

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

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 946 OF 2025

Ankush Anandrao Keripale	...Appellant
Versus	
State of Maharashtra And Anr.	...Respondents

Mr. Balwant Salunkhe, Advocate for Appellant.

Mr. Ritesh Thobde, Advocate for Respondent No.2.

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

CORAM : NITIN B. SURYAWANSHI, J.
DATE : 6th JANUARY 2026.

P.C.

1. This appeal filed under Section 14A of the Scheduled Castes and Schedule Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 challenges the order passed by the Special Court in Criminal Bail Application No.686 of 2025 thereby rejecting anticipatory bail to the appellant.

2. The second respondent/informant has alleged in the FIR that the appellant visited the office of the informant and demanded some information about decided cases in informant's unit/department and he provided the information for inspection to the appellant, but the appellant was not satisfied. At that time the appellant abused the informant in the name of his caste and went away.

3. Heard learned Advocate for the appellant and learned APP for the Respondent – State. Perused the record.
4. There is delay of seven months in lodging the FIR, which is not explained. There is no explanation of the inordinate delay. After rejection of the application of appellant on 10.11.2025, charge-sheet came to be filed in the Special Court. Before filing of the charge-sheet, the police formally arrested the appellant on 03.12.2025. After filing of charge-sheet, the Sessions Court has issued process against the accused/appellant on 17.12.2025.
5. In view of above, custodial interrogation of the appellant is not necessary in the peculiar facts of the present case. As the process is issued against the appellant, he has to appear before the Special Court and furnish bail.
6. With the above observations, the appeal is disposed of.

(NITIN B. SURYAWANSHI, J.)