

# LIGHTS, CAMERA & LAW

MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT LAWS UPDATES  
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# NATIONAL

## **FIR FILED AGAINST SANJAY LEELEA BHANSALI RELATING TO HIS UPCOMING FILM LOVE AND WAR**

A First Information Report (“FIR”) was filed by a line producer named Prateek Raj Mathur against Sanjay Leela Bhansali and two team members - Arvind Gill and Utkarsh Bali - in Bikaner, Rajasthan, in relation to Bhansali’s upcoming film Love and War (“Film”).

The complaint alleged that Mathur was appointed as a line producer for the Film, but his contract was subsequently terminated without payment after he had already carried out substantial responsibilities, including administrative coordination and arrangements for the shoot. Mathur also accused Bhansali and two team members of removing him from the project and misbehaving when he went to meet the film team at a hotel.

The FIR registered at Bichhwal police station in Bikaner, includes charges of fraud, criminal conspiracy and criminal intimidation. Police are currently investigating the matter and will decide on further action after gathering the statements from all the parties involved.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **ANTICIPATORY BAIL GRANTED TO CARTOONIST HEMANT MALVIYA FOR SHARING OBJECTIONABLE CARTOONS OF PM NARENDRA MODI**

On 2nd September 2025, in the case of *Hemant Malviya v. State of Madhya Pradesh 2025 (Special Leave Petition (Criminal) No. 9906/2025)*, the Supreme Court of India granted anticipatory bail to cartoonist Hemant Malviya, relating to an FIR registered in Indore, Madhya Pradesh in May 2025.

The FIR was lodged following allegations of sharing objectionable cartoons and related content about Prime Minister Narendra Modi and RSS workers on social media. The complaint alleged that the material caused offense to Hindu religious sentiments and disturbed communal harmony. The FIR referenced inappropriate comments about Lord Shiva alongside videos and photographs.

Earlier in the case of *Hemant Malviya v. The State of MP and others 2025 (MPHC-IND:1810)*, the Madhya Pradesh High Court refused Malviya’s bail plea on 3rd July 2025, holding his conduct surpassed the limits of freedom of speech and expression under several sections of *Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023* and the Information Technology Act, 2000, justifying custodial interrogation.

Following the denial by the Madhya Pradesh High Court, Malviya appealed to the Supreme Court of India which granted him interim protection from arrest pursuant to its order dated 2nd September 2025, after Malviya posted a public apology on Facebook and Instagram, expressing “wholehearted regret”. The Supreme Court allowed police to seek bail cancellation if Malviya failed to cooperate with the investigation and emphasized their concern over the increase in objectionable posts online, noting a need for judicial intervention.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **PARESH RAWAL'S 'THE TAJ STORY' FACES SCRUTINY FROM CENSOR BOARD OVER HISTORICAL CLAIMS**

The upcoming film *The Taj Story* (“Film”), starring veteran actor Paresh Rawal, has faced significant scrutiny from the Central Board of Film Certification (“CBFC”). The Film, which is said to explore “untold stories of the Taj Mahal”, was subject to a prolonged clearance process due to its sensitive content.

According to industry sources, the Film's director and producer were required to submit extensive proofs and documents to the CBFC to validate the historical claims made in the narrative. This rigorous process, which took several months, was a key step in the Film's journey to the big screen.

The Film, written and directed by Tushar Amrish Goel, has now received clearance, which industry insiders see as a validation of its authenticity. The Film is scheduled for a nationwide theatrical release on 31st October 2025.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

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## INDIAN FILM INDUSTRY'S PRODUCERS UNITE AGAINST 'REVIEW EXTORTION' BY INFLUENCERS

The Indian film and television industry took a firm stand against a rising trend of what is being called as "extortion" by social media influencers. The Indian Film and Television Producers Council ("IFTPC"), an association representing over 375 producers, announced seeking legal counsel to pursue civil and criminal action against individuals who allegedly demand payments to prevent negative reviews.

According to a statement from the IFTPC, certain influencers threaten to release malicious and disparaging reviews or "reaction videos" if producers do not meet their financial demands. If a producer refuses, these influencers allegedly launch targeted online campaigns to deliberately sabotage a project's reception and commercial viability. The move is supported by other industry bodies like the Indian Motion Picture Producers' Association ("IMPPA"), whose members have highlighted that this practice goes beyond legitimate criticism and undermines the hard work of filmmakers.

While the IFTPC has clarified that it is not against freedom of speech or constructive criticism, it argues that these actions pose a grave threat to the economic health and creative integrity of the industry.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## BROADCASTERS OPPOSE REMOVAL OF CROSS-HOLDING RESTRICTIONS IN TV RATINGS

On 2nd July 2025, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting ("MIB") proposed to eliminate cross-holding restrictions which prevents the broadcasters, advertisers and advertising agencies from owning stakes or holding board positions in rating firms, thereby safeguarding the independence and objectivity of audience measurement.

The intent of MIB's draft behind scrapping these restrictions is to promote competition, facilitate new players beyond the sole agency Broadcast Audience Research Council ("BARC"), India, and incorporate viewership data from digital platforms like smart TVs and mobile applications.

However, broadcasters including the Indian Broadcasting and Digital Foundation ("IBDF") and the News Broadcasters and Digital Association ("NBDA"), have strongly opposed the move arguing that it could compromise the credibility and objectivity of TV ratings by creating conflicts of interest.

The broadcasters insist that audience measurement service in India should remain an industry-led, non-profit entity, urging the MIB to retain existing safeguards and instead strengthen them with clearer conflict-of-interest protocols. Some stakeholders have even recommended oversight by the Competition Commission of India ("CCI") to ensure transparency and neutrality. The debate underscores a growing tension between the government's push for market liberalization and the industry's concerns about maintaining the integrity of a system that underpins a vast advertising market.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## JOLLY LLB 3 CLEARED FOR RELEASE AMID LEGAL CONTROVERSY

Jolly LLB 3, a film based on legal drama, was cleared for release by the Allahabad High Court, dismissing a petition seeking to halt its release. The writ petition filed by Jai Vardhan Shukla (*Jai Vardhan Shukla and Anr. v. Union of India & Ors. WP(C) No. 8488/2025*) claimed that the film including the song 'Bhai Vakeel Hai' defamed the judiciary and the legal profession.

However, upon reviewing the trailer, teaser and the lyrics of the song, the court found no content that disrespected the dignity of the legal profession or hindered the practice of law by genuine advocates. The court's ruling effectively eliminated the judicial impediments, allowing the film to proceed with its scheduled release on 19th September 2025.

Although, a separate case filed by Advocate Wajed Rahim Khan (*Wajed Rahim Khan v. Subhash Kapoor and Ors. R.C.S/878/2024*) remains pending in the Pune Civil Court, where the court has summoned Arshad Warsi, director Subhash Kapoor and producer Arun Bhatia for a hearing

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on 28th September 2025. The complaint alleges that the film mocks court procedures and questions the use of the term “mama” for judges as disrespectful.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Order Copies: [here](#) and [here](#)

## **CBFC IMPOSES 23 CUTS ON TIGER SHROFF'S 'BAAGHI 4' DESPITE ADULT ONLY CERTIFICATION**

The Bollywood action thriller ‘Baaghi 4’ (“Film”) starring Tiger Shroff and Sanjay Dutt received an ‘A’ certificate from the CBFC after undergoing 23 cuts. Despite the adult-only rating, CBFC mandated the removal/ alteration of several violent, explicit and religiously sensitive scenes to meet certification requirements.

