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

+ **W.P.(C) 4300/2026**

HINDU SHAKTI DAL AND ANR.

.....Petitioners

Through: Ms. Rupali Panwar, Mr. Avinash Kumar Singh, Mr. Akash Ranjan Srivastava, Mr. Shubham Gupta, Advocates.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Ishkaran Singh Bhandari, CGSC with Mr. Piyush Yadav, Advocate for R-1.

Ms. Mamta Rani Jha, Ms. Shruttima Ehersa, Ms. Aiswarya Debadarshini, Advocates for R-3.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PURUSHAINDR KUMAR KAURAV

ORDER

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02.04.2026

1. The petition seeks the following directions:

"a. Issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction seeking deletion of videos and audios of the song Vol.1 from the Respondent No.2 to Respondent No.4 platforms.

b. Issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction to the respondent no.1 to ensure enforcement of existing statutory framework under the IT Act, 2000 and Rules, 2021, including taking action against unlawful content

c. Issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction, directing the Respondent No.1 to consider and pass necessary direction under Rule 16 of Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

d. Issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction, directing Respondent No.1 to regulate the content uploaded on



Respondent No.2 platform,

e. Pass an order declaring that the actions of the Respondents are arbitrary, illegal, and violative of Articles 21 of the Constitution of India;

f. Pass such other order(s) or direction(s) as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper under the facts and circumstances of the present case and in the interest of justice."

2. It is contended that in the year 2006-07, one Mr. Honey Singh and one Mr. Badshah in collaboration and under the name 'Mafia Mundeer' had released a song. Even the title of the song, cannot be written in this order. The same seems to be completely reprehensible. The said song was posted on Youtube by various users under different handles. It is contended that the said song, cumulatively, garnered millions of views. It appears that over the years, both Mr. Honey Singh and Mr. Badshah have denied singing the said song.

3. The petitioners, however, contend that recently, during a concert dated 01.03.2025 at Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium, Mr. Honey Singh has sung verses from the aforesaid song. The stand of the petitioner, as stated in para. 3(vii) of the petition reads as under:

"vii. Recently during a concert, the Respondent No. 5 has sung verses from his infamous song "Vol. 1" further confirming that the same was sung by him."

4. The petitioner has annexed the link and lyrics of the concerned song (*Annexure P-1*). The same has been perused and has also been heard. There comes a time, however, rare it may be, when the conscience of a Court is shocked to its absolute core. This is, unfortunately, one such instance.

5. The Court finds that the said song is grossly vulgar, patently obscene, deeply derogatory towards women and wholly bereft of any redeeming artistic, literary or social value. The lyrics, as placed on record, are not merely distasteful or offensive; they are *ex facie* misogynistic, dehumanising



and calculated to normalise the treatment of women as objects of ridicule and sexual gratification.

6. Learned counsel appearing for the parties were called upon to tender their suggestions *qua* the manner in which the Court could deal with the present situation. Their notes containing the suggestions, have been perused.

7. Learned counsel appearing for respondent no. 3-Google, submits that it has taken down the sole URL identified in the petition, containing the said song.

8. An illustrative list of URLs has also been collected by the petitioner and shared with the Union of India. The same are as under:

a. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.youtube.com/watch%3Fv%3DxOWwXIWHfuk&ved=2ahUKewiKs9T93c6TAxUeRmwGHFTID140wqsBegQJGBAB&usg=AOvVaw3vkbWMNMo7ay2jfrOsd-iw>

b. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.youtube.com/watch%3Fv%3DDGH4LK62x861&ved=2ahUKewiKs9T93c6TAxUcRmwGHRFID140wqsBegQlGhAB&usg=AOvVaw252Norq10Mqp5de85ajGXE>

c. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.youtube.com/watch%3Fv%3DovYPA6bhpF4&ved=2ahUKewiKs9T93c6TAxUcRmwGHITID14QFnoECCIQAQ&usg=AOvVaw362gjKeTnGAcwC3eUJvr8s>

d. <https://open.spotify.com/album/1DnQHda0SDT1gGqZAvzxeU>

e. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.youtube.com/watch%3Fv%3DnviKKUWRX8g&ved=2ahUKewjZk62e3s6TAxWbmwGHVVYB4w4ChAWegQIHBAB&usg=AOvVaw3JIKzFBA7wMEAaLVIzGJNs>

f. <https://open.spotify.com/track/4XWS0eHUHALjvSUZITIEin>

g. <https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&rct=j&opi=89978449&url=https://www.youtube.com/watch%3Fv%3DzZ HklsfvX4&ved=2ahUKewiGkY6x3s6TAxXSe2wGHU-WEKW4FBAWegQIGhAB&usg=AOvVaw0Wd2jWGsG8VENDGmD-pWWP>



