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

(1)+ W.P.(CRL) 2415/2024

WHATS APP LLC

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms.Swati Agarwal,
Mr.Shashank Mishra, Ms.Akshi
Rastogi, Mr.Parv Kaushik,
Ms.Vedika Rathore, Mr.Rahul
Sethia, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(2)+ W.P.(CRL) 2766/2024

WHATSAPP LLC

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms.Swati Agarwal,
Mr.Shashank Mishra, Ms.Akshi
Rastogi, Mr.Parv Kaushik,
Ms.Vedika Rathore, Mr.Rahul
Sethia, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA

.....Respondent

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

FOUNDATION FOR INDEPENDENT JOURNALISM &
ORS.

.....Petitioners

Through: Ms.Nitya Ramakrishnan, Sr.
Adv. with Mr.Prasanna S.,
Ms.Stuti Rai, Ms.Injila Muslim
Zaidi, Mr.Maamidi Ashish
Reddy and Mr.Prasanna B,
Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and



Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

SANJAY KUMAR SINGHPetitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.Respondents

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

QUINT DIGITAL MEDIA LIMITED & ANR.Petitioners

Through: Ms.Nitya Ramakrishnan, Sr.
Adv. Mr.Prasanna S., Ms.Stuti
Rai, Ms.Injila Muslim Zaidi,
Mr.Maamidi Ashish Reddy and
Mr.Prasanna B, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

PRAVDA MEDIA FOUNDATIONPetitioner

Through: Mr.Aaditya Vijay Kumar,
Ms.Akshita Katoch and
Mr.Anirudh Anand, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

THE PRESS TRUST OF INDIA LIMITEDPetitioner

Through: Mr.N.B. Joshi, Mr.Anurag
Ranjan, Ms.Seema Neb,
Mr.Abhik, Mr.Rinku Mathur
and Mr.Neeraj, Adv.



versus
UNION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents
Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(14)+ W.P.(C) 7281/2021, CM APPLs. 22944/2021 & 46798/2024
FACEBOOK INC.Petitioner
Through: Mr.Varun Pathak, Ms.Amee
Rana, Mr.Yash Karunakaran,
Mr.Vishesh Sharma,
Ms.Anannya Gogoi,
Ms.Bhavnish Kaur, Advs.

versus
UNION OF INDIARespondent
Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Sandeep Arya, Mr. Vikram
Singh, Ms. Rupali Gupta and
Ms. Vishruti Chauhan, Advs.

(15)+ W.P.(C) 7284/2021, CM APPLs. 22951/2021 & 46558/2024
WHATSAPP LLCPetitioner
Through: Ms.Swati Agarwal,
Mr.Shashank Mishra, Ms.Akshi
Rastogi, Mr.Parv Kaushik,
Ms.Vedika Rathore, Mr.Rahul
Sethia, Advs.

versus
UNION OF INDIARespondent
Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.
Mr.Sandeep Arya, Mr.Vikram
Singh, Ms.Rupali Gupta and
Ms.Vishruti Chauhan, Advs.

(16)+ W.P.(C) 11055/2024
SAYANTI SENGUPTAPetitioner
Through:
versus
UNION OF INDIA AND ANRRespondents



Through: Ms.Shiva Lakshmi, SPC with
Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(17)+ W.P.(C) 17024/2024

INDIAN BROADCASTING AND DIGITAL FOUNDATION
AND ORSPetitioners

Through: Mr.Sidharth Chopra, Mr.Nitin
Sharma, Ms.Swikriti Singhanian,
Mr.Vivek Ayyagari and
Ms.Harsshita Pothiraj, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR.Respondents

Through: Ms.Shiva Lakshmi, CGSC with
Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Mr.Madhav Bajaj and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

T.V. TODAY NETWORK LIMITED & ANR.Petitioners

Through: Mr.Hrishikesh Baruah,
Mr.Kumar Kshitij, Mr.Utkarsh
Dwivedi, Ms.Pragya Agarwal,
Ms.Nishtha Sachan,
Mr.Yashaswy Ghosh, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.Respondents

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.
Mr.Varun Pathak, Ms.Amee
Rana, Mr.Vishesh Sharma,
Ms.Varsha Jhavar, Adv. for R-
2.

