

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY**  
**CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**  
**PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO. 22 OF 2025**

Shraddha Bharat Dalvi .. Petitioner  
Versus  
State of Maharashtra thru the .. Respondents  
Government Pleader and Ors.  
...

Ms.Ashley Cusher a/w Mr.Satish Kumbhar for the Petitioner.  
Mrs.Neha Bhide, GP a/w Mr.O.A. Chandurkar, Addl. GP and  
Mrs.G.R. Raghuwanshi, AGP for Respondent No.1.

**CORAM : ALOK ARADHE, CJ &**  
**BHARATI DANGRE, J**  
**DATED : 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025**

**P.C:-**

1 The Petitioner is permitted to carry out amendment in the cause title so as to implead Law and Judiciary Department as well as Women and Child Welfare Department through the State of Maharashtra as Party Respondent. Let the amendment be carried out within three days. Reverification dispensed with.

2. In this petition, the Petitioner prays for framing of the guidelines for the Child Legal Assistance (Program) in the State of Maharashtra for Child Custody cases, Family Court Cases/ POCSO Cases and to grant permission to the Child to appoint an independent Counsel/Advocate/Lawyer under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

3. Issue notice to the Respondents, returnable on 05/03/2024. The learned Government Pleader waives service of notice on behalf of State.

**(BHARATI DANGRE, J.)**

**(CHIEF JUSTICE)**