

MHCH04-000304-2026

**Cri. Bail Appln. No. 106/2026
Diksha Chandankhede Vs. State**

ORDER BELOW EXHIBIT-01

(Passed on 02.06.2026)

This is an application u/s.482 of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS) for grant of anticipatory bail in connection with Crime No.599/2026 registered with Bhadrawati Police Station, Tah. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur against the applicant/accused Sau. Diksha Chandramani Chandankhede for the offences punishable under Sections 3 & 7 of the Essential Commodities Act.

02. It the case of the prosecution that, on 23.05.2026, on receipt of information regarding illegal storage of LPG Cylinders, officers of the Food and Civil Supply Department conducted a raid at Gurunagar, Bhadrawati. During the raid, 14 filled and 26 empty HP domestic LPG Cylinders valued at Rs. 1,01,440/- were allegedly found and seized. On the basis of the complaint lodged by Vaibhav Sanjay Solanke, Food Supply Inspector, the above mentioned crime came to be registered.

03. The Ld. Additional Public Prosecutor opposed the application contending that, the applicant is proprietor of the concerned HP Gas Distributorship and the seized cylinders originated from her LPG Gas Agency. As per the prosecution, the applicant acted in connivance with the principal accused for illegal diversion and black marketing of LPG Cylinders. It is further submitted that, custodial interrogation is necessary to unearth the larger conspiracy and secure documentary and other evidence.

04. I have perused the FIR, bail application and say of the prosecution Exh.7, it appears that, the names specifically disclosed in the FIR are of Rahul Madhukar Buradkar, the driver of the vehicle, and

Pratik Balaji Wabhitkar, from whose premises and vehicle and cylinders were allegedly found. Admittedly, the name of the present applicant is not mentioned in the FIR.

05. The applicant has placed on record copies of 26 delivery receipts generated through the online booking system of the gas agency. According to the applicant, the cylinders were being transported for delivery to consumers who had placed online bookings and the vehicle had stopped due to puncture. At this stage, it is not expected to conduct detail examination regarding the correctness of such receipts. Nevertheless, the documents prima facie furnish an explanation regarding the presence of cylinders in the vehicle and create a issue requiring investigation.

06. It is to be noted that, the prosecution has not placed before the Court any material indicating that the said receipts have been verified and found to be false or unrelated to the seized cylinders. Whether the receipts are genuine and related to consumer bookings is a matter remains to be investigated.

07. The entire of stock of cylinders has already been seized. No recovery is shown to be pending from the applicant. Though the prosecution has expressed concern regarding tampering with the agency records, such apprehension can be adequately addressed by imposing suitable conditions directing the applicant to cooperate with the investigation and preserve all the relevant record.

08. The offences alleged against the accused/applicant are no doubt serious in nature as they are related to distribution of essential commodity. At the same time, anticipatory bail cannot be denied merely on the basis of allegations when the applicant is not named in the FIR. So also, no direct recovery is effected from her and there also exists prima facie material requiring verification during investigation.

09. I have considered the nature of acquisition against the applicant, the role attributed to her, the fact that she is a woman, the seizure is already effected. There is existence of delivery receipts as stated above which requires verification. There is absence of material presently showing necessity for custodial interrogation of the applicant. Therefore, this Court is of the view that the applicant has made out the case for grant of anticipatory bail. Hence, following order is passed.

	: <u>ORDER</u> :	
[1]	The Criminal Bail application No.106/2026 is hereby allowed.	
[2]	In the event of arrest of applicant Sau. Diksha Chandramani Chandankhede in connection with Crime No.599/2026 registered at Police Station Bhadrawati, Tah. Bhadrawati, Dist. Chandrapur for the offence punishable under Sections 3 & 7 of the Essential Commodities Act, the I.O shall release her on furnishing P.R. Bond of Rs.50,000/- with one or two sureties in the like amount on the following conditions:	
	a)	The applicant shall produce before the I.O. all relevant stock registers, delivery registers, digital record, OTP record, distribution records, computer data and such documents as may be required for investigation.
	b)	The applicant shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any persons acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade them from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any police officer.
	c)	The applicant shall not obstruct or hamper the police investigation and not to play mischief with the evidence collected or yet to be collected by the police.

	d)	The applicant shall not commit such type of offence.
	e)	The applicant shall attend the concerned police station on every Monday and Thursday in between 10.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m. for the purpose of investigation till filing of charge-sheet or any final report.
	f)	The applicant shall furnish her proof of residence, mobile/landline telephone number to the Investigating Officer.
	g)	The applicant shall intimate her new address to the Investigating Officer in case of change of address.
	h)	Inform the concerned police station accordingly.
[3]	Breach of any of the above conditions will amount to cancellation of bail granted to the applicant.	
[4]	Application stands disposed of accordingly.	

Sd/-

(J. V. Muthal)

Date : 02.06.2026.

I/c. Additional Sessions Judge,
Warora.