

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO. 334 OF 2025**

Sukesh Balasaheb Khot ... Applicant
vs.
The State of Maharashtra and another ... Respondents

Mr. Aniket Nikam a/w. Ms. Shreya Anuwal for applicant.

Mr. A. A. Naik, APP for the respondent No.1-State.

Mr. Amol B. Jagtap for respondent No.2 (first informant).

Ms. Sonali Bhimrao Rathod, respondent No.2 (first informant).

CORAM : MANISH PITALE, J.

DATE : 13th FEBRUARY, 2025

P.C. :

1. In terms of order dated 06.02.2025 passed by this Court, today when the application is called out for consideration, the learned counsel appearing for respondent No.2 (first informant/victim) submitted that she is present in Court and she has also sworn an affidavit. The affidavit is tendered. The same is taken on record and marked 'X'.

2. The contents of the affidavit show that the first informant specifically states that she has no objection to the present application being allowed, as she and the applicant have decided to get married. While this Court is of the opinion that the proposed marriage between the applicant and the first informant, cannot be the sole ground for allowing the present application, particularly when this is the second anticipatory bail application filed on behalf of the applicant, since it is indicated that in future, the parties would be jointly approaching this Court for quashing of the FIR itself, this Court is inclined to favourably consider the prayer made in the present application.

3. The learned counsel for the applicant submits that the

applicant is voluntarily ready to deposit an amount of ₹ 2 lakhs in an appropriate welfare fund for police personnel. The statement is recorded.

4. It is to be noted that in the present case, the FIR was registered on 13.11.2024 and this being a serious case of crime against woman, the police personnel worked overtime to ensure that the charge-sheet was filed on 07.01.2025.

5. In view of the above, this Court is inclined to allow the application and to permit the applicant to voluntarily deposit the aforesaid amount in an appropriate account.

6. Accordingly, the application is allowed in the following terms:

- (i) In the event the applicant is arrested in connection with FIR No.0322 of 2024 dated 13.11.2024 registered at Kothrud Police Station, District Pune City, he shall be released on bail on furnishing PR Bond of ₹ 25,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount to the satisfaction of the trial Court.
- (ii) As per the voluntary statement made on behalf of the applicant before this Court, he shall deposit the amount of ₹ 2 lakhs within four weeks in the following account:

A/c. Name: Central Police Welfare Fund

Account No.: 914010029005759

Bank Name: Axis Bank

IFSC: UTIB0000060

- (iii) The applicant shall co-operate with the investigating authority in the future.

7. Mr. Jagtap, learned counsel is permitted to file *vakalatnama* on behalf of respondent No.2 within one week from today.

8. The application stands disposed of.

(MANISH PITALE, J)