ground that the custodial interrogation is necessary to confront the appellants with other co-accused, prayer came to be rejected. As to whether the appellants acted purely in an advisory capacity with no decision making authority are all issues which will have to be thrashed out after evaluating the evidence that would be tendered by the prosecution. Undisputedly, appellants were not initially named in the FIR and based on the co-accused statement, they have been implicated. In fact, the main accused Vinay Kumar Choubey is on default bail and the co-accused Vinay Kumar Singh has also been granted anticipatory bail and two other co-accused have been granted interim protection by

this Court. In the light of these facts and also taking note of the fact that this Court while issuing notice on the above appeals had directed the appellants to appear before the Investigating Officer and the learned counsel appearing for the respondent - State is not disputing their appearance before the Investigating Officer as ordered by this Court, we see no reason as to why the interim order granted should not be made absolute. Hence, we allow these appeals and direct the appellants to be released on anticipatory bail by the jurisdictional Investigating Officer subject to such terms and conditions as he deems fit to impose and we make it clear that both the appellants shall appear before the Investigating Officer as and when called upon or informed (even over phone) and shall cooperate with the investigation fully. In the event of the appellants failing to appear or not cooperating with the investigation, the respondent - State would be at liberty to move

the jurisdictional trial court for cancellation of their bail by filing appropriate application and in the event of such an application being filed, the jurisdictional Court shall consider the same on its own merits and in accordance with law, necessarily after giving opportunity to the appellants herein. Accordingly, the appeals stand disposed of.

5. All pending applications stand disposed of.

.....J.
(ARAVIND KUMAR)

.....J.
(VIPUL M. PANCHOLI)

NEW DELHI;
JULY 14, 2026.

ITEM NO.6

COURT NO.12

SECTION II-A

**S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.)
No(s).8147/2026**

**[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 24-04-2026 in ABA No.7285/2025 passed by the
High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi]**

ARUN PATI TRIPATHI

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF JHARKHAND

Respondent(s)

**IA No. 135870/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
IA No. 138764/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES**

WITH

SLP(Crl) No. 8121/2026 (II-A)

**IA No. 135324/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF
THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT**

IA No. 135326/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 184611/2026 - MODIFICATION OF COURT ORDER

**IA No. 141672/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES**

**Date : 14-07-2026 These matters were called on for
hearing today.**

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARAVIND KUMAR
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIPUL M. PANCHOLI**

**For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Shishir Prakash, Adv.
Ms. Karuna Krishan Thareja, Adv.
Ms. Sthavi Asthana, AOR**

Mr. Manohar Pratap, AOR
Mr. Shashank Mishra, Adv.
Mr. Vikrant Baniwal, Adv.

For Respondent(s) : Ms. Pallavi Langar, AOR
Mr. Sujeet Kumar Chaubey, Adv.
Ms. Anushka Raghunath, Adv.

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, AOR
Mr. Dev Aaryan, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

Leave granted.

Criminal Appeals are allowed and disposed of in terms of the signed order placed on the file.

All pending applications stand disposed of.

(NEHA GUPTA)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(AVGV RAMU)
COURT MASTER (NSH)