

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**  
**CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**  
**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.653 OF 2020**  
**(Arising out of SLP (Criminal) No.1799 of 2020)**

**SAPNA BHARTI**

**...Appellant**

**VERSUS**

**STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH**

**...Respondent**

**O R D E R**

Leave granted.

This appeal challenges the order dated 17.10.2019 passed by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Bench at Indore in Miscellaneous Criminal Case No.28224 of 2019.

The appellant (Accused No.2) is facing prosecution in Sessions Trial No.21 of 2018 for the offences punishable under Sections 420, 406, 421, 467, 468, 471, 120B/34 IPC read with Sections 5/6 of the Madhya Pradesh Nikshepakon Ke Hiton Ka Sanrakshan Adhiniyam, 2000.

The appellant was taken in custody on 03.11.2017.

By order dated 07.07.2020 passed by this Court, she was directed to be released on interim bail for a period of three months, which facility the appellant enjoyed for about two months. The appellant thereafter surrendered on 10.09.2020. In effect, the appellant has nearly completed two years and

nine months of actual imprisonment.

Admittedly, out of 67 witnesses to be examined on behalf of the prosecution, only 8 witnesses have been examined in the trial.

Considering the entirety of the matter, we direct release of the appellant on bail during the pendency of Sessions Trial No.21 of 2018.

The appellant shall be produced before the Trial Court within three days from today and the Trial Court shall release her on bail, subject to such conditions as the Trial Court may deem appropriate to impose to ensure her presence and participation in the pending trial.

The appeal is allowed in the aforesaid terms.

.....J.  
[UDAY UMESH LALIT]

.....J.  
[VINEET SARAN]

.....J.  
[S. RAVINDRA BHAT]

NEW DELHI;  
OCTOBER 06, 2020.

