

MHST010009972026



IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL SESSIONS JUDGE, SATARA
Criminal Bail Application No.219 of 2026

Ajinkya Suresh Panchal

..Applicant

V/s.

State of Maharashtra

..Respondent

Shri. P. V. Gadhve, Advocate for applicant.

Ms. G. M. Lakade, A.P.P. for the State.

Coram: Mr. S. R. Tamboli,
The Addl. Sessions Judge, Satara,

:: ORDER BELOW EXH. 1 ::

1. In the instant application, the applicant has prayed for bail under Section 483 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023.

2. In short, the case of the prosecution, as per the FIR, is that Ajinkya Suresh Panchal is the real nephew of the informant, Rohini Dudhane. On 29/04/2026, at around 10:00 a.m., her husband had gone to Anewadi for work. While she was alone at home, her nephew Ajinkya Suresh Panchal came to her house at around 6:30 p.m. When she asked him whether he would like to have tea, he agreed. Later, while she was preparing tea, he opened the back

door of the house. When she questioned him as to why he was opening the door, he did not heed her and continued to open it. Thereafter, he took her mobile phone and called her husband, Baban Namdev Dudhane, and asked where he was and when he would return home. After drinking tea, he stated that he would go home and left through the back door of the house. After some time, at around 7:45 p.m., he returned. While she was standing in the kitchen washing utensils, Ajinkya Suresh Panchal came from behind her, snatched the gold mangalsutra and gold chain from her neck, and fled through the back door of the house. When she raised an alarm and asked him to stop, he did not listen and ran away. Upon hearing her shouts, neighbours Eknath Sahebrao Sonawane, his wife and daughter, as well as Rajendra Bhise and his mother, came to her house. She narrated the incident to them. Thereafter, Eknath Sahebrao Sonawane informed her husband telephonically. In the evening, after her husband returned home, she informed him about the incident in detail.

3. In the backdrop of these facts, Mr. P. V. Gadhve, learned counsel for the applicant, submitted that the necklace has been recovered and seized. There was a dispute between the informant and the applicant in respect of the house. They are close relatives. No criminal force was used while committing the alleged act of theft, as per the contents of the FIR. Hence, there is no prima facie case for the offence under Section 119 of the BNS. The applicant has no criminal antecedents and is having a permanent residence. Hence, he prayed to release the applicant on bail.

4. Per contra, Ms. G. M. Lakade, learned A.P.P. for the State,

submitted that the offence alleged against the applicant is serious. The applicant is involved in the case, and there is a prima facie case against him. The offence is serious. The applicant may tamper with the evidence. It is further submitted that, despite being a relative of the informant, the applicant has committed theft of the necklace. Hence, she prayed that the application be dismissed.

5. The offence alleged against the applicant is not punishable with death or imprisonment for life. The muddemal property has already been recovered. It does not appear from the FIR that any force was used while committing the alleged theft. There is no prima facie case for the offence punishable under Section 119 of the BNS. The necklace has already been seized. Nothing remains to be recovered from the applicant. The investigation and trial will take their own time. No purpose would be served by detaining the applicant in jail by way of pre-trial punishment. He has a permanent residence, and it is less likely that he will abscond. The apprehension of tampering with evidence can be addressed by imposing stringent conditions. Hence, I am inclined to grant bail to the applicant. As a result, I pass the following order:

ORDER

1. The application is allowed.
2. The applicant, Ajinkya Suresh Panchal, be released on bail in connection with Medha Police Station C.R. No. 102/2026, on furnishing a PR bond and surety in the sum of Rs. 50,000/-, subject to the following conditions:

(a) The applicant shall not, directly or indirectly, make any inducement, threat, or promise to any witness and shall not

tamper with the prosecution evidence.

(b) The applicant shall attend the concerned Police Station as and when called by the Investigating Officer.

(c) The applicant and his surety shall furnish their residential addresses and mobile numbers and shall not change the same without prior intimation to the Investigating Officer.

3. The applicant shall furnish bail before the concerned Court.

4. A copy of this order be sent to the District Central Jail, Satara, by e-mail.

Date- 05/06/2026.

(S.R.Tamboli)
Addl. Sessions Judge, Satara.