

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 4864 OF 2024

Jitendrakumar Natwarlal Patel

...Applicant

VERSUS

The State of Maharashtra

...Respondent

....

Ms. Swarali Joglekar, Advocate for the Applicant.

Mr. T. G. Khan, A.P.P. for the Respondent – State.

....

CORAM : N. R. BORKAR, J.
DATE : 19.03.2025.

P.C.:

1. This is an application for regular bail.
2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 302 of 2021 registered at Nigadi Police Station, Dist- Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 489(A), 489(B), 489(C) & 489(D) r/w 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.
3. The allegations against the applicant and other co-accused are of printing and circulating the counterfeit currency notes.
4. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant

and the learned APP for the respondent/State.

5. The bail is sought on the ground of long incarceration as under-trial prisoner. The learned counsel for the applicant submits that the applicant is in jail for more than three and half years and the trial has not commenced. It is submitted that there are no other criminal antecedents.

6. On the other hand, the learned APP for the respondent/State submits that the applicant is the main accused. It is submitted that considering the nature of crime the applicant may not be released on bail.

7. Though the allegations against the applicant are of printing the counterfeit currency notes, however, there is no recovery of any incriminating material at the instance of the applicant. The applicant is in jail for three and half years and the trial has not commenced. There are no other criminal antecedents against the applicant.

8. Considering the above 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. 302 of 2021 registered at Nigadi Police Station, Dist- Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 489(A), 489(B), 489(C) & 489(D) r/w 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, 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.

9. Application stands disposed of accordingly.

(N. R. BORKAR, J.)