S. GOVERDHAN REDDY
REGISTRAR GENERAL

HYDERABAD
Dt:10.03.2026

ROC.NO.625/SO/2026

To
All the Unit Heads in the State of Telangana.

Sir/Madam,

Sub:- High Court for the State of Telangana – Letter received from the Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi – Forwarded a certified copy of the Order dt.05.02.2026 in Criminal Appeal No.701 of 2026 – Certain observation made and issued directions – Forwarding the same for compliance and necessary action – Reg.

Ref:- Letter dt.10.02.2026 of the Assistant Registrar, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi along with a certified copy of the Order dt.05.02.2026 in Criminal Appeal No.701 of 2026, on the file of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

*****

8 MAR 2026

Adverting to the subject and reference cited, I am to inform that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India while passing the Orders in Criminal Appeal No.701 of 2026, between Reginamary Chellamani Vs. State Rep by Superintendent of Customs, made certain observations and issued directions and the relevant Paras are extracted hereunder:

"Leave granted.

The appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, is aggrieved by the denial of regular bail by the High Court of Judicature at Madras, vide order dated 24.07.2025 passed in Crl.O.P. No. 7857/2025, in relation to Case R.R. No. 41/2021 (C.C. No. 225/2022 on the file of the learned Principal Special Judge under EC and NDPS Act Cases, Chennai), for the offences punishable under Section 8(c) read with Sections 20(b)(ii)(C), 22(c), 23, 28 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 read with Section 135 of the Customs Act, 1962.

The amount of contraband substance allegedly seized from the person of the appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, is stated to be above the commercial quantity prescribed in that regard under the aforestated enactment. We, however, find that the appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, has been in custody for 4 years 1 month and 28 days as on date.

Given the length of incarceration that the appellant has already suffered and as an identically situated accused person, who was travelling along with the appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, on the

same flight, has been granted bail by this Court, we are inclined to grant the same relief to the appellant at this stage.

The appeal is accordingly allowed, setting aside the impugned order dated 24.07.2025.

The appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, is directed to be released on bail in connection with the aforestated NDPS case, on stringent terms and conditions to be fixed by the trial Court. In addition, the appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, shall surrender her passport before the trial Court.

The appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, shall cooperate during the course of the trial and shall not take unnecessary adjournments.

The trial Court shall endeavour to conclude the trial at the earliest.

We clarify that we have not made any observations/comments on the merits of the case and any observation made in this order is meant only for the limited purpose of grant of bail.

We may also note at this stage that the appellant did not cross examine the witnesses at the initial stage and it was only after she engaged her own counsel and her application for re-examining those witnesses was allowed that she was permitted to do so.

It is incumbent upon the trial Courts dealing with criminal proceedings, faced with such situations, to inform the accused of their right to legal representation and their entitlement to be represented by legal aid counsel in the event they cannot afford a counsel. The trial Courts shall record the offer made to the accused in this regard, the response of the accused to such offer and also the action taken thereupon in their orders, before commencing examination of the witnesses.

This procedure requires to be adopted and put in practice scrupulously.

This order shall be communicated to the Chief Justices of all the High Courts to enable suitable instructions being issued in this regard to all the concerned trial Courts within the State.

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

Further, you are requested to download the soft copy of the above said Order from the official e-mail of your Unit and comply with the directions laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and also to circulate the same among all the Presiding Officers in your Unit for compliance.

Yours sincerely,

REGISTRAR GENERAL

PRINCIPAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS COURT:
BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

Endt.Dis.No. 1032 **Date:** 18.03.2026

// Communicated //

Ref:- Hon'ble High Court ROC.NO.625/SO/2026

The Officers are hereby instructed to follow the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India while passing the Orders in Criminal Appeal No.701 of 2026 between Reginamary Chellamani Vs. State Rep by Superintendent of Customs and also directed the concerned Superintendents to download the copy from the District Judiciary Website.

PRINCIPAL DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE,
BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM.

Pri. District & Sessions Judge
Bhadradri Kothagudem.

To

All the Judicial Officers working in the unit of District Judge, Bhadradri Kothagudem.

All Communications Should be Addressed to Registrar by Designation and not by Name. Pin Code - 110001

SPEED POST
D. No. **63855/2025**
SEC-**II-C**
SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI
10th February, 2026

From:
The Assistant Registrar,
Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.

To,

1 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF ALLAHABAD, NYAY MARG, ALLAHABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-211017,
PID: 40239/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

685/26

2 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH NELAPADU, AMARAVATI. PIN 522202,
PID: 40240/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

3 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
BOMBAY HIGH COURT, FORT, MUMBAI - 32,
PID: 40241/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

4 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
CALCUTTA HIGH COURT, 3, ESPLANADE ROW WEST, KOLKATA, PIN 700 001,
PID: 40242/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

5 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH, RAIPUR - BILASPUR EXPRESSWAY BODRI, BILASPUR, CHHATTISGARH 495220,
PID: 40243/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

6 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
DELHI HIGH COURT, SHER SHAH ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110503,
PID: 40244/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

7 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT, SOLA, AHMEDABAD, PIN CODE : 380 060 GUJARAT,
PID: 40245/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

18 FEB 2026
SO

8 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, GUWAHATI PIN 781001, ASSAM, INDIA,
PID: 40246/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

