

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

ARBITRATION PETITION NO.25 OF 2021

DTL Ancillaries Limited

.. Petitioner

v/s.

SBI General Insurance Company Limited .. Respondent

Mr. Amol Nehru, a/w Shweta Busar, Shweta Maske, Sama Gandhi i/b. Nehru & Co. for the petitioner.

Mr. Punit Damodar a/w Ms. Nikita Vardhan, Harsh Shah i/b. Kanga & Company for the respondent.

CORAM : A. K. MENON, J.

DATED : 9TH JUNE, 2021.

(THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE)

P.C. :

1. This is a petition seeking extension of time for passing an award in pending arbitration proceedings. The learned counsel for the respondent seeks to oppose the application on the basis that the statutory period expired in February 2020 and that the present application is made belatedly only in January 2021. He, therefore, opposes the grant of further time to complete arbitration proceedings.
2. It is common knowledge that from March 2020 functioning of

Advocates offices and courts have been affected owing to the pandemic. initially even filing was not open for a short period. Thereafter no hearing has been taken on regular basis etc. for urgent matters. I do not find that the ground urged by the respondent would justify rejection of the petition. Accordingly, I pass the following order;

- (i) Petition is made absolute in terms of prayer clause (a).
- (ii) Petition is disposed in the above terms.

(A. K. MENON, J.)