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

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLN. NO. 737 OF 2026

Raj Ramesh Sanadi ……Applicant

Versus

State of Maharashtra & Another ……Respondents

- *Mr. Ramanik Pawar a/w. Mr. Samadhan M., Mr. Amit Waykool, Mr. Nadeem Saudagar & Ms. Pooja Deshmukh i/b. Mr. Ruturaj Patil for Applicant.*
- *Dr. Ashvini A. Takalkar, A.P.P. for Respondents-State.*
- *Officer : HC/388 Mr. S.S. Kurane, Dy.S.P. Office, Ichalkaranji, present.*

Coram : SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.

Date : 22nd October 2026.

PER COURT :

1. Heard learned counsel for the parties.

2. The Applicant is seeking bail in connection with Crime No. 0328 of 2025, dated 14th August 2025, registered with Ichalkaranji Police Station, District Kolhapur, for the offences punishable under Sections 178, 179, 180, 181, 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

3. The First Information Report was lodged on 14th August 2025 following

a raid conducted by the competent officers. The Applicant was arrested on 14th August 2025. The chargesheet was filed on 7th November 2025 against seven accused persons. Out of them, Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3), Arjun Amar Dalvi (accused No. 5) and Omkar Vijay Salunkhe (accused No. 7), have been released on bail.

4. The report was lodged with the police following the raid conducted on 14th August 2025. It was found that, on the basis of information received, the illegal activity of counterfeiting currency was going on. During the raid, the Aniket Shinde (accused No.1), Raj Ramesh Sanadi - Applicant (accused No. 2) and Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3) were found at the spot. Incriminating material, including raw materials, a printer, papers, and various articles used for manufacturing counterfeit currency, was found and seized.

5. Learned Advocate for the Applicant seeks enlargement on bail on the ground of parity, as the Sessions Court enlarged Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3), on bail, who is similarly situated. It is submitted that no incriminating material is found during the investigation against the Applicant. There are no criminal antecedents against the Applicant. He is neither the owner of the premises where the raid was conducted nor in exclusive possession thereof.

6. Learned A.P.P. Dr. Takalkar opposes the application on the ground that

the Sessions Court committed an apparent error in granting bail to Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3), by relying upon the order of enlargement of bail passed in favour of Arjun Amar Dalvi (accused No. 5). The Applicant is stated to have been found red-handedly with the incriminating material.

7. My attention is drawn to the report disclosing the manufacturing of the counterfeit currency worth ₹2,24,200/-.

8. I have gone through the First Information Report, which spells out the raid conducted on 14th August 2025 and the apprehending of two persons, including the Applicant. Raw materials, a printer, articles, papers, and counterfeit currency were also found and seized by the raiding party. Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3) has been apprehended along with the Applicant.

9. Except for the presence of the Applicant at the relevant time in the premises, there is no material pointed out to show that he is actively involved in the manufacture of counterfeit currency. He is not stated to be the owner of the premises.

10. The Sessions Court released Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3), on bail by order dated 5th October 2026, relying upon the order passed by this Court in Bail Application No. 779 of 2026 in respect of Arjun Amar Dalvi (accused No. 5). I have gone through the Order dated 20th August 2026

passed by this Court in Bail Application No. 779 of 2026. The role attributed to Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3) is entirely different from the role attributed to Arjun Amar Dalvi (accused No. 5). Learned A.P.P. is right in contending that Arjun Amar Dalvi (accused No. 5) was not apprehended at the spot during the raid with the incriminating material.

11. However, the similarly situated co-accused, Shoyeb Amjad Kalawant (accused No. 3), has been granted bail. No criminal antecedents are reported against the Applicant. The investigation is over. He is behind bars since 14th August 2025, which is sufficient incarceration.

12. Considering the material against the Applicant, I found that the Applicant deserves protection. Hence, I pass the following order:

ORDER

(i) Bail Application is allowed.

(ii) Applicant - Raj Ramesh Sanadi shall be released on bail in Crime No. 0328 of 2025, dated 14th August 2025, registered with Ichalkaranji Police Station, District Kolhapur, for the offences punishable under Sections 178, 179, 180, 181, 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, on furnishing P.R. bond of Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) with one or more solvent sureties in the like amount, on the following conditions:

(a) The Applicant shall not tamper with the prosecution evidence and contact the prosecution witnesses.

(b) The Applicant shall inform his whereabouts and contact numbers to the Investigating Officer.

(c) The Applicant shall surrender his Aadhar Card and PAN Card to the Investigating Officer, if any.

(d) The Applicant shall regularly appear before the Trial Court.

[SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.]

OMKAR SHIVAHAR KUMBHAKARN

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Date: 2026.10.23 10:56:01 +0530