S. No. 91 Regular Cause List HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH <u>AT JAMMU</u>

Case:- Bail App No. 30/2024

Bansi Lal Aged 56 years

...Appellant(s)/Petitioner(s)

Through: Mr. Sunil Sethi Sr. Advocate with Mr. Shanum Gupta, Advocate. (Through Video Conferencing)

 U.T. of J&KRespondent(s) Through In charge Police Station, Police Station Sumbal, Bandipora
Superintendent, Central Jail, Kot Bhawal, Jammu.
Through: Mr. P.D. Singh, Dy. AG.
CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ATUL SREEDHARAN, JUDGE OR D E R(ORAL) 03.07.2024

01. The applicant has moved the present application for grant of bail in the aforementioned case. He was arrested in the year 2006. He being a member of the police had been charged with for murder of innocent man projecting him to be a terrorist.

02. Learned senior counsel for the applicant submits that he has been in judicial custody for the past almost 18 years and has never come out on bail except for a few months on interim bail.

03. There are total 72 (Seventy two) witnesses in this case out of which only 28 have been examined in the past 17 (Seventeen) years. This Court is astound by the facts of this case. This is a clear cut case of violation of Article 21 on account of delayed trial. The trial is delayed at the stage of prosecution witnesses. The State is unable to show how the delay could be attributed to the applicant.

04. Under the circumstances, the application is allowed. The applicant is to be released on bail forthwith upon furnishing personal bond of Rs. 50,000/- and one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the Registrar Judicial. The application stands *disposed of*.

JAMMU 03.07.2024 Mihul

> Whether the order is speaking? Whether the order is reportable?

JAMMU & K

Yes/No Yes/No

(ATUL SREEDHARAN) JUDGE