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

 $No.\ 813-07/LM-31/2019-DS-II$

Dated: 23.06.2023

To,

All Internet Service Licensees'

Subject: C.S.(COMM) No. 409 of 2019; Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. vs. https://skymovies.live &Ors., before Hon'ble Delhi High Court

Kindly refer to the following:

(i) Hon'ble Delhi High Court order dated 24.05.2023 on the subject impleading additional Defendants no. 22 to 26. (Annexure-I)

(ii) Para 1(iii) of Hon'ble Delhi High Court order dated 08.09.2022 regarding blocking

of websites identified by plaintiff. (Annexure-II)

(iii) Memo of Parties in CS (Comm) No. 409 of 2019. (Annexure-III)

(Copies enclosed for ready reference)

2. In view of the above all the Internet Service licensees are hereby instructed to take immediate necessary action for blocking access to websites of defendants no. **22-26**.

Director (DS-II) Tel: 011-2303 6860

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), for kind information and necessary action.
- ii. Mehr Sidhu (mehr@saikrishnaassociates.com), Lawyer/advocate for the plaintiff for kind information.
- iii. IT wing, DoT for uploading on DoT Website please.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

CS(COMM) 409/2019 WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC.

..... Plaintiff

Through:

Ms.Mehr Sidhu, Mr.Raghav

Goyal, Ms.Ramya Ram Kumar

(VC), Advocates

versus

HTTPS://SKYMOVIES.LIVE & ORS.

..... Defendant

Through: None

CORAM:

JOINT REGISTRAR (JUDICIAL) SH. PURSHOTAM PATHAK (DHJS)

ORDER 24.05.2023

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I.A No. 10265/2023 on behalf of the plaintiffs under Order I Rule 10 CPC, 1908 seeking impleadment of additional mirrors, redirects, or alphanumeric variations as defendants in the memo of parties as defendant no. 22-26.

Heard.

Vide this order, I shall dispose of the present application filed by plaintiff under Order 1 Rule 10 CPC for impleadment. The learned counsel for plaintiff has submitted that the Hon'ble Court was pleased to grant ex-parte ad-interim injunction in this suit against the defendants vide order dated 05.08.2019 and decree of permanent injunction vide order dated 08.09.2022 for infringement of copyrights with further directions that as and when plaintiff files an application under Order 1 Rule 10 for impleadment of such websites, plaintiff shall file an affidavit confirming that the newly impleaded websites are mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites, with sufficient supporting

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evidence and that the application shall be listed before Joint Registrar, who on being satisfied with the material placed on record, shall issue directions to the ISPs to disable access in India in such mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites.

It is stated that after passing of the abovesaid judgment, other websites, as disclosed in application, have also started violation and these are mirrors, redirects or alphanumeric variations of the website blocked pursuant to the order dated 05.08.2019 and 08.09.2022 which are also necessary party to this suit. It is further stated that details of proposed defendants has been disclosed in Schedule-A annexed with application and they are also liable to be impleaded as defendant no. 22 to 26. It is further argued that even decree of permanent injunction dated 08.09.2022 is also liable to be extended against them and application may be allowed.

I have heard the arguments and perused the record. The law to deal with such applications and extension of *ex-parte adinterim* injunction to newly added defendant has already been laid down in *UTV Software Communication Ltd. & Ors. vs.* 1337X.TO & Ors., wherein it has been observed vide paragraph 107 to the effect:-

"107. Keeping in view the aforesaid findings, a decree of permanent injunction is passed restraining the defendant-websites (as mentioned in the chart in paragraph no. 4(i) of owners, partners, their judgment) proprietors, officers, servants, employees, and all others in capacity of principal or agent acting for and on their behalf, or anyone claiming through, by or under it, from, in any reproducing, streaming, hosting, manner distributing, making available to the public and/or communicating to the public, or facilitating the same, on their websites, through

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the internet in any manner whatsoever, any cinematograph work/content/programme/show in relation to which plaintiffs have copyright. A decree is also passed directing the ISPs to block access to the said defendant-websites. DoT and MEITY are directed to issue a notification calling upon the various internet and telecom service providers registered under it to block access to the said defendant-The plaintiffs are permitted to websites. implead the mirror/redirect/ alphanumeric websites under Order I Rule 10 CPC in the event they merely provide new means of accessing the same primary infringing websites that have been injuncted. The plaintiffs are also held entitled to actual costs of litigation. The costs shall amongst others include the lawyer's fees as well as the amount spent on Court-fees. The plaintiffs are given liberty to file on record the exact cost incurred by them in adjudication of the present suits. Registry is directed to prepare decree sheets accordingly."

