

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 233 OF 2026

Ajay Bhagawat Patel

VERSUS

State of Maharashtra And Anr.

...

Mr. Ramanik P. Pawar a/w Mr. Samadhan V. Mahamulkar, Mr. Amit Waykool, Mr. Dinesh S. Sonarlikar, Mr. Parvez Nadaf & Mr. Rahul Gupta, Advocate for the Applicant.

Mr. S. H. Yadav, APP for the Respondent-State.

...

CORAM : SACHIN S. DESHMUKH, J.

DATE : 24th MARCH, 2026.

P. C. :

1. The applicant seeks regular bail in connection with C.R. No. 281 of 2024 dated 14.05.2024 registered with Umbraj Police Station, District Satara, for the offences punishable under Sections 302, 504, 506 and 510 of the *Indian Penal Code*.

2. On 13.05.2024, at about 23:30 hours, within the jurisdiction of Mauje Bhoslewadi, Taluka Karad, a violent incident occurred between the accused and deceased, who are residents of Chhattisgarh, currently working as Laborer and residing in the neighboring room of the informant. It is alleged that the applicant

following a verbal altercation wherein the deceased abused the applicant, thereafter applicant launched a premeditated assault with intent to commit murder. The applicant allegedly used a wooden log (lakdi danda) to inflict grievous blows upon the deceased's head, eyes, and back, resulting in serious injuries. Furthermore, the applicant is alleged to have brandished the wooden log at the informant, issued criminal intimidation by threatening to kill the informant in the event matter was reported to the police. Consequently, the deceased was admitted to the hospital wherein he succumbed to the injuries. Hence, the report.

3. Learned Counsel for the applicant submits that the applicant has been falsely implicated in the case. The accidental fall which is already reported while admitting injured but eventually died in the hospital. Investigation is completed and the charge-sheet is filed. The trial is unlikely to conclude within a reasonable period. As such, further incarceration of the applicant is unjustified. Hence, prayed to allow the application.

4. Per contra, learned APP opposed the application submitting that the offence is serious in nature. The complicity of applicant is apparent from the evidence collected by the Investigating Officer.

The presence of the applicant on the spot is *prima facie* established in the wake of statements of witnesses. Learned APP further submits that this being successive bail application, no demonstrable change is pointed out by the learned counsel for the applicant, which disentitle the applicant to be admitted to the bail.

5. The learned APP has further expressed the apprehension that the applicant is resident of another state and if released on bail his presence may not be secured for the purpose of trial.

6. Having heard the submissions from both the sides and upon perusal of the record including charge-sheet *prima facie* indicates that initially the informant while admitting the deceased for treatment of the injuries reported that the deceased had suffered the injuries due to an accidental fall caused from over-drinking. Subsequently, the informant disclosed the entire incident to the police stating that the suppression of alleged act committed by the applicant was a result of his threats. Thus, there is a possibility of false implication.

7. As far as the contention of the learned APP regarding this being a successive application is concerned, the counsel for the applicant has submitted that the earlier application was not decided

on merits and had come to be withdrawn with liberty to file a fresh application after four months vide order dated 15.10.2025 in Criminal Bail Application No.3472 of 2025.

8. Nevertheless, the investigation is complete for all intent and purposes. Having regard to the number witnesses which the prosecution proposes to examine, it is very unlikely that the trial can be commenced and concluded within a reasonable period. In this view of the matter, further incarceration of the applicant would be unjustified. As far as the apprehension expressed by the learned A.P.P. in relation to non availability of the present applicant, the same can be adequately taken care of by imposing stringent conditions.

9. Hence, the order :-

ORDER

I. The bail application is allowed.

II. Applicant - Ajay Bhagawat Patel be released on bail, on furnishing P.R. bond in the sum of Rs.50,000/- (Rs.Fifty Thousand) with one or two local solvent sureties, in the like amount, in connection with C.R. No. 281 of 2024 dated 14.05.2024 registered with Umbraj Police Station, District Satara, for the offences

punishable under Sections 302, 504, 506 and 510 of the *Indian Penal Code* , on the following conditions :-

(a) The applicant shall not pressurize the prosecution witnesses and tamper with the prosecution evidence, in any manner.

(b) The applicant shall not leave the jurisdiction of Umbraj Police Station, Taluka/Tahasil: Karad : District Satara till conclusion of trial.

(c) The applicant shall attend the trial on each and every date unless exempted by the trial Court.

(d) The applicants shall submit Aadhar and Pan Cards to the Investigating Officer and detailed address, where they are likely to reside as well as their own phone numbers and that of their two near relatives.

(e) In case of breach of any of the conditions by the applicant, it is open for the Prosecution to approach the concerned Court seeking cancellation of bail, notwithstanding the fact that this Court has granted bail.

III. Needless to state that the observations rendered herein are to the extent of this application and the trial Court shall not be influenced by the same.

[SACHIN S. DESHMUKH, J.]