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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
WRIT PETITION NO.1733 OF 2021**

Santosh Prabhakar Bidoo ... Petitioner
Vs.
Commissioner for Co-operation &
Registrar of Co-operative Societies & Ors. ... Respondents

Mr. Prashant P Kulkarni for the Petitioner.
Ms. V. S. Nimbalkar AGP for the Respondent No.5-State

CORAM : S. M. MODAK, J.

DATED : 16TH NOVEMBER 2022.

PC:-

1. Heard learned Advocate for the Petitioner and learned AGP for Respondent No.5-State.
2. Read the order dated 14th November 2022. Matter was adjourned as learned AGP to take appropriate instructions as to when learned Minister can decide the matter finally.
3. Today, a letter from the Secretary dated 15th November 2022, addressed to the learned AGP is produced. The same is taken on record and marked as Annexure "X". She states that the Appeal will be disposed of within three months. It is true that this Court has earlier directed the Respondents to dispose of the Appeal within a period of six weeks as per the order dated 28th June 2013, passed in Writ Petition No.5520 of 2013. Unfortunately, the Appeal was not

disposed of for almost nine years. It is very pitiable thing on the part of the Respondents to keep the Appeal pending for such long period.

4. In view of that the Petitioner is compelled to file this Petition. Now let us hope that Respondent No.5 will adhere to the time limit of three months. It is made clear that if the Appeal is not disposed of within that period, the Court will, on its own, initiate action of contempt against Respondent No.5.

5. In view of above, Respondent No.5 is directed to dispose of the Appeal within a period of three months from today. The Petitioner is directed to appear before Respondent No.5 on 21st November 2022 at 2 pm.

6. With these observations, the Writ Petition is disposed of.

(S. M. MODAK, J.)