

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

**INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 589 OF 2023
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL (ST) NO. 18613 OF 2022**

Swapnil Ravindra Khobe ..Applicant
Versus
The State of Maharashtra & Anr. ..Respondents

Mr. Avinash D. Kango (Appointed Advocate) for Applicant.
Smt. M. R. Tidke, APP for State/Respondent No.1.

**CORAM : SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.
DATE : 14 FEBRUARY 2023**

PC :

1. This is an application for condonation of delay of 16 days in filing the Appeal. The applicant has challenged the Judgment and order dated 21/05/2022 passed by learned Special Judge under POCSO Act, Pune, in Special Case No.370 of 2019.

2. Learned counsel for the applicant submitted that the applicant has preferred this Appeal with the assistance of a legal aid counsel appointed by the Legal Services Authority of this Court. The applicant was not in a condition to engage a private advocate. In all this process, there was a delay of 16 days.

3. Considering these submissions and in the interest of justice, the delay of 16 days in preferring the Appeal is condoned. The Appeal be processed further.

4. The application is disposed of.

(SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.)