

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 177 OF 2026

Ankit Rajesh Singh ...Appellant
Versus
The State Of Maharashtra And Anr ...Respondents

Mr. Rajas Naik for the Appellant.
Mr. Shailesh Ghag, APP for Respondents.

CORAM : R.M. JOSHI, J.
DATE : 20th FEBRUARY, 2026

P.C. :

1. Heard learned counsel for the Appellant. He seeks ad-interim relief.
2. It is his contention that there is no role attributed against the Appellant of holding any weapon at the time of occurrence of the incident for abusing or insulting the informant over his caste.
3. It is his submission that admittedly there is a dispute between the informant and co-accused over the property. It is his submission having regard to the role alleged against the Appellant, his liberty requires to be protected. He further relied upon FIR lodged by the co-accused Adarsh to argue that same indicates existing dispute between the parties.
4. Even if it is accepted for the sake of argument that the Appellant was not holding any weapon in his hand or that he has not hurled any abuses against the informant over the caste, this Court *prima facie* is required to see as to whether this is the case wherein

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custodial interrogation of the Appellant could be necessary. On the face of it, this Court finds such interrogation is necessary.

5. In view of the same, issue notice to the Respondents, returnable on 07.03.2026.

6. The learned APP waives service on behalf of State.

7. The learned APP to instruct the concerned police station to inform the Respondent No.2 about pendency of the appeal.

(R.M. JOSHI, J.)