#### 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-46/2022-DS-II Dated: 13-10-2022

To,

All Internet Service Licensee's

Subject: CS (Comm.) No. 700 of 2022 titled as Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr. V/s serialghar.me & Ors., Before Hon'ble Delhi High Court.

Kindly find the enclosed Hon'ble Delhi High Court order dated 1<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 in the subject matter court case CS (Comm.) No. 700 of 2022 along with Memo of parties for compliance, specifically for para 23 & 24 and with respect to websites of defendant no. 1 to 27. DoT is defendant No. 44 in this case.

- 2. Hon'ble Delhi High Court vide order dated 1<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 has, inter alia, state that:
  - 20. Having considered the contents of the plaint and documents filed therewith, and having heard the learned counsel for the Plaintiffs, the Court is of the opinion that the plaintiffs have made out a prima facie case for grant of an ex-parte ad-interim injunction, which is also a dynamic injunction. The balance of convenience lies in favour of the plaintiffs and irreparable injury would be caused if the interim injunction is not granted. Disclosure orders are also liable to be passed against the DNRs, and further, the defendant nos. 44 and 45 ought to also issue blocking orders to all the ISPs, to block the said rogue websites. Considering the investment which the plaintiffs have made in producing these works, any illegal broadcasting would severely affect the monetary interest of the plaintiffs, and also diminish the value of the rights of works.
  - 21. Accordingly, till further orders, an ad-interim ex-parte order in terms of the prayer made in paragraph 11(i) of the present application is passed against the defendant nos. 1 to 27.
  - 23. The defendant nos. 44 and 45, as also the ISPs, shall block the defendant nos. 1 to 27 websites. The said blocking orders shall be issued by the defendant no. 44 within 24 hours after service of this order. Pursuant to the said blocking order/s, all the ISP's, that is, the defendant nos. 35 to 43, shall block access to the URL's, as also the mobile applications within 24 hours and shall not permit the download of these applications or the streaming of the rogue websites.
  - 24. If the plaintiffs discover other mirror websites or rogue websites which are broadcasting and/or telecasting the cinematograph films which are covered by the present suit, they may:
    - a) File an affidavit in this regard before the Court along with evidence thereof. The said websites shall stand blocked with immediate effect, upon notice being issued by the plaintiffs to the defendant no. 44 and ISPs that such an affidavit has already been filed before this Court.

- b) Upon the defendant no. 44 receiving the notices and communications from the plaintiffs that the affidavits have been filed before the Court, the orders for blocking such further rogue websites shall be passed, immediately and in any case, within 24 hours, so that the websites do not continue to stream infringing content in any manner whatsoever.
- 3. Accordingly, in view of the above, all the Internet Service licensees are hereby instructed to take immediate necessary blocking action for compliance of the court order dated 11.10.2022, specifically for para 23 & 24 and with respect to websites of defendant no. 1 to 27 as mentioned in the memo of parties/plaint.

Director (DS-II) Tel: 011-2303 6860 Email: dirds2-dot@nic.in

Encl: A/A

#### Copy to:

- i. V.Chinnasamy, Scientist E (chinnasamy.v@meity.gov.in), Electronics Niketan, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) New Delhi (Respondent no. 45) for kind information and necessary action.
- ii. DoT Website.

### IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

No.	16274-I	_Orgl./DHC/DA3	Dated _	12/1	0/2	2
110.			_	141		

From:

The Registrar General, Delhi High Court, New Delhi

To

Mr. Angad Singh Makkar, Advocate, Counsel for the Plaintiff Saikrishna and Associates M: 9999064036.

Email: yatinder@saikrishnaassociates.com;

Sub: CS(COMM) 700/2022.

Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr.

...Plaintiffs

Vs

Serialghar.Me & Ors.

....Defendants

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to forward herewith for information and necessary compliance, copy of order dated 11.10.2022 passed by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Navin Chawla of this Court. A copy of Memo of parties is also enclosed herewith.

