Redacted by NyayVidhan (the case concerns allegations involving a child): the appellant's name (shown by its initial on nyayvidhan.in) is withheld. Text otherwise as issued by the Court.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

Criminal Appeal No(s). 5184/2026
@SLP (Crl.) No(s). 18297/2026

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN **Respondent(s)**

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.

2. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

3. This appeal arises from an order dated 09.03.2026 by which the High Court has rejected the regular bail prayer of the appellant.

4. The First Information Report ('FIR') of the case was lodged by the grand-mother of the victim wherein she had alleged that her daughter-in-law had illicit relations with the appellant. She also alleged that the appellant used to exploit the victim.

5. It appears from the record that informant's own son i.e. father of the victim himself is facing allegations of commission of an offence and at the time of lodging the FIR, was in

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by CHETAN ARORA
Date: 2026.11.04 14:42:01 IST
Reason:

jail.

6. The appellant has suffered incarceration since 05.02.2025 and in the course of trial, the statements of the victims have been recorded. The said statements have been brought on record through the counter affidavit.

7. We have perused those statements.

8. The learned counsel for the appellant submits that what is conspicuous in the statement of the victim is that she has not made disclosure about the date, the month or the year in which she was exploited even though she is a student of class VI. It has been submitted that the appellant has been falsely implicated only because it is suspected that he has illicit relations with victim's mother. It has also been contended that it is not likely that trial would be concluded in near future as the charge-sheet enlists 25 witnesses out of which only 5 have been examined thus far.

9. The learned counsel for the respondent-State submits that since the allegations are there in the statements of the prosecutrix, the reliability and credibility of those statements

would be tested in the trial and, therefore, it would not be appropriate to comment on the reliability and credibility of those statements at this stage. She also submits that the appellant has two previous criminal antecedents.

10. The learned counsel for the appellant in response submits that in one case, the appellant has been acquitted and in the other case, he is on bail.

11. Having considered the rival submissions, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the prosecution case, we are of the view that the appellant is entitled to be released on bail at this stage.

12. Accordingly, the appeal is allowed. The order passed by the High Court rejecting the regular bail prayer of the appellant is set aside.

13. The appellant shall be released on bail on such terms and conditions as the trial court may deem fit to impose in the facts and circumstances of the case.

14. Pending application(s), if any, shall

stand disposed of.

……..J
[MANOJ MISRA]

……..J
[VIJAY BISHNOI]

New Delhi;
November 03, 2026.

ITEM NO.4 COURT NO.9 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

Criminal Appeal No(s). 5184/2026
@SLP (Crl.) No(s). 18297/2026

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF RAJASTHAN **Respondent(s)**

IA No. 275301/2026 - APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM FILING ORIGINAL CUSTODY CERTIFICATE
IA No. 275313/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 03-11-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIJAY BISHNOI

For Appellant(s) :
Mr. Ashish Saini, Adv.
Mr. Vipin Kumar- 3546, AOR
Mr. Dalganjan Singh, Adv.
Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh, Adv.
Mr. R.r.maurya, Adv.
Mr. V.s.yadav, Adv.
Mr. Bharat Lal Soni, Adv.
Mr. Mahesh Chaurasia, Adv.
Mr. Bishnu Prasad Tiwari, Adv.
Mr. Krishna Kumar Yadav, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :
Ms. Nidhi Jaswal, Adv.
Mr. Saurabh Rajpal- 3577, AOR

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

1. Leave granted.

2. The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order placed on the file.

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

(CHETAN ARORA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(SAPNA BANSAL)
COURT MASTER (NSH)