

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIRCUIT BENCH AT KOLHAPUR
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 985 OF 2025
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 26 OF 2018

Sudhir @ Sangram Babaso Rupnar ... Applicant/Org. Accused No. 4.

Versus

The State of Maharashtra ... Respondent

Adv. Anush Shetty, for the Applicant.

Mr. A. A. Naik, APP for the Respondent No. 1-State.

Coram : **M. S. Karnik &**
Ajit B. Kadethankar, JJ.

Date : November 17, 2025.

P. C. :

1. Heard learned Counsel for the Applicant and learned APP for the Respondent No. 1-State.
2. The Application is filed for suspension of sentence and grant of bail.
3. Mr. Naik, learned APP, for the Respondent No. 1-State opposed the Application for suspension of sentence and grant of bail. It is submitted by the learned APP that the Trial Court, after appreciating the evidence of three eyewitnesses along with the other material on record, has rightly convicted the Applicant.

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4. The Applicant was arrested in April-2015 and is now in custody for more than 10 years. This Appeal was filed in the year 2018. It may not be possible for us to immediately hear the appeal itself finally considering the pendency situation of old matters hence we have considered the Application for suspension of sentence.

5. Adv. Anush Shetty, learned Counsel for the Applicant, contended that the Applicant is alleged to have inflicted a single stab wound on the deceased. There was dispute between the two groups of colleges students. The quarrel ensued between the two groups, whereupon the prosecution alleged that the Applicant took out a knife and inflicted the injury. Learned Counsel contended that the prosecution has failed to establish any intention on the part of the Applicant to kill the deceased. It is pertinent to note that the Applicant is now in custody for more than 10 years.

6. We are inclined to enlarge the Applicant on bail. Therefore, we pass following order:-

::ORDER::

[a] The sentence imposed on Applicant by learned Sessions Judge, Sangli vide judgment and order dated 16th November, 2017 passed in Sessions Case No. 118 of 2015 is suspended till the final disposal of Criminal Appeal No. 26 of 2018.

[b] The Applicant-Sudhir @ Sangram Babaso Rupnar be released on furnishing bail on his filing PR Bond in the sum of Rs. 25,000 /- with one or more solvent sureties of like amount in connection with Sessions Case No. 118 of 2015.

[c] Till the Criminal Appeal is disposed of, the Applicant shall report to the Trial Court on the 1st Monday of every month commencing from December-2025.

[d] The Applicant shall attend this Court when the appeal is listed for final hearing.

[e] The Applicant shall furnish address and contact details to the Trial Court.

7. Application stands disposed of.

[Ajit B. Kadethankar, J.]

[M. S. Karnik, J.]