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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
BAIL APPLICATION NO. 4 OF 2023

Santosh Punjaram Ghige ...Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra and Anr. ...Respondents

Mr. Tejas Hilage for the Applicant.
Ms. Ameeta Kuttikrishnan for the Respondent No. 2.
Ms. Veera Shinde, APP for the Respondent/State.

CORAM : N.R. BORKAR, J.
DATE : 02.05.2023

P.C. :

1. This is an application under Section 439 of Code of Criminal Procedure for bail.
2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 154 of 2022 registered at Ranjangaon Police Station, District Pune, for the offences punishable under Sections 363, 366 and 376 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Sections 4, 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act).
3. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant, learned counsel for the respondent No.2 and the learned APP for the respondent - State.
4. According to the victim, the present applicant committed sexual intercourse with her on the pretext that he would be marrying her.

5. It appears that there was a love affair between the victim and the present applicant. The applicant is in jail for more than one year. Considering the overall facts and circumstances, I am inclined to release the applicant on bail. In the result, the following order is passed.

ORDER

A] Application is allowed.

B] The applicant - Santosh Punjaram Ghige be released on bail, in C.R. No. 154 of 2022 registered at Ranjangaon Police Station, District Pune, for the offences punishable under Sections 363, 366 and 376 of the IPC and Sections 4, 8 and 12 of the POCSO Act, on furnishing P.R Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand) with one or two sureties in the like amount.

C] The applicant shall not enter into the limits of Karkud Vasti, Village- Waghale, Taluka Shirur, District Pune till conclusion of the trial.

[N.R.BORKAR, J.]