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

BAIL APPLICATION NO. 1425 OF 2020

Sunil Sidram Mhetre Applicant.
V/s
State of Maharashtra & Anr. Respondents.

Mr. Rahul Vijaymane for the Applicant.
Ms. Geeta P. Mulekar, APP for the Respondent/State.

CORAM: NITIN W. SAMBRE, J.

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

P.C.:-

1] Applicant is seeking regular bail in C.R. No. 620 of 2020 registered with MIDC Police Station for the offence punishable under Sections 354-A 376(2)(j), 376(2)(l) of IPC and under Sections 4 and 8 of the POCSO Act.

2] The case of the prosecution is, Applicant under the pretext of demanding water approached the minor-victim, took her to isolated place and committed an offence.

3] Submissions of Counsel for the Applicant are, there are no antecedents and trial is likely to take substantial time. Applicant has already suffered incarceration for more than two and half years. As

such, he would urge that Applicant deserves to be released on bail.

4] Learned APP would oppose the prayer.

5] Having perused the statement of victim under Section 164 of Cr.P.C., so also other evidence available on record, it can be inferred that there is strong material available on record against the Applicant of his involvement in serious offence which is punishable with life imprisonment. Sections 4 and 8 of the POCSO Act have been rightly so invoked in the facts of the case.

6] In that view of the matter, no case for bail is made out. Application stands rejected.

(NITIN W. SAMBRE, J.)