

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
BAIL APPLICATION NO. 3517 OF 2022**

Mani Rama Madheshiya

...Applicant

Versus

The State of Maharashtra and anr.

...Respondents

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Ms. Pooja Agarwal i/b Mr. Prakash Chavan and Mr. J. J. Janapurkar for the Applicant.

Mr. Amit Palkar, APP for the State.

Ms. Meghna Gowalani for Respondent No. 2.

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CORAM : N.R. BORKAR, J.

DATED : 28 MARCH 2023

P.C. :-

This is an application filed under Section 439 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for bail.

2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 74 of 2022 registered at Kothrud Police Station, Pune for the offences punishable under Section 354, 354-D of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 8, 12 Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

3. The allegations against the present applicant are that on the date of incident, which took place on 20 March 2022, the applicant, who was residing in the neighborhood of the victim girl, aged about 7 years, kissed her, while she was playing in front of her house.

4. Considering the fact that applicant is in jail for about one year and as there are no other criminal antecedents, I am inclined to release him on bail. Hence, the following order is passed:

- (i) Application is allowed.
- (ii) The applicant shall be released on bail in Crime No. 74 of 2022 registered at Kothrud Police Station, Pune for the offences punishable under Section 354, 354-D of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 8, 12 Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 on furnishing PR bond in the sum of Rs. 25,000/- with one or two local sureties in the like amount.

(N.R. BORKAR, J.)