

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).1672/2019

KATTAVELLAI @ DEVAKAR

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF TAMIL NADU

RESPONDENT(S)

[HEARD BY : HON. VIKRAM NATH, HON. SANJAY KAROL AND HON. SANDEEP MEHTA, JJ.]

IA No. 167831/2019 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 167830/2019 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 15-07-2025 This matter was called on for pronouncement of judgment today.

For Appellant(s) :

Ms. V. Mohana, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Manasa Ramakrishna, Adv.
Ms. Shreya Rastogi, Adv.
Ms. Sreepriya K, Adv.
Mr. A. Karthik, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. V Krishnamurthy, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Sabarish Subramanian, AOR
Mr. Vishnu Unnikrishnan, Adv.
Ms. Azka Sheikh Kalia, Adv.
Ms. Jahnavi Taneja, Adv.
Mr. Veshal Tyagi, Adv.
Mr. Danish Saifi, Adv.

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Karol has pronounced the reportable judgment of the Bench comprising of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, his Lordship and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Mehta.

2. The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed reportable judgment, which is placed on the file.

3. The operative portion of the judgment reads as under:

"45. Consequent to the above discussion, we have no hesitation in holding that none of the circumstances posited by the prosecution are found to be conclusively proved against the Appellant-convict. The chain of circumstantial evidence in no way points to a singular hypothesis, that is the guilt of the accused, ruling out his innocence or involvement of none else in the crime. As a result, the conviction of the Appellant-convict is vacated. He is directed to be released forthwith if not required in any other case. The appeal is allowed."

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

**(D. NAVEEN)
COURT MASTER (SH)**

**(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)**