

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO.2557 OF 2024

Indrajeet Vitthal Rao Waghmare ... Applicant

Vs.

State of Maharashtra ... Respondent

Mr. Kuldeep U. Nikam for Applicant.

Mr. Sagar R. Agarkar, APP for Respondent-State.

Mr. Kiran S. Mudur, Police Constable, Jat Police Station, Sangli.

CORAM : MANISH PITALE, J.

DATE : SEPTEMBER 23, 2024

P.C. :

. Heard Mr. Nikam, learned counsel for the applicant and Mr. Agarkar, learned APP for the respondent-State.

2. The applicant is apprehending arrest in connection with FIR No.0343 of 2024 dated 30.06.2024 registered with Jat Police Station, District - Sangli, for offences under Sections 408, 409, 420, 467 and 468 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC).

3. The FIR, in the present case, is registered at the behest of Field Officer, Agricultural Loan Department of Sangli District Central Bank, a co-operative bank. The applicant was working as a branch manager at the branch of the said co-operative bank located at Basargi. The allegation against the applicant is that, being a branch manager, he caused increase of credit limit, concerning loan account of one Mr. Bamne from Rs.1,05,000/- to Rs.7,55,000/- lakhs. It is alleged that the applicant got two cheque-books issued in respect of the said loan account and retained one of the cheque-books. The allegation is that the applicant thereafter forged the signature of Mr. Bamne and withdrew amount of Rs.6.50 lakhs, thereby causing serious financial loss to the

bank and also causing adverse consequences to the said Mr. Bamne.

4. The FIR itself records that in March 2024, the applicant deposited an amount of Rs.7,50,000/- with the co-operative bank in the light of he aforesaid facts being noticed. This Court is further informed that the applicant has been suspended and he is facing departmental enquiry.

5. Although the learned APP has vehemently opposed the present application, this Court is inclined to grant interim relief, while keeping the present application pending. This is for the reason that even as per the statement leading to registration of the FIR, the applicant has deposited amount of Rs.7,50,000/- with the co-operative bank, while according to the investigating authority, amount of about Rs.36,00,000/- towards interest is yet to be recovered. Since the applicant is already suspended and he is facing departmental enquiry, he does not have access to the records of the bank for tampering with the documents. The applicant has undertaken to co-operate with the investigation.

6. In the meanwhile, there shall be interim relief in the following terms:-

- A. Till the next date, in the event the applicant is arrested in connection with FIR No.0343 of 2024 dated 30.06.2024 registered with Jat Police Station, District - Sangli, he shall be released on bail on furnishing PR Bond of Rs.50,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount;
- B. The applicant shall appear before the investigating officer on 26.09.2024 between 10:00 a.m. and 12 noon and thereafter as and when called by the investigating officer;
- C. The applicant shall co-operate with the investigation, including giving his specimen signature and other documents, that may be in his possession and as demanded

by the investigating officer;

- D. The applicant shall not influence the informant, witnesses or any person concerned with the case and he shall not tamper with the evidence.

7. Needless to say, violation of any of the aforesaid conditions may result in this order being recalled.

8. List on 23.10.2024, to be included in the supplementary list.

(MANISH PITALE, J.)

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