The plaintiff has filed affidavit of investigator along with sufficient material to prove that proposed defendants/websites are mirror/redirect/ alphanumeric websites of defendants which are also involved in violation of copyrights of plaintiff and have been permanently restrained to do so. In view of the submissions of Ld. Counsel for the applicant and the directions passed in para no. 28 of the said judgment, the websites mentioned in the prayer clause of the application especially Schedule-A are impleaded as defendant no. 22 to 26.

Since the newly added defendants are also stated to be involved in violation of copyrights of plaintiff, accordingly the decree of permanent injunction dated 08.09.2022 is also extended against newly added defendant no. 22 to 26. The DoT, ISP and MEITY are directed to do the needful in terms of the abovesaid

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decree of permanent injunction dated 08.09.2022.

Amended memo of parties is taken on record.

I.A. stands disposed of.

Registry is directed to do the needful.

Copy of order be given dasti.

Sol

PURSHOTAM PATHAK (DHJS) JOINT REGISTRAR (JUDICIAL)

MAY 24, 2023/sk

Click here to check corrigendum, if any





* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

Reserved on: <u>26.08.2022</u>

Date of decision: <u>08.09.2022</u>

+ <u>CS (COMM) 409/2019 & I.A 10607/2019, I.A. 10609/2019 & I.A. 11015/2022</u>

WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC Plaintiff

Through: Ms.Suhasini Raina, Ms.R.Ramya

and Ms.Mehr Sidhu, Advs.

Versus

HTTPS://SKYMOVIES.LIVE& ORS.

.... Defendants

Through: None.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAVIN CHAWLA

- 1. The Plaintiff has filed the present suit *inter-alia* praying for the following reliefs:
 - "50. In light of the foregoing, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to:
 - i. Issue an order and decree of permanent injunction restraining the Defendant No. 1 (and such other mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites discovered to provide additional means of accessing the Defendant Website, and other domains/domain owners/website operators/entities which are discovered to have been engaging in infringing the Plaintiff's rights), its owners, exclusive partners, proprietors, officers, servants, employees, and all others in capacity of principal or agent acting for and on their behalf, or anyone claiming through, by or under it, from, in any manner hosting, streaming, reproducing, distributing, making available to the public and/or communicating to the public, or facilitating the same, on their websites, through the internet in any manner whatsoever. cinematograph any work/content/programme/ show in relation to which Plaintiff has copyright,

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ii. Issue an order and decree directing the Defendant Nos. 2-10, their directors, partners, proprietors, officers, affiliates, employees, and all others in capacity of principal or agent acting for and on their behalf, or anyone claiming through, by or under it, to block access to the Defendant No. 1 website identified by the Plaintiff in the instant suit (and such other mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites discovered to provide additional means of accessing the Defendant Website, and other domains/domain owners/website operators/entities which discovered to have been engaging in infringing the Plaintiff's exclusive rights)

iii. Issue an order directing the Defendant Nos. 11 and 12, to issue a notification calling upon the various internet and telecom service providers registered under it to block access to the Defendant No. 1 websites identified by the Plaintiff in the instant suit (and such other mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites discovered to provide additional means of accessing the Defendant Website, and other domains/domain owners/website operators/entities which are discovered to have been engaging in infringing the Plaintiff's exclusive rights);

iv. Issue an order directing the Domain Name Registrars of the Defendant Website identified by the Plaintiff in the Plaint to disclose the contact details and other details about the owner of the said websites, and other such relief as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper;"

2. The Plaintiff claims itself to be a global entertainment company under the laws of the State of Delaware, the United States of America, and as being engaged in the business of creation, production, and distribution of motion pictures. The Plaintiff has also received certain reputed awards, such as the Academy Award for "Best Picture" for "Argo" in 2012.

