

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).13955/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 26-07-2010 in CRLA No.212/2010 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, Lucknow Bench]

CHATRA PAL

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF U.P.

RESPONDENT(S)

IA No. 216818/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 216819/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 216816/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date : 06-10-2025 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KAROL

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) :

Dr. Sofiya Begum, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Tabrez Ahmad, Adv.

Mr. Syed Mehdi Imam, AOR

Mr. Komal Jadaon, Adv.

Mr. Pushpa Kishore, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Tanmaya Agarwal, Adv.

Mr. Shaurya Sahay, Adv.

**Upon hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R**

1. On 08.09.2025, we had passed the following order:

"1. Petitioner challenges the judgment and order dated 26.07.2010 in Criminal Appeal No.212/2010 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, Lucknow Bench, titled "Chatra Pal vs. State of Uttar Pradesh".

2. Delay condoned.

3. In relation to Crime No.1022 of 2004 of Kotwali Police Station, Unnao District, Uttar Pradesh, four persons stand convicted by the Trial Court for having committed an offence punishable under Section 396 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (for short, "the Act, 1860"). However, in relation to the offence punishable under Section 412 of the Act, 1860, all of them stood acquitted. No appeal stands filed by the State against the judgment of acquittal. However, the appeal against the conviction is pending consideration before the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, Lucknow Bench (for short, "the High Court"). One amongst the four, namely Chatra Pal, has preferred the present Special Leave Petition assailing the order dated 26th July 2010 rejecting the prayer for grant of bail.

4. We notice that the instant petitioner has been behind bars for more than 21 years (approximate) and the appeal has been pending consideration for the last 15 years. Ordinarily, we would not have issued notice; however, in the attending facts and circumstances of the case, we issue notice to the Registrar (General) of the High Court, directing him/her to submit a report as to 1) why the appeal preferred in the year 2010 has not yet been listed for hearing? and 2) what steps are being taken for disposal of the appeal pending consideration, where the accused are suffering incarceration for a long period of time? Obviously, the Registrar (General) shall place the

matter before the Hon'ble Chief Justice of the High Court for obtaining necessary orders in that regard.

5. The Registrar (Judicial) is directed to transmit this order to the Registrar (General) of the High Court during the course of the day.

6. The Registrar (General) shall furnish information in a tabular chart as to how many such appeals are pending consideration, where the accused are suffering incarceration for a period of at least ten years.

7. We also issue notice to the sole respondent/State of Uttar Pradesh, returnable on 06.10.2025.

8. Dasti service, in addition, is permitted. Let steps for service be taken within two weeks.

9. Learned counsel for the petitioner is permitted to serve the learned standing counsel for the State of Uttar Pradesh.

10. In the notice itself let it be mentioned that the respondent is required to file the counter affidavit and reply to the interlocutory application(s), if any, before the next date of listing."

2. We have perused the report dated 27.09.2025 submitted by the Registrar (Judicial) (Listing), High Court of Judicature at Allahabad.

3. We are of the considered view that, in the interest of justice, it would be appropriate to formally implead the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad through the Registrar (General) as a party respondent. Ordered accordingly. Registry to amend the cause title accordingly.

4. Mr. Tanmaya Agarwal, learned standing counsel for the High Court, who appeared through video conferencing, accepts notice.

5. We request him to communicate this order to the Registrar (General) of the High Court during the course of the day.

6. The Registrar (Judicial) of this Court shall also communicate a copy of this order to the Registrar (General) of the High Court forthwith.

7. List on 13.10.2025.

(D. NAVEEN)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)