

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

BAIL APPLICATION NO.3610 OF 2025

Pratik Anandrao Shinde	...Applicant
Vs.	
The State of Maharashtra	...Respondent

Mr. Dhiraj S. Ghadge a/w Mr. Manish P. Gitay, for Applicant.

Dr. A. A. Takalkar, APP, for the Respondent-State.

Mr. Kuldeep Nikam, for Intervenor.

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CORAM : NITIN B. SURYAWANSHI, J.

DATE : 14th JANUARY 2026.

P.C.

1. The Applicant seeks regular bail in Crime No.204 of 2025 registered with Panchgani Police Station, District: Satara, for the offences punishable under Sections 140(3), 204, 115(2), 351(2), 351(3), 352, 142 and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short, "BNS Act").

2. The prosecutions case is that on 17.08.2025 at about 2:00 pm., the first informant Santosh Laxman Shedage was proceeding along with his wife, mother and daughter towards his house in his vehicle bearing No.MH-11-DH-2722. At that time, two unknown persons intercepted his car. One of them pretended to be police

officer from Navi Mumbai and he stated that they were possessing arrest warrant against the first informant. Thereafter, they forcibly dragged the informant out of the car and abducted him. He was confined at the residence of the accused no.1 – Bharat Anant Gharat, wherein he was coerced into signing an agreement involving a substantial sum of rupees eighteen crores despite related proceedings being sub-judice before various Courts. The accused no.2 namely, Swapnil Vishnu Kadam has kept surveillance over the informant being his adjacent neighbour. The accused no.3 i.e. present Applicant – Pratik is seen in the CCTV footage along with the other absconding accused at the relevant time. Accordingly, report was lodged at Panchgani Police Station.

3. Heard learned Advocate for the Applicant, learned APP for the Respondent – State and learned advocate for the Intervenor. Perused the record.

4. The Applicant is arrested on 15th September, 2025 and charge-sheet in the present crime is filed on 13th December, 2025. The co-accused in the present crime namely, Swampnil Vishnu Kadam is granted bail by the trial Court vide order dated 2nd January, 2026.

5. Taking into consideration the record and material against the Applicant and the fact that the co-accused in the present crime is granted bail by the trial Court, the Applicant deserves to be released

on bail on the ground of parity. Further detention of the Applicant in the custody before the trial is not warranted in the facts of the present case.

6. Hence, the application is allowed, Applicant - Pratik Anandrao Shinde be released in connection with Crime No.204 of 2025 registered with Panchgani Police Station, District: Satara, for the offences punishable under Sections 140(3), 204, 115(2), 351(2), 351(3), 352, 142 and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short, "BNS Act"), on executing Personal Bond of Rs.15,000/- with one surety in the like amount.

7. The Applicant shall not tamper the prosecution evidence.

8. The Applicant shall attend the trial Court dates regularly.

(NITIN B. SURYAWANSHI, J.)