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-45/2022-DS-II

Dated: 01-12-2022

To.

All Internet Service Licensee's

Subject: CS (Comm.) No. 650 of 2022 titled as Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited Vs. Ibomma. Bar & Ors. Before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

In continuation to Department of Telecommunication even no. letter dated 07.10.2022, kindly find the enclosed Hon'ble Delhi High Court orders dated 02nd November, 2022 & $19^{t\,h}$ September, 2022 in the subject matter court case CS (Comm.) No. 650 of 2022 for compliance with respect to website of defendant no. 19. DoT is defendant No. 16 in this case.

- Hon'ble Delhi High Court vide order dated 19th September, 2022 has, inter alia. directed that:
 - 27. Defendants No. 7 to 15 are directed to block access to various websites identified by the Plaintiff in the present suit and Defendants No. 16 and 17 shall issue notifications calling upon various internet and telecom service providers registered under it to block access to various websites identified by the Plaintiff in the present suit.
 - 28. In case the Plaintiff come across any other domain names or websites carrying out the infringing activities, they shall file an affidavit before this Court and on such affidavit being filed the matter will be placed before the learned Joint Registrar for consideration of the matter and passing appropriate directions. Plaintiff is also given liberty to file an appropriate application to array other roque websites as and when the same are discovered in future.
- Further, Hon'ble Delhi High Court vide order dated 02nd November, 2022 has, inter alia, directed that:
 - I.A. 17767/2022 filed by plaintiff under Order I Rule 10 CPC seeking impleadment of additional websites engaging in infringing activities as defendants in the memo of parties as defendant no. 19 & 20.
 -In view of order dated 19.09.2022 passed by Hon'ble Court and the submissions of learned counsel or applicant, the websites mentioned in the application especially **Schedule-A** are impleaded as defendants no. 19 &

Since the newly added defendants are also stated to be involved in violation of copyrights of plaintiff, accordingly ex-parte ad-interim injunction dated 19.09.2022 is also extended against newly added defendants no. 19 & 20. The concerned defendants are directed to do the needful in terms of the above said ex-parte ad-interim injunction dated 19.09.2022.

4. 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 02.11.2022 read with order dated 19.09.2022 with respect to website/URL of defendant no. 19 as mentioned in the Schedule-A of the Impleadment Application as provided by the counsel for the plaintiff.

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. 17) for kind information and necessary action.
- ii. Lawyer/advocate for the plaintiff for kind information with respect to email dated 24.11.2022 & 29.11.2022 please.
- iii. MR. APOORV KURUP CGSC for kind information.
- iv. DoT website.

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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ CS(COMM) 650/2022

ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES LIMITED

..... Plaintiff

Through: Ms.Ramya Aggarwal, Sanidhya Rao,

Advocate

versus

IBOMMA.BAR & ORS.

.... Defendant

Through: None

CORAM:

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

ORDER 02.11.2022

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I.A. 17768/2022 filed by plaintiff section 151 CPC, seeking exemption from filing clearer copies of documents, copies with appropriate margins, certified copies, translated copies etc.

Heard.

In view of submissions of learned counsel for the plaintiff and grounds mentioned in the application, the application is allowed subject to just exceptions.

The plaintiff is exempted from filing the clearer copies of documents, copies with appropriate margins, certified copies, and translated copies of documents which shall be filed within four weeks.

IA stands disposed of.

I.A. 17767/2022 filed by plaintiff under Order I Rule 10 CPC seeking impleadment of additional websites engaging in infringing activities as defendants in the memo of parties as defendant no. 19 & 20.

Arguments 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 exparte *ad-interim* injunction in this suit against the defendants vide order dated 19.09.2022 for infringement of copyrights. Further directions were also passed that plaintiff may file an appropriate application to array other rogue websites as and when the same are discovered in future.

It is stated that after passing of the abovesaid order, other websites, as disclosed in application, have also started violation and these are rogue websites which are to be blocked pursuant to the order dated 19.09.2022 and are also necessary party to this suit. It is further stated that details of proposed defendants have been disclosed in Schedule-A annexed with application and they are also liable to be impleaded as defendants no. 19 & 20. It is further argued that even *ex-parte ad-interim* injunction dated 19.09.2022 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 ad-interim* injunction to newly added defendants 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 this judgment) 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, 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, 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-websites. The plaintiffs are permitted to 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 alongwith sufficient material to prove that the proposed defendants/websites are rogue websites of defendants which are also involved in violation of copyrights of plaintiff and have been permanently restrained to do so. In view of order dated 19.09.2022 passed by Hon'ble Court and the submissions of learned counsel

for applicant, the websites mentioned in the application especially Schedule-A are impleaded as defendants no. 19 & 20.