Key deletions included a scene of the hero standing on a coffin, a character lighting a cigarette from a religious niranjan diya, a frontal nude scene that was concealed and a graphic 13 second shot of showing a cigarette lit from an amputated hand. Furthermore, violent scenes such as throat cuts, hand chopping and a knife thrown at a Jesus statue, were edited/ removed. The CBFC also censored several objectionable dialogues, muting or replacing certain words with less offensive alternatives.

Following the certification, the filmmakers voluntarily trimmed 6 minutes and 45 seconds, reducing the Film to 2 hours and 37 minutes.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **DELHI HIGH COURT TO PROTECT AISHWARYA RAI BACHCHAN'S PUBLICITY AND PERSONALITY RIGHTS**

In the case of *Aishwarya Rai Bachchan v. Aishwaryaworld.com & Ors. (CS (Comm) 956/2025)*, the Delhi High Court (Justice Tejas Karia), on 9th September 2025, passed an ex-parte interim injunction protecting Rai's personality/publicity rights and/or moral rights, restraining

identified websites and platforms from using her name, the acronym ‘ARB’, her image, likeness or persona, including AI-generated or morphed content, and directed to remove the infringing URLs within 72 hours while also prohibiting new exploitation of her identity without consent.

The court observed that Rai had made out a prima facie case, and that failure to grant relief would cause irreparable harm, including dilution of reputation and commercial exploitation. It also ordered that platforms, e-commerce and Google must disable or block infringing URLs.

This order gave effect to the court's earlier indication that it would protect her name, image, and voice in the digital space, which is a firm step against misuse in the era of AI, deepfakes and unauthorized merchandise. Following this order, Abhishek Bachchan also secured an interim ruling from the DHC forbidding websites from using his name or AI-manipulated images.

Access Links: Source [here](#)

Next Date of Hearing: 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **MADRAS HIGH COURT GRANTS TIME TO RESPOND IN 'CHANDRAMUKHI' CLIP COPYRIGHT DISPUTE AGAINST NAYANTHARA'S WEDDING DOCUMENTARY**

In the case of *AP International v. M/s Tarc Studio LLP and Another (CS (Comm Div) 168/2025)*, the petitioner, being copyright owner of the 2005 film Chandramukhi, filed a lawsuit in Madras High Court alleging unauthorised use of clips from the film in the documentary named, “Nayanthara: Beyond the Fairytale” seeking (i) removal of the disputed footage from the documentary and (ii) INR 5 crore in compensation for the alleged infringement. The makers of the said documentary have been ordered to submit a formal response by 6th October 2025, following a hearing by Justice Senthilkumar. Despite prior notices and warnings, the documentary has reportedly continued to stream with the contested content.

Access Links: Source [here](#) and [here](#)

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## RAJASTHAN HIGH COURT STAYS FIR AGAINST SHAH RUKH KHAN AND DEEPIKA PADUKONE IN DEFECTIVE CAR ENDORSEMENT CASE

On 10th September 2025, the Rajasthan High Court, Jaipur Bench, granted interim relief to Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone by staying the investigation of an FIR filed against them for criminal breach of trust, cheating and criminal conspiracy.

The case titled *Shah Rukh Khan vs. The State of Rajasthan and Anr. and Batch (SB Criminal Miscellaneous (Petition) No. 5669/2025)* concerns allegations arising from a complaint by a local car owner in Bharatpur regarding the endorsement of a defective Hyundai Alcazar vehicle. The FIR accuses the actors, who are brand ambassadors, alongside six company officials, of misleading consumers about the vehicle's quality.

The court found the FIR lacking factual basis and emphasized that the actors had no direct role in the manufacturing or quality control of the vehicle. The court further noted that any grievances/complaints could be addressed by appropriate consumer forums rather than a criminal proceeding.

Access Links: Source [here](#) and [here](#)

## DELHI HIGH COURT REFUSES INTERIM RELIEF TO DHARMA PRODUCTIONS IN SHAMSHERA COPYRIGHT DISPUTE

On 10th September 2025, the Delhi High Court refused to grant interim relief to Dharma Productions in the ongoing copyright case concerning the film *Shamshera* ("**Film**") (*Dharma Productions v. State of NCT Delhi CRL. M. C. 6359/2025*).

The dispute arises from an FIR registered in 2024 following a complaint by filmmaker Bikramjeet Singh Bhullar, who claimed that the Film infringed his literary work 'Kabu Na Chhadein Khet'. Bhullar alleged that *Shamshera* was based on his script and filed a criminal complaint against Dharma

Productions and Yash Raj Films. Dharma contended that Bhullar initially approached them with the script in 2007, but the project was shelved in 2017. Bhullar later accused YRF of using his script for *Shamshera*. The Court declined Dharma's request for an immediate stay on the investigation but issued notices to the Delhi Government and Bhullar, requiring their responses before the next hearing on 14th October 2025.

Previously, a civil suit (*Bikramjeet Singh Bhullar v. Yash Raj Films & Ors CS(COMM) 483/2022*) filed by Bhullar alleged that YRF's Film infringed his copyrighted script 'Kabu Na Chhadein Khet' by copying its plot and storyline where Bhullar claimed exclusive rights to the script and sought an interim injunction to block the Film's release and telecast. The civil suit was dismissed at the interim stage on 20th December 2023 by Justice Jyoti Singh. The court held that the similarities cited were common Bollywood tropes, not entitled to copyright protection, thus rejecting Bhullar's plea for an interim injunction to block the Film's OTT telecast.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Order Copy: [here](#)

## DELHI COURT FINES NDTV ANCHOR GARGI RAWAT IN DEFAMATION CASE FILED BY ABHIJIT IYER-MITRA FOR LIKING DEFAMATORY TWEET

On 8th September 2025, the Patiala House Courts, Delhi, imposed a fine of INR 10,000/- on an NDTV journalist and anchor, Gargi Rawat, in a defamation suit filed by commentator Abhijit Iyer-Mitra. The case stemmed from Rawat liking a tweet on Twitter (now X) by lawyer Dushyant Arora, which falsely claimed that Iyer-Mitra was accused of rape and involved in hate speech.

The Court held that liking the tweet amounted to re-publication of defamatory material, thereby making Rawat liable for defamation under Indian law. The suit filed in 2019, sought INR 20 Lakh in damages for reputational harm. While the court recognised the severity of the allegations, it reduced the damages considering Iyer-Mitra's own record of controversial social media conduct. Rawat was also ordered to remove the defamatory tweet from profile if it was still visible.

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District Judge Satyabrata Panda of the Patiala House Courts observed that by liking the tweet, Rawat expanded its audience to her followers, demonstrating endorsement.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **INTERIM RELIEF GRANTED TO ACTOR DHRUVA SARJA BY THE BOMBAY HIGH COURT**

On 9th September 2025, the Bombay High Court in the matter *Dhruva Kumar v. Raghvendra Hegde (WP/4519/2025)* granted interim relief to Kannada actor Dhruva Sarja pertaining to the FIR filed by Mumbai based filmmaker Raghavendra Hegde, directing the Mumbai Police not to file a chargesheet against the actor without the court's permission.

The matter dates to 2019 when filmmaker and actor entered into agreement for a film “The Soldier”. The actor received INR 3 crore as advance for the film, which got delayed. The filmmaker stated that he paid the amount after taking a loan which has surged to an amount of approximately INR 9 crore including interest of 18%. The filmmaker later alleged that the actor stopped responding to any communication made to him in regard to the film. Subsequently, the filmmaker registered an FIR against the actor alleging criminal breach of trust and cheating. In August, 2025, the actor filed a suit before the Bombay High Court stating that the matter is of civil nature, and the delay was caused by the filmmaker.

