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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
WRIT PETITION NO. 5020 OF 2024**

Dedutt Prakash Deshpande

.....Petitioner

Vs.

Nikhila Devdutt Deshpande

.....Respondent

Ms. Shilpa Nagori for the petitioner

Mr. Jacob Manoharan for the respondent

CORAM : GAURI GODSE, J.

DATE : 27th JUNE 2024

ORDER:

1. Learned counsel for the parties submit that they are ready to explore the possibility of an amicable settlement. Since the parties were unable to arrive at an amicable settlement, they request that the parties be referred for mediation.

2. Learned counsel for respondent submits that the petitioner is in arrears to the tune of Rs. 10,00,000/-. He submits that the maintenance amount is towards daughter and because of non payment of maintenance, respondent is facing difficulty.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that as an ad-hoc

amount, the petitioner shall pay an amount of Rs. 1,00,000/- by transferring the same to the bank account of the respondent within two weeks from today. Statement made by the learned counsel for the petitioner is accepted as an undertaking to this Court.

4. It is clarified that the said amount is without prejudice to the rights and contentions of the parties. If the parties are unable to arrive at an amicable solution, the matter will be heard on merits.

5. Ms. Seema Sarnaik, advocate practicing in this Court is appointed as mediator. Learned counsel for the petitioner shall intimate this order to the learned mediator alongwith necessary papers. Cost of the mediation will be borne by the petitioner.

6. Learned mediator is at liberty to issue necessary directions regarding charges for the mediation.

7. List the petition under the caption "For settlement" on 19th July 2024.

[GAURI GODSE, J.]