

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
BAIL APPLICATION NO. 4898 OF 2024

Sagar M. Ram

...Applicant

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra

...Respondent.

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Mr. Satyam Harshad Nimbalkar i/b. Adv. Abhishek Ulhas Arote a/w.
Adv. Padmasinh Patil for the Applicant.
Mr. C.D. Mali, APP for the Respondent/State.

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CORAM : N.R. BORKAR, J.
DATE : 02.05.2025.

P.C. :

1. This is an application for regular bail.
2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 239 of 2024 registered at Dighi Police Station, Dist- Pimpri- Chinchwad for the offences punishable under Sections 306, 385 read with 34 of the Indian Penal Code and under Section 67(A) of the Information Technology Act.
3. The applicant is accused No.3 in the aforesaid crime. According to the prosecution, the facebook account of the deceased was hacked and his photographs were morphed and obscene photographs were prepared. The said obscene photographs were then sent to the deceased through WhatsApp.

4. It is alleged that the present applicant and other co-accused had then threatened him to pay certain amount or else they would upload the said obscene photographs on social media. It is alleged that due to the said threat and harassment on 15.05.2024, the deceased had committed suicide.

5. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant and the learned APP for the respondent/State.

6. The learned counsel for the applicant submits that the applicant has nothing to do with the alleged crime. It is further submitted that the applicant is in jail for about ten months and there are no other criminal antecedents. The learned counsel for the applicant submits that this Court by order dated 12.3.2025 in Criminal Bail Application No. 4800 of 2024 has released the similarly circumstanced co-accused Murali Kewat on bail.

7. On the other hand, the learned APP for the respondent-State submits that there is a material to show that the extortion calls were made by the present applicant to the deceased. It is submitted that considering the nature of offence, the applicant may not be released on bail.

8. The fact that the applicant is in jail for ten months is not disputed. There are no other criminal antecedents. Considering the said facts, 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. 239 of 2024 registered at Dighi Police Station, Dist- Pimpri-Chinchwad for the offences punishable under Sections 306, 385 read with 34 of the Indian Penal Code and under Section 67(A) of the Information Technology Act, 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.

[N.R.BORKAR, J.]