IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIRCUIT BENCH AT KOLHAPUR
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLN. NO. 694 OF 2026

Rahul Narayan Bhosale … Applicant

Vs.

The State Of Maharashtra and Ors. … Respondents

.....

Mr. Samrat Hajare /b Mr. Vaibhav Gaikwad, for the Applicant.

Mr. S. H. Yadav, A.P.P., for the Respondent Nos.1 and 2 – State.

Mr. Atharva Bhingardeve, for the Respondent No.3.

Officer: PSI, Mr. Bankar, Mangalwedha Police Station, present.

.....

CORAM : SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.

DATE : 30th OCTOBER, 2026.

P. C. :

Digitally signed by SHANTANU SHANKARSA DHUDUM
SHANTANU SHANKARSA DHUDUM
Date: 2026.10.30 18:56:37 +0530

. Heard learned Advocates appearing for the parties.

2. The Applicant is seeking regular bail in connection with Crime No. 1020 of 2025 registered with Mangalwedha Police Station, District Solapur, for the offences punishable under Sections 64, 74, 115(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short, “BNS”) and Sections 4, 8, 12 and 17 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (for short, “POCSO Act”) and Sections 9, 10 and 17 of the Child Marriage Act, 2006.

3. It is reported to the police by the Respondent No.3 - victim herself that she was being ravished and threatened by the Accused No.2 – Bablu, present Applicant. It is further contended that she was being harassed by the biological mother and stepfather.

4. Learned counsel for the Applicant submits that the victim is staying with the Applicant, and they have a son born out of their relationship. They are from the nomadic tribe. They have married, albeit Respondent No.3 is not of the marriageable age. It is candidly stated that the Applicant is ready to marry her lawfully after attaining the age of majority.

5. Learned counsel appearing for Respondent No. 3 supports the submissions referred to above. On instructions from his client, who is present before the Court today, it is submitted that she has no objection for enlarging the Applicant on bail.

6. I have gone through the First Information Report and the relevant documents. The victim was 17 years and 8 months old at the relevant time. She is residing with the Applicant. The marriage, in fact, is void in law. The Applicant has assured the Court that he would marry her upon on attaining the age of majority. They have a child born out of the relationship. There are certain antecedents against the Applicant;

however, considering the peculiar facts of the case, I find it appropriate to enlarge him on bail. Hence, the following order:

ORDER

I. Bail Application is allowed.

II. The Applicant - Rahul Narayan Bhosale, shall be released on bail in connection with Crime No.1020 of 2025 registered with Mangalwedha Police Station, District Solapur, for the offences punishable under Sections 64, 74, 115(2) of the BNS and Sections 4, 8, 12 and 17 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (for short, "POCSO Act") and Sections 9, 10 and 17 of the Child Marriage Act, 2006, on furnishing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only) with one or more solvent sureties in the like amount, on the following conditions.

A) The Applicant shall not contact the prosecution evidence and contact the prosecution witnesses.

B) The Applicant shall not cause any harassment, physically or mentally, to the Respondent No.3 - victim.

C) The Applicant shall report to the concerned police station as and when required by the Investigating Officer.

D) The Applicant shall furnish contact number of himself or his close relative / friend to the Investigating Officer.

E) The Applicant shall co-operate for expeditious disposal of the trial and attend the dates punctually.

F) The Applicant shall surrender his Aadhar Card and PAN Card copies to the Investigating Officer.

7. Bail Application is disposed of accordingly.

(SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.)