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IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

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CS(COMM) 634/2025

T.V. TODAY NETWORK LIMITED

.....Plaintiff

Through: Mr. Hrishikesh Barua & Mr. Utkarsh Dwivedi, Advs. along with Mr. Alman Cleancy.

versus

GOOGLE LLC & ORS.

.....Defendants

Through: Ms. Mamta R Jha, Mr. Rohan Ahuja, Ms. Shrutima Ehersa, Mr. Rahul Choudhary, Ms. Himani Sachdeva & Ms. Devanshi Raj, Advs.

CORAM:

JUSTICE PRATHIBA M. SINGH

ORDER

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20.06.2025

1. This hearing has been done through hybrid mode.

I.A. 14843/2025 (exemption)

2. This is an application filed by the Plaintiffs seeking exemption from filing originals/certified/cleared/typed or translated copies of documents, proper margins, electronic documents, etc. Original documents shall be produced/filed at the time of Admission/Denial, if sought, strictly as per the provisions of the Commercial Courts Act and the DHC (Original Side) Rules, 2018.

3. Exemption is allowed, in the above terms, subject to all just exceptions. Accordingly, application is disposed of

I.A. 14845/2025 (exemption)

4. The present application has been filed by the Plaintiff, seeking



exemption from filing complete Court fee.

5. Mr. Baruah submits that the Court fee has been received. Let the same be deposited by 23rd June 2025.

6. The application is disposed of.

I.A. 14842/2025 (additional documents)

7. This is an application filed by the Plaintiffs seeking leave to file additional documents under the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015 (*hereinafter, 'Commercial Courts Act'*). The Plaintiffs, if it wishes to file additional documents at a later stage, shall do so strictly as per the provisions of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 and the DHC (Original Side) Rules, 2018.

8. Application is disposed of

I.A. 14844/2025 (u/s 12A of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015)

9. This is an application filed by the Plaintiffs seeking exemption instituting pre-litigation mediation under Section 12A of the Commercial Courts Act.

10. Since the Plaintiffs seek urgent interim orders as also in view of the orders passed in *Yamini Manohar v. T.K.D Keerthi*, [(2024) 5 SCC 815], the application is allowed and disposed of.

11. Accordingly, the exemption is allowed and application is disposed of.

I.A. 14846/2025 (exemption from serving D-2)

12. The present application has been filed on behalf of the Plaintiff seeking exemption from serving the Defendant No. 2, on the ground that the Plaintiff is not aware of the identity/address of the said Defendant.

13. In view of the fact that the Plaintiff is not aware of the address/identity of the Defendant No.2, exemption from advance service to the Defendant



No.2 is granted.

14. Application is disposed of.

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15. At the outset, Id. Counsel for the Plaintiff makes an oral request to implead Ms. Anjana Om Kashyap, who is the Managing Editor in the Plaintiff Company, as Plaintiff No.2.

16. Accordingly, on oral request of Id. Counsel for the Plaintiff, Ms. Anjana Om Kashyap is impleaded as Plaintiff No.2.

17. Amended memo of parties be filed within one week. Let the plaint be registered as a suit.

18. Issue summons to the Defendants through all modes upon filing of Process Fee.

19. The summons to the Defendants shall indicate that the written statement to the plaint shall be positively filed within 30 days from date of receipt of summons. Along with the written statement, the Defendants shall also file an affidavit of admission/denial of the documents of the Plaintiffs, without which the written statement shall not be taken on record.

20. Liberty is given to the Plaintiffs to file the replication within 15 days of the receipt of the written statement. Along with the replication, if any, filed by the Plaintiffs, an affidavit of admission/denial of documents of the Defendants, be filed by the Plaintiffs, without which the replication shall not be taken on record. If any of the parties wish to seek inspection of any documents, the same shall be sought and given within the timelines prescribed under law.

