

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
ANTICIPATORY BAIL APPLICATION NO. 703 OF 2026

Akshay L. Lakde

...Applicant

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra & Anr.

...Respondents.

.....
Mr. Prashant S. Hagare a/w. Ms Ekta Patil and Mr. Uttkarsh
Pondhkule for the Applicant.

Mr. P.H. Gaikwad, APP for the Respondent/State.

Mr. Ganesh Bhujbal for Respondent No.2.

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CORAM : N.R. BORKAR, J.
DATE : 01.04.2026.

P.C. :

1. Mentioned out of turn.
2. This is an application for anticipatory bail.
3. The applicant is apprehending his arrest in Crime No. 490 of 2025 registered at Yavat Police Station, Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 74, 75, 115(2), 118(1), 189(2), 190, 191(2), 191(3), 351(2), 351(3), 352 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and Section 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.
4. I have heard the learned counsel appearing for the applicant, the learned APP for the respondent / State and the learned counsel for the respondent No.2.
5. The bail is sought on the ground of parity. In support of said ground, the learned counsel for the applicant has relied upon the

order passed by this Court dated 16th October 2025 in Anticipatory Bail Application No. 2281 of 2025 and other connected applications, by which this Court has released some of the co-accused on anticipatory bail.

6. The only submission of learned APP for the respondent/State is that the applicant is involved in five more crimes. However, considering the fact that this Court has granted anticipatory bail to similarly circumstances co-accused, I am inclined to release the applicant on anticipatory bail on certain conditions. In the result, the following order is passed.

ORDER

- A) The Application is allowed.
- B) In the event of arrest of the applicant in C.R. No.490 of 2025 registered at Yavat Police Station, Pune for the offences punishable under Sections 74, 75, 115(2), 118(1), 189(2), 190, 191(2), 191(3), 351(2), 351(3), 352 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and Section 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, he be released on bail on executing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.25,000/- with one surety or two sureties in the like amount.
- C) The applicant shall not enter into the jurisdiction of Yavat Police Station till conclusion of trial.
- D) The applicant shall not commit any other crime.
- E) Liberty is granted to the prosecution to file an application for cancellation of anticipatory bail, if the applicant commits breach of any of the above conditions.

[N.R.BORKAR, J.]