

BY EMAIL & DoT website

**Government of India
Ministry of Communications
Department of Telecommunications
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi - 110 001
(Data Services Cell)**

No. 813-07/LM-40/2024-DS-II

Dated:08-11-2024

To,

All Internet Service Licensee

Subject: CS (COMM) 840 of 2024: Star India Private Limited vs. crichhd.pk & Ors. before the High Court of Delhi

Kindly find the enclosed Hon'ble Delhi High Court order dated **30.09.2024** on the subject matter.

2 . Please refer to the **para 26.3** and **26.4** of the said court order in respect of blocking of **websites** enumerated in 6th additional list provided by plaintiff through mail.

3. In view of the above, all the Internet Service licensees are hereby instructed to take immediate necessary action for blocking of the said website, as above, for compliance of the said court order.

Digitally signed by

Ram Kailash Meena

Dir (DS-II)

Date: 08-11-2024 17:28:32

Email: dirds2-dot@nic.in

Encl:A/A

Copy to:

- i. Sh. V.Chinnasamy, Scientist E (chinnasamy.v@meity.gov.in), Electronics Niketan, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) New Delhi for kind information and with request to take action as per **Annexure**.
- ii. Shri Priyansh Kohli < priyansh@saikrishnaassociates.com > Plaintiff Advocate for kind information.
 - a. Take action as per Annexure.
- iii. IT wing of DoT for uploading on DoT websites please.



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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
+ CS(COMM) 840/2024 & I.A. 40659/2024, I.A. 40660/2024, I.A.
40661/2024, I.A. 40662/2024, I.A. 40663/2024

STAR INDIA PRIVATE LIMITEDPlaintiff

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Yatinder
Garg, Mr. Sanidhya Maheshwari, Mr.
Priyansh Kohli, Advocates
(M:7987503554)
Email:priyansh@saikrishnaassociates.
com

versus

CRICHD.PK & ORS.Defendants

Through: None.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE MINI PUSHKARNA

% **ORDER**
30.09.2024

**I.A. 40660/2024 (seeking exemption from filing certified/ clearer/
proper/ translated copies of documents)**

1. Exemption is granted, subject to all just exceptions.
2. Plaintiff shall file legible and clearer copies of exempted documents, compliant with practice rules, before the next date of hearing.
3. Accordingly, the application stands disposed of.



I.A. 40662/2024 (seeking leave to file additional documents)

4. This is an application under Order XI Rule 1(4) read with Section 151 CPC as amended by the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, seeking leave to file additional documents.

5. The plaintiff, if wishes to file additional documents at a later stage, shall do so strictly as per the provisions of Commercial Courts Act, 2015, and the Delhi High Court (Original Side) Rules, 2018.

6. The application is disposed of, with the aforesaid directions.

I.A. 40661/2024 (seeking exemption from issuing notice to defendant nos. 12, 15, 20 and 21)

7. Upon payment of process fee, issue notice to Defendants No. 12 (Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.), 15 (Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.), 20 (Department of Telecommunications) and 21 (Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology), by all permissible modes, returnable on 21st January, 2025.

8. Reply, if any, be filed within four weeks from date of service. Rejoinder thereto, if any, be filed within two weeks thereafter.

I.A. 40663/2024 (seeking exemption from filing pre-suit mediation)

9. The present is an application under Section 12A of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, read with Section 151 of CPC, seeking exemption from undergoing Pre-Institution Mediation.

10. Having regard to the facts of the present case and in the light of the judgment of Supreme Court in the case of *Yamini Manohar Versus T.K.D. Keerthi*, 2023 SCC OnLine SC 1382, and Division Bench of this Court in *Chandra Kishore Chaurasia Versus RA Perfumery Works Private Ltd.*, 2022 SCC OnLine Del 3529, exemption from attempting Pre-Institution



Mediation, is granted.

11. Accordingly, the application stands disposed of.

CS(COMM) 840/2024

12. Let the plaint be registered as a suit.

13. Upon filing of process fee, issue summons to the defendants by all permissible modes. Summons shall state that the written statement shall be filed by the defendants within 30 days from the date of receipt of summons. Along with the written statement, the defendants shall also file an affidavit of admission/denial of the documents of the plaintiff, without which the written statement shall not be taken on record.

14. Liberty is given to the plaintiff to file a replication within 15 days of the receipt of the written statement. Along with the replication, if any, filed by the plaintiffs, an affidavit of admission/denial of documents of the defendants, be filed by the plaintiff, without which the replication shall not be taken on record. If any of the parties wish to seek inspection of any documents, the same shall be sought and given within the timelines.

15. List before the Joint Registrar for marking of exhibits on 21st November, 2024. It is made clear that any party unjustifiably denying documents would be liable to be burdened with costs.

