



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

Criminal Appeal No.189 of 2026

Anil @ Sunil Vishnu Dhangar

vs.

*The State of Maharashtra, Through Police Station Officer, Risod, District Washim
and another*

*Office notes, Office Memoranda of
Coram, appearances, Court's orders
or directions and Registrar's orders.*

Court's or Judge's Orders

Mr. U.M. Shende, Advocate for the Appellant.

Mr. G.S. Umale, A.P.P. for Respondent No.1.

CORAM : Y.G. KHOBRAGADE, J.

DATE : 18th APRIL, 2026.

Heard the learned Counsel appearing for the appellant.

02. By the present appeal under Section 14-A of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 (for short, "the Atrocities Act"), the appellant-accused takes exception to the order dated 02/04/2026 passed in Criminal Bail Application No. 76/2026 by the learned Additional Sessions Judge, Washim, thereby declining to enlarge the appellant on anticipatory bail in connection with Crime No. 184/2026, registered with Police Station, Risod, District Washim, for the offences punishable under Sections 75 and 351(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Sections 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, and Sections 3(1)(w)(i), 3(1)(w)(ii) and 3(2)(va) of the Atrocities Act.

03. On perusal of the F.I.R., it appears that the alleged incident of outraging modesty is stated to have occurred in a cattle shed situated in a field, and the F.I.R. does not indicate that the said incident was committed with the intention to outrage the modesty of the informant's daughter-victim on account of her belonging to a Scheduled Caste. Therefore, considering the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court

in Kiran vs. Rajkumar Jivraj Jain and another (2025 SCC OnLine SC 1886) and Karuppudayar vs. State, represented by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Lalgudi, Trichy and others (AIR 2025 SC 705), this Court is of the *prima facie* view that the appellant has made out a case for grant of ad-interim anticipatory bail in Crime No. 184/2026. Accordingly, the following order is passed:

ORDER

- i. Issue notice to the respondents, returnable on 4th May, 2026.
- ii. The learned A.P.P. waives service of notice on behalf of respondent No.1.
- iii. The Police Inspector, Police Station Risod, District Washim shall ensure to serve respondent No.2.
- iv. In the event of arrest, the appellant – Anil @ Sunil Vishnu Dhangar – be released on ad-interim anticipatory bail on execution of a P.R. bond in the sum of Rs. 25,000/- with two solvent sureties in the like amount, in connection with Crime No. 184/2026, registered with Police Station, Risod, District Washim, for the offences punishable under Sections 75 and 351(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, Sections 8 and 12 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, and Sections 3(1)(w)(i), 3(1)(w)(ii) and 3(2)(va) of the Atrocities Act.
- v. The appellant shall appear before the Investigating Officer on 20th April, 2026 between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. and shall furnish the bail bond.
- vi. Thereafter, the appellant shall appear before the Investigating Officer on every Monday between 10:00 a.m. and 01:00 p.m. till filing of the charge-sheet and shall cooperate with the

investigation.

- vii.** The appellant shall not extend any threat to, or tamper with, the prosecution witnesses in any manner.
- viii.** He shall not leave the jurisdiction of Police Station Risod, without prior permission of the Investigating Officer.

JUDGE

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