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- 3. It is the contention of the Plaintiff that the motion pictures produced by the Plaintiff, being works of visual recording and which include sound recordings accompanying such visual recordings, qualify to be a 'cinematograph film' under Section 2(f) of the Copyright Act, 1957 (in short "the Act"). The Plaintiff claims this Court has jurisdiction by virtue of Section 13(1) read with Sections 13(2) and 5 of the Act, since the Plaintiff's cinematograph films are released in India, the cinematograph films of the Plaintiff would be entitled to all the rights and protections granted under the provisions of the Act.
- 4. The claim of the Plaintiff is premised on the allegation of illegal and unauthorized distribution, broadcasting, re-broadcasting, transmission and streaming of the Plaintiff's original content by the Defendant Nos. 1 and 14 to 18 (hereinafter referred to as the "rogue websites"). It is the case of the Plaintiff that as a result of the unauthorized transmission of their content, the rogue websites infringe the copyright of the Plaintiff in the original works produced by it, which have been granted protection under the provisions of the Act.
- 5. The Plaintiff has impleaded various Internet Service Providers (in short, "ISPs") as the Defendant Nos. 2-10 and the concerned departments of the Government of India as the Defendant Nos. 11 and 12. The ISPs and the concerned departments have been impleaded for the limited relief of compliance with any directions of this Court granted in favor of the Plaintiff.
- 6. The Plaintiff has alleged that the Defendant Nos.1 and 14 to 18 are the rogue websites. The Plaintiff, vide an investigation conducted by an independent investigator, learnt of the extent of the infringing activity of

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the rogue websites, in as much as the rogue websites have infringed the Plaintiff's copyright under the provisions of the Act in the original content by unauthorized distribution, broadcasting, re-broadcasting, transmission and streaming and/or by facilitating the use of the rogue websites, *inter alia* by downloading and streaming the Plaintiff's original cinematograph films in which copyright vests.

- 7. It is also the case of the Plaintiff that a cease-and-desist notice was served on the rogue websites calling upon them to cease from engaging in their infringing activities. Despite the legal notice, the rogue websites continue to infringe the rights of the Plaintiff in its original content.
- 8. The learned counsel for the Plaintiff presses only for prayers (i), (ii) and (iii), as noted hereinabove, of the plaint. The other reliefs as made in the plaint are not pressed.
- 9. The learned counsel for the Plaintiff relies upon the judgment passed by a Coordinate Bench of this Court in a batch of petitions dated 10.04.2019, including *UTV Software Communication Ltd. &Ors. v.* 1337X.to & Ors., 2019 SCC OnLine Del 8002, which deal with the determination of rogue websites.
- 10. The Plaintiff thereafter filed I.A. 11015 of 2022 under Order XIIIA read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (in short, 'CPC'), as applicable to commercial disputes, seeking a summary judgment. The said application was listed before this Court on 19.07.2022, wherein this Court recorded that the service and pleadings are complete in regard to all the Defendants and that the rogue websites have neither appeared nor have filed written statements in the present suit proceedings till date. Further, this Court directed the suit to proceed *ex*-

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parte qua Defendant Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13 and 14 to 18 (which includes the rogue websites).

- 11. The grounds for filing the present application, as enumerated by the Plaintiff in the same, are as follows:
 - a. That all the Defendants have been duly served by the Plaintiff, however, only the Defendant Nos. 2 to 7, 9, 11 and 12 have entered appearance before this Hon'ble Court.
 - b. That the Defendant Nos. 1 and 14 to 18 being the rogue websites, against whom the Plaintiff is seeking primary relief, are illegally streaming the Plaintiff's content on their websites and even after being duly served by the Plaintiff, have decided not to contest the present suit.
 - c. That Defendants have no real prospect of successfully defending the claim of copyright infringement under Section 51 of the Act and have further not chosen to contest the said claim.
 - d. Additionally, there is no other compelling reason as to why the present suit should not be disposed of before recording of oral evidence particularly in view of the fact that there is no dispute regarding the illegal activities of the Defendant Nos. 1 and 14 to 18 and in any event, in the absence of any challenge or opposition to the factual allegations made in the plaint, in view of provisions of Order VIII Rule 5 of the CPC, there is no occasion for recording of oral evidence in the present matter.
- 12. The learned counsel for the Plaintiff has relied upon Clause 3 of Chapter XA of the Delhi High Court (Original Side) Rules, 2018 which states the grounds under which a Court can pass a summary judgment.

