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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLN. NO. 965 OF 2026

UDAY SHIVAJI JAGTAP
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Date: 2026.11.02 10:42:05 +0530

Santosh Vitthal Jadhav And and Suraj Dharmendra Sawant … Applicants

Vs.

The State Of Maharashtra And Anr … Respondents

WITH
CRIMINAL BAIL APPLN. NO. 956 OF 2026

Gajanan alias Amol Arjun Sawant … Applicant

Vs.

State Of Maharashtra And Anr. … Respondents

WITH
CRIMINAL BAIL APPLN. NO. 960 OF 2026

Ashok Laxman Sawant … Applicant

Vs.

State Of Maharashtra And Anr. … Respondents

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Mr. Shrikrishna Ganbavale a/w Prithviraj Raorane for the Applicants
Ms. S.N. Deshmukh, APP for Respondent – State in BA 965/2026.
Mr. S.H. Yadav, APP for Respondent – State in BA 956/2026.
Dr. A.A. Takalkar, APP for Respondent – State in BA 960/2026
Mr. Pramod Patil, PSI, Sawantwadi Police Station present.

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CORAM : SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.

DATE : 30th OCTOBER, 2026.

P. C. :

. Heard.

2. The applicants are seeking regular bail in the offences registered

against them with Sawantwadi Police Station, which are as follows :-

Sr. No.	Name of the Accused	C.R. Nos. and Offence punishable under Sections
1.	Ashok Laxman Sawant	**C.R. No. 0215/2026** under Sections 3, 5 / 25(1)(a) and 25(1)(b) and Section 29 of the Arms Act r/w Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.
2.	Gajanan alias Amol Arjun Sawant	**C.R. No. 0214/2026** under Sections 3, 5 / 25(1)(a) and 25(1)(b) of the Arms Act r/w Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and Sections 9 and 51 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.
3.	Santosh Vitthal Jadhav and Suraj Dharmendra Sawant	**C.R. No. 0216/2026** under Sections 3, 5, 25(1)(a) and 25(1)(b) of the Arms Act r/w Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

3. All the applicants are arrested on 25.09.2026. The investigation is on the verge of completion and the charge-sheet is yet to be filed.

4. Learned counsel Mr. Ganbavale appearing for the applicants submits that they are entitled to be enlarged on bail as is done in Criminal Bail Application Nos. 994 of 2026 and 1057 of 2026. It is submitted that no incriminating role is attributed to the applicants. There are no antecedents except one antecedent against Gajanan. They are ready to co-operate with the investigating agency.

5. Learned APP opposes the applications. It is submitted that fire arm

weapons without licence were found with the applicants and live cartridges were also found with Gajanan. The applicants are involved in the serious offence. Their custody is required.

6. I have considered the rival submissions of the parties. The first information report, *albeit* distinct, would spell out the same prosecution theory. The raid has been conducted on receiving the secrete information and the *desi* fire arms are found. In case of Gajanan two fire arms are found along with cartridges.

7. This Court has already granted bail in similarly situated accused persons, who are involved in the distinct offences in Criminal Bail Application Nos. 994 of 2026 and 1057 of 2026. The ground of parity is rightly placed into service by the applicants.

8. In case of Ashok and Gajanan, two guns are involved. In case of Gajanan, one antecedent is also reported. However, considering over all circumstances, their further detention is not required. The investigation is on the verge of completion. On imposing certain conditions, the applicants can be released on bail. Hence, I pass following order:-

ORDER

I. Bail Applications are allowed.

II. Applicants - Ashok Laxman Sawant, Gajanan alias Amol Arjun

Sawant, Santosh Vitthal Jadhav and Suraj Dharmendra Sawant, in C.R. numbers mentioned above, shall be released on bail on furnishing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000 (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only) each with one or more solvent sureties in the like amount, on the following conditions.

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

(b) The Applicants shall inform their whereabouts and contact numbers to the Investigating Officer.

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

(d) The Applicants shall regularly appears before the Trial Court.

9. Bail Applications are disposed of accordingly.

(SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.)