

ITEM NO.4

COURT NO.1

SECTION IX

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) Nos.17959-17960/2023

(Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 18-01-2021 in PIL St No.1774/2020 18-01-2021 in PIL St No.92252/2020 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay)

NEWS BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(With IA No.115171/2023 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT)

Date : 18-09-2023 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MANOJ MISRA

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Arvind Datar, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Nisha Bhambhani, Adv.
Mr. Rajat Arora, AOR
Mr. Rahul Unnikrishnan, Adv.
Ms. Mariya Shahab, Adv.
Mr. Nibin Louis, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG
Mr. K.M. Nataraj, ASG
Mr. Amrish Kumar, AOR
Mr. Rajat Nair, Adv.

Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv.
Mrs. Sansriti Pathak, Adv.
Mr. Balaji Srinavas, Adv.
Mr. Apoorv Kurup, Adv.
Mr. Digvijay Dam, Adv.

Mr. Rajesh Gulab Inamdar, AOR
Mr. Shashwat Anand, Adv.
Ms. Taribun Khan, Adv.
Mr. Vasim Lalsa Shaikh, Adv.

Ms. Malvika Trivedi, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Saket Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Nirnimesh Dube, AOR
Mr. Zueb Cutlerywala, Adv.
Mr. Rahul Tyagi, Adv.

Mr. Pai Amit, AOR
Ms. Pankhuri Bhardwaj, Adv.
Ms. Vanshika Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Tathagata Dutta, Adv.
Mr. P. Ashok, Adv.

Mr. Sumit Roy, Adv.
Ms. Sayaree Basu Mallik, Adv.

For R-16

Mr. Mahesh Jethmalani, Sr. Adv.

**UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R**

- 1 Mr Arvind Datar, senior counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner states that the process of revisiting the self regulatory mechanism of the News Broadcasters Association is under way. On his request, four weeks' time is granted to complete the exercise and place the proposed regulations before this Court.
- 2 Mr Mahesh Jethmalani, senior counsel appearing on behalf of the sixteenth respondent states that similarly the sixteenth respondent would also, in the

meantime, carry out its own exercise since it also claims to be a self-regulatory body registered under the 2021 Rules of the Union Government unlike the petitioners who are not registered.

- 3 Mr Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General has also submitted that the mechanism which has been formulated by the Union Government operates at three tiers, the first of which is self regulation.
- 4 From the submissions at the Bar, it appears that the Rules of 2021 were challenged before the Kerala High Court. The Solicitor General states that against an interim order of the Kerala High Court, a Special Leave Petition has been filed before this Court and certain Transfer Petitions are also pending.
- 5 The rival submissions will be considered subsequently. In the meantime, we grant an opportunity to the petitioner and to the sixteenth respondent to place their schemes of self-regulation before the Court.
- 6 List the Special Leave Petitions on 20 October 2023.

(CHETAN KUMAR)
A.R. - cum - P.S.

(SAROJ KUMARI GAUR)
Assistant Registrar