



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

CRIMINAL APPLICATION [ABA] NO.433 OF 2026

[Pramod Jagannath Dutande .vs. State of Maharashtra]

Office Notes, Office Memoranda of Coram,
appearances, Court's orders of directions
and Registrar's orders

Court's or Judge's orders

Mr. R.D. Karode, Advocate for Applicant.
Ms. Soniya N. Thakur, APP for Respondent-State.
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CORAM : PRAVIN S. PATIL, J.

DATE : 10-06-2026.

1. Heard.
2. By this application, the applicant is seeking the anticipatory bail in Crime No.286/2026 registered with Police Station Shegaon City, Taluka-Shegaon, District-Buldhana for the offence punishable under Section 61(2), 316(2) and 318(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023.
3. In short, the case of the prosecution is that the accused persons have formed the Samarth Nagari Sahakari Pat Sanstha Limited, Shegaon. In the said society one Rambhau Namdeorao Gote is shown as Chairman, Accused no.2 Shashikant Rambhau Gote is the Manager, Accused No.3 Manda Rambhau Pohekar is the Vice-Chairman.
4. It is alleged that the complainant had deposited Rs.3,00,000/-in fixed deposit of the said society. After depositing the amount, when the applicant was in need to withdraw the said amount, he approached in the said Pat Sanstha in the month of May-2025. However, he was not allowed to withdraw the amount by giving evasive reply by the accused persons. It is

further alleged that all the accused persons have misappropriated the amount and, therefore, the offence is registered in the present matter.

5. The applicant has approached before this court with a specific submission that he was nominated by one Shri Shashikant Rambhau Gote without his consent as a member of the society. As such, he is not at all involved in the alleged offence. In support of his submission, the applicant has placed on reliance the mutual agreement dated 9.6.2024 executed between the applicant and Shri Shashikant Gote, who was the Manager of the Pat Sanstha. From the recitals of the agreement, it is the submission of the present applicant that he never attended the meetings of the Pat Sanstha and knowing nothing about the transactions which are alleged to be taken place in the Pat Sanstha.

6. The learned APP has strongly opposed the present application. According to the learned APP, he being a nominated Director of the Pat Sanstha, he must be aware of the transactions and, therefore, his custody is required for getting the necessary disclosure and seizure of the relevant documents in respect of the transactions. It is further stated that the custody is required to know the modus operandi as to how the amount was collected from complainant and how it has been misappropriated and the role played by other accused.

7. After hearing both the parties in the matter, it would be relevant to note that the agreement which is executed between applicant and Manager of Pat Sanstha is of dated 9.6.2024. The recitals of the said agreement clearly demonstrate that the applicant has never attended the meetings of the Pat Sanstha and even he was not aware that he was nominated as a Director of the

Pat Sanstha. Manager of Pat-Sanstha voluntarily accepted the error of inducting the name of the applicant as a Director of the Pat Sanstha.

8. In the light of this agreement and the allegations which are made in the matter, in my opinion, the custody of the applicant is not at all necessary in the matter. In the circumstances, the applicant is entitled for anticipatory bail and accordingly following order is passed :

ORDER

(i) The application is allowed.

(ii) In the event of arrest in connection with Crime No.286/2026 registered with Police Station Shegaon City, Taluka-Shegaon, District-Buldhana for the offence punishable under Section 61(2), 316(2) and 318(4) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, the applicant Pramod Jagannath Dutande be released on bail on his executing P.R. Bond in the sum of Rs.50,000/- with one solvent surety in the like amount.

(iii) The applicant shall attend the concerned Police Station on every Monday between 3.00 PM to 5.00 PM till the filing of the chargesheet and shall cooperate in the investigation.

(iv) The applicant shall, at the time of execution of bond, furnish his address and telephone/mobile number (s), to the investigating officer and the court concerned, and shall not change the same till the final disposal of the case.

(v) The applicant shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any witness acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him from disclosing such facts to the court or any Police Officer.

(vi) The applicant shall not obstruct or hamper the police investigation and not play mischief with the evidence collected or yet to be collected by the investigating officer.

9. The Criminal Application is disposed of accordingly.

(PRAVIN S. PATIL, J.)

Gulande