

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 300 OF 2025

Akash Rajendra Ganje	...Applicant
Versus	
The State of Maharashtra	...Respondent

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Mr. Mithilesh Mishra, Advocate for the Applicant.

Mr. C.D. Mali, A.P.P. for the Respondent – State.

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CORAM	:	N. R. BORKAR, J.
DATE	:	3rd MARCH, 2025

P.C.:

1. This is an application for regular bail.
2. The applicant came to be arrested in Crime No. 160 of 2024 registered at Lonavala City Police Station, District : Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 376(2)(n), 377, 504 and 506 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 66(E) of the Information Technology Act, 2000.
3. The applicant and the victim got acquainted with each other on Instagram. It is alleged that on 17.12.2022, they met at Lonavala and from there he took her to one lodge and there committed forcible sexual intercourse with her. It is

alleged that he forcibly clicked photographs with her and on the basis of said photographs, he subjected her to sexual intercourse on many occasions by threatening that he would send the said photographs to her husband.

4. I have heard the learned counsel for the applicant and learned A.P.P. for the Respondent-State and perused the statement of the prosecutrix/victim. *Prima facie* the alleged relationship between the applicant and the victim appears to be consensual. The applicant is in jail for about one year. Considering the overall facts and circumstances of the case, I am inclined to release the applicant on bail.

ORDER

- (i) Criminal Bail Application is allowed;
- (ii) The applicant is directed to be released on bail in connection with Crime No. 160 of 2024 registered at Lonavala City Police Station, District : Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 376(2)(n), 377, 504 and 506 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 66(E) of the Information Technology Act, 2000, on executing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount;

- (iii) The applicant shall not enter into the limits of Taluka Karjat, Dist. Raigad and shall not contact the prosecutrix/victim till conclusion of trial.
- (iv) Application stands disposed of accordingly.

(N. R. BORKAR, J.)