



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD**

928 ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO. 226 OF 2025

1. RAMKISHAN DNYANDEV DAHIPHALE

2. VIJAY DASHRATH KHEDKAR

VERSUS

THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

...

Advocate for Applicants : Mr. Abhaysinh K. Bhosle

APP for Respondent/State: Mr. R. S. Wani

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CORAM : ARUN R. PEDNEKER, J.

DATE : 26.02.2025

P.C. :

1. Heard learned counsel for the applicants and the learned APP for the respondent-State.

2. The applicants are apprehending arrest in connection with Crime No.18/2025, registered at Shirur Police Station, District Beed, for the offences punishable under Sections 123, 275 and 223 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

3. This Court, by order dated 14.11.2024 passed in ABA No.1670 of 2024 at para no. 3 has observed as under :

“3] Considering the judgment of this Court in the case of Gaurav Jayantbhai Hapani Vs. The State of Maharashtra in Anticipatory Bail Application No.3406 of 2022, decided on 19.01.2023 and also the order passed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court in the case of Eknath Bhalchandra Patil Vs.

The State of Maharashtra in Petition (s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Cri.) No. 8698/2023, decided on 28.07.2023, wherein in identical fact situation, the Hon'ble Supreme Court so also this Court in the above noted judgments has observed that applicability of Section 328 of Indian Penal Code [123 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita] is doubted in the case of seizure of tobacco and tobacco products including Gutkha and anticipatory bail has been granted. In the instant case also, except Section 123 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, all other offences are bailable and the same is not disputed by the learned APP and the matter pertains to seizure of tobacco and tobacco products including Gutkha."

4. Considering the law as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court that Section 123 of the B.N.S. would not apply to seizure of tobacco products, this court granted interim protection to the applicants. The learned counsel for the applicants submits that the applicants have cooperated with the investigation.

5. In view of the same, the earlier protection granted by order dated 12.02.2025 stands confirmed on following conditions:

- i] The applicants shall attend the police station as and when called by the Investigating Officer.
- ii] The applicants shall not tamper with the evidence of the prosecution in any manner. They shall not influence the informant, witnesses and other persons concerned with the case.

iii] The applicants shall co-operate with the investigation and also in the proceedings before the trial Court.

6. In the event, the applicants violate any of the conditions specified in this order, it shall be liable to be cancelled.

7. It is also clarified that the observations made in this order are limited to the disposal of the present anticipatory bail application and the trial Court shall proceed further in the matter without being influenced by the observations made hereinabove.

8. The application stands disposed of.

[ARUN R. PEDNEKER]
JUDGE

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