Yours faithfully,

Administrative Officer (Judl.)(O) for REGISTRAR GENERAL

RK

Encl: As above.

## IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORIGINAL COMMERCIAL JURISDICTION) CS (COMM) NO. OF 2022

IN THE MATTER OF

Star India Pvt. Ltd. & Anr.

...Plaintiffs

Versus

serialghar.me

...Defendants

#### **MEMO OF PARTIES**

1. Star India Pvt. Ltd.

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

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 124 Janpath

New Delhi -110001

Email: diksha.snehal@startv.com

2. Novi Digital Entertainment Pvt. Ltd.

Star House, Urmi Estate,

95, Ganpatrao Kadam Marg, Lower Parel (W),

Mumbai- 400013

Email: diksha.snehal@startv.com

..... Plaintiffs



#### Versus

1. serialghar.me

Email: copyright@serialghar.me

2. dramamasti.net

Email: admin@dramamasti.net

3. ishqmeinmarjawan3.com

Email: admin@ishqmeinmarjawan3.com

4. yodesiserials.su

Email: admin@yodesiserials.su

5. marjawan.net

Email: admin@marjawan.net

6. badeacchelagtehain.net

Email: admin@badeacchelagtehain.net

7. badeachhe.com

Email: admin@badeachhe.com

8. balikavadhu2.com

Email: admin@balikavadhu2.com

9. chikooyehishqnachaye.com

Email: admin@chikooyehishqnachaye.com

8

10. desiserialwatch.com

Email: admin@desiserialwatch.com

11. herogayab.co

Email: admin@herogayab.co

12. hindiserial.xyz

Email: admin@hindiserial.xyz

13. kaamna.net

Email: admin@kaamna.net

14. khatronkekhiladiseason12.com

Email: admin@khatronkekhiladiseason12.com

15. kkk12tv.com

Email: admin@kkk12tv.com

16. urdudramas.su

Email: phemaraif@gmail.com

17. wohtohhaialbela.net

Email: admin@wohtohhaialbela.net

18. yehjhukijhukisinazar.net

Email: admin@yehjhukijhukisinazar.net

19. bdstory.online

Email:joyminprup@gmail.com

20. bdstory.xyz

Email: joyminprup@gmail.com

21. desitelugu.net

Email: admin@desitelugu.net

22. faana.net

Email: admin@faana.net

23. goribergf.com

Email: goribergirlfriend@gmail.com

24. okmalayalam.com

Email: admin@mullapoo.com

25. serialhub.xyz

Email: admin@serialhub.xyz

26. showpm.website

Email: admin@showpm.website

27. tollypratidin.online

Email: ollypratidin@gmail.com

28. NameCheap, Inc.

Module 403, Tidel Par

Coimbatore Ltd Elcosez Aerodrom

Coimbatore, TN - 641014

Also, at:

4600 East Washington Street

Suite 305, Phoenix, AZ - 85034

**USA** 

Email:support@namecheap.com, legal@namecheap.com

#### 29. Dynadot LLC

210 S Ellsworth Ave

#345 San Mateo, CA

94401 US

Email: info@dynadot.com

#### 30. ARDIS-SU

236010, Kaliningrad,

18 Tenistaya Alley St.

Email: support@ardis.ru

#### 31. PDR Ltd. d/b/a PublicDomainRegistry.com

501, IT Building No 3,

NESCO IT Park, NESCO Complex,

Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East),

Mumbai – 400063 Maharashtra, India

Email: compliance@publicdomainregistry.com

#### 32. Tucows Domains Inc.

96 Mowat Avenue, Toronto,

Ontario, M6K 3M1, Canada

Email: info@tucows.com

DY

33. Hosting Concepts B.V. d/b/a Registrar.eu

Kipstraat 3c-5c

Rotterdam 3011 RR

Netherlands

+31 104482296

Email: support@openprovider.com

34. Hostinger, UAB

Jonavos g. 60C

Kaunas, Lithuania - 44192

+37064503378

E-mail ID: domains@hostinger.com; abuse@hostinger.com

35. Atria Convergence Technologies Private Limited

99A/113A, Manorayana Palya

R.T. Nagar Bangalore – 560032.