Since the newly added defendants are also stated to be involved in violation of copyrights of plaintiff, accordingly *ex-parte ad-interim* injunction dated 19.09.2022 is also extended against newly added defendants no. 19 & 20. The concerned defendants are directed to do the needful in terms of the above said *ex-parte ad-interim* injunction dated 19.09.2022.

Amended memo of parties is taken on record.

I.A. stands disposed of.

PURSHOTAM PATHAK (DHJS), JOINT REGISTRAR (JUDICIAL)

NOVEMBER 2, 2022/sk

Click here to check corrigendum, if any

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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ CS(COMM) 650/2022

ZEE ENTERTAINMENT ENTERPRISES

LIMITED Plaintiff

Through: Mr. Sidharth Chopra, Mr. Yatinder Garg, Ms. Ramya Aggarwal and Mr. Sanidhya Rao, Advocates.

versus

IBOMMA.BAR & ORS.

..... Defendants

Through: None.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JYOTI SINGH

ORDER 19.09.2022

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I.A. 15354/2022 (Exemption)

- 1. Subject to the Plaintiff filing originals, clearer, translated copies of the documents with proper margins, which it may seek to place reliance on, within four weeks from today, exemption is granted.
- 2. Application is allowed and disposed of.

I.A. 15353/2022(seeking leave to file additional documents)

- 3. Present application has been preferred on behalf of the Plaintiff seeking leave to file additional documents under Order 11 Rule 1(4) CPC.
- 4. Plaintiff, if it wishes to file additional documents at a later stage, shall do so strictly as per the provisions of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015.
- 5. Application is allowed and disposed of.

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I.A. 15352/2022(exemption from advance service to Defendant No. 16)

- 6. Since there is an urgency in the matter and the same is being heard today, Plaintiff is exempted from serving advance notice on Defendant No. 16.
- 7. For the reasons stated in the application, the same is allowed and disposed of.

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- 8. Let plaint be registered as a suit.
- 9. Upon filing of process fee, issue summons to the Defendants, through all permissible modes, returnable on 01.12.2022, before the learned Joint Registrar.
- 10. Summons shall state that the written statement be filed by the Defendants within 30 days from the receipt of summons. Along with the written statement, Defendants shall also file an affidavit of admission/denial of the documents filed by the Plaintiff.
- 11. Replication be filed by the Plaintiff within 15 days of the receipt of the written statement. Along with the replication, an affidavit of admission/denial of documents filed by the Defendants, shall be filed by the Plaintiff.
- 12. If any of the parties wish to seek inspection of any documents, the same shall be sought and given within the timelines.

I.A. 15351/2022 (under Order 39 Rules 1 and 2 CPC, by Plaintiff)

13. Present application has been preferred by the Plaintiff under Order 39 Rules 1 and 2 read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 for grant of ex-parte ad-interim injunction.

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- 14. Issue notice to the Defendants through all prescribed modes, returnable on 25.01.2023, before the Court.
- It is averred in the plaint that Plaintiff is a reputed broadcaster, 15. production house and films studio involved in the business of production, acquisition, promotion, marketing and distribution of various cinematographic films and audio/visual content in various Indian languages, in multiple formats worldwide such as theatrical, digital and internet connected platforms. It owns and operates over 48 channels across 11 languages and a digital entertainment platform/streaming service called 'Zee 5'. Contents on Zee 5 and Zee channels form the subject matter of the instant suit.
- 16. It is averred that Plaintiff produces various TV shows, films, web series on these channels and has the exclusive distribution rights to publicly exhibit and communicate the content. Plaintiff's Works are protected as 'cinematograph film' under Section 2(f) read with Section 1(3) of the Copyright Act, 1957 ('the Act'). Consequently, Plaintiff has the exclusive rights in the content on Zee 5 and Zee channels produced by the Plaintiff, as enumerated under Section 14(d) of the Act and any person who interferes with or exploits any of the said rights, without Plaintiff's permission, would be deemed to infringe the copyright in terms of Section 51 of the Act.
- 17. It is averred that Defendants No. 1 to 3 are 'rogue' websites in terms of judgment of this Court in *UTV Software Communication Ltd. v.* 1337X.to, 2019 SCC OnLine Del 8002, which are engaged in displaying pirated content in order to obtain financial gains. These websites primarily engage in *inter alia* communicating to the public, hosting, streaming and/or making available to the public Plaintiff's Works without authorization and

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are vehicles of infringement whose whole business model is designed to provide members of the public access to copyright content, unauthorizedly through the medium of internet and mobile transmissions.

