

MHPU010021312026



Order below Exh. 1 Cri. Bail Application No. 895/2026

The applicant **Janardhan Nilkanth Humbardikar** was arrested on 27/03/2025 in connection with C.R. No. 171/2025 registered in Hinjewadi Police Station under Section 103(1), 109(1) and 125 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanshita (BNS). He has filed this application for bail under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). He contends that this is his first bail application and no other bail application is pending in any other Court.

2. It is alleged that this applicant was the driver of the Tempo Traveler bus carrying the employees of Vyoma Company and he was having dispute with those employees, as they were asking him to do the work other than driving. So, to teach them a lesson, on 19/03/2025 at about 7.45 a.m., while carrying those employees by the said bus, he put a bundle of cloth by applying Benzine chemical thereon and set it on fire while driving the said bus and jumped out from the said bus without applying the breaks. The bus caught fire and went ahead and dashed with a tree. The four employees stuck in the bus and they died sustaining burn injuries and five others were injured. PSI Datta Kale of Hijewadi Police Station lodged complaint and the crime came to be registered.

3. The learned advocate for the applicant submits that the alleged incident was purely an accident and there was no motive or intention attributed to the applicant to cause harm to any of the employees.

The statements recorded of the eye witnesses clearly show that this applicant suddenly came to know that fire and smoke coming from the side of his leg and before he came to know what was happening, his pant caught fire and he jumped out from the bus like many other employees. The seating arrangement of rear side seats was changed and therefore, the employees sitting on rear side seats could not open the emergency door of the bus and unfortunately they could not save their lives. This applicant was falsely implicated after thought even though he himself was one of the injured in the incident. He has cooperated in the investigation which is now completed and the chargesheet has been filed. He therefore, submits that the applicant be released on bail.

4. The I.O. has opposed this application by filing say (Exh.5) on the ground that this was the driver of the bus and it was found that the bus caught fire because of use of Benzine chemical and this applicant has used the same to set the bus on fire. Fourt persons have lost their lives and five others were injured because of the negligence of this applicant. Although the chargesheet has been filed which is registered as RCC No.2450/2025 but it is yet to be committed to the Sessions Court for trial. Shri Ghogare-Patil, the learned APP has opposed this application on the similar grounds submitting that considering the seriousness of the crime, the applicant does not deserve to be released on bail.

5. Having considered the rival submissions, it is clear from the say of IO that the investigation is completed and chargesheet has been filed. The applicant is behind the bars since one year. The incident is certainly unfortunate, the applicant cannot be presumed guilty before the trial. The alleged incident is whether an accident or intentional at of the

applicant can be determined after trial. Therefore, I find no reason to keep this applicant behind the bars for uncertain period. Hence, I deem it proper to release the applicant on bail on certain conditions. Hence, the order.

ORDER

1. Application is allowed.
2. The applicant **Janardhan Nilkanth Humbardikar** who was arrested on 27/03/2025 in connection with C.R. No. 171/2025 registered in Hinjewadi Police Station under Section 103(1), 109(1) and 125 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanshita (BNS), be released on bail on his furnishing P.R. of the sum of Rs.30,000/- with one surety of the like amount on following conditions-
 - a) The applicant shall not directly or indirectly contact the informant or shall not make any inducement, threat or promise to her or any person acquainted with the facts of the case, so as to dissuade her or them from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any Police Officer.
 - b) The applicant shall furnish the proof of his permanent residence and his contact number and also the contact numbers of his two near relatives and shall update such information as and when there is any change therein.
3. The breach of any of these conditions may entail a ground for cancellation of this bail forthwith.
4. Bail before the Committal Court.

Pune
Date: 23/03/2026

(S.R. Salunkhe)
Addl. Sessions Judge, Pune.