HC-KAR
NC: 2026:KHC:65114
WP No. 32983 of 2026
CNR: KAHC010720172026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 21ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE C.M. POONACHA

WRIT PETITION NO. 32983 OF 2026 (GM-RES)

BETWEEN:

SRI R V YUVARAJ
AGED ABOUT 36 YEARS,
SON OF R.V. DEVRAJ,
RESIDING AT NO.50/51,
SANJIVINI C STREET FORT,
KALASIPALYAM,
BANGALORE - 560 002.

...PETITIONER
(BY SRI. SHREERAM TIMMAPPA NAYAK.,ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. UNION OF INDIA
   BY MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS,
   GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
   REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY,
   KARTAVYA BHAWAN 01,
   NEW DELHI - 110 001.

2. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING,
   BROADCASTING WING, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,
   REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY,
   KARTAVYA BHAVAN 02,
   NEW DELHI-110 001.

3. BENNETT COLEMAND COMPANY LIMITED
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT.
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHING E- PAPER
UNDER THE NAME AND STYLE OF
M/S TIMES CONTENT.COM)
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT
2ND FLOOR, ELIXIR CHANCERY, 135/1,2,
RESIDENCY ROAD, RICHMOND TOWN,
BENGALURU 560 025
REPRESENTED BY ITS EDITORIAL CHIEF.

4. M/S THE PRINTERS (MYSORE)
PRIVATE LIMITED, CO. COMPANY REGISTERED
UNDER COMPANIES ACT, (OPERATING AND
PUBLISHING NEWS PAPER UNDER THE NAME AND
STYLE OF THE DECCAN HERALD)
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT NO. 75, MG ROAD,
BENGALURU 560 001
REPRESENTED BY ITS CHIEF EDITOR.

5. M/S LIVING MEDIA INDIA LIMITED
CO. COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER COMPANIES ACT,
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHING UNDER
THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE INDIA TODAY)
MEDIAPLEX, FC-8, SECTOR-16A,
FILM CITY, NOIDA 201 301

ALSO, AT F-26, 1ST FLOOR,
CONNAUGHT PLACE
NEW DELHI - 110 001
REPRESENTED BY ITS CHIEF EDITOR.

6. M/S NEW DELHI TELEVISION LIMITED,
CO. COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER COMPANIES ACT,
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHED UNDER
THE NAME AND STYLE OF NDTV)
HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT
W-17, 2ND FLOOR,

GREATER KAILASH - I,
NEW DELHI - 110 048.

7. M/S DECCAN CHRONICLE HOLDING LIMITED
CO. COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER COMPANIES ACT,
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHING
NEWS PAPER UNDER THE NAME AND STYLE OF
DECCAN CHRONICLE)
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT NO.36,
SAROJINI DEVI ROAD,
REGIMENTAL BAZAAR, SHIVAJI NAGAR,
HYDERABAD, TELANGANA- 500 003
REPRESENTED BY ITS EDITORIAL CHIEF.

8. M/S EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS (MAGURAS)
CO. COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER COMPANIES ACT,
(OPERATTING AND PUBLISHING
NEWS PAPER UNDER THE NAME AND STYLE OF
M/S THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS))
HAVING ITS OFFFICE AT NO. 29,
II MAIN ROAD, INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
AMBATTUR, CHENNAI,
TAMIL NADU - 600 058
REPRESENTED BY ITS EDITORIALL CHIEF.

9. M/S ASSOCIATED BROADCASTING COMPANY PVT.
LTD., CO. COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER
COMPANIES ACT,
(OPERATING AND BROADCASTING UNDER
THE NAME AND STYLIE OFF TV9 KANNADA)
HAVING ITS OFFICE AT NO.13,
BIKANER PINNACLE, 1 RHENIUSST,
RICHMOND TOWN, BENGALURU - 560 025
REPRESENTED BY ITS EDITORIAL CHIEF.

10. ASIANET DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES PRIVATE LIMITED,
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
(OPERATING AND BROADCASTING
A ELECTRONIC MEDIA CHANNEL UNDER

THE NAME AND STYLE OF
ASIANET NEWS ENGLISH)
HAVING ITS REGISTERED OFFICE AT NO.36,
CRESCENT ROAD, HIGH GROUNDS,
OPP. MALLIGE HOSPITAL,
BENGALURU - 560 001.

11. HYDERABAD MEDIA HOUSE LTD.
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHING UNDER
THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE "THE HANS INDIA)
H NO.8-2-268/1/A/2/8, PLOT NO. 3,
AURORA COLONY, NEAR SATYASAI NIGAMAM
TEMPLE PARKING GATE NO. 3,
ROAD NO. 3, BANJARA HILLS,
HYDERABAD, TELANGANA - 500 034.

12. KASTURI AND SONS LIMITED(KSL).
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHING UNDER
THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE "THE HINDU)
KASTURI BUILDINGS, 859 AND 860,
ANNA SALAL (MOUNT ROAD)
CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU - 600 002.

