

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

**INTERIM APPLICATION NO. 2995 OF 2024
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL (ST) NO.13976 OF 2024**

Prakash Pandurang Patil	..Applicant
Versus	
The State of Maharashtra & Anr.	..Respondents

Ms. Sonia Miskin (Appointed Advocate) for Applicant.
Ms. Sangita D. Shinde, APP for State/Respondent.

CORAM : SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.
DATE : 25 SEPTEMBER 2024

PC :

1. This is an application for condonation of delay in preferring the appeal.

2. The Applicant was convicted by the Additional Sessions Judge, Kolhapur, vide the Judgment and order dated 24.02.2022 passed in Special POCSO Case No.37 of 2015, under section 376(2)(f) and 323 of the I.P.C. and under section 5(m) r/w. Section 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012. Major sentence imposed on him was R.I. for 10 years besides imposition of fine.

3. There is a delay of 2 years and 58 days in filing the Appeal.
4. Learned counsel for the applicant submitted that this Appeal is filed with the help of the Legal Services Authority of this Court. The applicant was not in a position to engage a private advocate because of his weak financial state. She submitted that he has good case on merits.
5. Considering these submissions and in the interest of justice, delay of 2 years and 58 days in preferring the appeal is condoned. The Appeal be processed further.
6. The application is disposed of.

(SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.)