21. List before the Roster Bench on 11th August 2025.



I.A. 14841/2025 (u/O XXXIX Rules 1 & 2 CPC)

22. The present application has been filed on behalf of the Plaintiff-T.V. Today Network Limited under Order XXXIX Rules 1 and 2 of the CPC *inter alia* seeking grant of an *ad interim* injunction against the Defendants, thereby restraining them from using news clipping, videos, deepfake impersonations, etc. of Ms. Anjana Om Kashyap (*hereinafter, the 'Plaintiff No. 2'*)

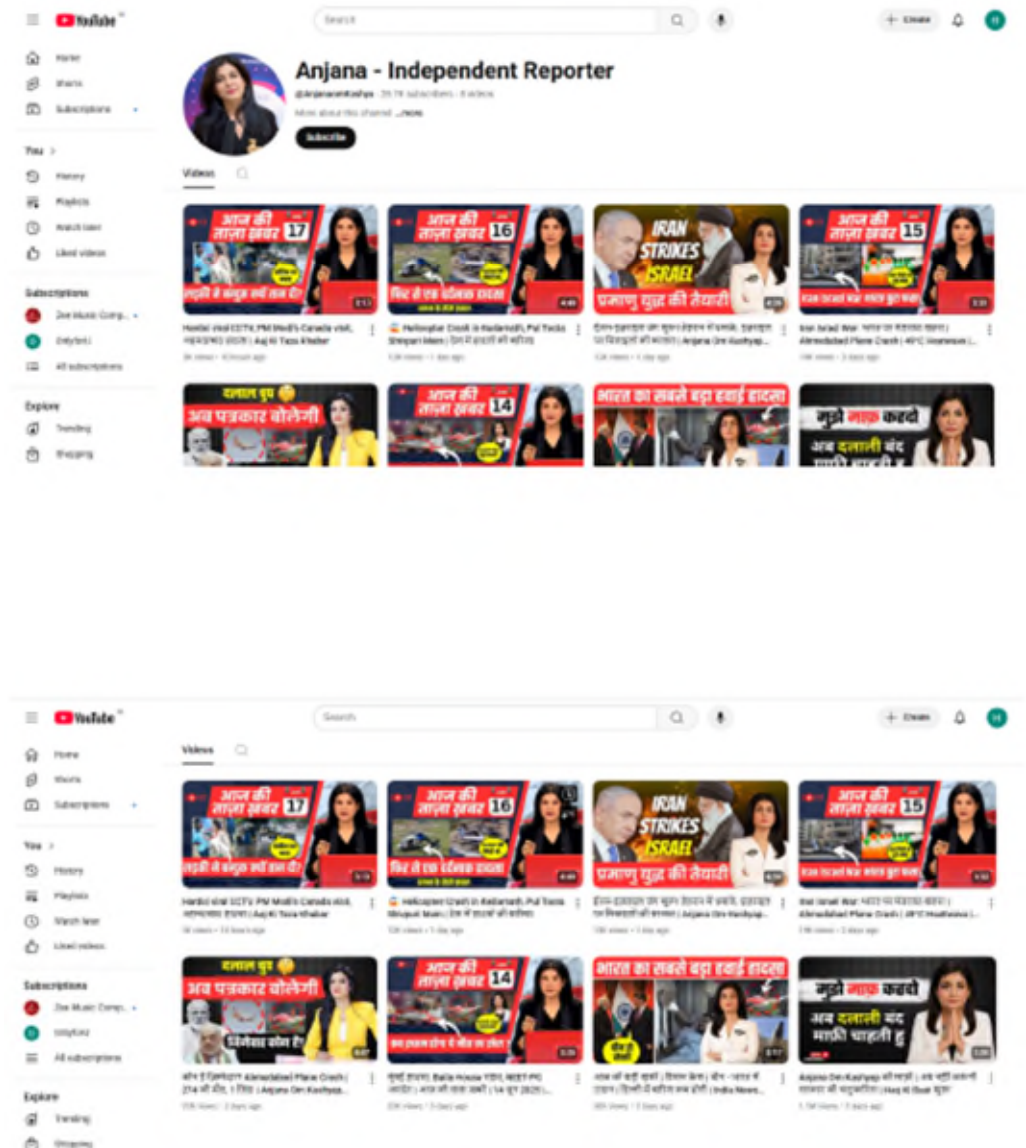
23. According to the Plaintiff, it is a leading pioneer media house in India, engaged in the business of television broadcasting, digital media and journalistic content creation. It is running various news channels, including, Aajtak, India Today and Good News Today.