16. List before Court on 21st January, 2025.

I.A. 40659/2024 (under Order XXXIX Rules 1 and 2 read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908)

17. Issue notice to defendants, by all permissible modes, upon filing of process fee, returnable on the next date of hearing.

18. The counsel for plaintiff has presented the following facts and contentions:



18.1. The subject matter of the present suit pertains to the “ICC Women’s T20 World Cup 2024”, which is a Twenty20 (T20) international cricket tournament organised by the International Cricket Council (ICC) [**“Women’s T20 World Cup”**]. The Women’s T20 World Cup is scheduled to run from 03rd October, 2024 till 20th October, 2024. The matches will be held in the United Arab Emirates, and include a total of 23 T20 matches.

18.2. Plaintiff owns the media rights in respect of various sporting events relating to, inter alia, football, badminton, hockey, as well as domestic and international cricket matches organized by the ICC and Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Plaintiff also owns and operates several general entertainment channels and regional channels, including, but not limited to Star Plus, Start Sports 1, Start Sports HD. Plaintiff also owns and operates the online video streaming platform/ website ‘www.hotstar.com’ and the mobile application ‘Disney+ Hotstar’

18.3. Plaintiff entered into the Media Rights Agreement dated 27th August, 2022 [**“Agreement”**] with the ICC for exclusive digital media rights and television rights for India in relation to various ICC events, including the Women’s T20 World Cup, for a period of four years from 2024 to 2027. The existence of these rights in favour of the plaintiff, details whereof have been delineated at Paragraph no. 9 of the plaint, has been confirmed by the ICC vide letter dated 22nd May, 2024. A copy of the said letter has been placed on record by the plaintiff. Consequently, plaintiff enjoys broadcast reproduction rights which are contemplated and conferred in terms of Section 37 of the Copyright Act, 1957 [**“Copyright Act”**].

18.4. Defendant nos. 1 to 5 are various rogue websites, which are stated to be primarily hosting illegal and pirated content, engaging in making third-



party content and information available to the public. Defendant nos.6 to 10 are Domain Name Registrars (DNRs) of the domain names, where the said rogue websites are being hosted. Defendant nos. 11 to 19, are various Internet Service Providers (ISPs), and Telecom Service Providers (TSPs). Defendant Nos. 20 and 21 are, respectively, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

18.5. Based on past instances of illegal dissemination of major sporting events, the plaintiff strongly apprehends that once the Women's T20 World Cup commences, given their status as one of the most popular sporting events in the world, a large number of websites, including, but not limited to defendant nos. 1 to 5, are likely to indulge in unauthorised disseminations and communications of the cricket matches and parts thereof, on online platforms. Additionally, plaintiff believes that a large number of rogue websites, upon being blocked/ taken down, may also create further mirror websites to continue the illegal transmission/ communication/ broadcast of the Women's T20 World Cup.

18.6. In fact, on previous occasions, while an initial injunction has typically been granted in respect of the few websites identified in the plaint, a substantial number of rogue websites tend to be subsequently uncovered, which continue to unlawfully disseminate the sporting events. Accordingly, such rogue websites have been enjoined and taken down by virtue of the dynamic injunctions granted by this Court. To substantiate this averment, reliance is placed on the following illustrative chart:



Sr. No.	Suit and Event	No. of websites impleaded in the Suit	No. of additional affidavits filed pursuant to Court Order	No. of Rogue Websites identified subsequently discovered during the event
1.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. Vs. Magicwin.games & Ors. [CS(COMM) 290 of 2024]</i> <i>Order dated: 30.05.2024</i>		3	25
2.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. Vs. Stream2watch.pk & Ors. [CS(COMM) 455 of 2024]</i> <i>Order dated: 28.05.2024</i>	11	19	96
3.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. Vs. Jiolive.tv & Ors. [CS (Comm) 688 of 2023]</i> <i>Order dated: 27.09.2023</i>	9	8 (54 list)	392
4.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. v. Yl.mylivecricket.biz & Ors [CS (Comm) 151 of 2021]</i> <i>Order dated: 26.03.2021</i> <i>Event: IPL 2021</i>	16	14	165
5.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. V. filmyclub.wapkiz.com</i>	7	6	122



	<i>& Ors. [CS(Comm.) 518 of 2021] Order dated 12.10.2021 Event: ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021</i>			
6.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. Vs. live.flixfhub.net & Ors. [CS (Comm) 157 of 2022] Order dated: 11.03.2022 Event: IPL 2022</i>	8	11	120
7.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. tl.mylivecricket.club. [CS (Comm) 699 of 2022] Order dated: 11.10.2022 Event: ICC Men's T20 World Cup, 2022</i>	8	15	120
8.	<i>Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. v. mhdtv.world & Ors. [CS (Comm) 567 of 2022] Order Dated: 22.08.2022 Event: Asia Cup 2022</i>	11	12	127
9.	<i>Star India Private Limited & Anr. Vs. Live4wap.click & Ors. [CS(COMM) 11 of 2023] Order dated: 11.01.2023 Event: BCCI Events</i>	11	11	87



