

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

CRIMINAL APPLICATION (BA) NO. 980 OF 2021

(Dhiraj s/o Madhukar Admane ..vs.. State of Maharashtra, through PSO, PS Shanti Nagar, Nagpur)

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

Court's or Judge's orders

Mr. R.K. Tiwari, Counsel for the applicant,
Mr. N.S. Rao, Addl.P.P. for the non-applicant/State.

CORAM : ROHIT B. DEO, J.

DATED : 29-09-2021

The applicant-Dhiraj Admane is arraigned as accused in Crime 35/2021, registered with Police Station Shantinagar, Nagpur, for offences punishable under Sections 143, 147, 148, 149, 302 and 323 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 4/25 of the Arms Act and Section 135 of the Maharashtra Police Act.

2. In the incident which allegedly occurred on 07-2-2021, Mr. Vijay Waghdhare was done to death, and Mr. Yash Palandurkar suffered injuries.

3. The prosecution is treating the report lodged by Mr. Yash Palandurkar as the first information report. Mr. R.K. Tiwari joined issues and submits that the information disclosed by Mr. Yash Palandurkar to the Police Constable on duty at the hospital where he sought treatment disclosed the commission of cognizable offence, and therefore, is the FIR.

4. At this stage, it would not be necessary to consider whether the statement of Mr. Yash Palandurkar is the FIR or is only a statement under Section 161 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

5. Be that as it may, since Mr. Yash Palandurkar is the injured, and his version has come on record in close proximity to the incident, the version merits deeper consideration as compared with the statement of Mr. Aniket which is recorded more than a month after the incident.

6. The role attributed to applicant-Dhiraj Admane is that he and co-accused Yash @ Banti Harode assaulted deceased Vijay Waghdhare on the chest and the stomach with a stone tile. Perusal of the post-mortem report reveals that most of the injuries are stab injuries. The only injury which may possibly correspond with the alleged assault on the chest and the stomach with stone tile is injury 28 which is a contused abrasion. The prosecution case that the applicant can be roped in under Section 149 of the Indian Penal Code, will need deeper examination after the evidence is adduced inasmuch as even according to the informant, it was only after Mrs. Sangita Dere arrived at the scene and instigated the accused that one of them, Akash, fetched a knife.

7. Be that as it may, while ordinarily I would be

loath to make any observation on the probative value of the statement, in the present case, there are strong reasons for me to make a departure. The Investigating Officer has found that Mrs. Sangita Dere, Mrs. Aniket Dere and Mr. Akash (who allegedly fetched the knife at the instigation of Mrs. Sangit Dere) were not even in Nagpur at the relevant time, and therefore, the Investigating Officer did not arraign them as accused in the charge-sheet filed.

8. While Mr. N.S. Rao, the learned Additional Public Prosecutor would submit that since over implication is quite common, the worth of the statement must be left to the trial Court to consider. While I agree with Mr. N.S. Rao that the probative value of the statement and the evidence which may be adduced by Mr. Yash Palandurkar will have to be left to the trial Court, for the purpose of bail, the fact that the very substratum of the version is found false by the Investigating Officer, impels me to hold that a case for bail is made out.

9. The applicant has no adverse antecedents.

10. Co-accused Shekhar Bhude, who more or less played a similar role, is granted bail vide order dated 30-7-2021 in Criminal Application (BA) 646/2021.

11. A case for bail is made out.

12. The application is allowed.

13. The applicant be released from custody, subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The applicant shall execute the personal bond of Rs.15,000/- with solvent surety of like amount.
- (ii) The applicant while on bail, shall not indulge in any criminal activity and if found involved in any offence, the prosecution shall be entitled to seek cancellation of bail on that ground alone.
- (iii) The applicant shall not enter the territorial jurisdiction of the Shantinagar Police Station, Nagpur till the conclusion of the trial. Any breach of this condition shall *ipso facto* entitle the prosecution to seek cancellation of bail.
- (iv) The applicant shall attend every date of hearing scrupulously.
- (v) The applicant shall not make any attempt to influence the witnesses, directly or indirectly.
- (vi) The applicant shall not leave the country without the permission of the jurisdictional Court.

JUDGE

adgokar