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

\+ O.M.P.(I) (COMM.) 88/2026, I.A. 6052/2026 (For ad-interim relief) & I.A. 6053/2026 (For Exemption)

JIOSTAR INDIA PVT. LTD. .....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Kunal Tandon, Senior Advocate along with Ms. Aanchal Tandon, Ms. Niti Jain, Mr. Ronnie S. Brara, Ms. Niharika Sharma, Mr. Nitai Agarwal and Ms. Natasa, Advocates.

versus

MS ABSOLUTE LEGENDS SPORTS PRIVATE LIMITED & ANR. .....Respondents

Through: Mr. Arjun Syal, Mr. Shreyan Das and Ms. Vidisha Kumar, Advocates.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARISH VAIDYANATHAN SHANKAR

O R D E R

% 18.03.2026

1. The present Petition has been filed under Section 9 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, seeking the following reliefs:-

> " (a) Pass an order directing Respondent No. 1 to deposit a sum of Rs. 3,59,14,775/- before this Hon'ble court, or furnish security of equivalent value, pending arbitration.
>
> (b) Pass an order directing Respondent No 1 and Respondent No 2 to deposit before this Hon'ble Court, in a escrow account under the supervision of this Hon'ble Court, all amounts received or receivable by them from the commercial exploitation of the League, including any consideration paid or payable under the impugned arrangement between Respondent No. 1 and Respondent No. 2, pending arbitration
>
> (c) Pass an order in the nature of an ex-parte ad-interim/interim nature restraining the Respondent No. 1 and/or Respondent

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No. 2 (or any of their directors/ officers/ employees/ representatives as well as any third party(ies) acting through Respondent no. 1 and/or 2, from creating any third-party rights, transferring, assigning or otherwise dealing with the media and commercial rights relating to the Legends League Cricket Master T20 tournament in violation of the binding contractual agreements executed between the parties and to safeguard the amount outstanding on part of the Respondent No. 1; and/or

(d) Pass an order in the nature of an ex-parte ad-interim/interim nature restraining the Respondent No. 1 from transferring or otherwise dealing with the amounts received by it from Respondent No. 2, if any, in any manner whatsoever thereby protecting the right of the Petitioner and that of the Respondent No. 2 and/or;

(e) Pass an order restraining Respondent No. 2 from acting upon the impugned arrangement in a manner that defeats the Petitioner's subsisting contractual rights, save and except subject to such conditions of disclosure, escrow, deposit of security as this Hon'ble Court may direct;

(f) Pass an order in the nature of an ex-parte ad-interim/interim nature restraining the Respondent No. 2 from conducting, broadcasting or streaming the Legends League Cricket Masters T20 tournament, including the forthcoming 2026 edition scheduled to commence from 11.03.2026, either directly or through Respondent No.2 or any other third party or any channel on the linear television, digital television, digital platform like over the top, Netflix, Prime etc. or such like platforms, youtube or such like open platforms or communicating the Legends League Cricket Masters T20 tournament to the public at large in any manner whatsoever, whether known now or unknown; and/or

(g) Pass an order in the nature of an ex-parte ad-interim/interim nature restraining the Respondents from executing any further documents in respect of transfer/assignment of the ownership/ rights/copyrights in the League;

(h) Pass an order in the nature of an ex-parte ad-interim/interim nature restraining the Respondents from acting on any document/ transacting/ agreement if executed, in respect of said League;

(i) Pass an order in the nature of an ex-parte ad-interim/interim nature restraining the Respondents from representing or communicating to any third party that the rights in the

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League by any means vest with Respondent no. 2, and/or giving advertisement, media reports, news reports, issuing tickets, passes for consideration or otherwise, executing any sponsorships and/or such like activities in respect of the League;

(j) Pass an order directing the Respondents to render complete disclosure of any agreement, memorandum of understanding, license, assignment or commercial agreement executed *interse* and/or with third parties in relation to the League, including the consideration and rights purportedly granted;

(k) Pass an order in the nature of the prayers made in Clauses (a) to (j) above during the pendency of the Arbitration Proceedings and/or;

(l) Pass an order for costs;

(m) pass an order hereby staying the termination of the Agreement done by the Respondent No. 1 by Reply dated 07.03.2026 till the pendency of arbitration proceedings

(n) pass such other of further order(s) as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case."

2. The matter was heard at length on two previous dates, *i.e.*, 10.03.2026 and 11.03.2026, when both parties extensively canvassed their contentions.

3. Although, it is not disputed by the Respondent No. 1 that certain amounts are owed by them to the Petitioner herein, still no headway has been made towards an amicable resolution despite the matter having been referred to mediation. It is stated that an amicable settlement could not be reached at, primarily on account of the timelines proposed for repayment.

4. Even today, when the matter was taken up, the Respondent No. 1 sought further time to place a better offer. However, this Court is of the view that irrespective of any offer that may be made, there is an urgent need to ensure that the assets of the Respondent No. 1 are not

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transferred, such that third party rights are created thereon. This would necessarily include the intellectual property rights which are proposed to be assigned to Respondent No. 2.

5. In view of the fact that the transfer of the rights as set out in prayer clause (c) would effectively result in a complete erosion of the subject matter of the dispute, this Court is of the *prima facie* view that it is necessary that the proposed transfer of the same by Respondent No. 1 to Respondent No. 2 be interdicted.

6. The Respondent No. 1 is therefore interdicted from, in any manner, creating any third-party rights, or transferring, assigning, or otherwise dealing with the media and commercial rights relating to the Legends League Cricket Master T20 tournament.

7. Accordingly, the relief, as sought for in prayer (c), is granted to the Petitioner in aforesaid terms.

8. Issue Notice.

9. Mr. Arjun Syal, learned counsel for the Respondents, accepts notice and seeks and is granted a period of one (01) week to file a reply.

10. Rejoinder, if any, be filed within a period of one (01) week thereafter.

11. Accordingly, list on 22.04.2026.

HARISH VAIDYANATHAN SHANKAR, J.

MARCH 18, 2026/nd/dj

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