10.	<i>Star India Private Limited & Anr. Vs. Crichd SC & Ors. [CS(COMM) 518 of 2023]</i> <i>Order dated: 02.08.2023</i> <i>Event: Asia Cup 2023</i>	22	10	158
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18.7. Thus, there is an urgent need to restrain such rogue websites on a real time basis, without requiring parties to first approach the Court by filing affidavits in respect of each such website which starts unauthorizedly disseminating/ telecasting matches. Such a lag would result in the rogue websites being successful in their illegal activities and the plaintiff's rights would be infringed before it is possible for any action to be taken. Accordingly, drawing from the approach taken by this Court in *Universal City Studios LLC and Ors. v. Dotmovies.baby and Ors.*¹, plaintiff seeks a 'dynamic +' injunction to ensure protection of the plaintiff's rights over works mentioned in the plaint, as well as any other protected content generated during the pendency of the suit proceedings. In this regard, reliance is also placed on the 'European Commission Recommendation dated 4th May, 2023 on Combating Online Piracy of Sports and Other Live Events', which also highlights the need for urgent action to block illegal dissemination of copyrighted content.

18.8. In such circumstances, in order to protect their exclusive broadcast rights, plaintiff seeks an injunction restraining illegal and unauthorised dissemination and broadcast of matches and/or parts thereof, the Women's

¹ *DHC Neutral Citation No. – 2023: DHC:5842*



T20 World Cup. The plaintiff prays for a specifically designed injunction that not only targets the websites currently engaging in infringing activities, which have been identified as defendant nos. 1 to 5 in the instant suit, but also anticipates and includes any new websites that may emerge during the Women's T20 World Cup. The reason for seeking such an injunction is to ensure that rogue websites are promptly blocked and removed, thereby preventing them from transmitting or communicating unauthorized signals of the cricket matches.

19. Attention of this Court has been drawn to list of cases, wherein, similar issue was involved and orders have been passed in favour of the plaintiff. The said table is reproduced hereunder:

S. No.	Case Title	Judge's Name	Event/Content
1.	Order dated 30.05.2024 in Star India Private Limited V. Magicwin.Games & Ors., CS(COMM)490/2024	Justice Sanjeev Narula	T-20 World Cup Men
2.	Order dated 28.05.2024 in Star India Private Limited & Anr. V. Stream2watch.Pk & Ors., CS(COMM)455/2024	Justice Sanjeev Narula	ICC Men's T-20 World Cup 2024
3.	Order dated 23.02.2024 in Star India Private Limited & Anr. V. Teriimeridooriyan.Com & Ors., CS(COMM)163/2024	Justice Anish Dayal	GEC Content
4.	Order dated 22.03.2024 passed in Viacom18 Media Private Limited v. john doe & Ors., CS (COMM) 254/2024	Justice Sanjeev Narula	IPL 2024



5.	Order dated 01.03.2024 passed in Viacom18 Media Private Limited v. https://mhdtvsports.nl & Ors., CS (COMM) 187/2024	Justice Anish Dayal	Women's Premier League
6.	Order dated 05.12.2023 passed in Star India Private Limited & Anr. v. livecric.pk & Ors., CS(COMM) 864/2023	Justice C. Hari Shankar	India-South Africa cricket (CSA) matches
7.	Order dated 12.10.2023 passed in Viacom18 Media Private Limited v. biggbos.live & Ors., CS (COMM) 730/2023	Justice Prathiba M. Singh	Bigg Boss
8.	Order dated 27.09.2023 passed in Star India Private Limited & Anr. vs. Jiolive.tv & Ors. CS(COMM) 688/ 2023	Justice Pratibha M. Singh	ICC Men's Cricket world Cup 2023
9.	Order dated 21.09.2023 passed in Viacom18 Media Private Limited v. live.smartcric.com & Ors., CS (COMM) 659/2023	Justice C. Hari Shankar	Cricket Tournaments which were to take place Australia Tour of India 2023, Afghanistan Tour of India-2024, England Tour of India-2024 and like so. (BCCI Events)
10.	Order dated 02.08.2023 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd v. crichd & Ors., CS(COMM) 518/2023	Justice Pratibha M. Singh	Asia Cup Cricket Match 2023
11.	Order dated 11.04.2023 passed in Universal City Studios LLC & Ors. v. FZMOVIES.NET & Ors. CS(COMM) 202/2023	Justice Amit Bansal	GEC Content
12.	Order dated 16.02.2023 and 24.02.2023 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd v. moviesverse.ac & Ors., CS(COMM) 87/2023	Justice C. Hari Shankar	Movie 'Selfie'



