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

Anticipatory Bail Application No.1728 of 2025

Gourav Rajaram Dorage

... Applicant

versus

The State of Maharashtra and Anr

... Respondents

Mr Tapan Thatte, a/w. Mr Akshay Dingale, i/b. Mr Pritam Butada, for the applicant.

Mr Anand Shalgaonkar, APP, for respondent No.1/ State.

Mr Ganesh Bhujbal, for respondent No.2.

WPSI SY Rajput, Yavat Police Station, Pune Rural, is present.

Coram: R.N. Laddha, J.

Date: 28 July 2025.

P.C.:

. The learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the applicant submits that there exists an inordinate and unexplained delay of approximately three months in the registration of the present FIR. According to the prosecution, the alleged incident took place on 19 February 2025, whereas the FIR came to be registered only on 31 May 2025. This delay, he submits, casts serious doubt on the veracity and spontaneity of the allegations. The learned Counsel points out that a cross-FIR bearing CR No.173 of 2025 was already registered at Yavat Police Station,

wherein the accused Nos. 1, 2 and 3 in the present FIR have been shown to be the actual victims of the incident. This claim is substantiated by medical certificates. According to the learned Counsel, the present FIR has been lodged as a counterblast to the earlier FIR filed by one Onkar Gaikwad and that the allegations now made are afterthought, motivated by malice and intended as a retaliatory measure following a physical altercation in which both parties were involved. The learned Counsel further submits that the co-accused, Kaustubh, has already been protected by this Court vide ad-interim order dated 1 July 2025. Furthermore, the learned Counsel submits that the applicant is ready and willing to attend the concerned police station and cooperate with the investigation.

2. By consent of the the learned Counsel for the parties, stand over to **25 August 2025**. In the meantime, the applicant shall attend the concerned police station and cooperate with the investigation and shall not make any contact with the informant/victim. There shall not be any coercive action against the applicant till the next date in the present crime.

(R.N. Laddha, J.)