

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO.1160 OF 2022

ANANDA DHANRAJ PATIL
VERSUS
THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Hemantkumar Pawar h/f.
Mr. Harshal Prakash Randhir
APP for Respondent : Mr. K. S. Patil
...

CORAM : S. G. MEHARE, J.

DATE : 06-09-2022

PER COURT :-

1. Heard the learned counsel for the applicant and the learned A.P.P. for the respondent/State.
2. It has been alleged against the applicant that when the complainant and other M.S.E.D.C.L. staff were inspecting the electric meters of the consumers, the applicant came there with 100 to 125 persons and asked them to stop the inspection of electric meters and resisted them from searching theft of electricity. Except this, there are no other allegations against the applicant.
3. The learned counsel for the applicant would argue that the persons present there caught hold the complainant and others

M.S.E.D.C.L. staff and asked them to stop meter checking. The learned counsel for the applicant would submit that the applicant is poor, having no concern with the alleged incident. However, he was simply a member amongst the people, who had gathered to see the actions of the M.S.E.D.C.L. official. He is ready to co-operate with the investigation.

4. The learned A.P.P. is unable to point out that the custodial interrogation of the applicant would serve the purpose. Considering the allegations and role attributed to the applicant, the Court is of the view that the custodial interrogation of the applicant is not necessary. The application deserves to be allowed. Hence, the following order:-

- i) The application is allowed.
- ii) In the event of arrest, applicant Ananda Dhanraj Patil be released on bail, on furnishing PB and SB of Rs.15,000/- with one solvent surety of the like amount, in C.R.No.347 of 2022 registered with Amalner Police Station, District Jalgaon, for the offences punishable under Sections 353, 337, 504, 506 of the Indian Penal Code.

**(S. G. MEHARE)
JUDGE**