Previously, a bench comprising Justices Ajay Gadkari and Rajesh Patil heard the matter in August 2025. During the hearing, the bench directed him to deposit INR 3 crore with the court to demonstrate his good faith. Interim relief was initially refused at that time. A subsequent division bench led by Chief Justice Shree Chandrashekhar and Justice Gautam Ankhad granted Sarja interim protection in September by staying the chargesheet.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **DELHI HIGH COURT DENIES CERTIFICATION TO FILM MASOOM KAATIL**

The bench consisting of Justice Manmeet Singh Arora at the Delhi High Court refused to certify the film ‘Masoom Kaatil’ for public exhibition. In the case of *Shyam Bharteey v. Central Board of Film Certification (RFA-IPD 1/2023)*, the producer and director namely Shyam Bharteey challenged the CBFC's decision in the Delhi High Court. The court upheld the CBFC's decision to deny certification to the Hindi film Masoom Kaatil.

The court ruled that the movie was unfit for public exhibition because it contained graphic scenes of killing and cannibalism, derogatory remarks about religion and communal statements. The bench stated that, ‘In a diverse, secular society, certification cannot be granted to a film that ridicules religions, incites hatred, or threatens social harmony’.

The bench denied the appellant’s request to grant the ‘A’ certification on the ground that as per Rule 22(9)(f) of the Cinematograph (Certification) Rules, 1983, which states that the Examining Committee can refuse certification if a film is deemed unsuitable even for restricted public exhibition, and therefore, the bench found no reason to intervene.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **BOMBAY HIGH COURT REFUSES TO RESTRAIN ACTOR ABHAY VERMA IN CONTRACT DISPUTE**

On 15th September 2025, the Bombay High Court (single bench of Justice Prafulla S. Khubalkar), in the case of *Avantika Films LLP v. Abhay Verma (Commercial Suit (L) No. 24272 of 2025)* dismissed a plea by the producer, Avantika Films LLP, seeking an interim injunction against actor Abhay Verma in a contractual dispute over the film Prem Keetanu.

As background, the producer had entered into an artist agreement with the actor on 15th June 2025, wherein he was to act exclusively for the project from 5th September 2025 to 20th

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November 2025. However, the actor terminated the contract in July 2025, citing prior commitments, prompting the producer to seek an order restraining him from engaging in other work during the scheduled shooting period, along with a claim for damages of INR 12 crore. Avantika Films argued that the exclusivity clause amounted to a negative covenant and its breach would cause irreparable loss, whereas the actor contended that compelling him to serve exclusively would be akin to enforcing a contract of personal service, which is barred under Indian law, and any loss could be compensated monetarily.

The court held that while negative covenants in contracts may be enforceable in some cases, the relief sought here would effectively compel personal service, which is impermissible. The court further observed that the producer had failed to demonstrate irreparable harm and that granting interim relief would amount to granting final relief at the interlocutory stage. Accordingly, the application was rejected, releasing the actor from the contractual restraint.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **FILM PRODUCER FIROZ NADIADWALA SERVES INR 25 CRORE LEGAL NOTICE TO THE GREAT INDIAN KAPIL SHOW OVER BABURAO SKIT**

Producer Firoz A. Nadiadwala, owner of the Hera Pheri franchise, sent a legal notice worth INR 25 crore to Netflix and the makers of The Great Indian Kapil Show, claiming unauthorized use of the character Baburao Ganpatrao Apte. The controversy arose after comedian Kiku Sharda performed a skit in a promotional video for the show's upcoming season finale, impersonating Baburao, a character originally portrayed by actor Paresh Rawal in the Hera Pheri franchise.

Nadiadwala alleged that the act constitutes infringement of copyright and trademark, demanding immediate removal of the content from all platforms, a written undertaking that character will not be used further without permission, and a public apology within 24 hours. The notice warned of both civil and criminal proceedings should the demands go unmet.

As an update, the finale episode, featuring Akshay Kumar as a guest, was aired on 20th September 2025, without removal of the contested content.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **DELHI HIGH COURT HEARD PETITIONS BY NEWSLAUNDRY & RAVISH KUMAR CHALLENGING MIB TAKEDOWN DIRECTIVE IN ADANI DEFAMATION CASE**

On 22nd September, 2025, in the matter *Ravish Kumar v. Union of India (W.P.(C)-14643/2025)* and *Newslaundry Media Pvt. Ltd. v. Union of India (W.P.(C)-14562/2025)*, the Delhi High Court bench, led by Justice Sachin Datta, took up petitions filed by Newslaundry Media Pvt Ltd and journalist Ravish Kumar challenging a directive issued by the MIB that required them to remove reports and videos concerning the Adani Group.

The directive followed an ex-parte injunction granted by a Delhi Civil Court in a defamation suit filed by Adani Group companies, which restrained certain journalists and unnamed "John Doe" defendants from publishing allegedly defamatory content. Newslaundry and Kumar contended that they were not parties to the suit and that their content had never been mentioned in the injunction. They argued that the government's action amounted to executive overreach, effectively enforcing a private court order against third parties, and that it violated their constitutional freedom of speech and expression (Article 19(1) (a)) by imposing prior restraint on content without due process. The petitioners argued that the government's action "strikes at the heart of press freedom, which is recognised as the lifeblood of democracy."

The Delhi High Court, in its order dated 26th September 2025, recorded the understanding arrived between the petitioners and Adani Enterprises Limited, according to which, neither Newslaundry nor Kumar will be required to remove existing content, while any material previously taken down will not be re-uploaded. The court noted that the government shall issue a corrigendum reflecting subsequent court directions.

Access Links: Source [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)

Order Copy: [here](#)

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## **DELHI HIGH COURT GRANTED INTERIM PROTECTION TO KARAN JOHAR'S PERSONALITY RIGHTS**

On 17th September 2025, the Delhi High Court, in the case of *Karan Johar v. Ashok Kumar (C.S. (Comm.) No. 974 of 2025)*, granted an interim injunction in favour of filmmaker Karan Johar, protecting his personality and publicity rights, and restrained several online platforms and entities from using his name, image, voice, or likeness without authorization.

Plaintiff (i.e., Karan Johar) had filed the suit seeking to prevent the unauthorized commercial exploitation of his identity, alleging that various websites and social media handles had used his personal attributes for promotion and content without consent, causing reputational harm and economic loss.

The court observed that personality and publicity rights are protected under Indian law, and the unauthorized use of a public figure's attributes constitutes infringement even in the digital context. It directed the defendants to cease and desist from further unauthorized use and to remove infringing content from the internet immediately.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Next Date of Hearing: 19<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **INTERIM INJUNCTION GRANTED BY MADRAS HIGH COURT IN ILAIYARAJA COPYRIGHT DISPUTE**

On 8th September 2025, the Madras High Court, in the case of *Dr. Ilaiyaraaja v. Mythri Movie Makers (OA No. 889 of 2025 in C.S. (Comm. Div.) No. 226 of 2025)*, granted a temporary injunction in favour of composer Ilaiyaraaja, restraining the producers of the Tamil film *Good Bad Ugly* from exhibiting, screening, publishing, broadcasting or distributing the movie using his songs.

Ilaiyaraaja alleged that the production company Mythri Movie Makers had incorporated three of his compositions, namely, *Otha Rubayum Tharen* (from *Nattupura Pattu*), *Ilamai Idho Idho* (from *Sakalakala Vallavan*), and *En Jodi Manja Kuruvi* (from *Vikram*), without obtaining his consent or paying royalties.

