

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____ OF 2026
(Arising out of SLP(CrL.) No.2142 of 2026)

SANDIP BHIMRAO WANKHEDE

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appellant challenges the impugned judgment and order dated 22.01.2026 in Anticipatory Bail Application No.24 of 2026 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay.
3. On 02.02.2026, this Court passed the following order:-

“1. Permission to file the Special Leave Petition without certified/plain copy of the impugned order is granted.

2. The Petitioner challenges the judgment and order dated 22nd January, 2026 in Anticipatory Bail Application No. 24 of 2026 titled “Sandeep Bhimrao Wankhede vs. The State of Maharashtra” passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay.

3. As orally prayed for, Mr. Rohit Suresh Khandelwal is impleaded as party respondent No.2. Cause title be amended accordingly.

4. Issue notice, returnable on 20th March, 2026.

5. Dasti service, in addition, is permitted. Let steps for service be taken within one week.

6. In the notice itself let it be mentioned that the respondents are required to file their counter affidavit before the next date of listing.

7. In the event of arrest of the petitioner in connection with FIR No.370 of 2025 dated 30th November, 2025 registered at Talegaon Dabhade Police Station, Pimpri-Chinchwad, Pune, Maharashtra, the petitioner shall be released on bail by the Investigating/arresting officer on such terms and conditions as imposed and found to be just, fair and reasonable.

8. Needless to add, the petitioner would maintain good conduct and not attempt to influence any of the witnesses, in any manner, till the completion of the trial.

9. The petitioner shall appear before the Investigating Officer on 12th February, 2026 at 11.00 A.M. and thereafter, as and when called upon."

4. We have heard learned counsel for the parties and also perused the materials available on record.

5. It is not in dispute that the conditions stand fully complied with; the appellant has cooperated during the investigation; he has not threatened or intimidated any of the witnesses; or has tried to influence the investigation in any manner.

6. We have noticed the nature of crime and the manner in which it was allegedly committed.

7. We allow the present appeal by confirming the order dated 02.02.2026, passed by this Court, with a direction to the appellant to continue to cooperate during the investigation/trial and not to take any unnecessary adjournment. Also, the appellant shall report before the Investigating Officer on every alternate Monday, between 10 a.m. and 11 a.m., till such time the investigation is complete in all respects.

8. If the Investigating Officer/Arresting Officer/Trial Court feels that the investigation/trial is delayed on account of the appellant's conduct, it shall be open to the Investigating Officer/Arresting Officer/Trial Court to take appropriate steps in accordance with the law, including cancellation of bail.

9. The impugned judgment and order dated 22.01.2026 is set aside.

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

.....J.
(SANJAY KAROL)

.....J.
(NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH)

NEW DELHI;
APRIL 17, 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).2142/2026

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 22-01-2026 in ABA No.24/2026 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay]

SANDIP BHIMRAO WANKHEDE

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

IA No. 33341/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT and IA No. 33346/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 17-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KAROL

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) :Mr. Gagan Gupta, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Awanish Kumar, Adv.
Ms. Garima, Adv.
M/s Dharmaprabhas Law Associates, AOR

For Respondent(s) :Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv.
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR

Mr. Yashaswi Sk Chocksey, Adv.
Mr. Sumit Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Krishna Kumar Singh, AOR

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

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order, which is placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(SOURAV PAL)
SENIOR PERSONAL ASSISTANT

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)