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

(21)

+ W.P.(C) 3125/2021, CM APPL. 9491/2021 & CM APPL. 18918/2021

FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM & ORS.

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Adv. for BDF.
Mr. Prasanna S, Adv

Versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

...Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Adv.

(22)

+ W.P.(C) 3483/2021 & CM APPL. 27226/2021

SANJAY KUMAR SINGH

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Adv. for BDF.

Versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Adv.



(23)

+ W.P.(C) 3659/2021, CM APPL. 11097/2021 & CM APPL. 18916/2021

QUINT DIGITAL MEDIA LIMITED & ANR.Petitioners

Through: Mr. Prasanna S, Adv
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.

(24)

+ W.P.(C) 5973/2021 & CM APPL. 18880/2021

PRAVDA MEDIA FOUNDATIONPetitioner

Through: Mr. Aaditya Vijaykumar, Ms. Katoch and Ms. Harshita Goel, Advs.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.

(25)

+ W.P.(C) 6188/2021 & CM APPL. 19591/2021

THE PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LIMITEDPetitioner

Through: Mr. N.B. Joshi with Mr. Anurag Ranjan, Advs.



Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Adv. for BDF.

Versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through:

Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Adv.

(26)

+ W.P.(C) 7281/2021, CM APPL. 22944/2021 & CM APPL. 46798/2024

FACEBOOK INC.

.....Petitioner

Through:

Mr. Vivek Reddy, Mr. Varun Pathak, Ms. Ameer Rana, Mr. Thejesh Rajendran and Mr. Yasu Karunakaran, Adv.

Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Adv. for BDF.

Versus

UNION OF INDIA

.....Respondent

Through:

Mr. Sandeep Arya and Mr. Vikram, Adv. for impleader applicant
Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Adv.



(27)

+ W.P.(C) 7284/2021, CM APPL. 22951/2021 & CM APPL. 46558/2024

WHATSAPP LLC

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Tejas Karia, Adv., Ms. Swati Agarwal, Adv., Mr. Shashank Mishra, Adv., Ms. Akshi Rastogi, Adv. Ms. Vedika Rathore, Adv.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.

(28)

+ W.P.(C) 4912/2024, CM APPL. 20090/2024 & CM APPL. 20091/2024

T.V. TODAY NETWORK LIMITED AND ANR.Petitioners

Through: Mr. Hrishikesh Baruah, Mr. Anurag Mishra, Mr. Utkarsh Diwedi and Ms. Madhu Vishnoi, Advs.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for BDF.

Versus



UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.

Mr. Tejas Karia, Mr. Varun Pathak, Ms. Ameer Rana, Mr. Tejpal Singh Rathore and Ms. Vibhuti Vasisth, Advs. for R-2.

(29)

+ W.P.(C) 6219/2024

LIVE LAW MEDIA PRIVATE LIMITED AND ORS....Petitioners

Through: Ms. Vrinda Bhandari, Ms. Anandita Rana and Ms. Rubayya Tasneem, Advs.

Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for BDF.

Versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.

(30)

+ W.P.(C) 6220/2024

BHAKTA TRIPATHY

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for BDF.

Versus



UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Adv.

(31)

+ W.P.(C) 6375/2024
T M KRISHNA

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms. Vrinda Bhandari, Ms. Anandita Rana and Ms. Rubayya Tasneem, Adv.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhanian, Adv. for BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Adv.

(32)

+ W.P.(C) 6390/2024
THE NEWS BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION AND ORS.

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms. Nisha Bhambhani, Mr. Rajat Arora and Ms. Mariya, Adv.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhanian, Adv. for BDF.

Versus



MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND ANR.

....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr.
Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev
Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena,
Advs.

(33)

+ W.P.(C) 6391/2024

DIGITAL NEWS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATIONPetitioner

Through: Mr. Nachiket B. Joshi, Mr. Shivek
Trehan and Ms. Rishika Goyal, Advs.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin
Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms.
Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and
Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for
BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Chetan Sharma, ASG with Mr.
Apoorv Kurup, CGSC, Ms. Nidhi
Mittal and Mr. Arnav Mittal, Advs.
for UOI.

