

Harish

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION. NO. 5420 OF 2024

HARISH
VITHAL
CHAUDHARI

Laxman Dnyanoba Boddu

...Applicant

Vs

State Of Maharashtra and Anr.

...Respondents

Digitally signed
by HARISH
VITHAL
CHAUDHARI
Date:
2025.09.26
11:15:00 +0530

Mr. Vaibhav R. Gaikwad for the Applicant.

Ms. Deepali Bagla for Respondent No. 2 Appointed thr. Legal Aid.

Mr. S. H. Yadav, APP for the Respondent-State.

CORAM : SHIVKUMAR DIGE, J.

DATE : 23rd SEPTEMBER 2025

P.C.:

1. By this application, applicant is seeking regular bail in crime No.218 of 2024 registered with Jailroad Police Station, Solapur City for the offences punishable under Sections 354 and 354(D) of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 8 and 12 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

2. It is prosecution's case that on 8th May, 2024 at around 3.30 p.m., applicant tried to touch the chest of the victim and winked at the victim and chased her with stone in his hand.

3. It is the contention of learned counsel for the applicant that the applicant has been falsely implicated in this case. He is behind bar more than one year. Investigation is completed.

Chargesheet has been filed. There is no progress in the trial. It may take time to conclude the trial. Hence, requested to allow the application.

4. It is contention of learned APP along with respondent No.2 that the applicant tried to touch the chest of the minor daughter of the first informant, thereafter he winked at her and chased her with stone in his hand. The applicant is 49 years old. He has one antecedent. If he released on bail, he may threaten the victim and prosecution witnesses. Hence, requested to reject the application.

5. I have heard both learned counsel, perused the FIR and documents produced on record.

6. The applicant is behind bar more than one year. It appears from the record that investigation is completed and chargesheet has been filed. There is no progress in the trial. Considering the allegations against the applicant, further detention of applicant is not required and I pass following order :

ORDER

(i) Application is allowed.

(ii) The applicant be enlarged on bail in Crime

No.218 of 2024 registered with Jailroad Police Station, Solapur City, on executing P. R. Bond in the sum of Rs.20,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount.

(iii) The applicant shall attend the Court dates regularly.

(iv) The applicant shall not tamper with the evidence or attempt to influence or contact the complainant, witnesses or any person concerned with the case.

7. The application is allowed in the aforesaid terms and is accordingly disposed off.

8. It is made clear that the above observations are made only for the purpose of granting bail and the Trial Court shall decide the case on its own merits in accordance with law and uninfluenced by the observations made in this order.

9. All concerned to act on the authenticated copy of this order.

[SHIVKUMAR DIGE, J.]