24. It is stated that the Plaintiff No. 2 is one of the celebrated names in the media sector. She has been working as a Managing Editor (Special Projects) in the Plaintiff company since 2012. According to the plaint, the Plaintiff No. 2 has a YouTube channel named as '@AnjanaomKashyap-AOK' which has about 39,300 subscribers. The said youtube page of the Plaintiff No. 2 is extracted below for ready reference:





25. It is the case of the Plaintiff that an unknown person/persons, arraigned in the suit as Defendant No. 2 has started a YouTube channel under the name of ‘@AnajanaomKashya’. The said platform uses the photograph of the Plaintiff No. 2 as also various fake videos, including purported news clippings etc., in a manner so as to depict that the same are of the Plaintiff No. 2. However, the same do not belong to either of the Plaintiffs at all. Some extracts of the pages, allegedly created by the Defendant No. 2 is extracted below:-



26. Mr. Baruah, Id. Counsel for the Plaintiff submits that this is a fake page which is promoting itself on the reputation and goodwill of both the Plaintiffs. By using a similar name and by creating fake videos involving the Plaintiff No. 2, the personality rights of the Plaintiff no.2 are also affected and violated.
27. Issue notice. Id. Counsel for the Respondents accepts notice.
28. The Court has considered the matter.



29. A perusal of the YouTube pages would show that there is clearly a difference between the YouTube page of the Plaintiff and that of the Defendant No.2. Considering the identity of the Defendant No.2 with the missing 'P' in the word 'Kashyap', it is clear that the same appears to be a fake YouTube page.

30. Such fake YouTube pages or fake profiles being made using the Plaintiffs' goodwill, reputation and personality would be contrary to law. The proliferation of fake youtube pages of a well known organisation or a Personality could result in enormous damage and dissemination of misinformation as the same would lack editorial control. Moreover, in the area of news broadcasting, responsibility has to be taken by the broadcaster and the anchor to ensure that incorrect or misleading news is not disseminated. If fake Youtube pages using the name and image of the Plaintiff no.2 are allowed to come up and be disseminated, the same would violate her personality rights. Even if the content is original content, the same cannot be permitted to be disseminated by anyone other than the Plaintiffs who own the Broadcast Reproduction Rights in all their broadcasts. If the content is not genuine and is fake or fabricated, the Plaintiff no.1 company could also be made responsible for such fake news videos put up without its knowledge. It is also common knowledge that youtube pages are created for earning revenues and monetising the same. The use of the entire name of Plaintiff no.2, with just the deletion of the letter 'p', as also the image, voice etc., for commercial benefit is illegal and contrary to law.

31. Accordingly, the Plaintiffs have made out a *prima facie* case for *ad interim* injunction. Considering the overall facts and circumstances as also the fact that the identity of the Defendant No. 2 is unknown, it is directed as under:



(i) Google LLC shall take down the impugned YouTube channel '@AnajanaomKashya' which has been impugned in the present suit within 48 hours.

(ii) The Basic Subscriber Information ('BSI') details of the person who has put up this channel, shall be disclosed to the Plaintiff within two weeks. Upon the said information being received, the Plaintiff shall take steps to implead the said person/entity itself.

(iii) The Defendant No. 1/ Google LLC shall also file an account of whatever revenues, if any, which may have been paid to this channel owner, within a period of four weeks.

32. In case any further YouTube pages or channels are identified by the Plaintiffs, consisting a fake profile of Plaintiff No.2, the URL shall be supplied by Defendant No.1 who shall take them down within 72 hours. If Google LLC does not take down the infringing content or objects to taking down the same for any reason, the reasons thereof shall be communicated to the Plaintiffs and the Plaintiffs, are free to move an application before this Court.

33. Compliance of Order XXXIX Rule 3 of CPC be done *qua* the person/entity running the YouTube channel '@AnajanaomKashya' within two weeks after the details of the said person/ entity are received.

34. List before the Roster Bench on 11th August 2025.

PRATHIBA M. SINGH
(VACATION JUDGE)

JUNE 20, 2025/kk/rks