

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

**CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.407 OF 2024
WITH
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.259 OF 2025
IN
CRIMINAL APPEAL NO.407 OF 2024**

Pandit Balajirao Mhaske

.... Appellant/
Applicant

versus

The State of Maharashtra & Anr.

.... Respondents

.....

- Mr. Bharat Gadhavi a/w Ms. Trushna Shah, Advocate for Appellant/Applicant.
- Ms. Ranjana D. Shinde, APP for the State/Respondent.
- Mr. Sarfaraj Shaikh i/b. Ms. Chaitrali Deshmukh, Advocate for Respondent No.2.

**CORAM : SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.
DATE : 13th AUGUST, 2025**

P.C. :

1. The original Appellant in Criminal Appeal No.407 of 2024 has sent a letter through the jail. The letter is dated 03/12/2024. He has stated in the letter that he had told his Advocate not to file the Appeal against his conviction and sentence challenging the order dated 12/10/2023 passed by the learned Special Judge under POCSO Act, Pune, in Special POCSO Case No.504/2016. He has stated that the Appeal be allowed to be withdrawn.

2. Considering this letter, on the last occasion, i.e. on 23/07/2025, I had requested the Legal Services Authority to arrange the video conferencing in between the Advocate Mr. Ghadavi representing the Appellant and the Appellant himself, so that a firm statement can be made by the learned counsel Mr. Gadhavi before the Court.
3. Mr. Gadhavi is present before the Court. He informs that he had video conferencing with the Appellant/Applicant and the Appellant/Applicant is firm on his request for withdrawing the Appeal. Mr. Gadhavi further submitted that only a small portion of his sentence has remained.
4. Considering this situation, the Appeal is allowed to be withdrawn and is disposed of.
5. The connected application is also disposed of.

(SARANG V. KOTWAL, J.)