Also, at:

2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

36. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.

Bharat Sanchar Bhawan, Regulation Cell

5th floor, Harish Chandra Mathur Lane

Janpath, New Delhi -110001

DE

E-mail: ddg\_reg@bsnl.co.in; sbkhare@bsnl.co.in; averma@bsnl.co.in; sushmamishra71@gmail.com.

#### 37. 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

#### 38. Hathway Cable & Datacom Pvt. Ltd.

'Rahejas',4 floor, Main Avenue
Santacruz (W), Mumbai-400054
E-mail: ajay.singh@hathway.net; dulal@hathway.net;
sudhir.shetye@hathway.net

#### 39. 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

#### 40. 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

41. 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

42. Tata Teleservices Ltd.

A, E & F Blocks Voltas Premises - T. B. Kadam Marg
Chinchpokli, Mumbai - 400033
E-mail: pravin.jogani@tatatel.co.in;anand.dalal@tatatel.co.in;
satya.yadav@tatatel.co.in

43. 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
Florencia.Depores@vodafoneidea.com;
Raaj.Goyel@vodafoneidea.com

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

45. 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;
adetds2-dot@gov.in

46. Ashok Kumar(s)

...Defendants

Place: New Delhi

Date:7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Saikrishna and Associates
Advocates for the Plaintiffs
57 Jor Bagh,
New Delhi - 110003
+91 9999064036

yatinder@saikrishnaassociates.com

NOTE: Defendant No. 1 along with the Defendant Nos. 2 - 27 are the main contesting parties.

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

+ CS(COMM) 700/2022

STAR INDIA PVT LTD & ANR.

..... Plaintiffs

Through:

Mr.Sidharta Chopra, Mr.Yatinder Garg, Mr.Angad Singh Makkar, Ms.Rimjhim Tiwari & Mr.Raunak

Das Sharma, Advs.

versus

SERIALGHAR.ME & ORS.

..... Defendants

Through:

None.

**CORAM:** 

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAVIN CHAWLA

ORDER 11.10.2022

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#### I.A. 16483/2022 (Exemption)

1. Allowed, subject to all just exceptions.

#### I.A. 16484/2022

- 2. This is an application filed on behalf of the plaintiffs seeking leave to file additional documents, which are not in the power, possession, control or custody of the plaintiff at the moment.
- 3. The plaintiffs may file the additional documents strictly in accordance with the provisions of the law.
- 4. The application stands disposed of.

#### I.A. 16485/2022

- 5. This is an application filed on behalf of the plaintiffs under Section 80 read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (in short, 'CPC') seeking exemption from issuing notice to the defendant nos. 36, 39, 44 and 45.
- 6. Having perused the contents of the application, the same is allowed.

#### CS(COMM) 700/2022

- 7. Let the plaint be registered as a suit.
- 8. Issue summons to the defendants to be served through all permitted modes, including electronically, returnable on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 before the learned Joint Registrar (Judicial).
- 9. The summons to the defendant(s) shall indicate that the written statement(s) to the plaint shall be positively filed within a period of 30 days from the date of receipt of summons. Along with the written statement(s), the defendant(s) shall also file the affidavit(s) of admission/denial of the documents of the plaintiffs, without which the written statement(s) shall not be taken on record.
- 10. Liberty is given to the plaintiffs to file the replication(s) within a period of 15 days of the receipt of the written statement(s). Along with the replication(s), if any, filed by the plaintiffs, the affidavit(s) of admission/denial of documents of the defendant(s) be filed by the plaintiffs, without which the replication(s) 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.

