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ITEM NO.38

COURT NO.4

SECTION II

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

Criminal Appeal No(s). 1753/2022

MADHAV RAM (DECEASED) THROUGH LRS Appellant(s)

VERSUS

PATANJALI BHARDWAJ & ANR.

Respondent(s)

[ONLY IA NO. 263756/2025 IN CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 1554/2022 IS LISTED UNDER THIS ITEM]

WITH

CrI.A. No. 1554/2022 (II)

IA No. 263756/2025 - GRANT OF BAIL

Date : 07-10-2026 This application was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.M. SUNDRESH

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE

For Appellant(s)

**Mr. Sidharth Luthra, Sr. Adv.
Mr. M. Z. Chaudhary, Adv.
Mr. Aftab Ali Khan- 1596, AOR
Mr. Saad Shervani, Adv.
Mr. Parv Arora, Adv.
Mr. Suhail Ahmad, Adv.**

**Mr. T. N. Singh- 749, AOR
Ms. Rajshree Singh, Adv.
Mr. Kumar Gaurav, Adv.
Ms. Ankita Singh, Adv.**

For Respondent(s) Ms. Rajdeepa Behrui, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Sakshi Kakkar, AOR
Mr. Divya Prakash, Adv.
Mr. Phillo, Adv.

Mr. Sidharth Luthra, Sr. Adv.
Mr. M. Z. Chaudhary, Adv.
Mr. Aftab Ali Khan- 1596, AOR
Mr. Shoaib. A. Khan, Adv.
Mr. Sandeep Garausa, Adv.
Mr. Tabarak Hussain, Adv.

Mr. T. N. Singh- 749, AOR
Ms. Rajshree Singh, Adv.
Mr. Kumar Gaurav, Adv.
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Ms. Ankita Singh, Adv.

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

IA No. 263756/2025 - GRANT OF BAIL IN CRIMINAL
APPEAL NO.1554/2022

The appellant/applicant stands convicted by
the Trial Court vide order dated 09.12.2014, for
the offences punishable under Sections 148,
302/149, 307/149 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860
and Sections 3(2)(v) of the Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and was awarded death penalty.

However, on appeal the High Court was pleased to convert the sentence of death penalty into life imprisonment, vide order dated 18.12.2018.

We have heard the learned Senior counsel appearing for the appellant/applicant, the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the respondent-State and the learned counsel appearing for the complainant.

Learned Senior Counsel appearing for the appellant/applicant while placing reliance upon the documents to indicate the physical condition of the applicant, submits that apart from the period of incarceration already undergone by the applicant, two more factors may be weighed in by the Court, namely, the deteriorating health of the appellant/applicant and his old age.

The application for suspension of sentence is vehemently opposed by the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the respondent-State as well as the

learned counsel appearing for the complainant.

It is submitted that after the occurrence which is the subject matter of the present appeal, the appellant/applicant was also involved in a few other criminal cases. There is a perceived threat still subsisting as of now, against the complainant.

We shall first deal with the cases filed against the appellant/applicant after the occurrence which is the subject matter of the present appeal. All these incidents allegedly happened more than a decade ago and few of the cases have already been closed.

We are also inclined to consider the present application only on two grounds, namely, the age of the appellant/applicant being 75 years and his medical condition, as indicated by a Government Doctor.

Notwithstanding the fact that the appellant/applicant has been under incarceration for about 12 years, we find that most of the cases

against him were filed till 2012.

The medical report indicates that the appellant/applicant is not in a position to move on his own. In other words, he needs external support even for standing and walking. Moreover, he has crossed the age of 70 years.

Therefore, taking note of the aforesaid factors alone, we are inclined to suspend the sentence of the appellant/applicant, during the pendency of the present appeal(s).

Accordingly, the sentence of the appellant/applicant stands suspended and he is granted bail, during the pendency of the present appeal(s), subject to the terms and conditions that can be imposed by the concerned Trial Court.

We further direct the concerned Trial Court to impose an additional condition to the effect that the appellant/applicant shall not travel out of Delhi, without the prior permission of this Court.

**List the appeals for hearing in the month of
May, 2027.**

**(ASHA SUNDRIYAL)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR**

**(POONAM VAID)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**