

Shubhada S Kadam

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 2143 OF 2025

Samadhan Lavate

....Applicant

versus

The State of Maharashtra and anr.

....Respondents

Ms. Surbhi Agarwal, Advocate for Applicant.

Mr. Prashant P. Jadhav, APP for Respondent No.1-State.

Ms. Muskan Nadaf, Advocate for Respondent No.2 (through VC).

Mr. S. B. Babar, API Chikhali Police Station, Pimpri Chichwad, present.

CORAM : SHIVKUMAR DIGE, J.

DATE : 29th APRIL, 2026.

P.C. :

1. By this application, the applicant is seeking regular bail in Crime No. 380 of 2024 registered with Chikhali Police Station, District Pimpri Chinchwad, Pune, for the offences punishable under 376(2), 376-C, 354, 354-A and 506 of the the Indian Penal Code 1860 and Sections 4, 8, 12 and 21 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

2. It is prosecution's case that on 8th April 2024, the applicant sexually assaulted the victim when she was watching a video.

3. It is contention of learned counsel for the applicant that the applicant is behind bars for more than one year and eight months. The

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applicant has no antecedents. There is delay in lodging the complaint. The victim and her mother has no objection to allow the application and requested to allow the application.

4. It is contention of learned APP that at the time of the incident, the victim was 13 years old and the applicant was 40 years old. He sexually assaulted her by threatening her. If the applicant is released on bail, he may threaten the victim and prosecution witnesses and requested to reject the application.

5. It is contention of learned counsel for respondent No. 2 that the victim and her mother has given no objection to allow the bail application.

6. I have heard all learned counsel and perused the charge sheet and documents produced on record. There is delay in lodging the complaint. The applicant is behind bars for more than one year and eight months. There is no progress in the trial. To prove the charges against the applicant, trial is required. Considering these facts, I pass the following order.

ORDER

- (i) The applicant be enlarged on bail in Crime No. 380 of 2024 registered with Chikhali Police Station, District Pimpri Chinchwad, Pune, on executing P.R.Bond in the sum of Rs.30,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount.

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(ii) The applicant shall attend the concerned police station as and when required.

(iii) The applicant shall not tamper with the evidence or attempt to influence or contact the complainant, witnesses or any person concerned with the case.

The application is allowed in the aforesaid terms and is accordingly disposed of.

7. It is made clear that the above observations are made only for the purpose of granting bail and the Trial Court shall decide the case on its own merits in accordance with law and uninfluenced by the observations made in this order.

8. All concerned to act on the authenticated copy of this order.

(SHIVKUMAR DIGE, J.)