

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

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.403 OF 2024
WITH
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.1601 OF 2024
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.403 OF 2024
WITH
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.1603 OF 2024
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.403 OF 2024**

Durgaprasad Picchiya Rao	 Appellant
versus	
The State of Maharashtra	 Respondent

**WITH
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.725 OF 2024**

Ashok Shankar Kharat	 Appellant
versus	
The State of Maharashtra	 Respondent

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- Mr. Pratik Ingale, Advocate for Appellant in APEAL/725/24.
- Mr. Pankaj P. Devkar, APP for the State/Respondent.

**CORAM : SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.
DATE : 01st AUGUST, 2025**

P.C. :

1. In this case the Appellant Ashok Kharat has sent a letter dated 28/04/2025 through the jail mentioning that he wanted to change his Advocate. Today, Advocate Mr. Pratik Ingale, who is on record, representing the Appellant Ashok Kharat, is present in the Court. He informs the Court that the Appellant's son is present in the Court and he is requesting that the Appellant be provided

services of Legal Aid Counsel. The Appellant's son is present in the Court. He is identified by Mr. Ingale.

2. Considering the request made by the Appellant, the Legal Services Authority of this Court is requested to appoint a suitable Advocate from their panel to represent the Appellant Ashok Kharat.
3. The office shall handover all the necessary papers to the appointed Advocate.
4. The Advocate shall be appointed as early as possible.
5. The matter be listed for final hearing at the bottom of the Admission board on 20/08/2025.
6. The Advocate Mr. Pratik Ingale is relieved of his responsibility for appearing for the Appellant Ashok Kharat.

(SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.)