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

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLN. NO. 931 OF 2026

Chandrashekhar Rajaram Zimane ……Applicant

Versus

The State Of Maharashtra And Another ……Respondents

Ms. Uma S. Sawant i/b. Mr. Suhas S. Sawant for Applicant.
Mr. Nitin B. Patil, A.P.P. for Respondents-State.
Officer : PC/1203 Mr. Parab, Sawantwadi Police Station, 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. 0216 of 2026, dated 25th August 2026, registered with Sawantwadi Police Station, District Sindhudurg, for the offences punishable under Sections 3, 5, 25(1)(a), 25(1)(b) of the Arms Act, 1959 and Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

3. The Applicant is arrested on 29th August 2026. The chargesheet has not

been filed, though the offence is registered on 25th August 2026.

4. Learned counsel for the Applicant submits that There is absolutely no incriminating material against the Applicant. He is not named in the First Information Report. His involvement is revealed only in the statements of the co-accused, which are not per se inculpatory as per Section 30 of the Evidence Act. There is no recovery at his instance.

5. Per contra, learned A.P.P. submits that the Applicant is involved in the illegal purchase and sale of firearms. The statements of the co-accused prima facie indicate the involvement of the Applicant. The offence is serious in nature and the investigation is underway.

6. The First Information Report does not spell out the presence of the Applicant or attribute any role to him. In the statement of Pramod Palav (accused No. 4), the involvement of the Applicant is revealed. The statement of the co-accused is not per se inculpatory, at least for the consideration of the grant of bail.

7. My attention is invited by learned counsel to the observations of the Hon'ble Apex Court in the case of P. Krishna Mohan Reddy vs. The State of Andhra Pradesh[1]. I have gone through paragraph No. 39 of the judgment, which would enure to the benefit of the Applicant.

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8. There is no recovery at the instance of the Applicant. It is rightly pointed out by learned counsel for the Applicant that no police custody remand was solicited and the Applicant was directly remanded to judicial custody.

9. The involvement of the Applicant is extremely doubtful. He is behind bars since 29th August 2026. There are no antecedents against the Applicant.

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

ORDER

(i) The Bail Application is allowed.

(ii) Applicant - Chandrashekhar Rajaram Zimane shall be released on bail in Crime No. 0216 of 2026, dated 25th August 2026, registered with Sawantwadi Police Station, District Sindhudurg, for the offences punishable under Sections 3, 5, 25(1)(a), 25(1)(b) of the Arms Act, 1959 and Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, on furnishing P.R. bond of Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five 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 14:53:08 +0530