#### I.A. 16482/2022

- 11. Issue Notice.
- 12. On the plaintiffs taking steps, let notice be served on the defendants through all permissible modes, including electronically, returnable on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2022 before the learned Joint Registrar (Judicial).
- 13. The plaintiffs have filed the present suit seeking an injunction to restrain the illegal and unauthorised dissemination of the plaintiffs' original content/works in the 'general entertainment' category, which fall within the

definition of 'cinematograph films' under Section 2(f) of the Copyright Act, 1957 (in short, 'the Act'). It is the case of the plaintiffs that they are the producers of the cinematograph films and as such have exclusive rights enumerated under Section 14(d) of the Act, including *inter-alia* to publicly exhibit and communicate the said content/works through any media.

- 14. The plaintiff no. 1 herein is a leading entertainment and media company in India engaged, *inter-alia*, in the production of popular content broadcast on its STAR channels. The plaintiff no. 1, along with its affiliates, is the owner of an extensive portfolio of more than seventy channels in over eight languages. The STAR Channels and the content aired therein occupy a commanding position and have acquired tremendous goodwill and reputation in the entertainment industry and amongst the general public. By virtue of the necessary uplink and downlink permissions issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India (in short, 'MIB'), the plaintiff no. 1 has the sole and exclusive right to broadcast and distribute STAR Channels in India.
- 15. The plaintiff no. 2, owns and operates the online audio-visual streaming platform and website, <a href="www.hotstar.com">www.hotstar.com</a> and the mobile application, 'Disney+ Hotstar'. 'Disney+ Hotstar' offers over 8 Lakh hours of TV shows and movies across 8 languages, Disney+ originals, exclusive new content from the 'Hotstar Specials' label, regional and national news, and coverage of every major global sporting event.
- 16. It is asserted that apart from owning and managing 'Disney+ Hotstar', the plaintiff no. 2 is also the producer/exclusive assignee/licensee of web-series original content in various languages including in Hindi and English, which is made accessible only on 'Disney+ Hotstar'.

- 17. The present suit has been filed by the plaintiffs, against the following defendants:
  - a) The defendant nos. 1 to 27 are claimed to be 'rogue websites';
  - b) The defendant nos. 28 to 34 are the Domain Name Registrars (hereinafter referred to as 'DNRs') of the domain names used by the 'rogue websites';
  - c) The defendant nos. 35 to 43 are the Internet Service Providers (hereinafter referred to as the 'ISPs');
  - d) The defendant nos. 44 and 45 are the Department of Telecommunication (in short, 'DoT') and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (in short, 'MEITY'), respectively;
  - e) The defendant no. 46 has been impleaded as 'John Doe' in the name of 'Ashok Kumar'.
- 18. The content on 'Disney+ Hotstar' and the STAR Channels produced by the plaintiffs forms the subject matter of the instant suit. As described in paragraph nos. 6 and 7 of the plaint, the plaintiffs are the producers of various TV Shows, films and/or web-series which are communicated on STAR Channels and/or 'Disney+ Hotstar' and have the exclusive distribution rights to publicly exhibit and communicate the said content through any medium or mode including on the STAR Channels or 'Disney+ Hotstar'. They are protected as 'cinematograph films' under Section 2(f) read with Section 13 of the Act.
- 19. It is asserted that the defendant nos. 1 to 27 are liable for infringement of copyright under various provisions of Section 51 of the Act. The various 'exclusive rights' that, *inter alia*, would be deemed to have been infringed/violated by the defendant nos. 1 to 27 are:

- a) The right of making a copy of the plaintiffs' cinematograph films including the storing of it in any medium by electronic or other means;
- b) The right of communicating the plaintiffs' cinematograph films to the public.
- 20. Having considered the contents of the plaint and documents filed therewith, and having heard the learned counsel for the Plaintiffs, the Court is of the opinion that the plaintiffs have made out a *prima facie* case for grant of an *ex-parte ad-interim* injunction, which is also a dynamic injunction. The balance of convenience lies in favour of the plaintiffs and irreparable injury would be caused if the interim injunction is not granted. Disclosure orders are also liable to be passed against the DNRs, and further, the defendant nos. 44 and 45 ought to also issue blocking orders to all the ISPs, to block the said rogue websites. Considering the investment which the plaintiffs have made in producing these works, any illegal broadcasting would severely affect the monetary interest of the plaintiffs, and also diminish the value of the rights of works.
- 21. Accordingly, till further orders, an *ad-interim ex-parte* order in terms of the prayer made in paragraph 11(i) of the present application is passed against the defendant nos. 1 to 27.
- 22. The DNRs shall also immediately block the said domain names and maintain *status quo* thereof. The said DNRs shall also disclose to the plaintiffs the following:
  - a) Complete details (such as Name, Address, Email Address, Phone Number, IP Address etc.) of the defendant nos. 1 to 27 and such other websites which are discovered during the course of the proceedings