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13. The learned counsel for the Plaintiff has drawn my attention to two affidavits filed by Mr. Manish Vaishampayan, who conducted the investigation with regard to the aforesaid websites on the instance of the Plaintiff, to contend that the said websites need to be treated as rogue websites. With respect to this contention, reliance is placed on the following documentary evidence in support of each of the aforesaid websites:

S.No.	Particulars	Court File Pagination along with Volume Number	
1.	Print of Contact Details of various websites as available on WHOIS (primary domains):		
	1)skymovies.live (Defendant No. 1)	Pg.302-304 Folder IV(Vol. 2)	
	2)skymovies.in (Defendant No.1)	Pg.312-315 Folder IV(Vol.2)	
	4)sky-movies.in (Defendant No. 14)	I.A. No.8549/2020 Pg. No. 46-49	
	5) skymovieshd.cam (Defendant No.15)	I.A.No.12511/2021 Pg. No. 47-49	
	6) skymovieshd.rip (Defendant No. 16)	I.A.No. 12511/2021 Pg. No. 56-58	
	7)skymovieshd.red (Defendant No. 17)	I.A No.12511/2021 Pg. No. 52-53	
	8)skymovieshd.ltd (Defendant No. 18)	I.A No. 12511/2021 Pg. No. 61-63	
2.	Copies of proof of ownership of movie titles		

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	a) Wonder Woman (Warner)	Pg.24-25 Folder IV (Vol.1)	
3.	Screenshots of Homepage of domains):	various websites (primary	
	1)skymovies.live (Defendant No. 1)	Pg.275-277 Folder IV(Vol. 2)	
	2)sky-movies.in (Defendant No. 14)	I.A. No. 8549/2020 Pg.36-39	
	3)skymovieshd.cam (Defendant No. 15)	I.A No. 12511/2021 Pg. No. 37-39	
4.	Printout of proof of infringement by websites (primary domains):		
	1)skymovies.live (Defendant No. 1)	Pg.287-301 Folder IV (Vol. 2)	
	2)skymovies.in (Defendant No. 2)	Pg.296-301 Folder IV (Vol. 2)	
	3)sky-movies.in (Defendant No.14)	I.A No. 8549/2020 Pg. 36-39	

- 14. I have heard the learned counsel for the Plaintiff.
- 15. In *UTV Software* (*supra*), a Coordinate Bench of this Court, as far as the rogue websites are concerned, identified the following illustrative factors to be considered in determining whether a particular website falls within that class:

"59. In the opinion of this Court, some of the factors to be considered for determining whether the website complained of is a FIOL/Rogue Website are:-

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- a. whether the primary purpose of the website is to commit or facilitate copyright infringement;
- b. the flagrancy of the infringement, or the flagrancy of the facilitation of the infringement;
- c. Whether the detail of the registrant is masked and no personal or traceable detail is available either of the Registrant or of the user.
- d. Whether there is silence or inaction by such website after receipt of take down notices pertaining to copyright infringement.
- e. Whether the online location makes available or contains directories, indexes or categories of the means to infringe, or facilitate an infringement of, copyright;
- f. Whether the owner or operator of the online location demonstrates a disregard for copyright generally;
- g. Whether access to the online location has been disabled by orders from any court of another country or territory on the ground of or related to copyright infringement;
- h. whether the website contains guides or instructions to circumvent measures, or any order of any court, that disables access to the website on the ground of or related to copyright infringement; and i. the volume of traffic at or frequency of access to the website;
- *j.* Any other relevant matter.
- 60. This Court clarifies that the aforementioned factors are illustrative and not exhaustive and do not apply to intermediaries as they are governed by IT Act, having statutory immunity and function in a wholly different manner.

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- 69. Consequently, the real test for examining whether a website is a Rogue Website is a qualitative approach and not a quantitative one."
- 16. This Court, in UTV Software (supra) further held as under:
- "29. It is important to realise that piracy reduces jobs, exports and overall competitiveness in addition to standards of living for a nation and its citizens. More directly, online piracy harms the artists and creators, both the struggling as well as

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the rich and famous, who create content, as well as the technicians-sound engineers, editors, set designers, software and game designers-who produce it and those who support its marketing, distribution and end sales. Consequently, online piracy has had a very real and tangible impact on the film industry and rights of the owners.

30. The Indian Copyright Act, 1957 ("the Copyright Act") confers a bundle of exclusive rights on the owner of a "work" and provides for remedies in case the copyright is infringed. xxxxx

34. The above definitions make it clear that making any work available for being seen or heard by the public whether simultaneously or at places chosen individually, regardless of whether the public actually sees the film, will constitute communication of the film to the public. The intent was to include digital copies of works, which would include within its scope digital copies of works being made available online (as opposed to the physical world). Communication can be by various means such as directly or by display or diffusion. this context, definition "broadcast" is also relevant which identifies communication to public by wireless diffusion or by wire. Thus, making available of a film for streaming or downloads in the form of digital copies on the internet is within the scope of "communication to the public".