(34)

+ W.P.(C) 6393/2024

TRUTH PRO FOUNDATION INDIA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin
Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms.
Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and
Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for
BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Chetan Sharma, ASG with Mr.
Apoorv Kurup, CGSC, Ms. Nidhi
Mittal and Mr. Arnav Mittal, Advs.
for UOI.



(35)

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W.P.(C) 7376/2024

AGIJ PROMOTION OF NINETTENONEA MEDIA PVT. LTD
AND ORS

.....Petitioners

Through: Mr. Darius Khambata, Sr. Adv., Mr. Mihir Desai, Sr. Adv., Mr. C.U. Singh, Sr. Adv. with Ms. Astha Sharma, Ms. Anju Thomas, Ms. Mantika Haryani, Mr. Rohin Bhatt and Mr. Sadeeq Sherwani, Advs. Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhanian, Advs. for BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.

(36)

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W.P.(C) 7377/2024

NIKHIL MANGESH WAGLE

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Krishan Kumar, Mr. Seemant K. Garg and Mr. Abhay Nevagi, Advs. Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms. Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and Ms. Swikriti Singhanian, Advs. for BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr. Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena, Advs.



(37)

+ W.P.(C) 7528/2024, CM APPL. 31345/2024 & CM APPL.
31346/2024

AMOL PALEKAR

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Mrigank Prabhakar, Adv.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin
Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms.
Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and
Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for
BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Chetan Sharma, ASG with Mr.
Apoorv Kurup, CGSC, Ms. Nidhi
Mittal and Mr. Arnav Mittal, Advs.
for UOI.

(38)

+ W.P.(C) 9137/2024

PRAVEEN ARIMBRATHODIYIL

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin
Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms.
Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and
Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for
BDF.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Ms. Manisha Agrawal Narain, CGSC
with Mr. Chandan Deep Singh, Mr.
Sandeep Singh Somaria and Mr.
Akhil Gupta, Advs.

(39)

+ W.P.(C) 11055/2024

SAYANTI SENGUPTA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin
Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms.
Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and
Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Advs. for
BDF.



versus
UNION OF INDIA AND ANRRespondents
Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr.
Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev
Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena,
Adv.

(40)
+ W.P.(CRL) 2415/2024
WHATS APP LLCPetitioner
Through: Mr. Tejas Karia, Adv., Ms. Swati
Agarwal, Adv., Mr. Shashank Mishra,
Adv., Ms. Akshi Rastogi, Adv. Ms.
Vedika Rathore, Adv.
Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Nitin
Sharma, Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Ms.
Srishti Kumar, Mr. Rishabh Rao and
Ms. Swikriti Singhania, Adv. for
BDF.

versus
UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.Respondents
Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr.
Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev
Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena,
Adv.

(51)
+ W.P.(CRL) 2766/2024
WHATSAPP LLCPetitioner
Through: Mr. Tejas Karia, Adv., Ms. Swati
Agarwal, Adv., Mr. Shashank Mishra,
Adv., Ms. Akshi Rastogi, Adv. Ms.
Vedika Rathore, Adv.

versus
UNION OF INDIARespondent
Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, CGSC with Mr.
Waize Ali Noor, Mr. Ranjeev
Khatana and Mr. Maulik Khurrena,
Adv.



CORAM:
HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TUSHAR RAO GEDELA

ORDER
14.10.2024

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1. Leaned Coordinator for the petitioners has segregated the issues in the matters challenging The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. The said segregated list reads as under:

S. No.	Matter details	Native Court	High Court
Challenge to Part III (Code of Ethics and Procedure and Safeguards in Relation to Digital Media)			
1.	<i>AGIJ Promotion Ninteenonia Media Private Ltd. and Ors. v. UoI and Anr.</i> WP (C) 7376/2024	Bombay Court	High Court
2.	<i>Pravda Media Foundation v. Union of India & Anr.</i> WP (C) 5973/2021	Delhi Court	High Court
3.	<i>Quint Digital Media & Anr v. Union of India & Anr.</i> WP (C) 3659/2021	Delhi Court	High Court
4.	<i>Foundation for Independent Journalism & Ors v. UoI & Anr.</i> WP (C) 3125/2021	Delhi Court	High Court
5.	<i>Truth Pro Foundation India v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 6393/2024	Karnataka High Court	
6.	<i>Bhakta Tripathy v. Union of India and Ors.</i> WP (C) 6220/2024	Orissa Court	High Court
7.	<i>News Broadcasters Association and Ors v. Union of India & Ors.</i> WP (C) 6390/2024	Kerala Court	High Court
8.	<i>Press Trust of India v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 6188/2021	Delhi Court	High Court



9.	<i>Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) v. UoI and Anr.</i> WP (C) 6391/2024	Madras Court	High
10.	<i>Amol Palekar v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 7528/2024	Delhi Court	High
11.	<i>Live Law Media Private Limited and Ors v. Union of India and Anr.</i> WP (C) 6219/2024	Kerala Court	High
12.	<i>TM Krishna v. Union of India and Anr.</i> WP (C) 6375/2024	Madras Court	High
13.	<i>Nikhil Mangesh Wagle v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 7377/2024	Bombay Court	High
Challenge to Part II (Due Diligence by Intermediaries and Grievance Redressal Mechanism)			
14.	<i>Sanjay Kumar Singh v. Union of India & Ors</i> WP(C) 3483/2021	Delhi Court	High
15.	<i>T V Today Network Limited & Anr. v. Union of India & Ors.</i> WP (C) 4912/2024	Delhi Court	High
16.	<i>WhatsApp LLC v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 7284/2021	Delhi Court	High
17.	<i>WhatsApp LLC v. Union of India & Ors.</i> WP (Crl) 2415/2024	Tripura Court	High
18.	<i>WhatsApp LLC v Union of India (& State of Kerala)</i> WP (Crl) 2766/2024	Kerala Court	High
19.	<i>Facebook Inc. v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 7281/2021	Delhi Court	High
20.	<i>Sayanti Sengupta v. Union of India and Anr.</i> WP (C) 11055/2024	Calcutta Court	High
21.	<i>Praveen Arimbrathodiyil v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 9137/2024	Kerala Court	High
22.	<i>Amol Palekar v. Union of India</i> WP(C) 7528/2024 Note: Also at S No. 10 (Challenge to Part III)	Delhi Court	High



23.	<i>Live Law Media Private Limited and Ors v. Union of India and Anr.</i> WP(C) 6219/2024 Note: Also at S No. 11 (Challenge to Part III)	Kerala High Court
24.	<i>TM Krishna v. Union of India and Anr.</i> WP(C) 6375/2024 Note: Also at S No. 12 (Challenge to Part III)	Madras High Court
25.	<i>Nikhil Mangesh Wagle v. Union of India</i> WP (C) 7377/2024 Note: Also at S No. 13 (Challenge to Part III)	Bombay High Court

List of Additional Matters

S. No.	Matter Details and Status of Transfer	Native High Court
1.	<i>Charitha v. MeitY and MIB</i> , WP No. 10796/2021 Note: Transferred by Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated July 23, 2024 in TP (C) Nos 2154-2155/2021	Karnataka High Court
2.	<i>Indian Broadcasting and Digital Association, Sun TV & SJ Clement v MeitY and MIB</i> , WP 25619/2021 Note: Yet to be transferred	Madras High Court

2. With consent of the parties, it is directed that challenge to Part III (Code Of Ethics and Procedure and Safeguards in Relation to Digital Media) shall be taken up for hearing first. The Coordinator for the petitioners is directed to file a convenience compilation within two weeks.

3. Mr. Darius Khambata, Senior Advocate, who is to open the arguments on behalf of the petitioners, is directed to file his short written submission not exceeding five pages along with the compilation of judgments that he wishes to rely upon at least a week prior to the next date of hearing.



4. The respondents are permitted to complete the pleadings within two weeks.
5. List on 11th November, 2024 at 02:30 p.m.

MANMOHAN, CJ

TUSHAR RAO GEDELA, J

OCTOBER 14, 2024

N.Khanna