

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 2868 OF 2025

IN

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 361 OF 2016

Amol S/O Bhanudas Kotkar .. Petitioner

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra .. Respondent

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 2590 OF 2025

IN

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 362 OF 2016

Sandeep Bhanudas Kotkar .. Petitioner

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra .. Respondent

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 2591 OF 2025

IN

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 360 OF 2016

Sachin Bhanudas Kotkar .. Petitioner

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra .. Respondent

WITH

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 360 OF 2016

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION NO.4393 OF 2025

WITH

CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 842 OF 2016

WITH

CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 1337 OF 2017

IN

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 360 OF 2016

WITH

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CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 361 OF 2016  
WITH  
CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 840 OF 2016  
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INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 524 OF 2026  
IN  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 361 OF 2016  
WITH  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 362 OF 2016  
WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 3930 OF 2025  
WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 4367 OF 2025  
WITH  
CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 839 OF 2016  
WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 4368 OF 2025  
WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 525 OF 2026  
IN  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 362 OF 2016  
WITH  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 363 OF 2016

Bhanudas S/O Eknath Kotkar .. Petitioner

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra .. Respondent

WITH  
CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 2067 OF 2018  
WITH  
CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 1437 OF 2019  
WITH  
CR. APPLICATION IN APPEAL NO. 1436 OF 2019

WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 93 OF 2020  
WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 4697 OF 2025

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Ms. Tanvi Tapkite, a/w Mr. Hrishikesh Ghorpade, i/b Mr. Abhay Ostwal, for the Applicants.

Mr. D. P. Singh, for Respondent No. 4.

Dr. Dhanalakshmi Krishna Iyer, APP for the State.

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CORAM : MANISH PITALE &  
SHREERAM V. SHIRSAT, JJ.

DATE : 13TH FEBRUARY 2026.

PC:

Applications IA/2590/2025, IA/2591/2025 and IA/2868/2025

1. These interim applications have been filed on behalf of the applicants (original appellants) for issuance/ re-issuance of passports. In these applications, the Regional Passport Office was added as a party respondent. We are of the opinion that the said respondent should file reply affidavit in order to consider the prayers made in these applications.
2. Hence, reply affidavit on behalf of the said respondent be filed on or before 27th February 2026.

3. We are further informed that Interim Application Nos. 524 of 2026 and 525 of 2026 have been filed by the applicants seeking relaxation of one of the conditions of bail, for a specific period of time between 27th February 2026 and 3rd March 2026. We are further informed that the purpose for which relaxation is sought, i.e. an event to take place between the said two dates is likely to be postponed and therefore, the applicants would be pressing for relief for a future period of time.

4. Taking note of the said fact, we direct that the said two interim applications also shall be listed with the aforementioned applications seeking issuance/ re-issuance of passports, for further consideration on 5th March 2026, to be included in the supplementary list.

(SHREERAM V. SHIRSAT, J.)

(MANISH PITALE, J.)