13.	Order dated 11.01.2023 passed in Star India Pvt Ltd & Anr. V.Live4wap.click And Ors CS (COMM) 11/2023	Justice C. Hari Shankar	Cricket Tournaments which were to take place between Sri Lanka and India, New Zealand and India and Australia and India
14.	Order dated 04.11.2022 in Star India Pvt. Ltd.& Anr. v. Pikashow app & Ors.,CS(COMM) 759/2022	Justice Prathiba M. Singh	Pikashow Application
15.	Order dated 11.10.2022 in Star India Pvt. Ltd.& Anr. v. Serialghar.me & Ors., CS(COMM) 700/2022	Justice Navin Chawla	GEC Content
16.	Order dated 11.10.2022 in Star India Pvt. Ltd.& Anr. v. t1.mylivecricket.club & Ors., CS(COMM) 699/2022	Justice Navin Chawla	ICC Mens T-20 World Cup 2022
17.	Order dated 19.09.2022 passed in Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited v. Ibomma.Bar & Ors., (CS(COMM) 650/2022)	Justice Jyoti Singh	GEC Content
18.	Order dated 02.09.2022 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. v. 7movierulz.tc & Ors., CS(COMM) 604/2022	Justice Jyoti Singh	Movie - Brahmastra
19.	Order dated 22.08.2022 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. v. mhdtv.world & Ors., CS(COMM) 567/2022	Justice Prathiba M. Singh	Asia Cup 2022
20.	Order dated 06.04.2022 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd.& Anr. v. Ashar Nisar & Ors., CS(COMM) 214/2022	Justice Jyoti Singh	Tata India Premier League 2022 and Rogue Apps
21.	Order dated 11.03.2022 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs. live.flixhub.net CS (COMM) 157/2022	Justice Prathiba M. Singh	IPL 2022



22.	Order dated 24.11.2021 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. extramovies.click & Ors. CS (COMM) 588/ 2021	Justice Yogesh Khanna	Movie – Tadap
23.	Order dated 12.10.2021 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd & Anr V. Filmyclub.wapkiz.com and ors. CS(COMM) 518/2021	Justice Sanjeev Narula	ICC Men's T-20 World Cup 2021
24.	Order dated 09.08.2021 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs. moviesghar.art & Ors. CS (COMM) 364/2021	Justice Jayant Nath	Movie – Bhuj: The Pride of India
25.	Order dated 09.08.2021 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs.yodesiserial.su & Ors. CS (COMM) 353/ 2021	Justice C. Hari Shankar	GEC Content
26.	Order dated 16.04.2021 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. v. Sajid Hussain & Ors., CS(COMM) 181/2021	Justice Manoj Kimar Ohri	Thop Tv Application
27.	Orders dated 26.03.2021 and passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs.Y1.Mylivecricket.biz & Ors. CS (COMM) 151/2021	Justice C. Hari Shankar	Vivo IPL 2021
28.	Order dated 24.03.2021 passed in Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. vs. W1.123movies11.com & Ors. C.S. (COMM) 136/2021	Justice C. Hari Shankar	Movie – The Big Bull
29.	Order dated 18.02.2021 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs. Sportstody.com & Ors. CS (COMM) 84/2021	Justice Jayant Nath	England tour of India 2021
30.	Order dated 23.09.2020 Star India Private Limited & Anr. Vs Jackstreams.com & Anr. CS(COMM) 394/2020	Justice Mukta Gupta	IPL 2020
31.	Order dated 03.11.2020 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs. Afilmywap.top & Ors. CS (COMM) 485/2020	Justice Rajiv Shakhder	Movie - Laxmii



32.	Order dated 13.07.2020 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs. Oxibuzz.com & Ors CS (COMM) No. 250/ 2020)	Justice Rajiv Shakhder	Movie – Dil Bechara
33.	Order dated 27.02.2020 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. watchonlinemovieshd.online & Ors CS (COMM) 95/2020	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	Movie – Baaghi 3
34.	Order dated 05.02.2020 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. airhdx.com & Ors CS (COMM) 54/2020	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	India Tour of New Zealand, 2020 series matches
35.	Order dated 20.12.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. moviesjoy.in & Ors CS (COMM) 712/ 2019	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	Movie - Chhapaak
36.	Order dated 16.10.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. Free.newhdmovi.com & Ors CS (COMM) 576 of 2019	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	Movie – Housefull 4
37.	Order dated 17.09.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr vs. Aapkeajaanese.net & Ors. CS (COMM) 510/2019	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	GEC Content
38.	Order dated 13.09.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr vs. cricone.net & Ors. CS (COMM) 500/2019	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	South Africa Tour of India 2019
39.	Order dated 29.08.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. Moviemad.biz & Ors. CS (COMM) 471 of 2019	Justice V. Kameswar Rao	Movie – Chhichhore
40.	Order dated 05.08.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. Moviestrunk.com & Ors. CS (COMM) 408 /2019	Justice Prathiba M. Singh	Movie – Mission Mangal
41.	Order dated 27.05.2019 Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs. indianpremierleague2015.com & Ors. CS (COMM) 281/2019	Justice Prathiba M. Singh	ICC Cricket World Cup 2019



