IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

974 CRIMINAL APPLICATION NO. 1331 OF 2025

Paribrahama Bhimrao More And Others
VERSUS
The State Of Maharashtra And Another
.....
Mr. A. R. Gaikwad, Advocate for Applicant.
Mrs. B. B. Gunjal, APP for Respondent – State.
.....

CORAM : SUSHIL M. GHODESWAR, J.

DATE : 28 OCTOBER, 2026

PC:

1. Heard Mr. Gaikwad, learned counsel for applicants, and Mrs. Gunjal, learned APP for the State.

2. Thought respondent No.2 is served, nobody appears on behalf of respondent No.2.

3. The applicants have prayed for quashing of the First Information Report No.293 of 2023, registered with Sadarbajar Police Station, for the offences punishable under Sections 498-A, 323, 504 and 506 read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, and the criminal proceedings arising therefrom, bearing R.C.C. No. 781 of 2023, pending before the learned Judicial Magistrate First Class, Jalna.

4. According to Mr. Gaikwad, learned counsel for the applicants,

respondent No.2 lodged a complaint on 19 April 2023, with Sadarbazar Police Station, Jalna. As per the said report, it is stated that she got married to Shreyash More on 5 June 2022, who is the son of applicant Nos.1 and 2 and brother of applicant No.3. She stated that initially, for a period of two months, she was treated properly. Thereafter, her in-laws started taunting her and subjected her to mental and physical harassment. There is also an allegation in the FIR that her in-laws demanded Rs.25,00,000/- from her parents for setting up the gym business for her husband – Shreyas. It is also further alleged that applicant No.1, being a member of the Police Department, used to threaten her. Due to the aforesaid harassment, she left the matrimonial house on 9 April 2023 and thereafter lodged the report.

5. In pursuance of the aforesaid report, Crime No. 293 of 2023 came to be registered for the offences punishable under Sections 498-A, 323, 504, 506 read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860. After completion of the investigation, the Investigating Officer has also filed a charge-sheet.

6. Learned counsel for applicants, Mr. Gaikwad, submits that the husband of respondent No.2 has not approached this Court for quashing of the FIR and the proceedings. However, the applicants, who are accused Nos.2 to 4, have been deliberately dragged into the crime only on account

of their relationship with the husband of respondent No.2. He further submits that the allegations against applicants are general in nature. He also submits that applicant No.1 is working in the Police Department and his name has been deliberately dragged into the crime in order to harass him. He further submits that respondent No.2 used to instigate her husband, Shreyas, to reside separately and, on account of said dispute, quarrels used to take place between them. He therefore submits that, vague and omnibus allegations have been levelled against the applicants, the criminal proceedings against them deserve to be quashed and set aside.

7. *Per contra*, Mrs. Gunjal, learned APP for the State, strongly opposes the instant application. She has referred to the contents of the report as well as material annexed to the charge-sheet. According to her, the FIR discloses specific allegations regarding harassment of respondent No.2, and there are specific averments attracting the offences under Sections 498-A and others provisions. She therefore strongly opposes the instant application and prays for dismissal.

8. After hearing learned counsel for the parties and perusing the material on record, it is found that applicants are close relatives of the husband of respondent No.2. The allegations as regards harassment are general in nature. No specific dates, events or overt acts have been stated

in the FIR so as to attract the offences punishable under Sections 498-A, 323, 504, 506 read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860. After going through the relevant material placed on record, it is found that the case is covered by the principles laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in the cases of **State of Haryana vs. Bhajan Lal, 1992 Supp (1) SCC 335** and **Geeta Mehrotra v. State of Uttar Pradesh, (2012) 10 SCC 741**.

9. In view of the above, the instant application is allowed. First Information Report No.293 of 2023, Charge-sheet No.228 of 2023 and the criminal proceedings bearing R.C.C. No.781 of 2023, pending before the learned Judicial Magistrate First Class at Jalna, are hereby quashed and set aside.

(SUSHIL M. GHODESWAR, J.)