35. It is pertinent to note that the definition of "communication to the public" was first added in the Copyright Act by the 1983 Amendment and was as follows:-

public" "Communication to the means communication to the public in whatever manner, including communication though satellite". xxxxx

53. Also should an infringer of the copyright on the Internet be treated differently from an infringer in the physical world? If the view of the aforesaid Internet exceptionalists school of thought is accepted, then all infringers would shift to the e-world and claim immunity!

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54. A world without law is a lawless world. In fact, this Court is of the view that there is no logical reason why a crime in the physical world is not a crime in the digital world especiallywhen the Copyright Act does not make any such distinction.

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80. In the opinion of this Court, while blocking is antithetical to efforts to preserve a "free and open" Internet, it does not mean that every website should be freely accessible. Even the most vocal supporters of Internet freedom recognize that it is legitimate to remove or limit access to some materials online, such as sites that facilitate child pornography and terrorism. Undoubtedly, there is a serious concern associated with blocking orders that it may prevent access to legitimate content. There is need for a balance in approach and policies to avoid unnecessary cost or impact on other interests and rights. Consequently, the onus is on the right holders to prove to the satisfaction of the Court that each website they want to block is primarily facilitating wide spread copyright infringement.

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- 82. One can easily see the appeal in passing a URL blocking order, which adequately addresses over-blocking. A URL specific order need not affect the remainder of the website. However, right-holders claim that approaching the Court or the ISPs again and again is cumbersome, particularly in the case of websites promoting rampant piracy.
- 83. This Court is of the view that to ask the plaintiffs to identify individual infringing URLs would not be proportionate or practicable as it would require the plaintiffs to expend considerable effort and cost in notifying long lists of URLs to ISPs on a daily basis. The position might have been different if defendants' websites had a substantial proportion of non-infringing content, but that is not the case.
- 84. This Court is of the view that while passing a website blocking injunction order, it would have to also consider whether disabling access to the

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online location is in the public interest and a proportionate response in the circumstances and the impact on any person or class of persons likely to be affected by the grant of injunction. The Court order must be effective, proportionate and dissuasive, but must not create barriers to legitimate trade. The measures must also be fair and not excessively costly (See: Loreal v. Ebay, [Case C 324/09]).

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86. Consequently, website blocking in the case of rogue websites, like the defendant-websites, strikes a balance between preserving the benefits of a free and open Internet and efforts to stop crimes such as digital piracy.

87. This Court is also of the opinion that it has the power to order ISPs and the DoT as well as MEITY to take measures to stop current infringements as well as if justified by the circumstances prevent future ones."

16. It is notable that the Plaintiff had filed similar application under Order XIIIA of the CPC (as applicable to commercial disputes) in similar suit, being Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. Vs. https://Otorrents.Com & Ors. (CS (COMM) 367 of 2019), Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. Vs. https://www2.Filmlinks4u & Ors. (CS (COMM). 368 of 2019), Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. Vs. http://Mp4moviez.Io & Ors. (CS (COMM) 399 of 2019) and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. vs. https://TAMILROCKERMOVIES.COM & Ors. (CS (COMM). 419 of 2019), wherein the Hon'ble Court relying on the UTV Software Communication Ltd. (supra) has decreed the suit in favor of the Plaintiff. 17. In the present case, vide order dated 05.08.2019, this Court had granted an ex-parte ad-interim injunction against the Defendant No. 1 (and such other domains/domain owners/website operators/entities which

CS (COMM) 409/2019 Page **11** of **15**



are discovered during the course of the proceedings to have been engaging in infringing the Plaintiff's exclusive rights), their owners, partners, proprietors, officers, servants, employees, and all others in capacity of principal or agent acting for and on their behalf, or anyone claiming through, by or under it, are restrained from, hosting, streaming, reproducing, distributing, making available to the public and/or communicating to the public, or facilitating the same, in any manner, on its website, through the internet any cinematograph work/content/programme/ show in relation to which Plaintiff has copyright.

