



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.381 OF 2016

Sunil Omprakash Both @ Chota ..Appellant  
Versus  
The State of Maharashtra ..Respondent

WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.1004 OF 2025  
IN  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.381 OF 2016

Valerian Santosh .. Applicant

In the matter between

Sunil Omprakash Both @ Chota ..Appellant  
Versus  
The State of Maharashtra ..Respondent

WITH  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.439 OF 2016

Jitendra Fakirchand Rana @ Chaina ..Appellant  
Versus  
The State of Maharashtra ..Respondent

WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.2617 OF 2025  
AND  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.768 OF 2025  
IN  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.439 OF 2016

Valerian Santosh .. Applicant



In the matter between  
Jitendra Fakirchand Rana & Chaina ..Appellant  
Versus

The State of Maharashtra ..Respondent

WITH  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 840 OF 2016

Deepak Ishwar Omprakash  
Piwal ...Appellant

Vs.

The State of Maharashtra ...Respondent

WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.760 OF 2025  
AND  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.2615 OF 2025  
IN  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.840 OF 2016

Valerian Santosh .. Applicant

Versus

The State of Maharashtra ..Respondent

WITH  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 790 OF 2016

Satish Nafeshing Dulgaj ...Appellant

Vs.

The State of Maharashtra ...Respondent



WITH  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.990 OF 2025  
AND  
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.2616 OF 2025  
IN  
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. 790 OF 2016

Valerian Santosh

.. Applicant

Versus

The State of Maharashtra

..Respondent

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Dr. Yug Mohit Chaudhary a/w Mr. Dashrath Gaikwad for Appellant (Ay) and Appellant (AZ) in Criminal Appeal no. 840 of 2016 and 790 of 2016

Mr. S. V Gavand – APP for Respondent-State.

Mr. Sudeep Pasbola – Sr. Adv. a/w Mr. Rahul Arote for Appellant in Appeal No. 439 of 2016

Mr. Gaurav Bhawnani a/w Khan Abdul Wahab – For Appellant in Appeal 381 of 2016

SPP Aabad Ponda for State a/w Bahraiz Irani, Gayatri Gokhale a/w Shane Santos a/w Anosh Irani a/w Amit Padwal - for the Intervenor

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CORAM :        M. S. KARNIK AND  
                     S. M. MODAK, JJ.

DATE     :        23<sup>rd</sup> APRIL 2026

P.C. :-

1.     Heard Mr. Chaudhary, learned advocate for the Appellant in Appeal No. 840 of 2016 and 790 of 2016, Mr. Pasbola, learned Senior



Advocate for Appellant in Appeal No. 439 of 2016, Mr. Bhawnani, learned advocate for the Appellant in Appeal 381 of 2016 and Mr. Ponda, SPP for State. Ms. Gokhale appeared for the intervenor.

2. These are Supreme Court expedited appeals. The Hon'ble Supreme Court by the order dated 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025 passed the following order:-

1. Heard learned counsel for the parties.
2. The petitioner is seeking bail/suspension of sentence during the pendency of the criminal appeal before the High Court. We have been informed that the criminal appeals of the year 2014 are being taken up for consideration and the criminal appeals of the year 2016 are not likely to be heard in near future.
3. Learned counsel the for respondent-State points out that after the bail application of the petitioner was rejected by this Court on 11.08.2023, the criminal appeal of the petitioner came up for listing on 27.01.2025 before the High Court but it could not be taken up.
4. Learned counsel for the petitioner in response submits that the criminal appeal has been de-listed.
5. In the facts and circumstances of the case coupled with the fact that the appeal is of the year 2016 and was listed for consideration, we expect that the High Court



will do its best to ensure that the criminal appeal of the petitioner of the year 2016 be taken up for consideration most expeditiously, preferably within a period of three months.

6. The special leave petition stands disposed of in the above terms.

7. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

3. The matter is accordingly listed today for final hearing. All parties are ready to argue the appeals finally.

4. Learned counsel for the Appellants, Special Counsel Shri Ponda, learned Senior Advocate for State and Ms. Gokhale fairly submitted that it may not be possible to conclude the hearing of these appeals this side of the summer vacation. Learned counsel submitted that the evidence of 29 witnesses has to be appreciated.

5. Hence, list the appeals for final hearing on **08<sup>th</sup> June 2026**, at **3.00 p.m..**

6. We must undoubtedly abide by the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

(S. M. MODAK, J.)

(M. S. KARNIK, J.)