- 18. It is further stated that after due diligence and investigation Plaintiff has gathered evidence of the infringing conduct of the Defendant websites and it is found that vast volume of the content of Plaintiff's Works is available on their platforms and is regularly and consistently uploaded and updated by them in numerous languages across various genres.
- 19. Learned counsel for the Plaintiff submits that Defendants No. 1 to 3 are clearly liable for infringement of copyright for displaying the infringing copies of Plaintiff's Works in various TV shows, films and web series. The acts of infringement will not only cost the Plaintiff irrevocable loss of substantial sums of money but will also take away the legitimate revenues of the Government earned through taxes etc. and this would also go counter to the objective of the Government acknowledged in its National Intellectual Property Rights Policy issued by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, whose key objective is to build respect for IPR amongst general public.
- 20. Learned counsel further submits that the Defendant websites are anonymous in nature and operate behind a veil of secrecy and therefore there is no other remedy available to the Plaintiff but to protect its valuable right by seeking to block access to such websites in India apart from their entire domain. Plaintiff also seeks to impede the unnamed Defendants which are found violating its exclusive rights in terms of the judgment of this Court in *Taj Television v. Rajan Mandal, [2003] FSR 22*, recognizing that Courts have the power to pass orders against such unknown 'John Doe' Defendants. Plaintiff has furnished the following table indicating the domain name

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registrars for each of the rogue Defendant websites:

S. No.	Websites	Registrar
1.	Ibomma.bar	Tucows Inc.
	(Defendant No. 1)	(Defendant No. 4)
2.	Zee5.org	IONOS Inc.
	(Defendant No. 2)	(Defendant No. 5)
3.	Onlinemovieshindi.com	Name.com, Inc.
	(Defendant No. 3)	(Defendant No. 6)

- 21. I have heard learned counsel for the Plaintiff and examined the contentions.
- 22. The legal position with regard to grant of dynamic injunctions is settled, as rightly pointed by learned counsel for Plaintiff, in UTV Software Communication Limited (supra) and several orders have been passed by this Court restraining the rogue websites. I also find *prima facie* merit in the contention that the exclusive right of a copyright owner in its 'Work' must be protected, respected and enforced against infringers by restraining them from carrying on with the unauthorized use of the copyright work. There is no gainsaying that every endeavour should be made to curb piracy and therefore, in my view, injunction deserves to be granted in favour of the Plaintiff against infringement of its exclusive rights in its original content/work, films, TV shows, web series etc. which are protected under the Act, as enumerated in the plaint.
- 23. Accordingly, Defendants No. 1 to 3 their owners, partners, and all others acting on their behalf are hereby restrained from in any manner

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communicating, hosting, streaming and/or making available for viewing and downloading, without authorization on their websites or other platforms, through the internet in any manner whatsoever, Plaintiff's Works and contents related thereto, being the subject matter of the present suit, thereby infringing Plaintiff's copyright.

- 24. Defendant No. 4, its directors, partners and all others acting on its behalf are directed to revoke/cancel the domain name registrations of Defendant No. 1 as per the details mentioned above in para 20.
- 25. Defendant No. 5 is directed to revoke or cancel the domain name registrations of Defendant No. 2 (zee 5.org) and Defendant No. 6 shall revoke or cancel the domain name registration of Defendant No. 3 (Onlinemovieshindi.com).
- 26. It is further directed that Defendants No. 4 to 6 will disclose the complete details such as name, address, email address, IP address, phone number etc. of Defendants No. 1 to 3 and details of other websites registered by Defendants No. 1 to 3 using similar details, credit cards, payment gateway etc.
- 27. Defendants No. 7 to 15 are directed to block access to various websites identified by the Plaintiff in the present suit and Defendants No. 16 and 17 shall issue notifications calling upon various internet and telecom service providers registered under it to block access to various websites identified by the Plaintiff in the present suit.
- 28. In case the Plaintiff come across any other domain names or websites carrying out the infringing activities, they shall file an affidavit before this Court and on such affidavit being filed the matter will be placed before the learned Joint Registrar for consideration of the matter and passing

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appropriate directions. Plaintiff is also given liberty to file an appropriate application to array other rogue websites as and when the same are discovered in future.

