

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

INTERIM APPLICATION NO.1340 OF 2024
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL STAMP NO.5384 OF 2024

Swapnil Suresh Mane ..Applicant
Versus
The State of Maharashtra & Anr. ..Respondents

Ms. Falguni Brahmabhatt (appointed through Legal Aid) a/w Abdul
Kader Lokhandwala, for the Applicant.
Mr. Swapnil V. Walve, APP for the Respondent/State.

CORAM : SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.

DATE : 16th JULY, 2024

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1. The Applicant was convicted by the Additional Sessions Judge, Khed (Special Court) *vide* the judgment and order dated 11th July, 2023 in Special Case No.10 of 2018. The Applicant was convicted for commission of offence punishable under Section 376(2)(i) of IPC and under Section 6 of POCSO Act. He was sentenced to suffer rigorous imprisonment for twenty years and to pay fine of Rs.50,000/-.

2. Learned counsel for the Applicant submitted the Applicant is in a poor financial condition. He could not engage a private advocate. Therefore, this Appeal is filed with the assistance of the Legal Services Authority of this Court. The advocate

appearing today was appointed on 28th August, 2023. Thereafter, sometime was required to collect the documents, prepare the Appeal and then it was filed. Therefore, there is delay of 159 days in filing the Appeal.

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

4. The Application is disposed of.

(SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.)