

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

BAIL APPLICATION NO. 794 OF 2025

Ankush Narayan Sutar	...Applicant
Versus	
The State of Maharashtra & Anr.	...Respondents

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Mr. Manoj M. Sabale a/w Mr. Somvrat M. K., Advocate for the Applicant.

Mrs. P. S. Rane, A.P.P. for the Respondent No.1– State.

Mr. Shubham Dhenge, Advocate for the Respondent No.2/Victim.

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CORAM	:	N. R. BORKAR, J.
DATE	:	23rd APRIL, 2025.

P.C.:

1. This is an application for regular bail.
2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No.231 of 2024 registered at Gadhinglaj Police Station, District : Kolhapur, for the offences punishable under Sections 376(2) (n) of the Indian Penal Code (for short 'IPC') and Sections 4, 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (for short 'POCSO Act').
3. The victim was studying at Vidyamandir Shipur. The applicant was dance teacher there. There was a love affair between them. It is alleged that in May-2023 and thereafter on

multiple occasions the applicant had committed sexual intercourse with the victim on the pretext that he would marry her.

4. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant, learned A.P.P. for the Respondent-State and learned counsel for the Respondent No.2/Victim.

5. The learned counsel for the applicant and learned counsel for the Respondent No.2/Victim submit that the parties have settled the matter and the applicant and the victim are going to marry each other.

6. The learned A.P.P. for the Respondent No.1-State submits that the appropriate order be passed.

7. I have perused the statement of the victim recorded under Section 164 of the Cr.PC.. There was a love affair between the applicant and the victim. Considering the overall facts and circumstances, I am inclined to release the applicant on bail.

ORDER

- (i) Criminal Bail Application is allowed;
- (ii) The applicant is directed to be released on bail in connection with Crime No.231 of 2024 registered at Gadhinglaj Police Station, District : Kolhapur, for the offences punishable under Sections 376(2)(n) of the Indian Penal Code (for short 'IPC') and Sections 4, 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences

Act (for short 'POCSO Act') on executing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.15,000/- with one surety in the like amount;

(iii) Application stands disposed of accordingly.

(N. R. BORKAR, J.)