The court noted that the producers' response to Ilaiyaraaja's legal notice was inadequate and lacked substantiated evidence regarding the licensing of the songs. Consequently, the court ruled in favour of Ilaiyaraaja, granting the temporary injunction based on the production company's insufficient response. Following this order, the film was removed from Netflix's streaming platform.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **MADRAS HIGH COURT DIRECTS SONY TO SUBMIT DAILY REVENUE DETAILS AMID ILAIYARAJA COPYRIGHT OWNERSHIP DISPUTE**

On 25th September 2025, the Madras High Court, in the case of *Dr. Ilaiyaraaja v. Sony Music Entertainment India Private Ltd and Others (OA 946 of 2025 in C.S. (Comm. Div.) No. 249 of 2025)* directed Sony Music Entertainment India Pvt. Ltd. to file detailed accounts of revenue generated by exploiting Ilaiyaraaja's songs over the years, including income from CDs, cassettes, digital platforms, and streaming services.

Ilaiyaraaja has sought a declaration that Sony has no rights, title or interest in his musical works, arguing that he retains absolute authorship and ownership, including moral rights, as his compositions were created independently and not under any producer's control. He also alleged that Sony was remixing and distorting his music, violating Section 38B of the Copyright Act, 1957. Sony argued that not all modifications amount to actionable distortion and that a similar case is pending before the Bombay High Court.

The court observed that the producers' agreements with Ilaiyaraaja are key issues to be examined. It scheduled the next hearing on the date mentioned below, directing Sony to furnish financial records in the meantime.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Next Date of Hearing: 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2025

## **PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT DISMISSED CONTEMPT PLEA ON SONGS GLORIFYING VIOLENCE**

On 2nd September 2025, the Punjab and Haryana High

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Court, in *Hardik Alhuwalia v. Gaurav Yadav* (COCP-4145-2024 (O&M)) dismissed a contempt petition alleging continued streaming of songs glorifying violence, liquor, and drugs in violation of its 2019 judgment in *Reet Mohinder Singh v. State of Punjab & Ors.* (2019 SCC OnLine P&H 7001), and held that non-removal of such content from digital platforms could not amount to civil contempt.

The petitioner contended that despite the earlier order restricting live performances of such songs and prescribing noise pollution norms, authorities had failed to curb their availability on platforms such as YouTube, Spotify, Apple Music, JioSaavn and Wynk. He argued that this omission constituted wilful disobedience of the court's directions and sought contempt action against the concerned officials and intermediaries.

The court, however, noted that the 2019 judgment was limited to regulation of live performances, use of loudspeakers, and noise control, and did not extend to mandating takedown of online content. It further observed that the petitioner had not produced any concrete evidence of specific violations, such as dates or venues of live performances contrary to the order. The legal issue was whether failure to restrict streaming of such songs online fell within the scope of civil contempt under the 2019 directions. Concluding that it did not, the court dismissed the plea, cautioning the petitioner to exercise greater care in approaching the court in future.

Access Link: Source [here](#)  
Order Copy: [here](#)

## **KARNATAKA HIGH COURT STAYS RS 200 MOVIE TICKET PRICE CAP, CITING LACK OF LEGAL BACKING AND ARBITRARY IMPACT**

In the case of *Multiplex Association of India v. State of Karnataka* (WP 28146/2025), the Karnataka High Court stayed the state government's recent amendment to the Karnataka Cinemas (Control) Rules, 2014, which capped movie ticket prices at INR 200/- inclusive of taxes across all theatres, including multiplexes. The interim order was passed by Justice Ravi V. Hosmani on petitions filed by multiplex chains, film producers including Hombale Films, Keystone Entertainment, and the Multiplex Association of India.

The petitioners contended that the price ceiling was arbitrary, lacked legislative or empirical backing, ignored producers' and exhibitors' substantial investments, and indiscriminately treated luxury and standard screens the same, thereby infringing on their right to conduct business freely. The petitioners also argued that Rule 55, under which the amendment to fix minimum ticket price at INR 200/- was made, actually pertains to ticket booths and not price fixation, putting the rule beyond the government's statutory power. The State defended the price cap as a pro-consumer public interest measure aimed at making cinema affordable.

The court observed prima facie that the parent Karnataka Cinemas (Regulation) Act, 1964, does not explicitly empower the government to regulate ticket prices and thus raised serious doubts about the legal validity of the amendment. It noted that treating unequals as equals by imposing a uniform price cap without distinction of location, investment, or cinema type was unreasonable and arbitrary. The interim stay protects the petitioners from potential loss while reserving the final decision on the constitutional and statutory validity of the price cap amendment.

Access Links: Source [here](#) and [here](#)

## **NHRC SEEKS LEGAL ACTION OVER RANBIR KAPOOR'S E-CIGARETTE DEPICTION IN ARYAN KHAN'S SERIES 'THE B\*\*\*\*DS OF BOLLYWOOD'**

The National Human Rights Commission ("NHRC") has directed the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and the Mumbai Police to submit an Action Taken Report concerning Aryan Khan's web series 'The B\*\*\*\*ds of Bollywood', following a complaint about actor Ranbir Kapoor's cameo in which he uses a banned e-cigarette without statutory warning or disclaimers.

The complaint, filed by Vinay Joshi of the Legal Rights Observatory, alleges the scene could mislead or negatively influence young audiences and violates the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Act, 2019 which expressly prohibits advertising, promotion, storage and use of e-cigarettes in

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India. The NHRC's intervention includes recommending registration of an FIR against Ranbir Kapoor, the series producers and Netflix for promoting illegal activities and potentially harming public health and morality.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **DELHI HIGH COURT ISSUES DYNAMIC+ INJUNCTION IN FAVOUR OF JIOSTAR; BARS ILLEGAL STREAMING OF JOLLY LLB 3**

In the case of JioStar India Private Limited v. Vegamovies.yachts & Ors. (CS(COMM) 977/2025), the Delhi High Court granted a dynamic+ injunction in favour of JioStar India Private Limited, restraining numerous rogue websites from illegally streaming, hosting, or making available the Bollywood film Jolly LLB 3, which was released in theatres on 19th September 2025. Justice Tejas Karia, while passing an ex-parte ad-interim injunction, observed that any delay in blocking access to such infringing websites could cause substantial financial loss and irreparable harm to JioStar's copyright in the film.

The court noted that JioStar, who had commissioned Kangra Talkies for the development and production of the movie, is the exclusive owner of all intellectual property and exploitation rights in the film. Accordingly, the court directed the suspension and blocking of the domain name registrations (DNRs) of the identified rogue websites, such as, inter alia, Vegamovies.yachts, Filmyzilla20, and Bolly4u, and ordered their deactivation.

To ensure fairness, Justice Karia clarified that any website not primarily engaged in infringement but inadvertently affected by the order could approach the Court with an undertaking confirming it would not disseminate JioStar's copyrighted material. Upon such application, the court stated that it may consider modifying the injunction.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Next Date of Hearing: 20th January 2026.

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **KERALA HIGH COURT SEEKS GOVERNMENT RESPONSE ON PIL AGAINST ARUNDHATI ROY'S BOOK COVER SHOWING SMOKING WITHOUT HEALTH WARNING**

On 17<sup>th</sup> September 2025, in the case of *Rajasimhan v. Union of India (WP (PIL) 117/2025 (S))*, the Kerala High Court took cognizance of a Public Interest Litigation (“PIL”) petition challenging the cover of writer Arundhati Roy's latest book, ‘Mother Mary Comes to Me’. The PIL filed by advocate Rajasimhan, objects to the depiction of Roy smoking a cigarette on the cover without the mandatory statutory health warning as required under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 (“COTPA”).

