

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 2821 OF 2021
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL (ST.) NO. 17934 OF 2021**

Royston Xavier Parera Applicant
v/s
The State of Maharashtra and anr. Respondents

Mr. Vivek Arote i/b. Ms. Manisha Devkar for the Applicant.
Mr. P.H. Gaikwad, APP for the State.

CORAM: SMT. ANUJA PRABHUDESSAI, J.

DATED : 25th NOVEMBER, 2021.

P. C. :-

. By this Application, the Applicant has sought to condone the delay of 01 year and 268 days in filing the Appeal.

2. Heard Mr. Vivek Arote, learned counsel for the Applicant and Mr. P.H. Gaikwad, learned APP for the State.

3. The Applicant has been held guilty of offences under section 4 and 10 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and sentenced him to undergo rigorous imprisonment for ten years. The Applicant has stated that he was unable to apply for legal

aid due to lockdown and the situation arising from Covid-19 pandemic.

The reasons stated in the Application are sufficient to condone the delay. Hence, the delay is condoned. Appeal be registered.

4. Interim Application stands disposed of.

**PREETI
H JAYANI**

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(SMT. ANUJA PRABHUDESSAI, J.)