IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIRCUIT BENCH AT KOLHAPUR

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CR. ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLN. NO. 119 OF 2024

Shri. Vikas Bhavanidas Bhadikar ……Applicant
VERSUS.
The State Of Maharashtra ……Respondent

None for Applicant.

Mr. Nitin B. Patil, APP for the Respondent-State.

SHANTANU SHANKARSA DHUDUM
Digitally signed by SHANTANU SHANKARSA DHUDUM
Date: 2026.10.15 10:41:49 +0530

CORAM : ASHWIN D. BHOBE, J.

DATE : 14th OCTOBER, 2026.

P.C.

1. When this Application was called out, the names of the Applicant (Vikas Bhavanidas Bhadikar) and the learned Advocate for the Applicant on record (Gargi P. Joshi) were called out by the Court Sheristedar. However, neither appeared, either in person or through V.C. mode.

2. This Anticipatory Bail Application has been pending since 2024. Instead of dismissing the Application for non-prosecution due to the absence of the Applicant and the learned Advocate for the Applicant, the Application is taken up for disposal with the consent of Mr. Nitin B. Patil,

learned A.P.P. for the Respondent–State, who, in all fairness, has agreed to assist this Court.

3. On 1st February 2024, the following order was passed:

"1. The Applicant is seeking anticipatory bail in connection with C.R.No.407 of 2023 registered at Barshi Taluka Police Station, Solapur Rural, on 16.11.2023, under Section 420 of the Indian Penal Code and under Sections 33, 33A and 38 of the Maharashtra Medical Practitioners Act, 1961.

2. Heard Ms. Gargi Joshi, learned counsel for the applicant and Ms. Mahalakshmi Ganapathy, learned APP for the State.

3. The F.I.R. is lodged by one Dr. Anita Bangar. She was the Medical Officer attached to Panchayat Samiti, Barshi and was looking after the Barshi Taluka. She was entrusted with the duty to collect health data about the health issues in the Taluka. She came to know that the present applicant was practicing as a Doctor, though, he was not entitled to practice in medicines as a Doctor. Therefore, he was a bogus doctor. On 08.11.2023, his clinic was raided. Some injections and medical instruments were seized. The F.I.R. mentions that the applicant was B.E.M.S., and he was not registered with the the Maharashtra Medical Council. He was not authorized to prescribe allopathic medicines. He has violated all these conditions and, therefore, this F.I.R. was lodged.

4. Learned counsel for the applicant submitted that the Health Authority had issued explanatory note on 19.09.2022 in which it was mentioned that the Graduates who had obtained CMS & ED Certificate and diploma courses, they can prescribe 44 allopathic medicines, but they cannot use the prefix 'Doctor' before their names. They could not enroll with any Government

Council. Learned counsel submitted that the applicant was a graduate in Electro Homeopathy Medicine and Surgery. He had completed the course in Community Medical Services & Essential Drugs, in 2020- 2021. Therefore, he was allowed to practice in medicines and was allowed to prescribe 44 allopathic medicines. She submitted that the applicant was in position to show that he had prescribed only those 44 medicines in his practice.

5. *Learned APP pointed out some documents wherein, it was mentioned that, he was describing himself as 'Doctor and Surgeon', which was not permissible. Learned APP submitted that the investigating agency is investigating into the allegations whether the applicant was prescribing any medicines which he was not authorized to prescribe.*

6. *Today, both the learned counsel are seeking adjournment. Learned counsel for the applicant prayed for ad- interim relief. Considering both these submissions, today I am inclined to protect the applicant by way of ad-interim relief with certain conditions.*

7. *Hence, the following order.*

ORDER

i) *In the event of his arrest in connection withC.R.No.407 of 2023 registered at Barshi Taluka Police Station, Solapur Rural, till the next date, the Applicant be released on bail on his executing P. R. bond in the sum of Rs.30,000/- (Rupees Thirty Thousand Only) with one or two sureties in the like amount.*

ii) *This order shall operate till 14/03/2024.*

iii) *The Applicant shall attend the concerned Police Station from 20/02/2024 to 23/02/2024 between 1.00p.m. to*

5.00p.m. and shall cooperate with the investigation.

iv) Till the next date before this Court, the Applicant shall not continue his practice.

v) Stand over to 14/03/2024."

4. Mr. Nitin B. Patil, learned A.P.P. for the Respondent–State, on instructions from the Investigating Officer in Crime No. 407 of 2023 registered at Barshi Taluka Police Station, Solapur Rural, submits that the investigation in Crime No. 407 of 2023 is complete and that the charge-sheet has been filed before the Court of the Judicial Magistrate First Class, Barshi. He further submits, on instructions from the Investigating Officer, that the charge-sheet has been registered as R.C.C. No. 458 of 2025.

5. Considering the statements made by Mr. Nitin B. Patil, learned A.P.P. for the Respondent–State, the Applicant being on interim bail since 1st February 2024, which remains in force to date and that there are no allegations of breach of the liberty granted to the Applicants or of violation of any bail conditions, notwithstanding the absence of the Advocate for the Applicant, in the interest of justice, the Order dated 1st February, 2024, is confirmed and made absolute in terms of paragraph 7(i) thereof.

6. Criminal Anticipatory Bail Application No.119 of 2024 is disposed of.

(ASHWIN D. BHOBE, J.)