The petitioners argue that the image glorifies smoking as a symbol of intellectual and creative expression potentially sending a harmful message to impressionable youth that smoking is fashionable and associated with creativity. The plea clarifies that it does not challenge the literary content of the book but focuses solely on the cover image, which is widely accessible and thereby influential.

On 25th September 2025, the Kerala High Court noted that the PIL was filed without proper research, as the petitioner had not examined the book or its disclaimer stating that the depiction was not intended to promote smoking. Questioning the maintainability of such a PIL, the court asked whether the Petitioner had first approached the statutory authorities with its grievance. The learned Senior Counsel for the petitioner submitted that he intends to argue the matter before this court.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Next Date of Hearing: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2025

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# NATIONAL

## **GOVERNMENT PUSHES 'MAKE IN INDIA' INITIATIVE FOR FILM EQUIPMENT, PROPOSES MODEL STATE CINEMA REGULATION RULES**

On 23rd September 2025, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw advocated for local manufacturing of key equipment used in the film industry, notably large-format cameras, under the government's Make in India program. Speaking at the National Film Awards function, the Minister stated the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has envisioned India as a global hub for content creation, emphasizing that domestic production of film equipment will be a priority.

Vaishnaw also announced ongoing efforts to harmonize state cinema regulation rules through a new Model State Cinema regulation framework. These model rules aim to streamline and simplify permissions related to film production across India, offering industry wide clarity and uniformity. Additionally, Vaishnaw highlighted the need for a robust police framework to boost the live concert economy, including unified guidelines and easier permission protocols. The Minister further noted that the Waves Bazaar, a market platform for Indian content creators, is expanding into countries such as Australia, South Korea and Canada mirroring the government's vision for expanding India's digital creator economy.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **PARLIAMENT PANEL CALLS FOR LEGAL, TECH SOLUTIONS TO TACKLE AI-BASED FAKE NEWS**

A Standing Committee on Communications and Information Technology has urged the Indian government to develop concrete legal and technological mechanisms to identify and prosecute individuals and entities responsible for spreading AI-generated fake news. In its recently submitted draft report, the committee stressed the need for close coordination between the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (“MeitY”), and other relevant ministries to establish robust frameworks for tackling digital misinformation.

Key recommendations include exploring licensing requirements for Artificial Intelligence (“AI”) content creators, mandating labels for AI-generated videos and content, and amending penal provisions to increase fines and accountability. The panel emphasized that while AI technologies can help detect and verify misinformation, they can also be sources of fake news. It called for the mandatory presence of fact-checking systems and internal ombudsmen in all print, digital, and electronic media organizations.

Some ongoing government projects include software for detecting deepfakes and fake speech through deep learning frameworks. The committee also highlighted that AI, at its current developmental stage, should mainly flag potentially fake or misleading content for human review rather than be relied upon solely for fact-checking.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **DELHI HIGH COURT GRANTS RELIEF TO A.R. RAHMAN IN 'VEERA RAJA VEERA' COPYRIGHT DISPUTE, SETS ASIDE INTERIM INJUNCTION**

On September 24 2025, in the case of *AR Rahman v. Ustad Faiyaz Wasifuddin Dagar (FAO(OS) (COMM) 86/2025 & CM APPL. 27354/2025)*, the Delhi High Court ruled in favour of composer A.R. Rahman in the copyright dispute involving the song "Veera Raja Veera" from the film "Ponniyin Selvan 2".

The case arose from the 25th April 2025 single-judge order in the case *Ustad Faiyaz Wasifuddin Dagar v. Mr. A.R. Rahman & Ors. (CS(COMM) 773/2023)* that had directed Rahman and two production companies to pay INR 2 crore in damages for alleged copyright infringement filed by Padma Shri awardee classical vocalist Ustad Faiyaz Wasifuddin Dagar. The suit claimed the song was identical in musical composition to the Junior Dagar Brothers' "Shiva Stuti."

The division bench, comprising Justices C Hari Shankar and Om Prakash Shukla, allowed Rahman's appeal and set aside the earlier injunction order. Notably, the court stated it had not examined the infringement aspect itself but highlighted that accepting every musical rendering and performance

# NATIONAL

as a prima facie proof of composing it would require redefining the Section 2 of the Copyright Act, 1957 to include a performer of a musical work as its author which cannot be done. Accordingly, the court's decision gives Rahman the benefit of the doubt, pending a detailed ruling.

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## **KARNATAKA HIGH COURT DISMISSED X CORP'S CHALLENGE TO GOVERNMENT TAKEDOWN ORDERS**

On September 24, 2025, the Karnataka High Court (Justice M. Nagaprasanna), in the case of *X Corp v. Union of India (WP/7405/2025)*, dismissed the petition filed by X Corp challenging the Indian government's use of content takedown orders under Section 79(3)(b) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 ("IT Act") via the Sahyog portal, and held that X could not invoke free speech protections as a non-citizen. It further held that the government's power to issue such orders under Section 79(3)(b) of the IT Act was valid.

As background, X had contended that the Sahyog portal enabled government agencies and intermediaries to bypass procedural safeguards applicable under Section 69A of the IT Act, thereby allowing content removal without adequate notice or review and that Section 79(3)(b) did not permit takedown orders without a court order. The government submitted that intermediaries must comply with notifications of unlawful content under Section 79(3)(b) to maintain safe harbour immunity and that the Sahyog portal was an administrative mechanism to deliver such notices.

The legal issue before the court was whether a foreign platform like X could claim protection under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution; whether takedown notices under Section 79(3)(b) equate to "blocking" and hence demand the procedural protections under Section 69A of the IT Act; and whether Rule 3(1)(d) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 (IT Rules, 2021) is ultra vires for being vague and arbitrary. Reportedly, X Corp intends to file an appeal against this order of the Karnataka High Court which upholds the Sahyog portal.

Access Links: Source [here](#) and [here](#)

## **SAMEER WANKHEDE FILES INR 2 CRORE DEFAMATION SUIT ARYAN KHAN'S NETFLIX SERIES 'THE BA\*\*\*DS OF BOLLYWOOD**

Sameer Wankhede, former Narcotics Control Bureau ("NCB") Mumbai Zonal Director, filed a defamation suit in the Delhi High Court against Red Chillies Entertainment Pvt Ltd (owned by actor Shah Rukh Khan and Gauri Khan), Netflix, and others over the portrayal of him in the Netflix series "The Ba\*\*\*ds of Bollywood," directed by Aryan Khan.

In the case of *Sameer Wankhede v. Red Chillies Entertainments Pvt Ltd and Ors. (CS(OS) 698/2025)*, the petitioner, i.e., Wankhede alleges that the series disseminates a false, malicious, and defamatory portrayal designed to malign his personal and professional reputation. He seeks a permanent and mandatory injunction restraining the streaming and distribution of the show, a declaration, and damages of INR 2 crore, which he has proposed to donate to Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital for cancer patient treatment. The suit contends that the series was deliberately conceptualized and executed with the intent to defame him, especially while the underlying legal cases involving him and Aryan Khan remain pending before the Bombay High Court and Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Special Court. Wankhede has also raised objections to a particular scene depicting a character making an obscene gesture (showing the middle finger) immediately after reciting the national slogan "Satyamev Jayate," which, according to him, violates the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971. Furthermore, the content allegedly contravenes provisions of the IT Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita by outraging national sentiment through the use of obscene and offensive material.

