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

BAIL APPLICATION NO.2974 OF 2019

Rajesh Jagdish Prasad ... Applicant
Vs
The State of Maharashtra ... Respondents
...

Mr. B.A.Lawate for the Applicant.

Mrs. Veera Shinde, APP for the Respondent-State.

API Sunil M. Karote attached to Panvel Taluka P.Stn.
Navi Mumbai present.

CORAM : SANDEEP K. SHINDE J.
DATE : 9th FEBRUARY, 2021.

P.C. :

It is an application under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 in connection with Crime No.253 of 2018 dated 16th August, 2019 registered at Koparkhairane Police Station for the offences punishable under Sections 376, 506 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Sections 4,8 of the Protection of Children From Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

2 Submission is that applicant is in custody since two years and six months.

3 As against this, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor on instructions, submits that the Sessions Case No.301 of 2018 wherein the applicant is cited as accused, is in progress in-as-much as victim has been examined and complainant's examination-in-chief is underway. Next date before the Trial Court is 28th February, 2021. The learned APP would submit that prosecution would examine only six witnesses.

4 In consideration of the submissions made by the learned APP, I do not think it appropriate to decide this application on merits and, therefore, I dispose of this application, directing the Trial Court to expedite the hearing and conclude the Special Case No.301 of 2018 preferably before 31st May, 2021.

5 Application is accordingly disposed of.

(SANDEEP K. SHINDE, J.)