

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY,
NAGPUR BENCH, AT NAGPUR.**

Criminal Application (BA) No. 715 of 2021

[Eknath Mahadeo Manatkar ..vs.. State of Maharashtra through Anti Corruption Bureau, Akola,
Tq. And Dist. Akola]

Office Notes, Office Memoranda of Coram,
appearances, Court's orders of directions
and Registrar's orders

Court's or Judge's orders

Mr. N. S. Warulkar, Advocate for the applicant
Mr. N. S. Rao, APP for the State/non-applicant

CORAM : ROHIT B. DEO, J.

DATED : 03-08-2021

The applicant is in custody since 29-6-2021 in connection with Crime 259/2021 registered with Police Station, Ural, Tah. Balapur, Dist. Akola for the offences punishable under Sections 7 and 12 of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.

2. The prosecution case is that Mr. Bhaskar Sonone lodged the complaint with Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) that Dilip Sadanshiv, Deputy Sarpanch demanded Rs. 4,000/- for depositing the amount receivable by the complainant under the Pradhanmatri Awas Yojna in the account of the complainant and Amit Shirsat and the applicant demanded Rs. 1500/- and Rs. 500 respectively.

3. Pursuant to the complaint and the registration of First Information Report, the ACB laid trap at the house of Amit Shirsat who was apprehended on the spot, demanding and receiving Rs. 2500/-. According to the prosecution, Dilip Sadanshiv asked the complainant to meet the applicant and it was the applicant who made a gesture by pointing out two fingers which according to the prosecution intended to convey demand of illegal gratification of Rs. 2,000/-. It is further the version of the prosecution that the applicant asked the complainant to meet the concerned engineer – accused 2.

4. Considering the nature of accusations and the fact that the investigation in the trap case is not likely to be affected, if the applicant, who is a Government employee, *albeit* on contract basis, is released on bail, the application is allowed.

5. The applicant be released on bail on furnishing PR bond of ₹ 15,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Thousand) with solvent surety of like amount on following conditions.

(a) The applicant shall not tamper with the evidence or make any attempt to influence the witnesses, directly or indirectly.

(b) The applicant shall not leave the country without the permission of the jurisdictional Court.

6. The application is disposed of in the aforestated terms.

JUDGE

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