

Harish

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIRCUIT BENCH AT KOLHAPUR
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 2277 OF 2025**

Sanjay Rambhau Chavan ...Applicant
Versus

The State Of Maharashtra,
Through Chiplun Police Station, Ratnagiri,
Through Public Prosecutor ...Respondent

HARISH
VITHAL
CHAUDHARI

Mr. D. G. Patil for the applicant appointed through Legal-Aid.
Ms. Veera Shinde APP for the State.

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HARISH
VITHAL
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CORAM : SHIVKUMAR DIGE, J.
DATE : 25th NOVEMBER, 2025.

P.C.

1. By this application, applicant is seeking regular bail in Crime No.37 of 2021 registered with Chiplun Police Station, District Ratnagiri for the offences punishable under Sections 420, 406 r/w Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code (for short "IPC") and Sections 3 & 4 of the Maharashtra Protection of Interest of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act, 1999.

2. It is prosecution's case that the applicant and co-accused had lured the investors, who invested the amount in ayurvedic product's company with assurance of handsome returns, but, after investing the

amount, the applicant neither returned the amount invested by the investors nor given any returns on it. It is alleged that the fraud amount is of Rs.23,73,080/-.

3. It is contention of learned counsel for the applicant that the applicant is arrested on 17nd February 2021. Since then, the applicant is behind bar. The maximum punishment for the offence registered against the applicant, is up to 7 years. The applicant has undergone more than half of the sentence. Hence, requested to allow the application.

4. It is contention of learned APP that the applicant had lured the various investors and not returned their amount. If the applicant released on bail he may abscond. There is progress in trial, hence, requested to reject the application.

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

6. Admittedly, the applicant is behind bar more than 5 years. He has undergone half of the sentence. It may take time to conclude the trial. Considering these facts my pass following order

ORDER

I. Application is allowed;

- II. The applicant be enlarged on bail in Crime No.37 of 2021 registered with Chiplun Police Station, District-Ratnagiri, on executing P.R.Bond in the sum of Rs.20,000/- with one or two local sureties in the like amount.
 - III. 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.)