

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

CRIMINAL ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO. 327 OF 2021

Vinod Vasant Sawant ... Applicant
Versus
The State of Maharashtra ... Respondent

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Mr. S. P. Raje Pandhare, Advocate for the Applicant.
Ms. Veera Shinde, APP for the Respondent – State.
Mr. Vikas Rathod, Thane Nagar Police Station, Present.

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CORAM : PRAKASH D. NAIK, J.

DATE : 22nd FEBRUARY, 2021

PER COURT:

1. This is an application for anticipatory bail. The applicant is apprehending arrest in connection with C.R. No. 07 of 2021 registered with Thanenagar Police Station, Thane City for the offences punishable under Sections 420, 465, 467, 468, 471 r/w Section 34 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 (“IPC” for short).

2. The applicant had preferred an application for anticipatory bail before the Session Court, which has been rejected by Order dated 27th January, 2021.

3. Learned APP on 5th February, 2021 had submitted on instructions that the role attributed to the applicant is that he had collected documents from the agent and forwarded them to Online

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Department of Tahasil Office, Thane, and the applicant be directed to produce the documents and cooperate with the investigation. Interim Protection was granted to the applicant. The applicant has attended Investigating Officer as per the directions in order dated 5th February, 2021.

4. The case of the prosecution is that accused No.1 and 2 through applicant submitted online application for obtaining caste certificate. The accused prepared false documents. The applications were submitted through Maha-E-Seva Kendra for obtaining Caste Certificate. Applicant is employee of Maha-E-Seva Kendra. The contention of applicant is that the Kendra obtains declarations from person who file application for obtaining certificate stating that, documents and information provided by applicant is true and correct. The certificate is not generated at Kendra. In these circumstances, applicant need not be subjected to custodial interrogation. Hence, I pass the following order:

ORDER

- (i) Anticipatory Bail Application No. 327 of 2021 is allowed;
- (ii) The interim order dated 5th February, 2021 is hereby confirmed.

(iii) In the event of arrest of the applicant in connection with C.R. No. 07 of 2021 registered with Thanenagar Police Station, Thane City, the applicant be released on bail on furnishing P. R. Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/-, with one or more sureties in the like amount;

(iv) The applicant shall attend the investigating officer as and when called for till filing of charge-sheet;

(v) Anticipatory Bail Application stands disposed of accordingly.

5. This order will be digitally signed by the Private Secretary/Personal Assistant of this Court. All concerned will act on production by fax or email of a digitally signed copy of this order.

(PRAKASH D. NAIK, J.)