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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ **CM(M) 1412/2023**

VINEET MEHRA

..... Petitioner

Through: Ms. Malavika Rajkotia and Ms.
Sajal Arora, Advs.

versus

JYOTI LAKHTAKIA

..... Respondent

Through: Ms. Shreya Singhal and Ms.
Mhasi Kreditsu, Advs.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DHARMESH SHARMA

ORDER

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18.01.2024

1. This hearing is being conducted through hybrid mode.
2. The petitioner/husband has filed the present petition under Article 227 of the Constitution of India *inter-alia* seeking the following reliefs:-
 - a. Direct the expeditious disposal of the divorce proceedings instituted by the Petitioner in 2015 pending before the court of Ld. Harish Dudani, Ld. Principal Judge, Patiala House Court, New Delhi titled as "Vineet Mehra Vs. Jyoti Lakhtakia HMA No.569 of 2015.
 - b. Direct the Respondent to be physically present for a week for her cross examination to be conducted in the matter HMA No.569 of 2015 titled as Vineet Mehra Vs. Jyoti Lakhtakia" currently pending in the Court of Sh. Harish Dudani, Principal Judge, Family Court, Patiala House Courts New Delhi.
3. This Court has perused the previous orders passed by the learned Principal Judge, Family Courts, New Delhi District and this Court. After addressing some arguments about the background in which the parties are before this Court, learned counsels appearing for the parties request that the evidence of the respondent/wife may be recorded through Video Conferencing who is based in Ontario,



Canada and it is also requested that convenient time slots may be scheduled so as to record and conclude the evidence of the parties.

4. Having heard the learned counsels for the parties and as agreed upon, the following disposition is provided:-

- (i) It is directed that the testimony of respondent/wife in the pending proceedings bearing number HMA No. 480/2018 shall be recorded through Video Conferencing;
- (ii) the respondent/wife shall be at liberty to join the proceedings from her home at Ottawa, Canada and all necessary safeguards shall be ensured so that no one else is present to interfere in the proceedings or facilitate prompting of the witness in any manner;
- (iii) the evidence shall be recorded in the Family Court itself preferably from 03:30 PM to 05:30 PM on a day to day basis, if the board of the Court so permits.

However, it shall also be in the discretion of learned Principal Judge, Family Court, New Delhi Districts, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi to schedule the recording of evidence at such times or intervals as would be convenient to the Court as well as to the parties besides their counsels.

5. The present petition is accordingly disposed of.

6. Copy of this order be sent to learned Principal Judge, Family Court, New Delhi Districts, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi, for information and necessary compliance.

DHARMESH SHARMA, J.

JANUARY 18, 2024/sp