

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 4691 OF 2024

Choparam Navaram Chaudhary ...Applicant

VERSUS

The State of Maharashtra and Ors. ...Respondents

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Mr. Arjun Jeswani, Advocate for the Applicant.

Mr. S. V. Walve, A.P.P. for the Respondent – State.

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CORAM : N. R. BORKAR, J.
DATE : 14.02.2025.

P.C.:

1. This is an application for regular bail.
2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 32 of 2024 registered at Alankar Police Station, Dist- Pune, for the offences punishable under Sections 406 & 420 r/w 34 of the Indian Penal Code and under Section 3 & 4 of the M.P.I.D. Act.
3. The allegations against the present applicant and the other co-accused are of defrauding the complainant to the tune of Rs 1 Crore. There are allegations of defrauding the witnesses also.
4. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant and the learned APP for the respondent/State.

5. According to the prosecution the present applicant has used fake name to defraud the complainant and witnesses. According to the complainant the present applicant was introduced to him as Avinash Jagtap and according to the witness Sumedh Bhatnagar, the present applicant disclosed to him his name as Prakash. The learned counsel for the applicant submits that there is no material in the charge-sheet to infer that the applicant is the same person who was introduced to the complainant as Avinash Jagtap or to the witness Sumedh Bhatnagar as Prakash. It is submitted that the applicant is in jail for ten months, and the trial has not commenced.

6. I have perused the charge-sheet. *Prima facie* there appears to be substance in the submission of the learned counsel for the applicant. Considering the overall facts and circumstances, I am inclined to release the applicant on bail. In the result, the following order is passed:

ORDER

A] The Application is allowed.

B] The applicant be released on bail in Crime No. 32 of 2024 registered at Alankar Police Station, Dist- Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 406 & 420 r/w 34 of the Indian Penal Code on furnishing P.R Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand) with one or two sureties in the like amount.

C] The applicant shall attend the concerned police station once in a month, i.e., on first Saturday between 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, till conclusion of the trial.

D] The applicant shall not commit any other crime.

E] The applicant shall deposit the passport with the concerned police station.

7. Application stands disposed of accordingly.

(N. R. BORKAR, J.)