29. Plaintiff shall comply with the provisions of Order 39 Rule 3 CPC within a period of one week from today.

JYOTI SINGH, J

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022/rk/shivam

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI (ORDINARY ORIGINAL COMMERCIAL JURISDICTION) CS (COMM) NO. 650 OF 2022

IN THE MATTER OF

Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited

... Plaintiff

Versus

Ibomma.bar & Ors.

... Defendants

AMENDED MEMO OF PARTIES

IN THE MATTER OF

Zee Entertainment Enterprises Limited

18th Floor, A Wing, Marathon Futurex,

N.M. Joshi Marg, Lower Parel,

Mumbai – 400 013

Email: Girish.kaul@zee.com

Mobile No.: 09711133934

Also at:

1493, 1st Floor, Above Canara Bank,

Chandni Chowk, New Delhi 110006

... Plaintiff

Versus

1) Ibomma.bar

https://ww19.ibomma.bar/

https://ww22.ibomma.bar/

Contact: <u>ibomma@protonmail.com</u>, <u>domainabuse@tucows.com</u>

2) Zee5.org



Contact: 69xmedia@gmail.com, abuse@ionos.com

3) Onlinemovieshindi.com

111.90.159.132

Contact: abuse@name.com, abuse@shinjiru.com.my, noc@shinjiru.com.my

4) Tucows Inc.

96 Mowat Avenue

Toronto, ON M6K 3M1, Canada

Email: info@tucows.com; compliance@tucows.com

5) IONOS Inc.

2 Logan Square

100 N 18th St., Suite 400

Philadelphia, PA 19103

Email: info@ionos.com; abuse@ionos.com

6) Name.com, Inc.

414 14th Street #200

Denver, Colorado 80202

Email: abuse@name.com

7) 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

8) 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; sushmamishra71@gmail.com

9) Bharti Airtel Ltd.

Airtel Centre, Tower-A, 6th floor 'A'Wing, Plot No.16, Udyog Vihar Ph - IV, Gurgaon – 122016

Email: 121@in.airtel.com; compliance.officer@bharti.in; jyoti.pawar@in.airtel.com; Ravi.gandhi@airtel.com; amit.bhatia@airtel.com

10) Hathway Cable & Datacom Pvt. Ltd.

'Rahejas',4 floor, Main Avenue

Santacruz (W), Mumbai-400054

ajay.singh@hathway.net; dulal@hathway.net; Sudhir.shetye@hathway.net

11) 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

12) Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited RCP 14 (TC 23), Phase 4,



B-Block, 3rd Floor,

C 4 130 Twane- belapur Road, Gansoli,

Navi Mumbai- 400701

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

13) 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

14) Tata Teleservices Ltd.

A, E & F Blocks

Voltas Premises - T. B. Kadam Marg

Chinchpokli, Mumbai – 400033

Also at:

Jeevan Bharati Tower I,

10th Floor, 124,

Connaught Circus,

New Delhi - 110001

pravin.jogani@tatatel.co.in; anand.dalal@tatatel.co.in; satya.yadav@tatatel.co.in; gaganjit.sidhu@tatatel.co.in

15) Vodafone India Limited

A

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; pankaj.kapdeo@vodafoneidea.com

Radhika.gokhale@vodafoneidea.com

sheena.thukral@vodafoneidea.com

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

16) 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

17) 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

cyberlaw@meity.gov.in; gccyberlaws@meity.gov.in;

pkumar@meity.gov.in, sathya.s@meity.gov.in

- 18) Ashok Kumars
- 19) https://www.desitellybox.me/

M

Contact details: <u>desitvbox@yahoo.com</u>; <u>abuse@namecheap.com</u>

20) https://serialghar.me/category/zee-tv/

Contact details: copyright@serialghar.me;

info@serialghar.me;

abuse@dynadot.com

... Defendants

Yatinder Garg | Ramya Aggarwal |

Sanidhya Rao

D/1330/2015 | D/4428/2021|

D/8146/2021

Saikrishna and Associates

Counsels for the Plaintiff

57 Jor Bagh, New Delhi, 110003

+91 9999064036

Yatinder@saikrishnaassociates.com

Place: New Delhi

Date: 27th October, 2022

Note: Defendant No. 1-3 and 19-20 are the main contesting parties.

M