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

\+ W.P.(C) 16613/2025

CELINA JAITLY .....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Raghav Kacher, Mr. Ribhav Pande, Mr. Madhav Aggarwal and Mr. Aayush Shukla, Advs. along with petitioner in person.

versus

UNION OF INDIA .....Respondent

Through: Ms. Nidhi Raman, CGSC, Mr. Akash Mishra and Mr. Arnav Mittal, Advs. for UOI.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA

O R D E R

% **03.11.2025**

CM APPL.68083/2025 (Exemption)

1. Allowed, subject to all just exceptions.

2. Application stands disposed of.

W.P.(C) 16613/2025

3. The present petition has been filed by the petitioner seeking the following prayers:

> *"A. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order or Direction directing the Respondent to forthwith facilitate the provision of effective legal representation and / or counsel to Maj. (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley with respect to his arrest and detention in United Arab Emirates;*
>
> *B. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order or Direction directing the Respondent to bear or assist in securing the necessary legal expenses to the extent possible with respect to the detention of Maj. (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley;*
>
> *C. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order or Direction directing the Respondent to forthwith facilitate contact and real-*

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time communication of the Petitioner with Maj. (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley;

D. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order or Direction directing the Respondent to immediately take all necessary steps, through the concerned Indian Mission abroad, to secure appropriate medical treatment and humanitarian care for the detainee.

E. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ Order or Direction directing the Respondent to ensure that the concerned Indian Mission maintains regular contact with Maj. (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley, monitors his welfare and access to legal assistance, and regularly informs the Petitioner of all relevant developments concerning his detention and legal status.

F. Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ, Order or Direction directing the Respondent to take up the matter of Maj. (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley's arrest and detention with the authorities of the detaining country through appropriate diplomatic channels, to ensure that his rights are protected and that he is treated in accordance with international law and conventions on consular access.

G. Pass any other Order(s) as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit in the facts and circumstances of the present case."

4. The petitioner in the present petition is stated to be the sister and sole surviving immediate blood relative of Major (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley, a retired Indian Army Officer, holder of Indian Passport bearing No.Z4983995.

5. It is submitted that the petitioner's brother who was a resident of UAE since 2016 and employed with the MATITI Group, engaged in trading, consultancy and risk management services, has been abducted and detained in UAE since 06.09.2024 (for over a year).

6. It is the case of the petitioner that despite passage of a considerable period of time, the respondent / Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has failed to secure even the basic information about the detainee (petitioner's brother), including his welfare conditions and legal status.

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7. Issue notice.

8. Learned counsel, as aforesaid, accepts notice on behalf of the respondent.

9. During the course of hearing, it transpires that the Indian authorities in the UAE have been granted consular access to the detained person. However, learned counsel for the Union of India seeks some time to ascertain whether any facility of communication with the detainee (petitioner's brother) has been granted to the petitioner since his detention.

10. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been denied the aforesaid facility despite numerous endeavours on part of the petitioner. It is submitted that the petitioner has persued every possible channel to secure the respondent Ministry's aid, including by way of (a) registering grievance on MADAD portal; (b) addressing numerous representations to the Embassy of India, Abu Dhabi and the Consulate in Dubai.

11. After some hearing, considering the facts and circumstances of the case, the following directions are issued:-

(i) The respondent/s shall take steps to provide effective legal representation to Major (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley (the petitioner's brother) with respect to his arrest and detention (in UAE).

(ii) Attempt/s shall be made by the respondent/s to facilitate communication/ contact between Major (Retd.) Vikrant Kumar Jaitley and the petitioner (his sister), as also with his wife.

(iii) The respondent/s (Ministry of External Affairs) shall depute a Nodal Officer for the aforesaid purpose/s and keep the

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petitioner and his family members apprised as to the above and as to the whereabouts/ present condition of the detained person, as also the status of legal proceedings in the UAE.

12. Let a status report be also filed by the respondent as regards implementation the above directions, within a period of four weeks from today.

13. List on 04.12.2025.

SACHIN DATTA, J

NOVEMBER 3, 2025/cl

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