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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION  
ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO.2500 OF 2025  
Bharat Sopan Katkar ...Applicant

Versus  
The State of Maharashtra ...Respondent

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Mr. Ganesh Bhujbal a/w Tushar Nikam, for the Applicant.  
Mr. S. A. Karmarkar, APP, for the Respondent-State.

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CORAM: MADHAV J. JAMDAR, J.  
DATED: 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

PC:-

1. Heard Mr. Ganesh Bhujbal, learned Counsel appearing for the Applicant and Mr. Karmarkar, learned APP for the Respondent-State.

2. The Applicant by this Anticipatory Bail Application is seeking pre-arrest bail in connection with CR No.576 of 2025 registered with the Chakan Police Station, District-Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 118(2), 118(1), 115(2), 352 and 3(5) of the *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023*.

3. The prosecution case is set out in Paragraph No.3 of the Order dated 30th August 2025 passed by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Khed-Rajgurunagar, Pune in Criminal Bail Application No.523 of 2025, which reads as under :-

*“3. The informant Rajesh Hanumant Katkar lodged an FIR with Chakan police station alleging therein that incident in question took place on 12/08/2025 at about 11.30 pm. According to informant, applicants and their associates belongs to brotherhood. There is land dispute going on between them and having regard that civil litigation is pending in the Court of law. On the fateful day of incident, the informant had spotted one JCB in the agricultural land of him. The said JCB was digging in the land of informant. Therefore, he went there and questioned the operator of JCB not to do anything in their land. At that time, applicant no.2 standing there came to him and slapped him. Thereafter the informant called his elder brother Prashant Katkar by making phone call. Accordingly, he came and questioned applicant no.2 about beating the informant. At the said place, Rajendra Eknath Katkar, applicants and Rahul Eknath Katkar were standing noticing the situation. They started hurling abuses them. At that time, Rahul Katkar armed with wooden log assaulted on the right leg of brother of informant and made him injured. The informant while intervening the said incident, applicant no.2 assaulted the informant by stone. By noticing the said incident, mother of informant namely Anjana Katkar came there to whom co-accused Rajendra Katkar allegedly assaulted by hands. Thereafter the informant and his brother came to home and as they sustained injuries, they went to Chakan Police Station and therefrom they were referred to Rural Hospital, Chakan for medical examination. According to informant, the present applicants and his associates in furtherance of*

*their common intention, armed with deadly weapons voluntarily caused grievous to informant and witness with threat of dire consequences to their life. Hence, this report.”*

4. Perusal of the prosecution case shows that a sudden fight has taken place between the two groups and there is a cross FIR. There are a total of four Accused. One co-Accused has already been granted anticipatory bail by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Khed-Rajgurunagar, Pune. There are no criminal antecedents against the Applicant.

5. Mr. Bhujbal, learned Counsel for the Applicant, on instructions, states that the Applicant will cooperate with the investigation.

6. Accordingly, the case is made out for grant of anticipatory bail. In view thereof, the following Order is passed:

### **ORDER**

(a) In the event of arrest of the Applicant - Bharat Sopan Katkar in connection with CR No.576 of 2025 registered with the Chakan Police Station, District-Pune, the Applicant is directed to be released on bail

on his furnishing PR Bond in the sum of Rs.30,000/- with one or two solvent sureties in the like amount.

- (b) The Applicant shall attend the concerned Police Station on 23rd September 2025, 24th September 2025 and 25th September 2025 between 11:00 am to 02:00 pm and thereafter as and when called by the Investigating Officer till filing of the Charge-sheet and shall cooperate with the investigation.
- (c) The Applicant shall furnish his cell phone number and residential address to the Investigating Officer and shall keep the same updated, in case of any change thereto.
- (d) The Applicant shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat, or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade such a person from disclosing the facts to the Court or to any Police personnel.
- (e) The Applicant shall not tamper with the prosecution evidence and shall not contact or influence the Complainant or any witness in any manner.

(f) The Applicant shall not leave India without prior permission of the Court.

7. The Anticipatory Bail Application is disposed of accordingly.

[MADHAV J. JAMDAR, J.]