



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY,
NAGPUR BENCH, NAGPUR.**

CRIMINAL APPLICATION (ABA) NO. 926 OF 2025

Rahul Arun Mule

Vs.

The State of Maharashtra and another

Office Notes, Office Memoranda of
Coram, appearances, Court's Orders
or directions and Registrar's order

Court's or Judge's Order

Shri Shoeb Khan h/f. Shri M. N. Ali, Advocate for applicant.
Shri C. A. Lokhande, APP for non-applicant/State.
Shri S. M. Joshi, Advocate (appointed) for non-applicant no. 2.

CORAM :- M. W. CHANDWANI, J.

DATED :- 05.02.2026

Heard.

2. The applicant seeks anticipatory bail in connection with Crime No. 492/2025 registered with Police Station Shirpur, Dist. Washim for the offence punishable under Sections 75(2), 75(3) and 78(2) of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 and Sections 8 and 12 of the Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

3. The contention is that the applicant has been falsely implicated in the case only for revenge as a counter-blast of the complaint lodged by the brother of the applicant against the father of the victim. The present First Information Report (FIR) regarding eve-teasing of the victim, has been lodged at the say of her father,

against the applicant just few hours after the brother of the applicant lodged the NC report against the father of the victim.

4. The learned APP objected to the application on the ground that there are specific instances mentioned in the FIR about eve-teasing and sexual harassment of the victim, a minor girl. According to him, there is significant age difference between the applicant and the victim and hence, he sought rejection of the application.

5. Perusal of the case-diary reveals that the victim has alleged that the applicant used to wander in front of her house and used to make inappropriate gestures after seeing her. On 25.10.2025 at about 05:00 pm, the applicant told the victim that she is beautiful and he likes her and caught hold of her right hand with bad intentions. The applicant also threatened the victim that if she does not talk to him, he would defame her in the village.

6. It appears that the only allegation against the applicant is that he was eve-teasing the victim. Nothing is required to be seized from the applicant. It appears that the brother of the applicant has also lodged a Non-cognizable (NC) report against the father of the victim in respect of the talks between the applicant and the victim.

7. Considering the nature of allegations against the applicant, no custodial interrogation of the applicant

is required. The applicant has attended the concerned Police Station under the dictum of this Court while granting *ad-interim* protection to him and has co-operated in the investigation. Hence, a case is made out for grant of anticipatory bail. Hence, the following order:-

- i) The order dated 08.12.2025 granting interim protection to the applicant is hereby confirmed.
- ii) The applicant shall attend the concerned Police Station as and when directed and shall co-operate in the investigation.
- iii) The application is disposed of accordingly.

8. The fees of the learned counsel appointed to represent non-applicant no. 2 shall be quantified as per Rules.

(M. W. CHANDWANI, J.)