

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO.130 OF 2026

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1. Karan Hari Chougule ...Applicants
2. Hari Jagannath Chougule

Versus

The State of Maharashtra & Anr. ...Respondents

Mr. Piyush Toshnival i/b Ashish Pawar, for the Applicants.
Ms. R. V. Newton, APP, for the Respondent-State.

CORAM: MADHAV J. JAMDAR, J.
DATED: 16 JANUARY 2026

PC:-

1. Heard Mr. Toshnival, learned Counsel appearing for the Applicants and Ms. Newton, learned APP for the Respondent-State of Maharashtra.

2. By the present Anticipatory Bail Application filed under Section 482 of the *Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023*, the Applicants are seeking pre-arrest bail in connection with CR No.360 of 2025 registered with the Indapur Police Station, Pune Rural, for the offences punishable under Sections 118(1), 115(2), 189(2), 191(2), 191(3), 76, 351(2) and 352 of the *Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023*.

3. The prosecution case is set out in Paragraph No.2 of the Order dated 10th July 2025 passed by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Indapur, District Pune, in Criminal Bail Application No.187 of 2025, which reads as under :-

“2. The brief facts, which led to the filing of the FIR can be summarized as under

That on 17.05.2025, informant Vikas Jadhav lodged the FIR with Indapur Police Station alleging that on that day around 04.00 p.m. applicant Hari and his associate Anita Chougule were beating his sisters. When his mother Ranjana rushed forward to settle the dispute, applicant Hari gave stroke of bamboo stick below her neck and also torn her blouse and thereby her modesty was affected. Associate Anita dragged hair of his mother whereas associates Sunita, Kajal & Sonali beat his sisters and mother. Applicant Karan hit a stone towards him and his mother, whereby he sustained injury to his finger. On that day itself around 9.30 p.m., while he was present outside the house, somebody held both of his hands and applicant Hari attacked him by means of knife, which caused bleeding injury to him. Making such allegations, he lodged the FIR and accordingly crime as above came to be registered. Both the applicants apprehend their arrest in the present crime and therefore, they are seeking protection by way of anticipatory bail.”

4. It is the submission of Mr. Toshnival, learned Counsel for the Applicants that the Applicants are not involved in the crime. In any case, he submits that the Charge-sheet is already filed and therefore the Anticipatory Bail Application be granted.

5. Learned Counsel for the Applicants submits that the Applicants and the First Informant are close relatives and in fact they have settled the dispute and decided to file appropriate proceedings seeking quashing of the Charge-sheet.

6. On the other hand, Ms. Newton, learned APP, for the Respondent-State, strongly opposes the Anticipatory Bail Application.

7. However, as the Charge-sheet has been filed, case is made out for grant of anticipatory bail.

8. In view thereof, the following Order is passed:

ORDER

- (a) In the event of arrest of the Applicant No.1 - Karan Hari Chougule and Applicant No.2 - Hari Jagannath Chougule, in connection with CR No.360 of 2025 registered with the Indapur Police Station, Pune Rural, they be released on bail on their furnishing PR Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- each with one or two solvent sureties each in the like amount.

- (b) The Applicants shall attend the concerned Police Station as and when necessary and shall cooperate with the investigation.
 - (c) The Applicants shall furnish their cell phone numbers and residential addresses to the Investigating Officer and shall keep the same updated, in case of any change thereto.
 - (d) The Applicants shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat, or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade such a person from disclosing the facts to the Court or to any Police personnel.
 - (e) The Applicants shall not tamper with the prosecution evidence and shall not contact or influence the Complainant or any witness in any manner.
9. The Anticipatory Bail Application is disposed of accordingly.

[MADHAV J. JAMDAR, J.]