42.	Order dated 15.04.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. Extramovies.host & Ors. CS (COMM) 195/2019	Justice Manmohan	Movie Kalank	-
43.	Order dated 18.03.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. myllavacricknet.com & Ors. CS (COMM) 139/2019	Justice Manmohan	Indian Premier League 2019	
44.	Order dated 01.02.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. Kinozal.Tv & Ors. CS (COMM) 54/2019	Justice Manmohan	Movie - Alita Battle Angel	
45.	Order dated 24.01.2019 passed in Star India Pvt. Ltd. vs. mkvcage.ws & Ors. CS (COMM) 38/2019	Justice Manmohan	Movie - Ek Ladki Ko Dekha Toh Aisa Laga	
46.	Order dated 12.10.2018 passed in Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs.Cricfree.stream & Ors. CS (COMM) 1176/2018	Justice Manmohan	West Indies Tour 2018 (T20 matches)	
47.	Order dated 16.05.2018 in, Fox Star Studios India Pvt. Ltd. v. Sumit Singh & Ors. CS (COMM) 885/2018	Justice Manmohan	Movie Deadpool 2	-
48.	Order dated 25.04.2018 passed in Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs.Muhammad Nadeem Crichd.info & Ors. CS (COMM) 818/2018	Justice Manmohan	Indian Premier League, 2018	
49.	Order dated 21.08.2017 in, Fox Star Studios India Pvt. Ltd. V. Hossam Mohammed Atta Ebrahim & Ors. CS(COMM) 541/2017	Justice Manmohan	Movie- Gentleman-Sundar, Sushil, Risky	A
50.	Order dated 30.05.2017 passed in Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. vs.Muhammad Ammad & Ors. CS (COMM) 409/2017	Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw	ICC Champions Trophy	
51.	Order dated 23.05.2017 in, Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd. &Anr. v. Muhammed Awais Rafiq &Ors. CS(COMM) 376/2017	Justice Manmohan	GEC Content	



52.	Orders dated 09.09.2016 and 19.09.2016 in, Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt Ltd & Anr. V. Five Desi & Ors. CS(COMM) 1249/2016	Justice Hima Kohli	GEC Content
53.	Orders dated 04.02.2015 and 29.07.2016 in, Department of Electronics and Information Technology v. Star India Pvt. Ltd. FAO(OS) 57/2015	Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva and Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed	Indo- Australia 2014-15 Cricket Series
54.	Order dated 10.04.2019 in UTV Software Communications Ltd. & Ors. v. 1337X.To & Ors. CS(COMM) 724/2017	Justice Manmohan	GEC Content

20. Learned counsel for the plaintiff relies upon the order dated 28th May, 2024 passed by a coordinate bench of this Court in *CS(COMM) 455/2024*, and in particular, to Paragraph 22 of the said order, wherein, various directions have been issued.

21. Similarly, learned counsel for the plaintiff also relies upon the order dated 27th September, 2023 passed in *CS(COMM) 688/2023* and prays that similar directions be passed in favour of plaintiff in the present case also.

22. Having considered the submissions and prayers outlined in the application, the Court recognizes the widespread appeal and significance of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024, particularly, given the popularity of cricket in India. These events are broadcasted through the Plaintiff's OTT platform 'Disney + Hotstar', which is accessible across a variety of digital devices including computers, smartphones, tablets, and other electronic gadgets. The plaintiff has secured the digital and television broadcasting rights for various ICC events, including, the Women's T20 World Cup, as specified in the Agreement, through substantial financial investment.



Unauthorized dissemination, telecasting, or broadcasting of these ICC events on various websites and digital platforms, pose a significant threat to the plaintiff's revenue streams. Such illicit activities undermine the value of the considerable investment made by the plaintiff in acquiring these rights. Additionally, the broadcast content, including footage, commentary, and other composite elements, is fully safeguarded under the Copyright Act. Thus, the unauthorized use of these elements not only affects the financial returns, but also infringes upon the copyright protections accorded to the broadcast content. It is, thus, imperative to recognize the legal rights associated with the creation and dissemination of this content, emphasizing the need for stringent measures to prevent unauthorized broadcasts and safeguard the plaintiff's interests.

23. The issue of rogue websites engaging in the piracy of copyrighted content presents a recurring threat, especially, with the imminent Women's T20 World Cup. These sites have demonstrated a propensity to illegally broadcast copyrighted works, underscoring the urgency to pre-emptively block their access to such content. Consequently, there's a critical need for judicial intervention to prohibit these rogue websites from disseminating or communicating any portions of the cricket matches/ Women's T20 World Cup, without proper authorization or licensing from the plaintiff.

