

MHST01-002763-2024

**IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL SPECIAL JUDGE, SATARA
SPECIAL CASE (ELECTRICITY) No.154 of 2024**

State of Maharashtra**...Complainant****Vs.****Mohit Shantilal Katariya****...Accused**

Mr.S.S. Dhanawade, Advocate for applicant
Mr. M.H.Oak, A.P.P. for the State.

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

:: ORDER BELOW EXH.4 ::

In the instant application, applicant prayed to release him on bail as per Sec. 483 of the B.N.S.S.

02. In short, the case of the prosecution is that Ms.Varsha Gaikwad, Additional Executive Engineer, the informant was working in MSEDCL. On 20.05.2024, she went to inspect the electric connection of accused Mohit Katariya at house No.194, Sadashiv Peth, Moti Chowk, Satara. At that time, she found that accused tampered the electric meter No.92268621 and committed theft of electricity worth of Rs.13,56,370/-. She filed the F.I.R. Thereafter, Investigating Officer investigated the offence and filed the charge-sheet. After issuance of process, accused appeared before this Court.

03. In the backdrop of these facts, Mr.S.S. Dhanawade, the

Ld. Counsel for the accused submitted that offence alleged against the applicant is not punishable with the sentence of death or life imprisonment. Applicant is having permanent residence. Applicant is ready to abide all conditions. Therefore, he prayed that application be allowed.

04. Per contra, Mr.M.H.Oak, Ld. A.P.P. for the State submitted that the offence is serious. Accused may tamper the evidence and pressurize the prosecution witnesses. Hence, he prayed to reject the application.

05. The F.I.R. prima-facie shows that investigation is already completed. The offence alleged against the applicant is not punishable with the sentence of death or life imprisonment. Applicant is having permanent residence. Trial will take its own time. No fruitful purpose will be served by detaining the applicant in jail by way of pre-trial punishment. Accused is having permanent residence. It is less likely that he will abscond. The care of apprehension of tampering of evidence can be taken by putting stringent conditions. Hence, I am inclined to grant the bail to the accused. In the result, I pass the following order :

ORDER

- 1) Application (Exh.4) is allowed.
- 2) Applicant/accused Mohit Shantilal Katariya, be released on furnishing his P.B. & S.B. of Rs.50,000/- in connection with C.R. No.257/2024, registered with Shahupuri Police Station, Satara on following conditions :
 - a) Applicant shall not tamper the evidence and pressurize the witnesses.

- b) Applicant shall attend the dates of the case regularly.
- c) Applicant shall not directly or indirectly make any inducement, threat or promise to any person acquainted with the facts of the case so as to dissuade him from disclosing such facts to the Court or to any Police Officer or tamper with the evidence.

Date- 23/05/2025

(S.R.Tamboli)
District Judge-1 &
Special Judge, Satara