

JYOTI
RAJESH
MANE

Digitally signed by
JYOTI RAJESH MANE
Date: 2025.08.18
15:32:17 +0530

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL WRIT PETITION NO. 4415 OF 2025

Premchand Ramanand Rajbhar

.. Petitioner

Versus

State Of Maharashtra And Anr

.. Respondents

Mr. Brijesh Shukla a/w Mr. Shankush Tripathi, for the Petitioner.

Mr. Mayur Sonavane , APP for the Respondent-State.

API Amar Kamble, Mankhurd Police Station, present.

WPSI Ms. Ashwini Padwal, of Mankhurd Police Station, present.

CORAM: RAVINDRA V. GHUGE

&

GAUTAM A. ANKHAD, JJ.

DATE: 14th AUGUST, 2025

P. C.

1. This Petition is preferred by a father of a 17 year Old girl who is missing from 22nd July, 2025. A C.R.No.0398/2025 has been registered invoking Section 137(2) of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita with the Mankhurd Police Station on 23rd July 2025.

2. Today, learned APP submits on instructions that the girl has been traced out with an adult male, who is 21 years old, belonging to a different religion. The statement of the girl was recorded on 14th August, 2025. Entry was made in the General diary. A compilation of 4 documents is tendered, to the Court, which is taken on record and collectively marked as 'X' for identification.

3. The learned APP further submits that a lady Police Sub Inspector from the Mankhurd Police Station, has addressed a letter to the Medical Officer of the Rajawadi Hospital, Ghatkopar, Mumbai, requesting for medical examination of the girl. He then points out the statement of the girl which indicates how she fell in love with a male, how she shared his company, the places where she travelled on her own accord and free will and she has also confessed that she is now pregnant.

4. We granted a pass over in this matter to let the learned APP take instructions from the concerned girl who is already admitted in the Rajawadi Hospital, Ghatkopar, Mumbai, as to her desire for choosing the place of residence. The learned APP submits on specific instructions from Ms. Ashwini Padwale, PSI of Mankhurd Police Station, that the girl is firm on her desire

that she does not wish to return back to her parents, though knowing that her male companion has now been arrested. Keeping in view that she is less than 18 years of age and is pregnant, she has informed that she would be willing to live in a shelter home than return to the home of her parents.

5. Considering that this Petition invokes Writ of Habeas Corpus and the girl is less than 18 years, we deem it appropriate to meet the girl in order to confirm her statements.

6. List this Petition on 18th August, 2025 at 2.45p.m. in Chambers. Until then, the girl be handed over to the Child Welfare Committee at Adharwadi, Mankhurd Mumbai. We depute Ms. Ashwini Padwale, PSI to be in-charge of her security and well being and ensure that the girl is comfortable in the facility in which the CWC would lodge her until Monday. If the girl does not desire to meet anybody, there would be no pressure on her for facilitating a meeting between her and the parents or any other person. If she expresses the desire to interact with her parents, Ms. Ashwini Padwale, PSI would personally monitor the said meeting and would remain present during such meeting.

7. We direct the CWC, to enable Ms. Ashwini Padwale, PSI to bring the girl to the Court for a hearing in Chambers on the next date.

8. Stand over to 18th August 2025 at 2.45p.m. in Chambers.

[GAUTAM A. ANKHAD, J.]

[RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.]