



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
: NAGPUR BENCH : NAGPUR.

CRIMINAL APPLICATION [ABA] NO. 142 OF 2026

NIKHIL SHESHRAO WANKHEDE

VERSUS

STATE OF MAH., THRU. THE I.O., NAGPUR CITY CYBER POLICE STN., NAGPUR

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

Court's or Judge's Order

Mr. P. S. Dhenge, Advocate for the applicant.
Mr. N. S. Autkar, A.P.P. for the non-applicant/State.

CORAM : M. W. CHANDWANI, J.
DATE : FEBRUARY 20, 2026.

1. Heard the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the applicant.
2. Issue notice to the non-applicant/State, returnable on 06.03.2026.
3. Learned APP waives service on behalf of the non-applicant/State.
4. The applicant is apprehending arrest in connection with Crime No. 24/2025 for the offences punishable under Section 319(2), 318(4), 338, 336(3), 340(1), 340(2) of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 r/w. Section 66(c) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 registered with Nagpur Cyber Police Station.
5. The contention is that, the Shalarth ID scam was unearthed, wherein bogus Shalarth IDs of the teachers who were not appointed legally were created.
6. According to the learned counsel, the applicant who is the Principal of Mahalaxmi Upper Primary School,

Anand Nagar, Nagpur had sent a proposal for release of the salary, by virtue of which, Shalarth IDs of the teachers were created. It is also contended that the appointment of all these teachers was already approved by the Education Officer. The copy of approval of the teachers is placed on record.

7. Considering the submissions as well as the order of approval of the teachers, a case is made out for grant of *ad-interim* protection, more particularly when the case-diary is not available with the Court at this juncture. Hence, the following ad-interim order is passed:-

- i) Pending the application, in the event of arrest applicant- Nikhil S/o Sheshrao Wankhede shall be released on bail on furnishing a PR bond of Rs.25,000/- with one solvent surety in the like amount in connection with Crime No.24/2025 for the offences punishable under Section 319(2), 318(4), 338, 336(3), 340(1), 340(2) of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 r/w. Section 66(c) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 registered with Nagpur Cyber Police Station.
- ii) The applicant shall appear before the concerned Police Station on every Monday and Thursday between 10.00 am and 12.00 noon for the next two weeks and shall co-operate in the investigation.

(M.W.Chandwani, J.)