

HARSHADA H. SAWANT
(P.A.)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

BAIL APPLICATION NO.1955 OF 2025

Ashok Bhagwan Vanjari

.. Applicant

Versus

State of Maharashtra

.. Respondent

.....

- Ms. Samiksha Pawar, Advocates for Applicant.
- Mr. Rushikesh M. Pethe, APP for Respondent.

.....

CORAM : MILIND N. JADHAV, J.

DATE : MAY 09, 2025

P.C.:

1. Heard Ms. Pawar, learned Advocate for Applicant and Mr. Pethe, learned APP for Respondent.

2. Applicant is indicted under provisions of Indian Penal Code, 1860 (for short '**IPC**') and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (for short '**POCSO Act**').

3. At the outset, Ms. Pawar would submit that since indictment of Applicant is with respect to offences punishable under IPC and POCSO, prosecutrix is required to be impleaded as Respondent through concerned Police Station as Respondent No.2 in the present Application. In that view of matter, leave is granted to Applicant to implead her as party through the Senior Inspector of Police, of concerned Police Station as Respondent No.2.

4. Ms. Pawar also informs the Court that there are certain typographical mistakes in the body of Application with respect to the date of the First Information Report and nomenclature. She would therefore seek permission of Court to allow her to correct the said mistakes. Leave to carry out the same is granted.

5. Necessary amendments are permitted to be carried out forthwith in the presence of the Court. Amendment is carried out forthwith. Re-verification stands dispensed with.

6. In view of the above, Issue notice to Respondent No.2. Humdast permitted. In addition to Court's notice, Applicant is directed to serve a copy of this order and copy of the Application on the Investigating Officer directly.

7. Mr. Pethe, learned APP appears for Respondent – State of Maharashtra and waives service on behalf of State.

8. Investigating Officer is directed by this Court to depute a responsible lady Police Officer to serve copy of Respondent No.2 and obtain her consent as to whether she requires legal representation through legal aid. The consent of Respondent No.2 shall be apprised to the Court on the next adjourned date through the learned APP. Let the aforesaid exercise be carried out within a period of two weeks from today.

9. Stand over to 16th July, 2025.

H. H. SAWANT

[MILIND N. JADHAV, J.]

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by HARSHADA
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