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# Lifer gets bail after eight years

Deepak Prahladka

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THE HIGH court on Wednesday granted bail to a lifer detained in jail for over eight years.

Moving the bail plea Dinesh Saha's advocates Sekhar Basu and Phiroze Edulji said: "Since his appeal has not yet been made ready for hearing in the past eight years, he is entitled to be released on bail to prevent further miscarriage of justice."

Dinesh and Prabir were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment by the Murshidabad additional sessions judge on July 19, 1996 for murdering Sumit Das on January 2, 1996.

The duo appealed to the high court. On September 5, 1996 a two-judge Bench admitted the appeal and ordered preparation of paper-books for hearing of the appeal on merits. But despite repeated direction the appeal could not be made ready even after the expiry of eight years.

Dinesh then applied for bail on the ground of undue delay in hearing of his appeal.