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

CRIMINAL APPLICATION (ABA) NO.780 OF 2020

(Hardik @ Om s/o Kishor Sabankar Vs. State of Maharashtra thr. PSO PS Borgaon Manju, Dist. Akola)

Office Notes, Office Memoramda of Coram, appearances, Court's orders of directions and Registrar's Orders. | *Court's or Judge's orders.*

Mr. N.R. Tekade, Advocate for Applicant.
Mr. S.S. Doifode, APP for Non-Applicant/State.

CORAM: ROHIT B. DEO, J.
DATE: 19th JANUARY, 2021.

The applicant is apprehending arrest in Crime 511/2020 registered with Police Station Borgaon Manju, District Akola for offence punishable under sections 354, 354-D of Indian Penal Code and sections 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

2. The allegation which is levelled is that the applicant held the hand of the minor victim and declared that he would marry her. Further allegation is that after a few days, the applicant called the victim out of her house and when she came out, the applicant again caught hold of her hand and asked her to accompany him.

3. Mr. N.R. Tekade, the learned counsel submits that the applicant is a young man aged 20 years and is a student and that the report is lodged since the family members of the victim did not approve of the relationship.

4. I have perused the case diary.

5. The possibility that the incident is a fall out of a consensual relationship, cannot be ruled out. This of course is a *prima facie* observation.

7. In any event, custodial interrogation is not necessary. The applicant is relatively young and is a student.

8. The interim protection granted vide order dated 22.12.2020 is made absolute.

JUDGE

NSN