

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO.2386 of 2014

Miraj Sajjad Shaikh .. Applicant
Versus
The State of Maharashtra .. Respondent

Mr.Satyavrat Joshi i/b Subhash Hulyalkar, Advocate for the applicant.

Mrs.S.V.Gajare, APP for the Respondent State.

CORAM : ABHAY M. THIPSAY, J.

DATED : 17th MARCH, 2015

P.C. :

1 Heard Mr.Satyavrat Joshi, learned counsel for the applicant. Heard Mrs.S.V.Gajare, learned APP for the State who tenders the report made by the Inspector of Police, Pimpri Police Station to the Public Prosecutor. The same is taken on record.

2 The applicant's three previous applications for bail were rejected by this Court. It is true that out of two, one was withdrawn, but only after having argued the matter at length. Now, the prayer for bail is renewed primarily on the ground that, that though while rejecting the applicant's last application for bail, this Court had directed the trial to be expeditiously held and completed within a period of six months from the date of the said order (4th August 2014) by the trial court, the trial is not yet over.

3 A report was called for from the trial court which has been received. I have gone through the same. It appears that a number of adjournments occurred as the discharge applications filed by some of the accused were pending. As per the report received from the trial court, the case was fixed for framing of charge on 9th February 2015. I am informed that the charge has not yet been framed, and the matter is kept on 20th March 2015.

4 I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant who has taken me through the material in the charge-sheet. It is not possible to conclude at this stage that there exists no *prima facie* case. Since the trial court has estimated that the trial would be completed within about four months, I do not think it proper to release the applicant on bail at this stage.

5 Application is rejected.

6 However, the trial court shall hold the trial expeditiously, and endeavour to complete it within a period of four months from today.

7 The trial court shall report compliance to this Court.

(ABHAY M.THIPSAY, J)