



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_/2026  
[ @ SLP [CRL.] NO.14329/2026 ]**

**RIAZ @ JOHNY**

**Appellant(s)**

**VERSUS**

**STATE OF KERALA**

**Respondent(s)**

**O R D E R**

**Leave granted.**

**The appellant stands convicted for the offences punishable under Sections 302 read with Sections 149, 143, 147, 148, 450, 427, and Section 307 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 by the Trial Court, and has been sentenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment for life along with fine. The High Court was pleased to dismiss his application for**

suspension of sentence during the pendency of the appeal.

Aggrieved, the appellant is before us.

We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the parties.

Admittedly, the occurrence is said to have happened nearly 30 years ago. The appellant has been under incarceration for nearly three years and nine months. The appeal of the appellant before the High Court is of the year 2025, and therefore, it might take substantial period of time for its disposal.

Taking note of the above, we are inclined to suspend the sentence of the appellant, during the pendency of his appeal before the High Court.

Accordingly, the impugned order stands set aside. The sentence of the appellant stands suspended and he is granted bail, during the pendency of his appeal before the

High Court, on terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the concerned Trial Court.

The appeal stands allowed, accordingly.

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

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

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

NEW DELHI;  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2026.

ITEM NO.7

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). 14329/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order  
dated 19-02-2026 in CRLMA No. 1/2025 in Crl. A.  
No.1079/2025 passed by the High Court of Kerala at  
Ernakulam]

RIAZ @ JOHNY

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF KERALA

Respondent(s)

Date : 25-09-2026 This matter 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. Raghenth Basant, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Vishnu P., AOR  
Ms. Kaushitaki Sharma, Adv.  
Ms. Hima Bhardwaj, Adv.

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

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

Leave granted.

The sentence of the appellant is suspended  
and he is granted bail on terms and conditions to  
the satisfaction of the Trial Court.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed  
order.

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

(ASHA SUNDRIYAL)  
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(POONAM VAID)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

[Signed order is placed on the file]