The Delhi High Court in its order dated 26th September 2025, noting that the plaintiff has not clearly explained how jurisdiction is established in Delhi, granted additional time to file an appropriate application for necessary amendments to the plaint.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

Order Copy: [here](#)

## **BOMBAY HIGH COURT GRANTED INTERIM PROTECTION TO ASHA BHOSLE AGAINST AI VOICE EXPLOITATION**

The Bombay High Court (Justice Arif S. Doctor), on 30th September, 2025, in the case of *Asha Bhosle v. John Doe (COMIPL 30262/2025)* granted ad-interim relief to veteran playback singer Asha Bhosle in a petition against two U.S. based AI platforms and unnamed “John Does,” restraining them from creating, hosting, selling or otherwise enabling generation of audio or audiovisual content that imitated her voice, singing style, mannerisms or other personality attributes without her consent.

Bhosle had alleged that the platforms had “distorted and modified” her original recordings to train illicit voice models that were being made available to the public and commercialised through online marketplaces, and she sought an injunction preventing any use of her name, voice, vocal arrangements, signature phrases, image or persona for commercial or promotional purposes, claiming violation of her publicity and moral rights and loss of decades-long goodwill, while the AI platforms contended that they merely hosted third-party content.

Pending adjudication, the matter raises core legal questions about (i) whether non-consensual AI-generated voice models infringed personality/ publicity and moral rights under Indian law, (ii) the reach of injunctive relief against foreign platforms, and (iii) intermediary liability for hosting AI-derived works.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

# INTERNATIONAL

## LANDMARK US COURT RULING REQUIRES GOOGLE TO SHARE SEARCH DATA

A US District Judge in the case of *United States v. Google LLC*, No. 1:20-cv-03010 (D.D.C. 2025) delivered a landmark antitrust ruling, which has major implications for Google and the search engine industry. The Department of Justice, supported by several states, accused Google of unlawfully maintaining its monopoly over online search through multibillion dollar agreements with companies such as Apple to be the default search engine on their devices.

After years of litigation, the judge noted that while these default search engine arrangements were not illegal per se, Google's control over search data and its massive user interaction database gave it an unfair advantage, making it highly difficult for new users to enter the market. The ruling permits Google to retain ownership of its core products namely the Chrome Browser and Android operating system and to maintain existing default search provider partnerships, the court mandated that Google must share its proprietary search index and user interaction data with such competing search engine providers.

The judge, however, noted that the rise of new AI companies like OpenAI's ChatGPT influenced his decision, as they present a new level of competition. Despite the partial victory, Google has expressed concern about the potential privacy implications and has stated its intention to appeal the ruling, suggesting that the legal battle is far from over.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## WARNER BROS. SUES AI STARTUP MIDJOURNEY FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

On 4th September 2025, Warner Bros. Discovery filed a lawsuit (*Warner Bros, Entertainment Inc. et a v. Midjourney Inc.*, 2:25-cv-08376) in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California against Midjourney, an AI powered image generator, for copyright infringement involving characters like Superman, Batman and Scooby Doo. The lawsuit alleges that Midjourney's subscription service lets users create digital media almost indistinguishable from Warner Bros' official works without any license or permission.

The key issues highlighted by Warner Bros. are that Midjourney removed prior filters which prevented the generation of copyrighted characters and the platform is able to produce images of famous characters even when users do not explicitly name them. To support their claim, Warner Bros. depicted the side-by-side comparison of original and AI generated images in its legal filings, demonstrating how Midjourney's AI model was trained on their copyright and how closely Midjourney's outputs replicate their intellectual property.

Warner Bros. is seeking monetary damages, disgorgement of profits and an injunction to stop further copyright violations. This case aligns Warner Bros. with similar lawsuits by Disney and Universal against Midjourney, accusing the AI company of profiting from unauthorised use of their intellectual property.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## CHINA IMPLEMENTS MANDATORY LABELLING RULES FOR AI GENERATED CONTENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

China has introduced new regulations requiring social media apps like WeChat, Douyin (China's TikTok), Weibo and Rednote to label content generated by artificial intelligence, including text, images, audio and video. These mandatory labels consist not only of visible tags but also hidden identifiers such as watermarks embedded in metadata.

Users must proactively label AI content, while platforms are tasked with preventing the removal or tampering of automatic labels. This move aims to increase transparency about AI generated content and curb misuse such as spreading false information, copyright violations or illegal activities.

Douyin's system can detect the origin of content even if users fail to label it, while Weibo has introduced a feature enabling its community to report unlabelled AI content. The regulations were crafted by multiple Chinese government agencies, including the Cyberspace Administration of China, The Ministry of Public Security and the National Radio and Television Administration.

Access Link : Source [here](#)

# INTERNATIONAL

## **AUTHORS FILE CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT AGAINST APPLE OVER AI TRAINING**

A proposed class action lawsuit has been filed against Apple by authors Grady Hendrix and Jennifer Roberson (*Hendrix v. Apple Inc - 3:25-cv-07558*), alleging the company illegally used their copyrighted books to train its AI systems without permission, credit or compensation.

The complaint, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, accuses Apple of using a dataset known as 'Books3', which is a collection of nearly 2,00,000 pirated books, to train its OpenELM and other language models. The authors contend that Apple's actions have undermined the value of their work and positioned the company for commercial success through unlawful means.

This case is part of a growing wave of similar lawsuits against major technology firms like Microsoft, Meta and Open AI and follows a recent \$1.5 billion settlement by AI startup Anthropic with a group of authors over copyright claims.

Access Link : Source [here](#)

## **NEPAL GOVERNMENT'S SOCIAL MEDIA RESTRICTIONS TRIGGER YOUNG ACTIVISTS DEMANDING REFORM AND TRANSPARENCY**

On 4th September 2025, Nepal's Ministry of Communications and Technology issued a direction to Nepal's Telecommunication authority to block 26 social media platforms, including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, X (formerly Twitter), Reddit and LinkedIn, for failing to comply with mandatory registration requirements issued by the Nepal Supreme Court and under the Directives for Managing the use of Social Media, 2080.

Under the directive, the social media platforms were required to register locally to ensure legal accountability, content moderation and protection against cybercrime, hate speech and misinformation. Platforms like Tiktok, Viber and some others complied with registration remained accessible, while the rest were blocked by the internet service providers. The imposition of the ban on social media platforms resulted in nationwide disruptions in communication and business, giving rise to significant public outcry.

On 8th September 2025 massive youth led protests erupted mainly in Kathmandu and the federal Parliament. By 9th September 2025, at least 19 protestors were killed and over 400 injured, while unrest spread nationwide where the protestors set fire to government buildings including the Parliament and homes of key political figures. The government lifted the ban on 9th September 2025, attempting to restore public peace, but nationwide protest and unrest persisted amid demands for greater accountability, an end to corruption and political reform.

In response to the chaos, former Chief Justice Sushila Karki was appointed interim Prime Minister on 12th September, and Parliament was dissolved pending elections scheduled for March 2026. While curfews were lifted and markets reopened, a heavy security presence lingers in Kathmandu and major cities. Protesters, mostly Generation Z, continue to demand deeper systemic reform, greater accountability for violence, and an end to corruption.

