

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY**  
**CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**  
**CRIMINAL WRIT PETITION NO. 3327 OF 2023**

Ananth Premnath Shetty ... Petitioner  
Vs.  
The State of Maharashtra & Anr. ... Respondents

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Mr. Karan Jain for the Petitioner.  
Mr. A. A. Palkar, APP for the Respondent-State.  
Mr. Vishal Mohite, API, Anti-Extortion Cell, D.C.B., C.I.D., Mumbai is present.

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**CORAM : RANJITSINHA RAJA BHONSALE , J.**  
**DATED : 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026.**

**P. C. :-**

- 1) Learned A.PP submits that, pursuant to the Order of this Court, the Respondent No.2 has been informed of the present Petition and today's date of hearing.
- 2) Learned A.PP has produced on record the copy of the letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 issued by the Investigating Officer to the Respondent No.2 informing the present Petition and next date of hearing. By letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026, Respondent No.2 in his reply has expressed his inability to remain present before the Court on hearing of the matter. In the said letter, Respondent No.2 has also stated that he has no objection if the Hon'ble Court proceeds to hear and decide the matter.

Letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026 are taken on record. By letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026, the Investigating Officer has also informed the Respondent No.2, today's date of hearing. Statement of Mr. Kiran Shankar Salve dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 is produced on record. Mr. Kiran Shankar Salve is the caretaker manager of the Respondent No.2, he has specifically stated that Respondent No.2 stays in Dubai and visits India occasionally. He stated that, the notice issued by the Investigating Officer has been forwarded to the Respondent No.2 on his mobile phone. The said letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 and statement of Mr. Kiran Salve are marked as 'X' and 'X1' and same is taken on record.

3) Stand over to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026. To be listed under the caption 'For Admission' high on board.

**(RANJITSINHA RAJA BHONSALE, J.)**