

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

**Anticipatory Bail Application No.375 of 2025**

Sonia Pal

... Applicant

versus

The State of Maharashtra and Anr

... Respondents

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Dr Uday Warunjikar, a/w. Mr Akshay Bhalerao, Mr Anoop Pal,  
Ms Seema Gupta and Ms Aishwarya Towar, for the applicant.

Mr SV Walve, APP, for respondent No.1/ State.

Mr Shashikant Sansare, for respondent No.2, through VC.

PSI NB Kshirsagar, Vimantal Police Station, Pune City, is  
present.

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**Coram: R.N. Laddha, J.**

**Date: 21 August 2025.**

**P.C.:**

. Heard the learned Counsel for the applicant, the learned  
Counsel for respondent No.2, and the learned APP.

2. The learned Counsel for the applicant submits that the  
FIR, prima facie, does not disclose any criminal offence, and  
instead, turned the proceedings into a recovery mechanism. To  
constitute an offence of cheating, there has to be something  
more than prima facie record to indicate that the intention of

the accused was to cheat the complainant right from the inception.

3. The plain reading of the FIR does not disclose any element of criminality. The complainant, in his reply affidavit, has categorically admitted that he received Rs.18,10,000/- from the applicant by way of interest. According to the learned Counsel, even if the applicant own money to the complainant under any agreement, that, alone did not constitute the offence of cheating unless there was intent to cheat from the beginning.

4. By consent, stand over to **16 September 2025**. There shall not be any coercive action against the applicant in the present crime till the next date.

**(R.N. Laddha, J.)**