**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI**
**Criminal Appeal (S.J.) No.841 of 2026**

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Arjun Kumar, aged about 23 years, Son of Mangal Saw, Resident of Village Manatu, P.O. & P.S. Keredari, District Hazaribag.

**…. …. Appellant(s)**

**-Versus-**

1. The State of Jharkhand
2. XXXX **…. …. Respondent(s)**

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**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJESH KUMAR**

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For the Appellant : Mr. Lalan Kumar Singh, Advocate
For the State : Mr. Santosh Kumar Shukla, A.P.P
For the Victim : Ms. Aulia Begum, *Amicus Curiae*

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**05/Dated: 03rd November, 2026**

1. Heard the parties.

2. The present appeal has been filed against the impugned order dated 23.07.2026 passed in Misc. Criminal Application No.1067 of 2026 by the learned Additional Sessions Judge-1-cum-Special Judge SC/ST Act, Hazaribagh by which the prayer for grant of bail of the appellant has been rejected in connection with SC/ST P.S. Case No.05 of 2026, for the offence under Sections 69, 352, 126(2), 115(2), 351(2) & 89 of the BNS, 2023 and Section 3(i)(s) of the SC/ST (PoA) Act. The case is now pending in the court of the learned Additional Sessions Judge-I-cum-Special Judge, SC/ST Act, Hazaribagh.

3. It has been submitted by the learned counsel for the appellant that it is a case of sexual exploitation on the false pretext of marriage. It has further been submitted that the parties were in a consensual relationship for the last two years and both are major. It has further been submitted that the appellant is in custody since 29.06.2026 and he undertakes to participate in the trial. On the above basis, prayer for bail has been made.

4. Learned counsel for the State and learned Amicus appearing for the respondent No.2 have opposed the prayer for bail by *stating* that a member of weaker sections of the society has been exploited.

5. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and from perusal of the records, it appears that both the parties are major and there was a long consensual relationship between them. Accordingly, the appellant named above, is directed to be released on bail, on his furnishing bail bond of Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand) with two sureties of like amount each to the satisfaction of the learned Additional Sessions Judge-I-cum-Special Judge, SC/ST Act, Hazaribagh in connection with SC/ST P.S. Case No.05 of 2026, *subject to the condition that the appellant will submit self-attested photocopy of his Aadhaar Card and also submit his mobile number before the learned trial court which he shall always keep active and will not change it during pendency of this case without prior permission of the court*.

6. In the result, the instant criminal appeal stands allowed and accordingly disposed of.

7. Let this order be communicated to the learned Member Secretary, JHALSA, Ranchi, for the purpose of remuneration to be paid to the learned Amicus Curiae as permissible**.**

**(Rajesh Kumar, J.)**

Dated: **03rd November, 2026**
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