9 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH, RAVENSWOOD, SHIMLA - 171001,

PID: 40247/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

10 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH, JABALPUR, INDIA - 482001,

PID: 40248/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

11 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR, HIGH CT LN, NOOR BAGH, HIGH CT LN, SHAHEED GUNJ, SRINAGAR, JAMMU AND KASHMIR - 190009,

PID: 40249/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

12 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

JHARKHAND HIGH COURT, DORANDA, OPP-JAP GROUND, RANCHI (JHARKHAND) - 834033,

PID: 40250/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

13 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT, PAOTA, JODHPUR, RAJASTHAN - 342005,

PID: 40251/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

14 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, HIGH COURT BUILDINGS, OPP. TO VIDHANA SOUDHA, AMBEDKAR VEEDHI, BENGALURU-560 001,

PID: 40252/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

15 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF KERALA, ERNAKULAM - 682031,

PID: 40253/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

16 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

MADRAS HIGH COURT, CHENNAI - 600104,

PID: 40254/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

17 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF MANIPUR, IMPHAL, MANTRIPUKHRI - 795002,

PID: 40255/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

18 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF MEGHALAYA, SHILLONG - 793001,

PID: 40256/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

19 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,

HIGH COURT OF ORISSA, CUTTACK PINCODE 753002,

PID: 40257/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

20 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT, SECTOR-1, CHANDIGARH,
PID: 40258/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

21 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF BIHAR, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU MARG, VEERCHAND, PATEL ROAD AREA, PATNA, BIHAR PINCODE 800028,
PID: 40259/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

22 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF SIKKIM, GANGTOK, EAST SIKKIM, PIN: 737101 ,
PID: 40260/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

23 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF UTTARAKHAND, NAINITAL, UTTARAKHAND - 263002,
PID: 40261/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

24 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF TELANGANA NEAR GOVT. CITY COLLEGE, MADINA, CHARMINAR HYDERABAD - 500 066.,
PID: 40262/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

25 THE REGISTRAR GENERAL,
HIGH COURT OF TRIPURA, CAPITAL COMPLEX, AGARTALA, TRIPURA-799 010 (INDIA),
PID: 40263/2026 IN CRL.A. NO.701/2026 (SEC II-C)

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. 701 OF 2026

REGINAMARY CHELLAMANI ... Petitioner(s)

Versus

STATE REP BY
SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS ... Respondent(s)

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith, a certified copy of the Signed Reportable Judgment of this Court dated **05th February, 2026** passed by this Hon'ble Court in the matter above-mentioned for your information, necessary action and compliance.

Please acknowledge receipt.

Yours faithfully,

10/2/26

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

REPORTABLE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 701 OF 2026
(arising out of SLP(Crl.) No. 18886/2025)

REGINAMARY CHELLAMANI APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

26019276

STATE REP BY
SUPERINTENDENT OF CUSTOMS RESPONDENT(S)

Certified to be true copy
Assistant Registrar (Judl.)
.....2026
Supreme Court of India

O R D E R

Leave granted.

The appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, is aggrieved by the denial of regular bail by the High Court of Judicature at Madras, *vide* order dated 24.07.2025 passed in Crl.O.P. No. 7857/2025, in relation to Case R.R. No. 41/2021 (C.C. No. 225/2022 on the file of the learned Principal Special Judge under EC and NDPS Act Cases,

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Given the length of incarceration that the appellant has already suffered and as an identically situated accused person, who was travelling along with the appellant, Reginamary Chellamani, on the same flight, has been granted bail by this Court, we are inclined to grant the same

1 "NDPS Act", for short

relief to the appellant at this stage.

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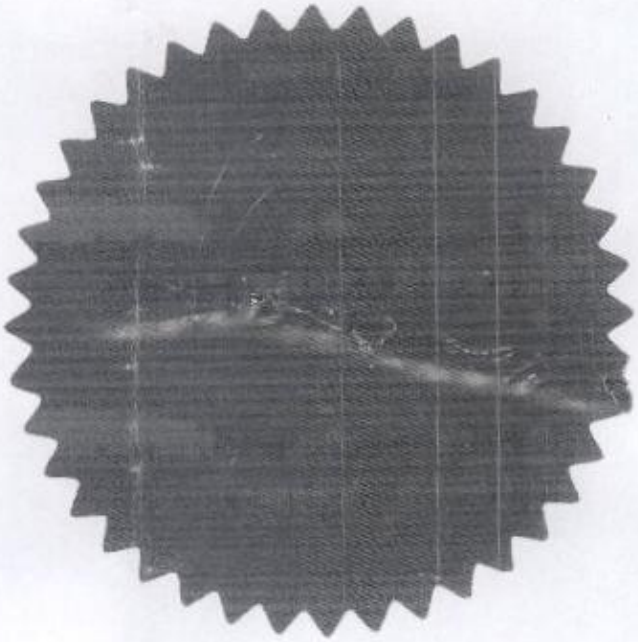
Sd/-

....J.
(SANJAY KUMAR)

Sd/-

.....J.
(K. VINOD CHANDRAN)

NEW DELHI;
FEBRUARY 05, 2026.



SEALED IN MY PRESENCE