

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

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 1005 OF 2025

Balasaheb Rangnath Patil (Katad)

...Appellant

Vs.

The State of Maharashtra and Anr.

...Respondents

Mr. Akshay Bankapur	Advocate for the Appellant
Mr. H. J. Dedhia	APP for the Respondent- State

CORAM : S. M. MODAK, J.

DATE : 14th OCTOBER 2025

P.C. :-

1. Heard learned Advocate Shri Bankapur for the Appellant and learned APP Shri Dedhia for Respondent-State.
2. The Appellant is one of the accused in connection with C. R. No. 132 of 2025 registered with Nashik Taluka Police Station. The offences are under Sections 109, 74, 61 (2) 189 (2), 191 (2), 191 (3), 190, 352, 351 (2), 324 (4), of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023 and Sections 3 (1)(r), 3(1)(s), 3(2)(va) of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

3. The incident took place in gram sabha on 21.08.2025 at village Govardhan, District Nashik. The first informant is Sarpanch of the village. There was assault by the members of both the parties who are present there. The reason is attendance of two photographers. They were called by co-accused-Shankar Patil and Kishor Jadhav. Both were arrested and granted bail. When they questioned about charges, the present Appellant and co-accused Kishir Jadhav abused on account of caste. The Sarpanch-Govind and his wife were also abused and they were sustained injuries. The F.I.R. is on page no. 11. There is also F.I.R. on page no. 49 registered at instance of Kishore Jadhav. It is for the offence under Sections 3 (1)(r), 3(1)(s), 3(2)(va) of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and Sections 109, 189 (2), 191 (2), 191 (3), 190, 352, 351 (2), 324 (4), of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023.

4. The anticipatory bail is rejected by the trial court. Notice is served on Respondent No. 2. But no one is present. He wants to engage his own advocate. Today, I am inclined to grant ad-interim protection for the reason there are counter F.I.R.s and allegation of caste is of general nature. Hence, the order:-

ORDER

- (i) In case of arrest in connection with C.R. No. 132 of 2025 registered with Nashik Taluka Police Station, Nashik for the offence punishable under Sections 109, 74, 61 (2) 189 (2), 191 (2), 191 (3), 190, 352, 351 (2), 324 (4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023 and Sections 3 (1)(r), 3(1)(s), 3(2)(va) of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, the Appellant-Balasaheb Rangnath Patil (Katad) be released on furnishing Personal Bond and Surety Bond in sum of Rs. 25,000/- (Twenty Five Thousand).
- (ii) The Appellant is directed to give attendance to the Nashik Taluka Police Station, Nashik on 22.10.2025, 29.10.2025 and 05th November 2025 from 10.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon.

5. Matter be kept on **13th November 2025.**

[S. M. MODAK, J.]