Access Links: Source [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)

## **AI COMPANY ANTHROPIC AGREES TO 1.5\$ BILLION SETTLEMENT WITH AUTHORS OVER COPYRIGHT LAWSUIT**

AI company Anthropic has agreed to pay \$1.5 billion to settle a class action copyright lawsuit (*Andrea Bartz, Charles Graeber & Ors v. Anthropic PBC - 3:24-CV-05417-WHA*) filed by a group of book authors who accused it of illegally downloading and using their works to train its AI Chatbot Claude. The settlement, pending court approval, would mark the larger publicly acknowledged copyright recovery in history.

Under the deal Anthropic would pay approximately \$3,000 per book for roughly 500,000 books alleged to have been pirated from databases like Libgen. Additionally, Anthropic has committed to deleting the datasets containing the pirated content. The lawsuit was initiated in 2024 by authors Andrea Bartz, Charles Graeber and Kirk Wallace Johnson, who accused Anthropic of downloading millions of books to power its AI models.

# INTERNATIONAL

A federal judge had earlier ruled that while AI training on copyrighted material was transformative and likely fair use, Anthropic has committed piracy by storing books in a centralised library. The trial scheduled for December 2025 has been averted by this settlement.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **MORGAN AND MORGAN FILES SUIT SEEKING JUDICIAL CLEARANCE TO USE “STEAMBOAT WILLIE” IN ADVERTISING AMIDST DISNEY’S TRADEMARK ENFORCEMENT**

On 17th September 2025, Morgan and Morgan, a personal injury law firm in the United States, filed a lawsuit (*Morgan Global, PLLC v Disney Enterprises Inc. case no 6:25-cv-01795*) in the U.S District Court for the Middle District of Florida against Disney Enterprises Inc. The law firm seeks a declaratory judgement that would permit it to use elements from the iconic 1928 cartoon “Steamboat Willie” in its advertisement following the film’s entry into the public domain on 1st January, 2024 after expiration of its copyright.

The planned ad depicts a sequence with a boat crash reminiscent of the original cartoon. The commercial includes prominent disclaimers stating no affiliation or endorsement by Disney. Prior to the suit, the law firm reached out to Disney on 15th July 2025, seeking confirmation that their use of the word in the advertisement would not trigger legal action for copyright or trademark infringement, but Disney responded without granting any such confirmation. The law firm cites Disney’s “aggressive enforcement” of trademark rights even after copyright expiry, referencing Disney’s 16th July 2025 lawsuit against “Steamboat Willie” jewellery as evidence.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

## **U.S. FEDERAL COURT DISMISSES COPYRIGHT LAWSUIT OVER MARY J. BLIGE’S “REAL LOVE” SAMPLE**

In a significant ruling on September 23, 2025, U.S. District Judge Dale Ho of the Southern District of New York dismissed a copyright infringement lawsuit filed by Tuff City Records against Universal Music Group (“UMG”).

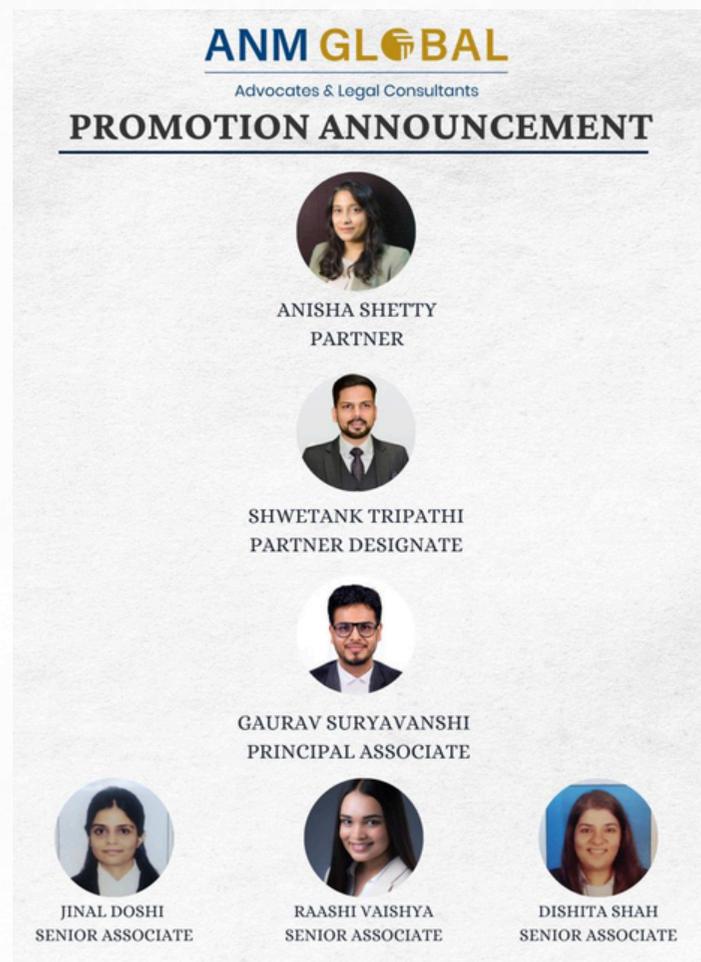
The lawsuit alleged that Mary J. Blige’s 1992 hit “Real Love” incorporated an unlicensed drum sample from The Honey Drippers’ 1973 track “Impeach the President.” Judge Ho concluded that the two songs were not “substantially similar,” stating that a typical listener would not perceive “Real Love” as having appropriated elements from “Impeach the President.”

This decision effectively ended the legal dispute, affirming that the sampled elements did not meet the threshold for copyright infringement. The case, titled *Tuff City Records v. Universal Music Publishing Inc.* (No. 1:24-cv-02585), was formally dismissed on the grounds of lack of substantial similarity.

Access Link: Source [here](#)

# FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

ANM Global announced promotions of colleagues: Anisha Shetty as Partner, Shwetank Tripathi as Partner Designate, Gaurav Suryavanshi as Principal Associate, and Raashi Vaishya, Dishita Shah, Jinal Doshi as Senior Associate. Their legal acumen, client service, and excellence reflect the firm's philosophy of nurturing talent and recognising merit.



QUOTED BY ET LEGAL - "GAME ON: CAN INDIA'S NEW SPORTS LAW FUEL A LUCRATIVE LEGAL PRACTICE?"



*"Compliance will become systematic. The bigger clubs and federations will go to law firms. The smaller ones might rely on independent lawyers. Either way, this creates a stream of legal work that simply didn't exist before."*

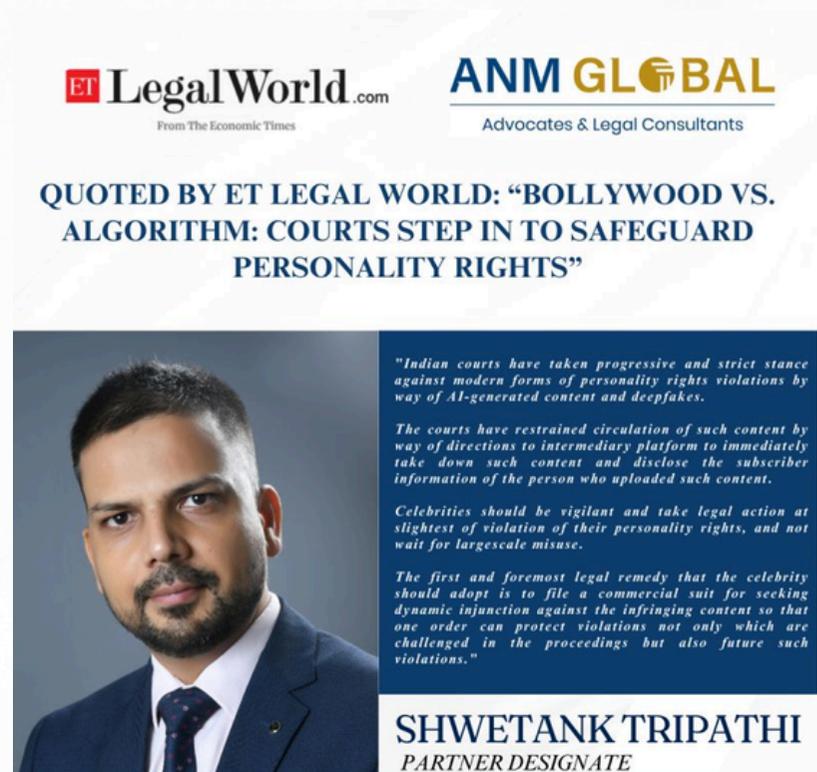
*"This will open doors for a lot of young sports lawyers. But the ecosystem itself has to mature. Otherwise, it risks being an opportunity without longevity."*

