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

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO. 610 OF 2026

Amol Abasaheb Katkar And Ors. ...Applicants
Versus
State Of Maharashtra And Anr. ...Respondents

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Adv. P. D. Indulkar a/w Adv. Satish Nalawade, Adv. Saklen Mujawar, Advocate for Applicants.
Ms. Shubangi N. Deshmukh, learned APP for the Respondents-State.
Mr. B. J. Shinde (PC), Vaduj Police Station, present.

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CORAM : SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.

DATE : 27th OCTOBER, 2026.

P.C. :

Heard.

2. The applicant is seeking pre-arrest bail in connection with Crime No.273 of 2024, registered with Vaduj Police Station, Satara, for the offences punishable under Sections 406, 409, 420, 465, 467, 468 and 471 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC).

3. The Charge-Sheet has already been filed but the applicants have shown to be absconding.

4. The counsel for the applicants is placing reliance on the relief granted by this Court on 01.09.2026 in Anticipatory Bail Application

No.81 of 2026. The co-accused – Sandip Krushnath Deshmukh, who was also shown to be absconding, has been granted relief by this Court. It is further contended that the applicants' role has not been figured out. They are ready to cooperate with the investigating agency.

5. Learned APP appearing for the respondents-State submits that the applicants are absconding. Their custodial interrogation is required to conduct further investigation. It is submitted that the allegations against them are serious in nature.

6. The applicants involvement revealed in the supplementary statement of the informant. The co-accused – Sandip Deshmukh is alleged to have prepared bogus documents. His role is more incriminating than present applicants. He was also absconding. This Court granted him relief vide order dated 01.09.2026 in Anticipatory Bail Application No.81 of 2026. Considering the comparative role attributed to accused person, the applicants are entitled to the pre-arrest protection.

7. The First Information Report does not spell out the involvement of the applicants. The applicants are implicated after supplementary statement. Considering the overall conspectus of the matter, they deserve protection. Hence, I pass the following order :

::ORDER::

(i) Anticipatory Bail Application is allowed.

(ii) In the event of arrest, the applicants shall be released on bail in Crime No.273 of 2024, registered with Vaduj Police Station, Satara, for the offences punishable under Sections 406, 409, 420, 465, 467, 468 and 471 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (IPC) on furnishing P. R. bond of Rs.10,000/- each 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 furnish contact number of himself or his close relative/friend.

(c) The applicant shall furnish his contact numbers to the Investigating Officer.

(d) The applicant Shall surrender his Aadhar Card and PAN Card to the Investigating Officer, if any.

(e) The applicant shall report the concerned Police Station on every Sunday between 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. till conclusion of the trial.

(f) The applicant shall co-operate for expeditious disposal of the trial and attend the dates punctually.

(iii) Anticipatory Bail application is disposed of accordingly.

[SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.]