



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
(@ SLP (CrI.) No.12492/2026)

ABDUL SALAM

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF KERALA

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. We have heard the learned Senior counsel appearing for the appellant as well as the learned counsel appearing for the respondent-State.
3. This is the second round of litigation.
4. The appellant has been arraigned as an accused and seeks regular bail in connection with FIR No.1989/2021, registered at Police Station - Palakkad Town South, District - Palakkad for the offences punishable under Sections 143, 144, 147, 148, 341, 302, 120B, 201, 212, 109, 118, 465 and 471 read with Section 149 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Section 27(3) read with 7(a), (b) of the Arms Act, 1959.
5. The appellant has been under incarceration for

approximately five years and material witnesses have been examined before the Trial Court including the eye-witnesses. Though the learned counsel appearing for the respondent-State vehemently opposed the prayer for bail, particularly, on the ground that there are attempts made to influence the witnesses, we find that more than a year has elapsed even thereafter. As of now, the material witnesses have been examined, including the eye-witnesses.

6. Taking note of the long period of incarceration and the factum of examination of the eye-witnesses, we are inclined to set aside the impugned order passed by the High Court, and grant regular bail to the appellant.
7. Accordingly, the impugned order stands set aside, and the appellant is granted regular bail, subject to the terms and conditions that may be imposed by the concerned Trial Court, including the condition to make sure that there will not be any attempt to influence the remaining witnesses who are yet to be examined.
8. The Trial Court shall, additionally, impose a condition that the appellant shall cooperate

with the pending trial, particularly when the trial is scheduled to continue from 01.10.2026.

9. The appeal stands allowed, accordingly.
10. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

.....J.
[M.M. SUNDRESH]

.....J.
[PRASANNA B. VARALE]

NEW DELHI;
25th SEPTEMBER, 2026

ITEM NO.11

COURT NO.4

SECTION II-D

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). 12492/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 12-06-2026 in Bail Appl. No. 3070/2026
passed by the High Court of Kerala at Ernakulam]

ABDUL SALAM

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF KERALA

Respondent(s)

Date : 25-09-2026 This petition was called on for
hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.M. SUNDRESH
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Basant R, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Vishnu P., AOR
Mr. Haris Ea, Adv.
Mr. Raunak Arora, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Aljo K. Joseph, AOR
Mr. Sashwat Mishra, Adv.
Mr. Ajay M, 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.

(SWETA BALODI) (POONAM VAID)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS ASSISTANT REGISTRAR
(Signed order is placed on the file)