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

BAIL APPLICATION NO.1028 OF 2026

Sambhaji Mahadev Mane … Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra & Ors … Respondents

WITH

BAIL APPLICATION NO.1006 OF 2026

Laxmi Sambhaji Mane … Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra & Ors … Respondents

Mr. Viraj Nalavade a/w. Mr. Chandrakant Patil, Ms. Sharvari Tipugade, Mr. Girish Mujumdar, Ms. Tanvi Lad, Advocate for the Applicants.

Mr. Nitin B. Patil, APP for the Respondents-State.

Mr. Anil Patil, PSI Sangli Rural Police Station present.

CORAM : SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.

DATED : NOVEMBER 02, 2026

P.C.:

1. Heard both sides.

2. Applicants are arrested on 14/09/2026 in offence bearing C.R. No. 0272 of 2026 registered with Sangli Rural Police Station, punishable under Sections 108, 115(2), 3(5), 351(2), 351(3), 352, 82(2) and 85 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.

3. First Information Report is lodged by mother of the deceased

against the parents-in-law, husband, and sister-in-law of the deceased for having committed matrimonial torture and harassment. It is alleged that the deceased was continuously demanded money and taunted from time to time. She was mentally and physically harassed by them. It is alleged that the deceased shared common shelter with the accused persons, and she was dragged to commit suicide on 12/09/2026.

4. The learned Counsel for the applicants submits that co-accused Yogita has been granted pre-arrest protection. The applicants are behind bars for sufficient time. Their further detention is not required. It is submitted that the allegations stated in the complaint are exaggerations and imaginary. The relations between the parties were not strained, as it can be seen that last rites were performed on 13/09/2026 at Budhgaon.

5. Learned APP submits that the applicants were all the while in the company of the deceased and involved in harassment and torture. They acted in collusion with their son and daughter. Their case is different than Yogita, who is granted pre-arrest protection. The investigation is yet to be concluded, and their interrogation is required. It is emphasized that the death has occurred within six months of marriage, which is a dowry death.

6. First Information Report would indicate that deceased was residing with the applicants and their son in a matrimonial home.

Before the date of incident, she had been to her parental home, but she was compelled to come back to matrimonial home on the fateful day. The harassment alleged against the applicants are not found to be of such a magnitude so as to drag her to commit suicide. No intention can be inferred on part of the applicants so as to eliminate the deceased.

7. The last rite of the deceased was performed at the place of the applicants at Budhgaon, which is one of the mitigating circumstances. The husband, son of the applicants, is the real perpetrator, who even assaulted her just preceding the incident in question. No such a role can be attributed to the applicants.

8. Applicants are behind bars since 14/09/2026. No antecedents are reported against them. Their further detention is not required. I, therefore, pass following order:

ORDER

(i) Bail Applications are allowed.

(ii) The Applicants-Sambhaji Mahadev Mane and Laxmi Sambhaji Mane shall be released on bail in connection with C.R. No. 0272 of 2026 registered with Sangli Rural Police Station, punishable under Sections 108, 115(2), 3(5), 351(2), 351(3), 352, 82(2) and 85 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. on furnishing P. R. bond of Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) each with one or more solvent

sureties of 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 furnish contact numbers of themselves or their close relative / friend to the Investigating Officer.

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

(d) The applicants shall inform their whereabouts and contact numbers to the Investigating Officer.

(e) Applicants shall report the police station on every Sunday between 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. till filing of the chargesheet.

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

(iii) The bail applications are accordingly disposed of.

(SHAILESH P. BRAHME, J.)