IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

BAIL APPLICATION NO. 3704 OF 2026

Pratik Brijesh Pandey .... Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra ...Respondent

WITH
BAIL APPLICATION NO. 3914 OF 2026

Ms. Jia Rachel Jacob .... Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra ...Respondent

WITH
BAIL APPLICATION NO. 3762 OF 2026

Mr. Pradeep Gupta .... Applicant
V/s.
The State of Maharashtra ...Respondent

Mr. Aabad Ponda, Sr. Advocate a/w. Ms. Pushpa Ganediwala, Ms. Namita Maneshinde, Adv. Anandini Fernandes, Ms. Trusha Chowbe, Mr. Bhushan Shinde, Adv. Anshu Agrawal and Mr. Pradyumn Agrawal for the Applicant in BA/3704/2026.
Ms. Sakshi Mane for the Applicant in BA/3762/2026.
Mr. Vijay Patil, Sr. Advocate a/w. Mr. Kuldeep Jain and Mr. Vivek Rane for the Applicant in BA/3914/2026.
Ms. Kranti Hiwrale, APP for the Respondent – State in BA/3704/2026.
Mr. Vinit Kulkarni, APP for the Respondent – State in BA/3762/2026.
Mr. R.M. Pethe, APP for the Respondent – State in BA/3914/2026.
Mr. Mahesh Mahale, PI, Vanrai Police Station, present.

CORAM: SHYAM C. CHANDAK, J.
DATED : 1st OCTOBER, 2026

P.C. :-

1. For the reasons to be recorded separately, BA/3704/2026, BA/3762/2026 and BA/3914/2026 are allowed and, following Order is passed :-

(i) The applicants – Mr. Pratik Brijesh Pandey, Mr. Pradeep Gupta and Ms. Jia Rachel Jacob be released on bail in connection with Cr.No.228/2026 registered with Vanrai Police Station, Mumbai for the offences punishable under Sections 105, 123, 125, 125(b), 223(b), 61(2) and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 ("BNS") r/w. Section 65 of the Maharashtra Prohibition Act, 1949 and Sections 8(c), 22 and 29 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 ("NDPS"), on their executing a P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.1,00,000/- each with one or two sureties in the like amount.

(ii) Applicants - Pratik Brijesh Pandey and Ms. Jia Rachel Jacob shall mark their attendance at Vanrai Police Station, Mumbai once in a month between 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. till conclusion of the trial.

(iii) As voluntarily undertaken by the applicants - Mr. Pradeep Gupta and Ms. Jia Rachel Jacob, during the bail period, these applicants shall not enter or reside in Mumbai, Thane, and Raigad Districts till the conclusion of the trial.

However, the applicants - Mr. Pradeep Gupta and Ms. Jia Rachel Jacob are permitted to enter the said districts but only to attend the criminal cases pending against them in the said district(s) including the present case.

The learned Counsel for the applicant states that during the bail period, applicant Mr. Pradeep Gupta would stay at Pune. Therefore, this applicant Mr. Pradeep Gupta shall mark his attendance at the office of DRI, Pune/Customs Pune, on the 1st day of a month, between

11:00 noon to 4:00 p.m., till the conclusion of the trial.

(iv) The applicants shall regularly attend the proceedings before the jurisdictional Court unless exempted by the said Court, for the reasons to be recorded in writing.

(v) The applicants shall not indulge in identical activities for which they have been arraigned in this case.

(vi) The applicants shall not tamper with the prosecution evidence and shall not directly or indirectly influence the prosecution witnesses to prevent them from deposing against them.

(vii) On being released from jail, the applicants shall furnish their contact number and residential address to the Investigating Officer and shall keep him updated in case there is any change.

(viii) In case of breach of aforesaid conditions, the Respondent(s) will be at liberty to seek cancellation of bail from the trial Court.

(ix) It is clarified that any observation made in the present Order are for the purpose of deciding the present Bail Applications and should not influence the outcome of the trial and also not be taken as an expression of opinion on the merits of the case.

2. At this stage, as requested by Ms. Ganediwala, the learned Counsel, the applicant – Pratik Brijesh Pandey is granted four weeks time to furnish the surety. Till then, the applicant be released on bail on his executing a P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.1,00,000/- and depositing a sum of Rs.1,00,000/- in lieu of furnishing the surety. On furnishing such surety/ies, the amount of Rs.1,00,000/- deposited by the applicant shall be returned.

PREETI HEERO JAYANI

Digitally signed by PREETI HEERO JAYANI
Date: 2026.10.01 18:29:29 +0530

(SHYAM C. CHANDAK, J.)