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THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW

CS(COMM) 634/2025 & I.A. 14841/2025

T.V. TODAY NETWORK LIMITED & Anr.Plaintiffs

> Through: Mr. Hrishikesh Baruah, Mr. Kumar

> > Kshitij, Mr. Utkarsh Dwivedi, Mr. Yashaswy Ghosh, Mr. Anurag Mishra,

> > >Defendants

Ms. Pragya Agarwal and Ms. Nishtha

Sachan, Advocates.

versus

GOOGLE LLC & ORS.

Ms. Mamta R Jha and Ms. Shruttima Through:

Ehersa, Advocates for D1.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TEJAS KARIA

<u>ORDER</u>

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- 1. The Plaintiffs have filed the present Suit for permanent injunction for violation of the intellectual property rights, mandatory disclosure against impersonation and misuse of personality rights owned by the Plaintiffs and for damages.
- 2. The Plaintiffs have averred that the unknown person/s arraigned in the Suit as Defendant No. 2 started a YouTube Channel under the name of '@AnajanaomKashya' ("YouTube Channel"), which has been using the photographs of Plaintiff No. 2 and various fake videos, including news clippings in a manner so as to depict that the same are of Plaintiff No. 2. However, the YouTube Channel does not belong to either of the Plaintiffs.
- 3. This Court vide order dated 20.06.2025, after observing that the

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Plaintiffs have made out a *prima facie* case, granted an *ad-interim* injunction *vide* order dated 20.06.2025 and considering that the identity of Defendant No. 2 was unknown passed the following directions:

- "(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."
- 4. Further, *vide* order dated 11.08.2025 it was directed that:
 - "1. The learned Counsel for Defendant No. 1 submits that Defendant No. 1 has complied with the Order dated 20.06.2025 and as far as Defendant No. 1 is concerned, no further directions are required.
 - 2. Defendant No. 1 has submitted the Basic Subscriber Information pertaining to the Google Account ID: 152364892287 belonging to Dr. Pooja pursuant to order dated 20.06.2025.
 - 3. The Registry is directed to issue Summons and Notice through e-Mail on poojadr185@gmail.com and sapnarani9543@gmail.com and through SMS and WhatsApp on No. +917050340057 returnable on 09.10.2025.
 - 4. List before the learned Joint Registrar on 09.10.2025 and before the Court on 11.11.2025."
- 5. *Vide* order dated 09.10.2025, the learned Joint Registrar (Judicial) has recorded that the Service Affidavit has been filed by the Plaintiffs and as per the said Service Affidavit, Defendant No. 2 has been served on 07.10.2025 *via* email. The order dated 09.10.2025 also records the submissions made by the learned Counsel for the Plaintiffs that WhatsApp is not active on Phone No. +91-7050340057 as disclosed by Defendant No. 1, therefore, Summons

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and Notice as per the order dated 11.08.2025 could not be served through WhatsApp, however, an SMS has been sent on Phone No. +91-7050340057.

- 6. Despite valid service, Defendant No. 2 has not appeared and the Written Statement has also not been filed by Defendant No. 2. Accordingly, Defendant No. 2 is proceeded *ex-parte*.
- 7. The learned Counsel for the Plaintiffs submits that the Plaintiffs are not pressing for damages in the present Suit and the Suit be decreed in terms of Paragraph No. 85(A) and (B) of the Plaint.
- 8. The material placed on record indicates that the Plaintiffs' grievance arises from the deliberate creation of the YouTube Channel that is using Plaintiff No. 2's photographs, purported news clippings, etc. without any authorisation from Plaintiff No. 2. The name of YouTube Channel is also suggestive of an intent to misappropriate Plaintiff No. 2's personality and established identity and to mislead viewers into believing that the YouTube Channel originates from or is endorsed by Plaintiff No. 2.
- 9. The screenshots and extracts of the YouTube Channel demonstrate that the content is being presented in a manner that capitalises upon Plaintiff No. 2's reputation in the field of news dissemination. The fake YouTube channels of a well known organisation or a personality are likely to result in enormous damage and dissemination of misinformation as the same would lack editorial control. In the circumstances and considering the material placed on record, it is clear that the YouTube Channel of Defendant No. 2 is unauthorisedly using the photographs of Plaintiff No. 2 and various fake videos, including purported news clippings etc., in a manner so as to depict that the same are of Plaintiff No. 2 and, therefore, Defendant No. 2 is required to be restrained by way of permanent injunction.

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- 10. Defendant No. 1 has already complied with the order dated 20.06.2025 passed by this Court, and the Compliance Affidavit filed by Defendant No. 1 is on record. No further directions against Defendant No. 1 are required.
- 11. Accordingly, in view of the above, the Suit is decreed in terms of Prayer in Paragraph No. 85(A) and (B) of the Plaint in favour of the Plaintiffs and only against Defendant No. 2. Let the Decree Sheet be drawn up accordingly.
- 12. The Suit is disposed of in the aforesaid terms. Pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

TEJAS KARIA, J

NOVEMBER 11, 2025/sms

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