**NIDHISH MEHROTRA**  
MANAGING PARTNER

ANM Global Managing Partner Nidhish Mehrotra was quoted in ETLegalWorld's feature "Game On: Can India's New Sports Law Fuel a Lucrative Legal Practice?" sharing perspectives on regulatory compliance in Indian sports law, as the evolving sports and gaming landscape creates new waves of legal work.

# FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

Partner Designate Shwetank Tripathi was quoted in ETLegalWorld's feature "Bollywood vs. Algorithm: Courts Step In to Safeguard Personality Rights." The recognition reflects the firm's commitment to discussions on emerging legal issues and conversations at the intersection of law, technology, and society.



ANM Global's Partner Designate Shwetank Tripathi was quoted in Outlook Business feature "Why Celebrities Take Legal Action over Names, Images & Phrases — Personality Rights Issue Explained," highlighting growing relevance of this area of law with digital media and influencer culture.



# FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

ANM Global–Scriboard hosted a Roundtable on Data Privacy, Cybersecurity & AI, chaired by Mr. Rodney D. Ryder. The session explored the intersection of technology, regulation, and law, fostering meaningful dialogue on the evolving landscape of digital law and policy.

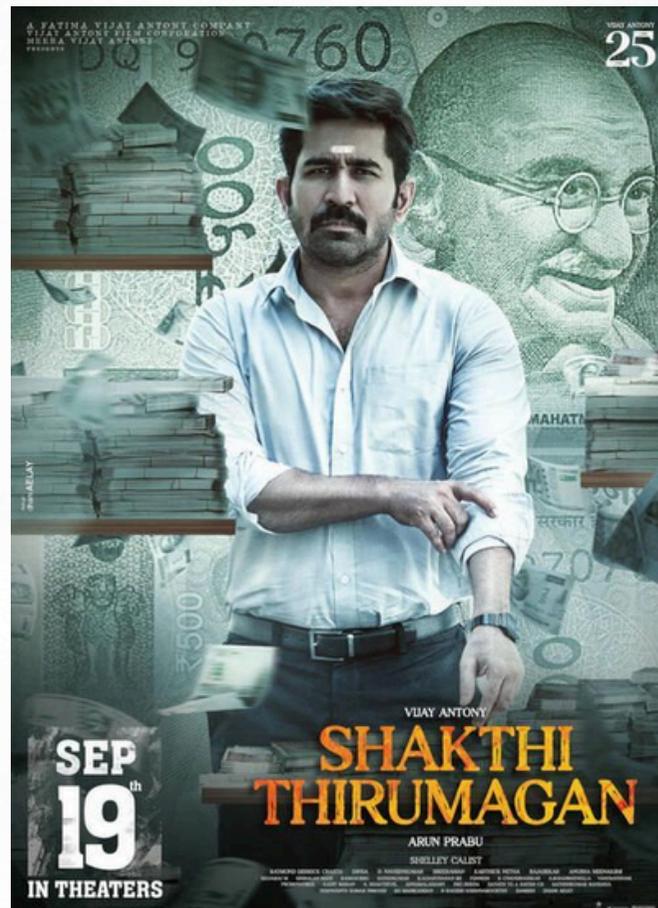


ANM Global's Partner Sneha Nanandkar represented the firm at INDIA ADR WEEK 2025 by MCIA and IPBA Arbitration Day, Mumbai, engaging with global practitioners on issues from arbitration regime lacunas to ESG, treaties, enforceability of arbitral awards, and climate change, reinforcing ANM Global's commitment to international arbitration discourse and stronger dispute resolution frameworks.



# FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

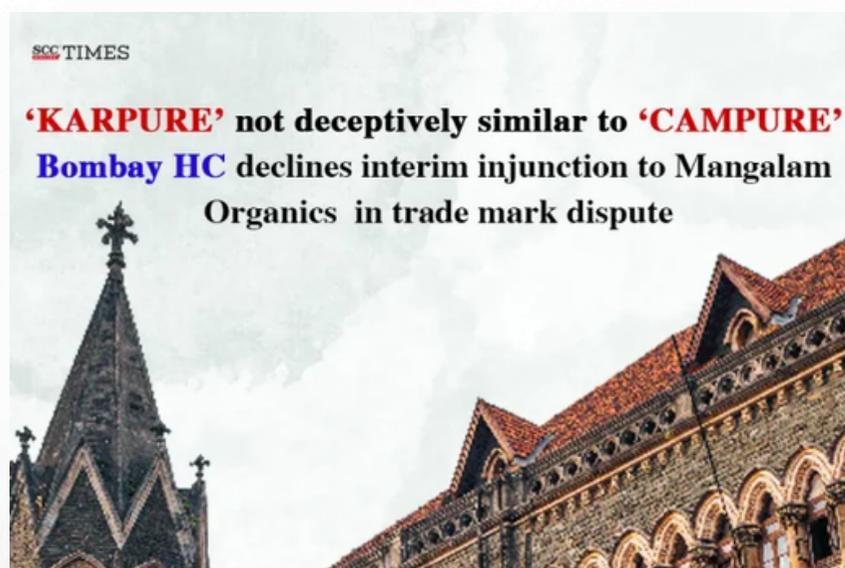
ANM Global represented RKD Studios in acquiring and exploiting dubbing rights of Shakti Thirumagan, directed by Arun Prabhu Purushottaman with Vijay Antony and cast, released on 19th September 2025, enabling wider reach in all world languages except South Indian through its Hindi dubbed version.



ANM Global provided legal support to I AM Buddha Entertainment & Media LLP for Hindi film “The Bengal Files”, directed by Vivek Ranjan Agnihotri and released on 5th September 2025, handling production-related legal matters, contractual engagements, and distribution deals across mediums, while extending best wishes to the team.

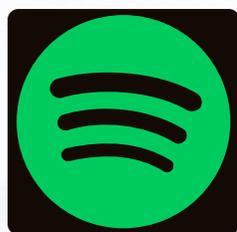
# FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

ANM Global represented Tips Music Limited in drafting, negotiating, and executing the exploitation agreement for Mirai's music rights. Directed by Karthik Gattamneni. The epic tale features Teja Sajja, Ritika Nayak, Manoj Kumar Manchu, and cast.



ANM Global successfully represented N. Ranga Rao & Sons Private Limited in the matter of Mangalam Organics Ltd. v. N. Ranga Rao & Sons Pvt. Ltd., where the Hon'ble Bombay High Court refused to grant an interim injunction against the use of the marks "KARPURE" / "AIR KARPURE."

# FIRM HIGHLIGHTS



**ANM ThinkPod**

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