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

BAIL APPLICATION NO.1087 OF 2026

Mangesh Babu Jadhav ...Applicant

V/s.

State of Maharashtra And Others ...Respondents

Shri. Harshavardhan Patil a/w. Shri. Ruturaj Kadam, Advocates for the Applicant.
Smt. Dr. Ashvini A. Takalkar, APP for the State.
Mr. A. H. Chandgude, HC 972, Phaltan City Police Station.
Shri. Vinayak Belgaonkar, Advocate for Respondent No.3

CORAM : NEERAJ P. DHOTE, J.
DATE : 25th NOVEMBER, 2026

P. C. :

1. The learned Counsel for the Informant is permitted to file *Vakakalatnama* in the Office.

2. This is the Application under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (for short, 'BNSS') for the Regular Bail in Crime No.247/2026 registered with Phaltan City Police Station, Dist. Satara for the offence punishable under Sections 137(2), 64(1), 64 (2)(m), 64(2)(f), 65(1), 96, 74, 75, 351(2), 351(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023

(for short, 'BNS'), under Sections 4, 6, 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (hereinafter referred to as the 'POCSO Act') and Sections 67, 67A, 67B, 66E of the Information Technology Act, 2000 (hereinafter referred to as the 'Act of 2000').

3. The aforesaid Crime is registered on the Report lodged by the Victim's Mother that, the Victim aged 12 years and 3 months was kidnapped by unknown person on 30.06.2026. During the course of investigation, the Victim was traced at the house of the parents of the Applicant. The Statement of the Victim was recorded, wherein she stated that, she accompanied the Applicant. The Applicant committed sexual intercourse with her from 30.06.2026 till 06.07.2026 in one shade at an agricultural field. The Applicant had video-graphed the acts which were committed by him with the Victim. Since bail application of the Applicant came to be rejected by the learned Sessions Court, the Applicant came to be arrested and therefore, this Application is filed.

4. Heard the learned Counsel for the Applicant, the learned Counsel for the Victim and the learned APP for the State. Perused the papers on record.

5. It is submitted by the learned Counsel for the Applicant that, the Applicant and the Victim are related with each other. The Applicant is 19 years old boy. The Victim herself accompanied the Applicant. There is no material to support the version of the Victim, as no injuries were found during medical examination of the victim. The investigation is complete and the Charge-sheet is filed. He submits that, the Application be allowed.

6. It is submitted by the learned Counsel for the Informant that, the Victim and and her Mother are present in the Court. They do not want to oppose the bail application and they have no objection, if the bail application is allowed.

7. It is submitted by the learned APP that, the offence is against the minor girl. The act committed by the Applicant with the Victim is serious in nature. The Applicant has also video-graphed the acts which he committed with the Victim and had posted the same on social media. It is submitted that, though the investigation is complete, no case for bail is made out.

8. The Statement of the Victim which is part and parcel of the Charge-sheet goes to show that, she and the Applicant were related to

each other. They were knowing each other. They used to talk over the phone with each other. On 30.06.2026 the Victim accompanied the Applicant on the motorcycle. Though the Victim stated of sexual intercourse by the Applicant on her against her wish, the medical evidence do not support the said version. The social media posts are removed from the social media during the the course of investigation. The investigation is complete and the Charge-sheet is filed. The Applicant is 19 years of age having no criminal antecedents. In this view of the matter, the Applicant can be enlarged on bail by imposing appropriate conditions. Hence, the following order.

ORDER

(i) The Application is allowed.

(ii) The Applicant, by name, Mangesh Babu Jadhav, be released on bail in Crime No.247/2026 registered with Phaltan City Police Station, Dist. Satara for the offence punishable under Sections 137(2), 64(1), 64(2)(m), 64(2)(f), 65(1), 96, 74, 75, 351(2), 351(3) of BNS, under Sections 4, 6, 8 and 12 of the POCSO Act and under Sections 67, 67A, 67B, 66E of the Act of 2000 on furnishing a personal bond of Rs. 30,000/- (Rupees Thirty Thousand only) with one or two sureties in the like amount, subject to the following conditions :

(a) He shall not, directly or indirectly, make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case, so as to dissuade him from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer.

(b) He shall co-operate with the learned Trial Court.

(iii) The Application stands disposed of.

[NEERAJ P. DHOTE, J.]