$~61

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

\+ W.P.(C) 1634/2026 & CM APPL. 7910/2026

MARKAND ADHIKARI .....Petitioner

Through: Mr. J. Sai Deepak, Sr. Adv.with Mr. Varun Garg, Adv.; Ms. Nishpreha Mittal, Adv.; Mr. Gaurav Modwil, Advs

versus

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK AND ANR .....Respondent

Through: Mr. Santosh Kumar Rout, SC with Mr. Siddhant Law Officer

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASMEET SINGH

O R D E R

% **05.02.2026**

CM APPL. 7912/2026 & CM APPL. 7911/2026

Allowed subject to all just exceptions.

The applications stand disposed of.

W.P.(C) 1634/2026

1. This is a writ petition filed under Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India seeking the following prayers:-

> *"a. Issue a Writ of Certiorari, or any other appropriate writ, order, or direction quashing/setting aside the proceedings being undertaken by the Respondent no. 1 Bank for declaring the Petitioner and the account of M/s Dream Merchant Content Pvt. Ltd. as 'fraud' including the Show Cause Notice dated 30.04.2025 and Notices of personal hearing dated 23.01.2026 and all consequential actions arising therefrom, as being illegal, arbitrary, non-est in law, and in violation of the principles of natural justice and the RBI Master Directions on Fraud."*

2. Mr. Garg, learned counsel for the petitioner, states that in the present case, the petitioner has sought documents from the respondent No. 1 Bank, which was also directed by this Court in the earlier round of litigation being W.P.(C) 18747/2025 *vide* order dated 10.12.2025. The relevant paragraph from the said reads as under:-

> *"13. Accordingly, this writ petition is disposed of taking the assurance of PNB on record. The documents mentioned in Enclosure A of representation dated 06.12.2025 will be supplied to the Petitioner within 15 days from today. Reply shall be filed to the show cause notice by the Petitioner within 21 days from the date of receipt of the documents in consonance with Clause 2.1.1.2 of the Reserve Bank of India (Fraud Risk Management in Commercial Banks (including Regional Rural Banks) and All India Financial Institutions) Directions, 2024, whereafter it will be open to PNB to pass an order, in accordance with law, after affording personal hearing to the Petitioner. In light of this, any personal hearing scheduled in the meantime will be deferred. It is made clear that this Court has not expressed any opinion on the merits of the case."*

3. Despite the orders, the respondent No. 1 Bank has not supplied the documents and has fixed a personal hearing for 10.02.2026.

4. Mr. Garg, learned counsel for the petitioner, states that all the documents mentioned in the letter dated 28.01.2026 have not been supplied which are important for the petitioner to give a meaningful response and without which the hearing of 10.02.2026 will be an empty formality.

5. For the said reasons, issue notice.

6. Mr. Rout, learned standing counsel accepts notice on behalf of the respondent No. 1 Bank and states that whatever documents available with the petitioner as per the list dated 28.01.2026 will be provided and the other documents which are not available will also be informed to the petitioner within a period of one week from today.

7. Within 21 days from the date of receipt of the letter/communication from the respondent No. 1 Bank, the petitioner shall file a reply to the show cause notice and thereafter, the respondent No. 1 Bank shall give a notice for personal hearing.

8. The date of personal hearing i.e**.,** 10.02.2026 stands cancelled.

9. Without prejudice to the other rights and contentions of the parties, the present petition is disposed of along with pending applications, if any.

JASMEET SINGH, J

FEBRUARY 5, 2026 / (MS)