(19)+ W.P.(C) 6219/2024

LIVE LAW MEDIA PVT. LTD. AND ORSPetitioners

Through: Mr.Apar Gupta, Ms.Vrinda
Bhandari, Mr.Naman Kumar,



Ms.Avanti Deshpande, Ms.
Indumugi. C., Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANRRespondents

Through: Ms.Shiva Lakshmi, CGSC with
Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Mr.Madhav Bajaj and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(20)+ W.P.(C) 6220/2024

BHAKTA TRIPATHYPetitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.Respondents

Through: Ms.Shiva Lakshmi, SPC for
UOI
Ms.Pratima N. Lakra, CGSC
with Ms.Kiran Dharam, Adv.
Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(21)+ W.P.(C) 6375/2024

T M KRISHNAPetitioner

Through: Mr.Apar Gupta, Ms.Vrinda
Bhandari, Mr.Naman Kumar,
Ms.Avanti Deshpande,
Ms.Indumugi. C., Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA ANRRespondents

Through: Mr.Ripudaman Bhardwaj,
CGSC with Ms.Laavanya
Kaushik, GP and Ms.Khyaati
Bansal, Adv.
Ms.Amee Rana, Mr.Tejpal
Singh Rathore and Mr.Vishesh
Sharma, Adv. for R-2.

(22)+ W.P.(C) 6390/2024

THE NEWS BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION AND ORS.



.....Petitioners

Through: Ms.Nisha Bhambhani, Mr.Rajat Arora, Ms.Mariya Shahab, Adv.

versus

MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND ANR.Respondents

Through: Ms.Shiva Lakshmi, CGSC with Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and Mr.Madhav Bajaj and Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(23)+ W.P.(C) 6391/2024

DIGITAL NEWS PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATIONPetitioner

Through: Mr.Shivek Trehan and Mr.Akash Chandna, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANRRespondents

Through: Mr.Amit Tiwari, CGSC, Ms.Ayushi Srivastava, Mr.Ayush Tanwar, Mr.Arpan Narwal, Mr.Kushagra Malik, Adv. for UOI. Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(24)+ W.P.(C) 6393/2024

TRUTH PRO FOUNDATION INDIAPetitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIARespondent

Through: Ms.Shiva Lakshmi, SPC for UOI Mr.Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.



(25)+ W.P.(C) 7376/2024

AGIJ PROMOTION OF NINETTENONEA MEDIA

PVT. LTD AND ORS

.....Petitioners

Through: Mr.Darius Khambata, Mr.Mihir Desai and Mr.Avi Singh, Sr. Advs. with Ms.Astha Sharma, Ms.Manika Haryani, Mr.Bhanu Mishra, Ms.Chanan Parwani, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR

.....Respondents

Through: Mr.Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

(26)+ W.P.(C) 7377/2024

NIKHIL MANGESH WAGLE

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr.Krishan Kumar, Mr.Seemant K. Garg and Mr.Nitin Pal, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA

.....Respondent

Through: Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

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

AMOL PALEKAR

.....Petitioner

Through: Ms.Nitya Ramakrishnan, Sr. Adv. Mr.Prasanna S., Ms.Stuti Rai, Ms.Injila Muslim Zaidi, Mr.Maamidi Ashish Reddy and Mr.Prasanna B, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr.Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.



Mr.Amit Tiwari, CGSC,
Ms.Ayushi Srivastava,
Mr.Ayush Tanwar,Mr.Arpan
Narwal, Mr.Kushagra Malik,
Advs. for UOI.

(28)+ W.P.(C) 9137/2024

PRAVEEN ARIMBRATHODIYILPetitioner
Through: Mr.Jayant Malik and Mr.Syed
Haroon, Advs.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ANRRespondents
Through: Ms.Manisha Agrawal Narain
CGSC with Ms.Aditi Singh,
Adv.
Ms.Laavanya Kaushik, GP and
Ms.Khyaati Bansal, Adv.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NAVIN CHAWLA

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAVINDER DUDEJA

ORDER

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08.04.2026

1. The learned counsel for the respondent(s) submits that certain amendments are proposed in the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 on which consultation is ongoing.
2. The learned senior counsels appearing for some of the petitioners submit that those Rules have no effect on the challenge laid in these petitions.
3. The learned counsel for the respondent(s) further submits that in petitions where counter affidavits have not been filed, the counter affidavits filed in the other petitions shall be adopted and copies



thereof shall be supplied to the learned counsels appearing in those petitions.

4. The learned counsel for the respondent(s) shall also file the written submissions positively within a period of six weeks from today.

5. At the request of the learned counsel for the respondent(s), list on 14th and 15th July, 2026 at 2:30 P.M..

6. *Interim* orders to continue.

7. The petitions be not listed on 09.04.2026, the date given earlier.

NAVIN CHAWLA, J

RAVINDER DUDEJA, J

APRIL 8, 2026/ns/as