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

+ **CONT.CAS(C) 1031/2025 CM APPL. 41214/2025**

ASHUTOSH SHARMA

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms. Astha Gumber, advocate.

versus

I.B. RANI IPS & ANR.

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Arun Aggarwal, Advocate, with
Mr. Lovekesh Kukreja, Advocate for
R-2 along with Ms. Jyotsna Rani,
Senior Manager, Gift City,
Gandhinagar, Gujarat, Bank of
Baroda.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANISH DAYAL

ORDER

% **15.07.2025**

CM APPL. 41214/2025 (Exemption)

1. Allowed, subject to all just exceptions.
2. Application is allowed and disposed of.

CONT.CAS(C) 1031/2025

1. This petition has been filed alleging wilful disobedience of Judgment dated 26th July 2024 passed by this Court in **W.P (C) NO. 7769/2022**. The issue concerned the quashing of the Look Out Circular ('**LOC**') issued at the instance of respondent no. 2/*Bank of Baroda* and Office Memorandum dated 22nd February 2021 issued by respondent no.1/ Bureau of Immigration.
2. There were certain allegations relating to return of credit facilities



provided by Bank of Baroda to petitioner, who is the Director and shareholder of *Asian Star Private Limited*.

3. After considering the arguments made by parties, order dated 26th July 2022 was passed by the Coordinate Bench of this Court in Writ Petition [***W.P (C) NO. 7769/2022***], quashing the LOC. Relevant paragraph of the said order is extracted as under:

16. As noted above, the Petitioner is not an accused in any cognizable offence and since there are no criminal proceedings pending against the Petitioner. Even, as on date, Petitioner has neither been named as an accused, nor have any charges been brought against him. In such circumstances, there is no material on record which can justify Respondent No. 2 to insist that the Petitioner's right to travel should be restricted and he should not be allowed to depart from the country.

17. Thus, having regard to the aforementioned facts and the judgments referred above, in the opinion of the Court, LOC dated 30th November 2019 issued against Petitioner cannot be sustained. Accordingly, the same is quashed.

18. In light of the above, the writ petition is allowed and disposed of, along with pending applications.

4. Counsel for petitioner, however, states that on certain occasions, when they have tried to travel, they have been stopped by the authorities at the New Delhi Airport, particularly, once on 8th June 2025 and again on 29th April 2025, and that only when a confirmation was given from Bank of Baroda, he was allowed to travel.

5. Counsel for Baroda of Baroda has stated, on instructions, that even in the communication on 29th April 2025 to the Immigration Officer, they had stated, "*As per the order of the Court, we request you to suspend the LOC, Mr. Ashutosh Sharma and allow him to travel abroad*".

6. Considering that this communication may not have been totally clear, that the LOC stands quashed, it has obviously caused confusion at the



Bureau of Immigration.

7. Accordingly, on the directions of this Court, a communication has been issued today, i.e., 15th July 2025, to the Deputy Director, Bureau of Immigration, stating that the LOC opened against *Mr. Ashutosh Sharma* has been quashed by this Court and the same may be deleted with immediate effect. A snapshot of this communication is being extracted herein for ready reference:



बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा **Bank of Baroda**



BCC: SAMV/LOC:117/10

Date 15.07.2025

The Deputy Director,
Bureau of Immigration (BOI)
East Block- VIII, Sector-1,
R K Puram, New Delhi- 1100066

Dear Sir,

RE: Deletion of LOC opened against Mr. ASHUTOSH SHARMA (Director & shareholder of ASIAN STAR Pvt Ltd, Hong Kong).

We refer to LOC issued/ renewed against Mr. ASHUTOSH SHARMA (LOC No. 2019432292; Old SUSPECT Serial No. 194908) upon request made by our Bank.

We write to inform you that the said LOC was quashed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi vide Order dated 26.07.2024.

In view of the above, we request you to delete the LOC opened against Mr. ASHUTOSH SHARMA with immediate effect.

We request you to send a line of confirmation in this regard.

Yours faithfully,


Dharendra Settipalli
General Manager (SAMV)
Nodal Officer of LOC Matter

बड़ौदा कॉर्पोरेट सेंटर, सी 26, जी ब्लॉक, बांद्रा कुर्ला कॉम्प्लेक्स, बांद्रा (पू.), मुंबई 400 051, भारत
Baroda Corporate Centre, C-26, G Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai 400 051, India
फोन / Phone: 022 6759 4901, ई-मेल / Email: mktg@bankofbaroda.com, वेब / Web: www.bankofbaroda.in



8. Accordingly, respondent no.1 is directed to take note of the same and ensure that there is no lack of compliance with the orders of this Court in **W.P (C) NO. 7769/2022**, considering that LOC in question stands quashed.
9. A copy of this order may be sent to the respondent no.1/the Bureau of Immigration, *East Block-VIII, Sector-1, R.K Puram, New Delhi-110066*, through recorded delivery and email.
10. *Ms. Jyotsna Rani*, Senior Manager, Bank of Baroda, Gift City SEZ, Gandhinagar, Gujarat is also present through VC.
11. Petition is disposed of accordingly.
12. Order be uploaded on the website of this Court.

ANISH DAYAL, J

JULY 15, 2025/RK