



Serial No. 03
Regular List

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA
AT SHILLONG

Crl.M.C. No. 8 of 2026

Date of Decision: 09.02.2026

Shri. Rajesh Lamin,
S/o (L) Samel Dkhar,
R/o Lejri, Umkiang,
East Jaintia Hills District,
P.S Lumshnong, Meghalaya.

Presently serving sentence in
District Prison & Correctional Home,
Jowai, Meghalaya.

..... **Applicant**

-Vs-

State of Meghalaya through
Superintendent of Police,
East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya.

..... **Respondent**

Coram:

Hon'ble Mr. Justice W. Diengdoh, Judge

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Bhattacharjee, Judge

Appearance:

For the Petitioner/Applicant(s) : Ms. S. Nongsiej, Legal Aid Counsel.

For the Respondent(s) : Mr. H. Kharmih, Addl. PP.
Mr. S. Sengupta, Addl. PP.

i) Whether approved for reporting in Law journals etc.: Yes/No



ii) Whether approved for publication
in press:

Yes/No

Per W. Diengdoh, (J):

JUDGMENT AND ORDER (ORAL)

1. Heard Ms. S. Nongsiej, learned Legal Aid Counsel for the applicant, who has submitted that the applicant has filed an appeal before this Court, assailing the impugned judgment and order of sentence dated 04.12.2024 passed by the Court of the learned Special Judge (POCSO), East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat in Special POCSO Case No. 23 of 2020 under Section 3/4 of the POCSO Act, wherein he was directed to undergo imprisonment for a term of 15 years with fine.

2. However, because the applicant is a laborer, and his family could not afford to appoint a private counsel, therefore, legal aid was sought for, and accordingly, this application was process through Legal Aid Counsel.

3. In the meantime, while preferring an appeal, a delay of 368 days has occurred, for which prayer is made that the delay be condoned and the appeal be admitted.

4. Mr. H. Kharmih, learned Addl. PP appearing for the State respondent has no objection to the prayer made.

5. On consideration of the submission made, we are persuaded to allow



the appeal to be heard on merits, and for that, we are also convinced that the grounds cited for the delay contain sufficient cause. Accordingly, the delay of 368 days in preferring the related appeal is hereby condoned.

6. Registry is directed to diarize the appeal and list it for admission after 1(one) week.

7. Misc. Case disposed of.

(B. Bhattacharjee)
Judge

(W. Diengdoh)
Judge