

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY**CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION****CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 1147 OF 2025**

Pradeep Baban Jadhav and Anr.

... Appellants

Versus

State of Maharashtra & Anr.

... Respondents

.....

Mr. Irfan A. Shaikh, Advocate for the Appellants.

Mr. Ashok S. Gawai, APP for the State.

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CORAM : R. M. JOSHI, J.**DATED : 26th NOVEMBER, 2025.****P.C. :**

1. Heard.
2. Learned counsel for the appellant submits that prima facie perusal of the First Information Report itself indicates that there was love in relationship between the victim and appellant No.1. It is his submission that having regard to the same, it cannot be said that any offence under Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (for short “BNS”) or under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (for short “SC & ST Act”) Act will get attracted to the present case. In so far as appellant No.2 is concerned, it is argued that except for the alleged castist remark made by the the appellant No.2 over phone, there is no allegation against her.
3. Having regard to these facts, prima facie this Court finds substance

in the contention of the learned counsel for the appellant that embargo of Section 18 may not get attracted.

4. In view thereof, there shall be ad-interim relief in respect of prayer clause (b) till Respondent No.2 is heard in the matter.
5. Issue notice to the respondents returnable on **18th December, 2025**.
6. Learned APP waives service on behalf of Respondent No.1-State.
7. Learned APP to inform the concerned police station to intimate to the respondent No.2 about the pendency of this appeal.

(R. M. JOSHI, J.)