

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY**CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION****INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 3057 OF 2022****IN****CRIMINAL APPEAL (ST.) NO. 15156 OF 2022**

Vasant Punjaram Sonawane

... Applicant/Appellant

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra

... Respondent

Mr.Rupesh K. Bobade, Appointed Advocate for Applicant/Appellant.

Mr.Ajay Patil, A.P.P. for Respondent-State.

**CORAM : A. S. GADKARI AND
PRAKASH D. NAIK, JJ.****DATE : 25th November 2022.****PC. :**

1. This is an application for condonation of delay of 5 years and 245 days. The present application is filed by the learned Advocate appointed by Legal Aid Committee to represent Applicant/Appellant.

2. It is stated that, since the day of his arrest i.e. 10th February 2005, the Applicant is in jail and after pronouncement of impugned Judgment and Order dated 25th October 2016, for want of financial aid and legal assistance, the Applicant could not immediately preferred Appeal in this Court.

3. Learned Advocate for Applicant submitted that, when the Applicant came to know about the fact that the State of Maharashtra is

providing legal aid to the accused/convict, he sent a letter to the High Court Legal Aid Services Committee, Mumbai, who *inter-alia* appointed Advocate Mr. Rupesh K. Bobade to file an appeal against conviction. Advocate Mr. Bobade thereafter drafted the present appeal and applications for condonation of delay and bail. In the said process the present delay has occurred.

4. In view of above and for the reasons stated in the Application, delay is condoned and Application is allowed in terms of prayer Clause (a).

[PRAKASH D. NAIK, J.]

[A.S. GADKARI, J.]

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