18. Vide the same order, this Court had directed the Defendant Nos. 2 to 10 to block the domain name 'Skymovies.live' and 'Skymovies.in' and their URL's with the IP addresses mentioned in the table below-

Domain	URLs	IP Addresses
Skymovies.live	https://skymovies.live	104.31.74.102
		104.31.75.102
Skymovies.in	https://skymovies.in	104.27.132.99
	शिखरोज जायहै।	104.27.133.99

19. This Court further directed the Defendant Nos. 11 and 12 to suspend the above-mentioned domain name registrations of the Defendant No. 1 and issue requisite notifications calling upon various internet and telecom service providers registered under them to block the aforementioned website identified by the Plaintiff within five days.

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- 20. The learned counsel for the Plaintiff submits that pursuant to the *ex-parte ad-interim* order dated 05.08.2019, the Defendant no. 11 has issued a notification. The learned counsel for the Plaintiff further states that the Defendant Nos. 2 to 10 have blocked the rogue websites, that is, Defendant No. 1's websites.
- 21. Also, vide the same order, this Court observed as follows:
 - "21. Further, as held by this court in UTV Software Communication Ltd. (supra), in order for this court to be freed from constant monitoring adjudicating the issues mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites it is directed that as and when Plaintiff file an application under Order I Rule 10 for impleadment of such websites, Plaintiff shall file an affidavit confirming that the newly impleaded website is mirror/redirect/alphanumeric website sufficient supporting evidence. application shall be listed before the Joint Registrar, who on being satisfied with the material placed on record, shall issue directions to the ISPs to disable access in India to such mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites".
- 22. In light of the aforesaid direction, the Plaintiff filed application under Order I Rule 10 of CPC for the impleadment of the Defendant Nos.14 (I.A 8549 of 2020) and 15 to 18 (I.A. 12511 of 2021) in the present suit proceedings, which was allowed by this Court and the *exparte ad-interim* order dated 05.08.2019 was thereby extended to the Defendant Nos.14 and 15 to 18 vide orders dated 30.09.2020 and 29.09.2021, respectively.
- 23. Thereafter, on 09.05.2022, the learned Joint Registrar (Judicial), passed the following order in regard to the rogue websites, that is, the Defendant Nos. 14 to 18:-

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"...All of the contesting defendants against whom substantial relief has been sought by the plaintiff have been served, however they have not preferred to appear to contest this case or to file written statement and affidavit of admission/denial of documents. In this regard law shall take its own course.

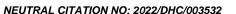
Learned counsel for plaintiffs submits that there is no document for admission/denial of documents. Hence, pleadings stand complete.

Other defendants who were supposed to comply with interim directions have already complied with

Let the matter be placed before the Hon'ble Court for further direction on 19.07.2022"

- 24. Since the Defendant Nos. 1, 14 to 18 are not appearing, despite notice, in my opinion, the suit can be heard and decided summarily. The Defendant Nos. 1, 14 to 18 have no real prospect of successfully defending the claim of copyright infringement and have further not chosen to contest the said claim. The present matter is mainly concerned with the enforcement of the injunction orders which are passed against the rogue websites who do not have any defense to the claim of copyright infringement but use the anonymity offered by the internet to engage in illegal activities, such as copyright infringement in the present case.
- 25. On the basis of the evidence placed on record and keeping in mind the factors identified by this Court in *UTV Software* (supra), I find that there is sufficient evidence to hold that the Defendant no. 1, 4-18 are "rouge websites" and that this is a fit case for passing a Summary Judgment invoking the provisions of Order XIIIA of the CPC, as applicable to the commercial disputes.

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- 26. In *UTV Software* (*supra*), the Court also examined the issue of grant of dynamic injunctions and permitted subsequent impleadment of mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites which provide access to the rogue websites, by filing an application under Order I Rule 10 of the CPC before the learned Joint Registrar (Judicial) alongwith an affidavit with supporting evidence, confirming that the proposed website is mirror/redirect/alphanumeric website of the injuncted Defendant websites. At the request of the counsel for the Plaintiff, the same directions are liable to be made in this case also.
- 27. Accordingly, I.A. 11015 of 2022 under Order XIIIA of the CPC, as applicable to commercial disputes, seeking a summary judgment is allowed. All the pending applications are also disposed of.
- 28. The suit is, therefore, decreed in terms of prayers (i), (ii) and (iii) of the Plaint. The Plaintiff is also permitted to implead any mirror/redirect/alphanumeric websites which provide access to the Defendants Nos. 1, 14 to 18 websites by filing an appropriate application under Order I Rule 10 of the CPC, supported by affidavits and evidence as directed in *UTV Software* (*supra*). Any website impleaded as a result of such application will be subject to the same decree.
- 29. Let a decree sheet be drawn up accordingly.