13. AGK FIRE INC.
CO. COMPANY REGISTERED UNDER COMPANY ACT,
(OPERATING AND PUBLISHING UNDER WEB PAGE
THE NAME AND STYLE OF THE "SOCIALNEWS.XYZ")
2285 FRAMURA LN, MELBOURNE,
FL 32940, UNITED STATES.

14. AADHYAASI MEDIA AND CONTENT
SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED.
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
ALONG WITH ALLIED MANAGEMENT UNDER
GAVISHTI MEDIA PRIVATE LIMITED.

THE DIGITAL PORTAL OPINDIA,
REPRESENTED BY ITS EDITOR AND
CHIEF NUPUR J SHARMA
212-A, SHAHPUR JAT, SOUTH DELHI,
NEW DELHI, DELHI 110 049.

15. GOOGLE INDIA PVT. LTD.,
OPERATOR OF YOUTUBE,
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
NO.3, RMZ INFINITY - TOWER E,
OLD MADRAS ROAD
3RD, 4TH AND 5TH FLOORS,
BANGALORE - 560 016.

16. M/S META PLATFORMS
TECHNOLOGIES INDIA PVT. LTD.
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
(OPERATORS OF FACEBOOK,
INSTAGRAM AND WHATSAPP)
REPRESENTED BY IT'S
CONSTITUTED ATTORNEY
UNIT 28 AND 29, LEVEL 18,
DLF CYBER CITY, BUILDING NO.5,
TOWER A, PHASE III, GURUGRAM,
HARYANA-122 992.

17. M/S. X COMMUNICATIONS INDIA PVT. LTD.,
LLP LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP REGISTERED
UNDER PARTNERSHIP ACT
(OPERATOR OF FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER)
REPRESENTED BY IT'S CONSTITUTED ATTORNEY
RMZ INFINITY, B. SWAMI VIVEKANANDA ROAD,
SADANANDNAGAR, BENNIGANA HALLI,
BENGALURU-560 016.

…RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. ARAVIND KAMATH LEARNED ASG A/W
SMT. KEERTHI KRISHNA REDDY., CGC FOR R1)

THIS W.P. IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO A) ISSUE WRIT OF MANDAMUS DIRECTING THE RESPONDENTS NO.1 AND 2 TO THE RESPONDENT NO.3 TO 14, TO REMOVE THE ARTICLES, VIDEOS, CLIPS, SHORTS UPLOADED ON THE RESPONDENTS NO. 15 TO 17 SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS AND CONSEQUENTLY TO REMOVE ALL THE ARTICLES WITH REFERENCE TO THE PETITIONER INTHE HANDS OF THE RESPONDENT NO.15 BEING THE SEARCH ENGINE, IN THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY AND ETC.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR ORDERS, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE C.M. POONACHA

ORAL ORDER

The present writ petition is filed seeking for the following reliefs:

> *" A) Issue Writ of Mandamus directing the Respondents No.1 and 2 to the Respondent No.3 to 14, to remove the articles, videos, clips, shorts uploaded on the Respondents No. 15 to 17 social media platforms and consequently to remove all the articles with reference to the Petitioner in the hands of the Respondent No.15 being the search engine, in the interest of justice and equity.*
>
> *B) Issue Writ of Mandamus directing the Respondents No.1 and 2 to restrain the Respondents No.3 to 14 from publishing articles, telecasting, uploading of any private investigation reports as against the Petitioner in videos, clips, shorts uploaded on the Respondents No. 15 to 17 social media platforms or on their respective channels, in the interest of justice and equity.*
>
> *C) To grant such other reliefs as deemed fit by this Hon'ble Court in the facts and circumstances of the case, in the interests of justice."*

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CHEPPUDIRA MONNAPPA POONACHA
26/11/2026 11:25

2. The petitioner is aggrieved by various posts on social media platforms and cable TV network and seeks for removal of the said article, videos, clips, etc.

3. It is contended on behalf of the petitioner that he is erroneously being linked with respect to criminal proceedings, which were the subject matter of investigation. It is the submission on behalf of the petitioner that he was called as a witness in the said proceedings.

4. Learned Additional Solicitor General of India appearing for respondent Nos.1 and 2 submits that under the provisions of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995[1] and the Cable Television Network Rules, 1994[2], whereunder in terms of the amendment made in the year 2021, Rule 6 stipulates a Program Code, which is required to be followed. That in the event there is violation of the Program Code, a complaint redressal structure has been stipulated in the said Rules, 1994.

[1] Hereinafter referred to as "Act"
[2] Hereinafter referred to as "Rules"

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CHEPPUDIRA MONNAPPA POONACHA
26/11/2026 11:25

5. In view of the fact that alternate remedies are available to the petitioner, it is expedient that the present writ petition not be entertained. Accordingly, the writ petition is ***dismissed***.

6. This order will not preclude the petitioner from availing appropriate remedies in accordance with law.

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(C.M. POONACHA)
JUDGE

RL
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 13