

ITEM NO.53

COURT NO.14

SECTION II-C

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 SPetition for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No.740/2024

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 07-12-2023 in CRLP No. 7963/2023 passed by the High Court of Karnataka at Bengaluru)

KAVITHA LANKESH

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

THE STATE OF KARNATAKA &amp; ANR.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 4156/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT)

WITH

SLP(Crl) No. 2433/2024 (II-C)

(FOR EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T. ON IA 42726/2024)

Date : 20-08-2024 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE BELA M. TRIVEDI

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA

For Petitioner(s)

Mr. V. N. Raghupathy, AOR

Ms. Aparna Bhat, Sr. Adv.

Ms. Karishma Maria, Adv.

Ms. Pooja B Mehta, Adv.

Mr. Yash S. Vijay, AOR

For Respondent(s)

Mr. Sidharth Luthra, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Avishkar Singhvi, A.A.G.

Mr. V. N. Raghupathy, AOR

Mr. Sheezan Hashmi, Adv.

Mr. Aakash Dubey, Adv.

Mr. Siddhant Gupta, Adv.

Mr. Vivek Kumar Singh, Adv.

Mr. Gautam S. Bharadwaj, Adv.

Mr. Ashwin Kumar D.s., Adv.

Ms. Surbhi Mehta, AOR

Mr. Ishan Roy Chowdhury, Adv.

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

1. The learned Senior counsel - Mr. Sidharth Luthra appearing for the State of Karnataka states that so far 137 witnesses have been examined by the prosecution, 137 witnesses have been dropped and the prosecution is also likely to drop 150 more witnesses, and now about 100 witnesses are still to be examined.
2. It is not disputed that the Respondent No.2 - Sri Mohan Nayak N. in SLP (Crl) No.740/2024 and sole respondent in SLP (Crl.) No.2433/2024 has cooperated with the trial court in proceeding further with the trial and has not sought any adjournment. He is in custody since 18-7-2018.
3. Under the circumstances, we are not inclined to interfere with the impugned orders passed by the High Court. However, it is directed that the trial court shall expeditiously conduct the trial and all the parties shall cooperate with the trial court in concluding the trial.
4. It goes without saying that if the respondent - accused does not cooperate or asks for unnecessary adjournment(s) or commits breach of any condition, the State of Karnataka or the complainant shall be at liberty to apply for cancellation of bail, and if any such application is filed, the same shall be decided on its own merits and in accordance with law.
5. The Special Leave Petitions are dismissed accordingly.
6. Pending applications also stand disposed of.

(VISHAL ANAND)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(MAMTA RAWAT)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)