24. The dynamic and ever-evolving nature of the digital landscape necessitates that court orders are not static, but evolve in tandem with the technological advancements and challenges posed by the virtual domain. The legal remedies must remain robust and effective in curtailing copyright infringement, particularly, in the fast-paced environment of the internet. Courts must, therefore, be proactive in updating, adapting, and modifying



their directions to address these challenges effectively. In the absence of such adaptive legal measures, the rights of intellectual property holders stand at risk of being undermined, rendering their intellectual property rights ineffectual. It is, thus, essential for the legal framework to remain vigilant and responsive to the challenges presented by digital piracy, ensuring that the protections afforded to copyright and intellectual property are not only theoretical, but also enforceable and practical in safeguarding the rights and interests of the rightful owners. In *Universal City Studios (supra)*, this Court has elucidated on this issue, relevant portion whereof, is extracted as under:

“17. Any injunction granted by a Court of law ought to be effective in nature. The injunction ought to also not merely extend to content which is past content created prior to the filing of the suit but also to content which may be generated on a day-to-day basis by the Plaintiffs. In a usual case for copyright infringement, the Court firstly identifies the work, determines the Copyright of the Plaintiff in the said work, and thereafter grants an injunction. However, owing to the nature of the illegalities that rogue websites indulge in, there is a need to pass injunctions which are also dynamic qua the Plaintiffs as well, as it is seen that upon any film or series being released, they may be immediately uploaded on the rogue websites, causing severe and instant monetary loss. Copyright in future works comes into existence immediately upon the work being created, and Plaintiffs may not be able to approach the Court for each and every film or series that is produced in the future, to secure an injunction against piracy.

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19. As innovation in technology continues, remedies to be granted also ought to be calibrated by Courts. This is not to say that in every case, an injunction qua future works can be granted. Such grant of an injunction would depend on the fact situation that arises and is placed before the Court.

20. In the facts and circumstances as set out above, an ex parte ad interim injunction is granted restraining the Defendants, who are all rogue websites, from in any manner streaming, reproducing, distributing, making available to the public and/or communicating to the public any copyrighted content of the Plaintiffs including future works of the Plaintiffs, in which ownership of copyright is undisputed,



through their websites identified in the suit or any mirror/redirect websites or alphanumeric variations thereof including those websites which are associated with the Defendants' websites either based on the name, branding, identity or even source of content. **To keep pace with the dynamic nature of the infringement that is undertaken by hydra-headed websites, this Court has deemed it appropriate to issue this 'Dynamic+ injunction' to protect copyrighted works as soon as they are created, to ensure that no irreparable loss is caused to the authors and owners of copyrighted works, as there is an imminent possibility of works being uploaded on rogue websites or their newer versions immediately upon the films/shows/series etc.** The Plaintiffs are permitted to implead any mirror/redirect/alphanumeric variations of the websites identified in the suit as Defendants Nos.1 to 16 including those websites which are associated with the Defendants Nos.1 to 16, either based on the name, branding, identity or even source of content, by filing an application for impleadment under Order I Rule 10 CPC in the event such websites merely provide new means of accessing the same primary infringing websites that have been enjoined. The Plaintiffs are at liberty to also file an appropriate application seeking protection qua their copyrighted works, including future works, if the need so arises. Upon filing such applications before the Registrar along with an affidavit with sufficient supporting evidence seeking extension of the injunction to such websites, to protect the content of the Plaintiffs, including future works, the injunction shall become operational against the said websites and qua such works. If there is any work in respect of which there is any dispute as to ownership of copyright, an application may be moved by the affected party before the Court, to seek clarification.”

(Emphasis Supplied)

25. In view of the above, given the fact that the plaintiff's digital rights, as acquired from the ICC are not in question, the Court is of the view that the plaintiff has made out a *prima facie* case for grant of an interim injunction. If an injunction is not granted at this stage, irreparable harm would be caused to the plaintiff. Balance of convenience also lies in the favour of the plaintiff. The need for immediate relief is particularly pressing in this case, considering the T20 format of Women's T20 World Cup matches, which are characterized by their brief duration. The short duration of these matches means that any delay in blocking access to rogue websites,



could lead to significant financial losses for the plaintiff, and an irreparable breach of their broadcast reproduction rights. Therefore, swift action to prevent such infringements is crucial to preserving the plaintiff's investment in the broadcasting rights and maintaining their copyright protections.

26. Accordingly, till the next date of hearing, the following directions are issued:

26.1 Defendants nos. 1 to 5, and/or any person acting on their behalf, are restrained from communicating, hosting, streaming, screening, disseminating or making available for viewing/ downloading, without authorization, any part of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 on any electronic or digital platform, in any manner whatsoever.

