

S. S. Kilaje

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 421 OF 2026

Mehboob @ Maheboob Ahmad Ulde

... Applicant

VERSUS

State Of Maharashtra

... Respondent

Mr. Kuldeep Patil a/w. Mr. Digvijay S. Kachare, Mr. Anay Joshi, Mr. Sumitkumar Nimbalkar, Ms. Sanika Joshi and Ms. Saili Dhuru, Advocates for Applicant.

Mr. B. B. Kulkarni, APP for the Respondent-State.

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CORAM : SHIVKUMAR DIGE, J.

DATE : 11th MARCH, 2026.

P.C. :

1. By this application, the Applicant is seeking regular bail in C.R.No. 89 of 2025 registered with Goregaon Police Station, District Raigad, for the offences punishable under Sections 178, 180 r/w Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (for short “BNS Act”).

2. It is prosecution’s case that the police received secret information that three persons were dealing with the counterfeit notes. Police raided the house of one of the co-accused and in search of the said house, police found five counterfeit notes.

3. It is contention of learned counsel for the applicant that house of the applicant was also raided. The applicant is behind bars for around five months. He has no antecedents. It may take time to conclude the

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trial. Hence, requested to allow the application.

4. It is contention of learned APP that the applicant was dealing with the counterfeit notes. He was in conspiracy with the co-accused. The police found counterfeit notes in the possession of the co-accused. If the applicant is released on bail, he may abscond or threaten prosecution witnesses. Hence, requested to reject the application.

5. I have heard both the learned counsel. Perused chargesheet and documents produced on record. Though the police received secret information about dealing with the counterfeit notes by three persons, police found counterfeit notes in the possession of one of the co-accused. Nothing is recovered at the instance of the applicant. To prove that role of the applicant in crime, evidence is required. It may take time to conclude the trial. The applicant is behind bars for around five months. In view of above, I pass following order.

ORDER

- i. The applicant be enlarged on bail in C.R.No. 89 of 2025 registered with Goregaon Police Station, District Raigad, on executing P.R.Bond of Rs. 30,000/- on furnishing one or two sureties in the like amount.
- ii. The applicant shall attend the concerned police station as and when required.

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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.

6. The application is allowed in the aforesaid terms and is accordingly disposed of. All pending applications, if any, 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.)