

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

CRIMINAL BAIL APPLICATION NO. 1051 OF 2021

Stephen Das Swami

.... Applicant

Versus

The State of Maharashtra

.... Respondent

Mr. Jehangir M. Khajotia for Applicant.

Smt. A. A. Takalkar, APP for State/Respondent.

CORAM : SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.

DATE : 2nd FEBRUARY 2022

(through Video Conferencing)

P.C. :

1. Learned counsel for the applicant states that the applicant was arrested on 29/12/2013 and so far, only one witness has entered into the witness box. His cross-examination is also not completed. He submitted that the trial court be directed to complete the trial within a time bound manner. If such an order is passed, the applicant is not pressing this application, at this stage.

2. The applicant's request is absolutely reasonable. The trial court is directed to complete the trial within a period of six months from today.

3. The trial court shall take into account the fact that the applicant-accused is in custody since 29/12/2013. The prosecution, as well as, the accused/applicant shall not take unnecessary adjournments and shall not delay the trial.

4. Since the trial is directed to be completed within a period of six months from today, learned counsel for the applicant does not press this application on merits. He has not argued his case on merits of the matter today.

5. Liberty is granted to the applicant to file a fresh bail application on merits if the trial is not concluded within a period mentioned above.

6. With these directions the application is disposed of.

(SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.)