26.2 Defendant nos. 6 to 10, i.e., the Domain Name Registrars, are directed to lock and suspend the domain names of defendants no. 1 to 5 within 72 hours of being communicated a copy of this order by the plaintiff. Further, they shall file an affidavit in a sealed cover disclosing the complete details of defendant nos. 1 to 5, as available with them, including e-mail addresses, mobile numbers, contact details and KYC details, within a period of two weeks from date of communication of this order.

26.3 Defendant nos. 11 to 19, i.e. ISPs/ TSPs, are also directed to block the websites of defendants Nos. 1 to 5, immediately upon receiving copies of this order from the plaintiff. Defendants Nos. 20 and 21 are directed to issue necessary directions to all ISPs and TSPs for blocking/ removing access to these websites.

26.4 During the currency of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024, if any further websites are discovered, which are illegally streaming and communicating content over which the plaintiff has rights, the plaintiff is



granted liberty to communicate the details of such websites to the defendant nos. 20 (DoT) and 21 (MeitY), for issuance of blocking orders, and simultaneously to the ISPs for blocking the said websites, so as to ensure that these websites can be blocked on a real time basis and there is no considerable delay. Upon receiving the said intimation from the plaintiff, the ISPs shall take steps to immediately block the rogue websites in question. Likewise, the DoT and MeitY shall also issue necessary blocking orders immediately upon the Plaintiff communicating the details of the websites, which are illegally streaming the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024.

26.5 After communicating details of the rogue websites to the concerned authorities, plaintiff shall continue to file affidavits with the Court in order to ensure that the Court is fully informed of the websites in respect of which blocking orders are sought.

26.6 If any website, which is not primarily an infringing website, is blocked pursuant to the present order, they shall be permitted to approach the Court by giving an undertaking that it does not intend to engage in any unauthorised or illegal dissemination of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2024 or any other content over which the plaintiff has rights. In such a situation the Court would consider modifying the injunction as the facts and circumstances, so warrant.

27. In the unique facts of this case, plaintiff is permitted to ensure compliance of Order XXXIX Rule 3 of Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 through email, within a period of one week, from today.

28. Reply be filed within four weeks from the date of service. Rejoinder(s) thereto, if any, be filed within a period of two weeks, thereafter.



29. List on 21st January, 2025.
30. Order *Dasti* under Signature of Court Master.

MINI PUSHKARNA, J

SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

au

Websites

<https://socccerhd.cc>

<https://wsfm.live>

<https://daddylivehd1.top>



CODE: 50000.01

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI
(ORDINARY ORIGINAL COMMERCIAL JURISDICTION)
CS (COMM) NO. OF 2024

IN THE MATTER OF:

Star India Private Limited

...Plaintiff

Versus

crichd.pk & Ors.

...Defendants

1. Star India Private Limited

Star House, Urmi Estate,
95, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg,
Lower Parel (W),
Mumbai- 400013

Also, at:

Vatika Business Centre, Thapar House,
Gate No. 1, Eastern & Central Wing
3rd Floor, 124 Janpath
New Delhi -110001
Email: Hitender.adlakha@disney.com
Mobile No. +91 9315762402

...Plaintiff

Versus

1. crichd.pk

Email: support@crichd.pk

2. nowmesports.com

Email: abuse@enom.com



3. bdsoccer.com
Email: proxy@whoisprotectservice.com

4. footyroom.top
Email: abuse@namesilo.com

5. vipleague.pm
Email: support@sarek.fi

6. PKNIC
435 Tariq Block
Garden Tower, Lahore, Pakistan
Email: staff@pknic.net.pk

7. eNom, LLC
WA, Suite 201, Lake Washington Boulevard NE 5808
98033 Kirkland
United Staes of America
Email: abuse@enom.com, compliance@tu cows.com

8. GMO Internet Group, Inc. d/b/a Onamae.com
Cerulean Tower,
Shibuya, Tokyo, Japan
Email: abuse@gmo.jp

9. NameSilo, LLC
1300 E. Missouri Avenue Suite A-110
Email: internal_domains@namesilo.com



10. Sarek Oy
Urho Kekkonen Katu 4-6 E, 00100 Helsinki, Finland
Email: terve@sarek.fi
11. Atria Convergence Technologies Private Limited
99A/113A, Manorayana Palya
R.T. Nagar Bangalore – 560032

Also, at:
2nd and 3rd Floor, No. 1,
Indian Express Building, Queen’s Road,
Bangalore – 560001, Karnataka
Email: nodal.term@actcorp.in; nodalofficer.ncr@actcorp.in,
jitesh.chathambil@actcorp.in
12. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd
Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Regulation Cell
5th floor, Harish Chandra Mathur Lane
Janpath, New Delhi -110001
E-mail: ddg_reg@bsnl.co.in; sbkhare@bsnl.co.in;
averma@bsnl.co.in; sushmamishra71@gmail.com
13. Bharti Airtel Ltd.
Airtel Centre, Tower-A, 6th Floor
‘A’ Wing, Plot No.16, Udyog Vihar
Ph - IV, Gurgaon – 122016
E-mail: amit.bhatia@airtel.com
14. Hathway Cable & Datacom Pvt. Ltd.
‘Rahejas’, 4 floor, Main Avenue
Santacruz (W), Mumbai-40054
E-mail: ajay.singh@hathway.net; dulal@hathway.net;



sudhir.shetye@hathway.net

15. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.
5th Floor, Mahanagar Doorsanchar Sadan
9, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi – 110003
E-mail: raco.mtnl@gmail.com; mtnlcsco@gmail.com;
gmracomtnl@gmail.com

16. Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited
RCP 14 (TC 23), Phase 4,
B-Block, 3rd Floor,
C 4 130 Twane- belapur Road,
Gansoli, Navi Mumbai- 400701
E-mail: care@jio.com; Hitesh.marthak@relianceada.com;
Kapoor.guliani@ril.com; mahipal.singh@ril.com;
sunil.kr.gupta@ril.com; shilpi.kant@ril.com;
jyoti.jain@ril.com; rudraksha.sinha@ril.com;
neelakantan.an@ril.com

17. Shyam Spectra Pvt. Ltd.
Plot No. 258,
Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase III,
New Delhi – 110020

Also, at:
Plot No. 21-22, 3rd Floor,
Udyog Vihar, Phase IV,
Gurugram -122015
E-mail: info@spectra.co; compliance@spectra.co

18. Tata Teleservices Ltd.
10th Floor, Tower- I,



Jeevan Bharati, 124 Connaught Circus,
New Delhi- 110001
E-mail: pravin.jogani@tatatel.co.in;
anand.dalal@tatatel.co.in;
satya.yadav@tatatel.co.in;
rishabh.aditya@tatatel.co.in

19. Vodafone Idea Limited

Vodafone House,
Peninsula Corporate Park,
Ganpatrao Kadam Marg,
Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013 India

Also, at:

Birla Centurion,
10th Floor, Plot no.794,
B Wing, Pandurang Budhkar Marg,
Worli, Mumbai - 400 030 India
E-mail: smitha.menon@vodafoneidea.com;
pankaj.kapdeo@vodafoneidea.com
Radhika.gokhale@vodafoneidea.com
sheena.thukral@vodafoneidea.com;
lavati.sairam@vodafoneidea.com

20. Department of Telecommunications

Through Secretary,
Ministry of Communications and IT,
20, Sanchar Bhawan, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi – 110001
E-mail: secy-dot@nic.in, dirds2-dot@nic.in



21. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 Through the Director General (DIT) Cyber Laws & e-
 security),
 Electronics Niketan, 6, CGO Complex,
 Lodi Road, New Delhi – 110003
 E-mail: cyberlaw-legal@meity.gov.in;
 gccyberlaw@meity.gov.in;
 pkumar@meity.gov.in, sathya.s@meity.gov.in

22. Ashok Kumar(s) ...Defendants

Yatinder Garg | Sanidhya Maheshwari | Priyansh Kohli
 (D/1330/2015) | (D/5451/2020) | (D/2514/2022)
 Saikrishna and Associates
 Advocates for the Plaintiff

Place: New Delhi
 Date: 25th September 2024

57 Jor Bagh,
 New Delhi - 110003
 +91 9999064036

yatinder@saikrishnaassociates.com

NOTE: Defendant No.1 along with Defendant Nos. 2 to 5 are the
 main contesting parties.

Annexure

Subject: Action requested to be taken by MEITY and Plaintiff for effective removal of content for viewing by public at large within India as per the said orders of Hon'ble Court.

It is observed that a number of orders of Hon'ble Court are issued for blocking of websites every month. There are around more than 2700 ISPs in India and these ISPs are connected among themselves in a mesh network. DOT is instructing each of the ISPs through emails/through its website for blocking of the websites as ordered by the Hon'ble Courts. Ensuring compliance of the orders by each of the ISPs is a time-consuming and complex task especially in view of multiplicity of orders of Hon'ble Courts, multiplicity of websites to be blocked and multiplicity of ISPs.

2. Allocation of Business Rules inter-alia states thus:-

'Policy matters relating to information technology; Electronics; and Internet (all matters other than licensing of Internet Service Provider).'

3. In view of above and in order to ensure effective removal by content for viewing by public at large, the plaintiff is requested to do a trace route of the web server hosting the said website. In case the web server happens to be in India, the plaintiff may inform the same to Meity who may direct the owner of such web server to stop transmission of content as per IT Act and as directed by the Hon'ble Court so that the content would be blocked from the source itself and the exercise of blocking by 2700 ISPs would not be required.

4. In case such server is located abroad i.e. outside India then access to such URL/website can be blocked through the international internet gateways which are much less in number. This would result in timely and effectively removal of undesirable content for viewing by public at large as is the requirement as per the orders of Hon'ble Court.