

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 3127 OF 2024

Lakhan Chandrakant Devkule	...Applicant
Versus	
The State of Maharashtra	...Respondent

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Mr. Amandeep Singh Sra, Advocate for the Applicant.

Ms. Veera Shinde, A.P.P. for the Respondent – State.

Mr. Dattaram Bhojane (PSI), Rajarampuri Police Station, Kolhapur,
present.

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CORAM	:	N. R. BORKAR, J.
DATE	:	13th MARCH, 2025

P.C.:

1. This is an application for regular bail.

2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 487 of 2018 registered at Shahupuri Police Station, District : Kolhapur for the offences punishable under Section 395 of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 3(i)(ii), 3(2), 3(4) and 3(5) of the Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act, 1999.

3. According to the prosecution, the present applicant is a member of organized crime syndicate formed by co-accused Devendra Waghmare. It is alleged that on the date of incident,

which took place on 07.09.2018, the present applicant and other co-accused came to the hotel of the complainant and created ruckus, assaulted him and his employees and robbed Rs.1,200/- from cash counter.

4. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant and learned A.P.P for the Respondent-State.

5. The bail is sought on the ground of long incarceration. The learned counsel for the applicant submits that the applicant is in jail for about 6 years and 5 months, and the trial is not likely to be concluded in near future as since last month there is no progress at all.

6. On the other hand, the learned A.P.P for the Respondent-State submits that the prosecution evidence is almost over. It is submitted that at this stage, the applicant may not be released on bail. It is further submitted that the applicant is involved in three more crimes.

7. On 10th February, 2025, the statement was made that only Investigating Officer remained to be examined and therefore the matter was adjourned today. Even after one

month, the situation is same. In that view of the matter, 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. 487 of 2018 registered at Shahupuri Police Station, District : Kolhapur for the offences punishable under Section 395 of the Indian Penal Code and Sections 3(i)(ii), 3(2), 3(4) and 3(5) of the Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act, 1999, on executing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount;
- (iii) The applicant shall attend the concerned Police Station twice in a month on first and third Saturday between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. till conclusion of trial;
- (iv) Application stands disposed of accordingly.

(N. R. BORKAR, J.)