NAVIN CHAWLA, J.

SEPTEMBER 8, 2022/ai

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORDINARY ORIGINAL COMMERCIAL JURISDICTION)

I.A. NO. _____ OF 2023

IN

CS(COMM) NOS. 409 OF 2019

IN THE MATTER OF

Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

...Plaintiff

Versus

HTTPS://SKYMOVIES.LIVE & Ors.

..Defendants

AMENDED MEMO OF PARTIES

Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

4000 Warner Boulevard, Burbank,

California 91522, United States of America ... Plaintiff

Versus

1) https://skymovies.live

http://skymovies.in

Email: abuse@name.com

2) Atria Convergence Technologies Pvt. Ltd.

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

nodal.term@actcorp.in;

Jitesh.chathambil@actcorp.in

- 3) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
 Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Regulation Cell
 5th floor, Harish Chandra Mathur Lane
 Janpath, New Delhi -110001
 ddg_reg@bsnl.co.in; sbkhare@bsnl.co.in
 averma@bsnl.co.in
- 4) Bharti Airtel Ltd.

 Airtel Centre, Tower-A, 6th floor

 'A'Wing, Plot No.16, Udyog Vihar

 Ph IV, Gurgaon 122016

 ravi.gandhi@airtel.in;121@in.airtel.com; compliance.officer@bharti.in;

 jyoti.pawar@in.airtel.com; Ravi.gandhi@airtel.com
- 5) Hathway Cable & Datacom Pvt. Ltd.

 'Rahejas',4 floor, Main Avenue
 Santacruz (W), Mumbai-400054

 ajay.singh@hathway.net; dulal@hathway.net; Su
 dhir.shetye@hathway.net
- 6) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd.
 5th Floor, Mahanagar Doorsanchar Sadan
 9, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
 New Delhi 110003
 raco.mtnl@gmail.com; mtnlcsco@gmail.com
 gmracomtnl@gmail.com
- 7) Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited
 RCP 14 (TC 23), Phase 4,
 B-Block , 3rd Floor,
 C 4 130 Twane- belapur Road,
 Gansoli,
 Navi Mumbai- 400701
 Hitesh.marthak@relianceada.com;
 Kapoor.guliani@ril.com

8) 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

info@spectra.co; compliance@spectra.co

9) Tata Teleservices Ltd.

A, E & F Blocks

Voltas Premises - T. B. Kadam Marg

Chinchpokli, Mumbai – 400033

pravin.jogani@tatatel.co.in;

anand.dalal@tatatel.co.in;

satya.yadav@tatatel.co.in

Vodafone India 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
smitha.menon@vodafoneidea.com,
saptansu.mitra@vodafoneidea.com
sanjeet.sarkar@vodafoneidea.com
lavati.sairam@vodafoneidea.com

11) Department of Telecommunications
Through Secretary,
Ministry of Communications and IT,
20, Sanchar Bhawan, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi – 110001
secy-dot@nic.in, dirds2-dot@nic.in,

12) 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
gccyberlaw@meity.gov.in;
cyberlaw@meity.gov.in

- 13) Ashok Kumars
- sky-movies.in

	Email: abuse@name.com
15)	Skymovieshd.cam
16)	Email:skymoviesHD.in@gmail.com <u>abuse@namecheap.com</u> Skymovies.rip
17)	Email:abuse@namecheap.com Skymovies.red
18)	Email:abuse@namecheap.com Skymovieshd.ltd
19)	Email:abuse@namecheap.com skymovieshd.rent
20)	Email:abuse@namecheap.com skymovieshd.makeup
	Email:abuse@namecheap.com
21)	skymovieshd.bond
22)	Email:abuse@namecheap.com skymoviehd.net
23)	Email:skymoviehd.net@whoisprotectservice.net skymovieshd.lat
24)	Email:abuse@namecheap.com skymovieshd.bio
25)	Email: <u>abuse@namecheap.com</u> skymovieshd.cafe
26)	Email: <u>abuse@namecheap.com</u> skymovieshd.wine
	Email:abuse@namecheap.com, skymovieshd.net@whoisprotectservice.net
	↑ Defendants

Place: New Delhi

Date: 22 May 2023

Suhasini Raina (D/2982/2011) Saikrishna & Associates Advocates for the Plaintiff 57, Jor Bagh, Delhi - 110003