9. The Court thus finds that some interim directions orders are required to be issued, as allowing dissemination of such material on a public platform accessible to persons of all ages including minors, cannot be countenanced under the guise of artistic freedom or freedom to speech. The continued hosting and circulation of such content reflects a complete disregard for the minimum standards of civility and decency expected in a Constitutional society.

10. *Prima facie*, the content of the song is such as would attract the penal provisions, *inter alia*, of Sections 79¹ and 296² of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. Indeed, no civilised society governed by the rule of law can permit such content to be freely circulated and monetised on digital platforms. This Constitutional Court which is under a solemn duty to protect the Constitutional order, and advance the rights as also the dignity of its citizens, is moved to act in the present case.

11. Accordingly, considering the aforementioned, the Court, issues the following directions:

- i. Respondent nos. 5 and 6 and any other person claiming rights to the impugned obscene song or any remixes/mashups/alternate versions/lyrical videos etc., thereof, are directed to immediately take down any URLs containing the same from any social media

¹ **79. Word, gesture or act intended to insult modesty of a woman.**

Whoever, intending to insult the modesty of any woman, utters any words, makes any sound or gesture, or exhibits any object in any form, intending that such word or sound shall be heard, or that such gesture or object shall be seen, by such woman, or intrudes upon the privacy of such woman, shall be punished with simple imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, and also with fine.

² **296. Obscene acts and songs.**

Whoever, to the annoyance of others,—

(a) does any obscene act in any public place; or

(b) sings, recites or utters any obscene song, ballad or words, in or near any public place,

shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.



accounts/handles/website/music platforms/online sharing platforms or any other online locations.

- ii. Some of the URLs, as noted in para. 7 above, has been collated by the petitioners and is also shared with the Union of India. These URL links are hereby directed to be forthwith blocked.
 - iii. The petitioners are granted liberty to collate a list of URLs from any social media accounts/handles/websites/music platforms/online sharing platforms any other online locations containing the impugned obscene song or any remixes/mashups/alternate versions/lyrical videos etc. thereof and submit the same to the Union of India through the standing counsel who shall thereafter, instruct the online platforms for take-down of the identified URLs. If the petitioners do so, let immediate action be taken by the concerned authority.
 - iv. The petitioners are also granted liberty to use the publicly available webforms provided by major intermediaries to report any subsequently discovered URLs.
 - v. In case of any doubt whether the notified URLs fall within the scope of the subject matter of the Writ Petition, the intermediaries may seek necessary clarification from the Union of India through its standing counsel.
 - vi. The petitioner shall also be at liberty to submit its grievance in relation to Google products through its grievance redressal mechanism available at the URL https://www.google.com/intl/en_in/contact/grievance-officer.html.
12. Learned counsel appearing for Union of India undertakes that in case he receives any grievance from the petitioners, on the following e-mail



address: lawofficeishkaranbhandari@gmail.com, necessary direction shall be given to the concerned officer of the competent authority.

13. In view of the clear position taken by the petitioners that during the recent concert, a portion of the objectionable song was sung by respondent no. 5, Mr. Honey Singh, which has further triggered the controversy, and the observations made by this Court in para. 9 of this order, the Court finds notice is required to be issued to respondent nos. 5 and 6.

14. Issue notice.

15. Learned counsel appearing for respondent no. 1 and respondent no. 3 accept notice.

16. On the petitioner taking necessary steps, let notice be issued to respondent nos. 5 and 6 through all permissible modes, returnable on 07.05.2026.

PURUSHAINDRA KUMAR KAURAV, J

APRIL 2, 2026/p