



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ OF 2026  
(@ SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CRL.) NO. 995/2026)

BHAVESH GULABCHAND SANGHRAJKA .....APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA & ORS. ....RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

This appeal challenges the order dated 07.01.2026 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay in Anticipatory Bail Application No. 3041/2025.

Apprehending arrest in connection with crime registered pursuant to FIR No. 580 of 2025 lodged with Police Station Meghwadi, District Greater Mumbai City in respect of the offences punishable under Sections 105 and 3(5) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 ("BNS" for short), the appellant preferred an application before the High Court seeking anticipatory bail in terms of Section 482 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023("BNSS" for short).

The application for anticipatory bail having been rejected by the High Court *vide* the impugned order dated 07.01.2026, the instant appeal has been preferred.

By order dated 20.01.2026, this Court passed the following order:

"Issue notice to the respondents.

Mr. Aaditya Pande and Mr. Arunava Mukherjee, learned AORs accept notice on behalf of the respective respondent(s).

We have heard learned senior counsel and learned counsel for the respective parties on the interim prayer sought for by the petitioner herein.

It is stated that the investigation is still on. In the circumstances, we direct the petitioner to join the investigation. However, no coercive steps shall be taken as against the petitioner herein till the next date of hearing.

Further, pending consideration in this matter, the petitioner is directed to pay a sum of Rs.15,00,000/- to the father of the deceased - respondent No.3, within a period of two weeks from today without prejudice to the rights and contentions of both side.

The petitioner shall appear before the concerned Investigating Officer on 22.01.2026 at 11.00 A.M. and on such other date(s) he is directed to remain present. List on 16.02.2026."

We have heard learned senior counsel in support of the appellant and learned counsel for the first respondent(s)/State as well as learned counsel for third respondent and perused the material on record.

Learned senior counsel for the appellant submitted that pursuant to the order dated 20.01.2026, a sum of Rs.15,00,000/- has been paid to the father of the deceased-respondent No.3 herein. He further submitted that the appellant is cooperating with the investigation and therefore the interim order may be made absolute subject to the terms and conditions to be imposed by this Court.

Learned counsel for the first respondent-State also submitted that the appellant has been cooperating with the investigation. However with reference to his counter affidavit, he contended that there is no merit in this appeal and the same may be dismissed.

Learned counsel for the third respondent however submitted that even though a sum of Rs.15,00,000/- has been paid by the appellant to the third respondent, the fact remains that the appellant may misuse the liberty being granted to him by this Court by threatening the witnesses in the case. Hence, the appeal may be dismissed.

Considering the circumstances on record, in our view, the appellant is entitled to the relief claimed under Section 482 of BNSS.

We, therefore, allow this appeal and set aside the order passed by the High Court dated 07.01.2026.

We direct that in the event of arrest of the appellant, the Arresting Officer shall release the appellant on bail subject to furnishing cash security in the sum of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) with two like sureties.

It is directed that the appellant shall extend complete cooperation in the ensuing investigation.

The appellant shall not misuse his liberty and shall not in any way influence the witnesses or tamper with the material on record.

With the aforesaid directions, the Criminal Appeal is allowed.

.....J.  
[B.V. NAGARATHNA]

.....J.  
[UJJAL BHUYAN]

NEW DELHI  
FEBRUARY 16, 2026

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A  
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.) No(s). 995/2026  
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 07-01-2026  
in ABA No. 3041/2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at  
Bombay]

BHAVESH GULABCHAND SANGHRAJKA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA &amp; ORS.

Respondent(s)

(FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 16684/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 16681/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL  
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

Date : 16-02-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Siddharth Aggarwal, Sr. Adv.  
Mr. Asim Naeem, Adv.  
Mr. Anupam Singh, AOR  
Ms. Mannat Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Siddhant Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Sanjeet Thakur, Adv.  
Ms. Neha Patil, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Arunava Mukherjee, AOR  
Mr. Ninad Muzumdar, Adv.  
Mr. Nisarg P. Khatri, Adv.  
  
Mr. Aditya Krishna, Adv.  
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.  
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR  
Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The Criminal Appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

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

(RADHA SHARMA)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(DIVYA BABBAR)  
COURT MASTER (NSH)  
(Signed order is placed on the file)