



**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO. _____/2026
[@ SLP [CRL.] NO.8114/2026]**

SANDIP SHANTARAM NIKALE

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

Leave granted.

The appellant seeks regular bail in connection with FIR No.188/2023 dated 14.05.2023, registered at Police Station - Ghoti, District -Nashik City, Maharashtra for the offences punishable under Section 302 and 34 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the parties.

Though the learned counsel appearing for the appellant submits that charges have not been framed in the present case, the learned counsel appearing for the respondent - State has made a statement that the charges have been framed now.

Suffice it is to state that the appellant has been under incarceration for more than 3 years and the charges have been framed only now. Therefore, the examination of the witnesses is yet to commence and the trial is likely to take some time to conclude.

We have also taken note of the fact that the co-accused person(s) have been granted the benefit of bail.

Considering the aforesaid circumstances, we are inclined to grant bail to the appellant.

Accordingly, the impugned order passed by the High Court stands set aside and the appellant is granted bail on the terms and conditions to the

satisfaction of the concerned Trial Court.

The appeal stands allowed, accordingly.

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

.....J.
[M.M. SUNDRESH]

.....J.
[PRASANNA B. VARALE]

NEW DELHI;
JULY 13, 2026.

ITEM NO.15

COURT NO.4

SECTION II-A

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (Crl.)
No(s). 8114/2026**

**[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order
dated 16-04-2026 in CRLBA No. 765/2026 passed by
the High Court of Judicature at Bombay]**

SANDIP SHANTARAM NIKALE

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF MAHARASHTRA

Respondent(s)

**Date : 13-07-2026 This petition was called on for
hearing today.**

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.M. SUNDRESH

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRASANNA B. VARALE

For Petitioner(s)

**Ms. Sana Raees Khan, Adv.
Mr. Pranay Shridhar Chitale,
AOR
Mr. Parth Sarathi, Adv.
Mr. Aditya Dutta, Adv.**

For Respondent(s)

**Mr. Varad Kilor, 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

Leave granted.

The appellant is granted bail on terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Trial Court.

The appeal is allowed in terms of the signed order.

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

(ASHA SUNDRIYAL)
DEPUTY REGISTRAR

(POONAM VAID)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

[Signed order is placed on the file]