- and notified on affidavit by the plaintiffs to have been infringing the plaintiffs' exclusive rights, copyrights and broadcast reproduction rights.
- b) Mode of Payment along with payment details used for registration of domain name by the Registrant, that is the defendant nos. 1 to 27 and such other websites which are discovered during the course of the proceedings and notified on affidavit by the plaintiffs to have been infringing the plaintiffs' exclusive rights, copyrights and broadcast reproduction rights.
- c) Details of other websites registered by the defendant nos. 1 to 27 and such other websites which are discovered during the course of the proceedings and notified on affidavit by the plaintiffs to have been infringing the plaintiffs' exclusive rights, copyrights and broadcast reproduction rights using similar details, same credit card, payment gateway etc. (disclosed as per Clause b above) with the defendant nos. 28 to 34.
- d) Details of Complaints received by the defendant nos. 28 to 34 in past against the defendant nos. 1 to 27 and such other websites which are discovered during the course of the proceedings and notified on affidavit by the plaintiffs to have been infringing the plaintiffs' exclusive rights, copyrights and broadcast reproduction rights.
- 23. The defendant nos. 44 and 45, as also the ISPs, shall block the defendant nos. 1 to 27 websites. The said blocking orders shall be issued by the defendant no. 44 within 24 hours after service of this order. Pursuant to the said blocking order/s, all the ISP's, that is, the defendant nos. 35 to 43, shall block access to the URL's, as also the mobile applications within 24

hours and shall not permit the download of these applications or the streaming of the rogue websites.

- 24. If the plaintiffs discover other mirror websites or rogue websites which are broadcasting and/or telecasting the cinematograph films which are covered by the present suit, they may:
  - a) File an affidavit in this regard before the Court along with evidence thereof. The said websites shall stand blocked with immediate effect, upon notice being issued by the plaintiffs to the defendant no. 44 and ISPs that such an affidavit has already been filed before this Court.
  - b) Upon the defendant no. 44 receiving the notices and communications from the plaintiffs that the affidavits have been filed before the Court, the orders for blocking such further rogue websites shall be passed, immediately and in any case, within 24 hours, so that the websites do not continue to stream infringing content in any manner whatsoever.
  - 25. Compliance with Order XXXIX Rule 3 of the CPC be made by within a period of two days.

26. Dasti.

**OCTOBER 11, 2022/rv/AB** 

NAVIN CHAWLA, J

#### LIST OF WEBSITES

S.No.	List of Websites
1.	serialghar.me
2.	dramamasti.net
3.	ishqmeinmarjawan3.com
4.	yodesiserials.su
5.	marjawan.net
6.	badeacchelagtehain.net
7.	badeachhe.com
8.	balikavadhu2.com
9.	chikooyehishqnachaye.com
10.	desiserialwatch.com
11.	herogayab.co
12.	hindiserial.xyz
13.	kaamna.net
14.	khatronkekhiladiseason12.com
15.	kkk12tv.com
16.	urdudramas.su
17.	wohtohhaialbela.net
18.	yehjhukijhukisinazar.net
19.	bdstory.online
20.	bdstory.xyz
21.	desitelugu.net
22.	faana.net
23.	goribergf.com
24.	okmalayalam.com
25.	serialhub.xyz
26.	showpm.website
27.	tollypratidin.online