

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

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CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO.2669 OF 2025

Salman Ahmad Badrul Islam and Anr.

... Applicant

Vs.

The State of Maharashtra and Anr.

... Respondent

Mr. V. S. Tiwari a/w Ms. Priya Muthupandi, Advocates for Applicant

Mr. Shailesh S. Ghag, APP for the Respondent-State.

CORAM : R. M. JOSHI, J.

DATED : 05th MARCH 2026.

P. C. :-

1. During the course of hearing, learned Advocate for the Respondent No.2 has placed on record roznama of the hearing of Special Case No.404 of 2025. It is his submission that in all 16 dates of hearing were given by the Trial Court and on most of the occasions, none appeared on behalf of the accused.

2. Learned Counsel for the applicant/accused opposed the said submission by drawing attention of the Court to the Roznama dated 11/12/2025, 06/01/2026 and 16/01/2026 to contend that Trial has not delayed on account or for reason attributable to the applicant.

3. Perusal of the roznama indicates that the Public Prosecutor has already filed his opening statement. The charge is not framed as the

counsel for the accused was to be heard. Hence this Court finds it appropriate to issue directions to the Trial Court to frame the charge on the next date of hearing, which is informed to be scheduled on 12th March 2026. It is permitted to the Trial Court to frame the charge if counsel for the applicant/ accused remains absent. Of course, opportunity of hearing be given to the applicant/ accused.

4. The Trial Court is also directed to expedite the trial and make an endeavour to complete the same within a period of six months from today. In case, the Trial Court is not concluded within six months, it will be open to the applicant to move for application for bail before the Trial Court.

5. Application stands disposed of in above terms.

(R. M. JOSHI, J.)