

**After Delhi High Court Ruling, Telegram Discloses Names, Phone Numbers & IP Addresses Of Users Accused Of Sharing Infringing Material**

**2022 LiveLaw (Del) 1131**

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

**PRATHIBA M. SINGH; J.**

**CS(COMM) 282/2020; 24.11.2022**

**NEETU SINGH versus TELEGRAM FZ LLC**

*Plaintiff Through: Ms. Sugaandh Shahi, Advocate*

*Defendant Through: Mr. Rajshekhar Rao, Sr. Advocate with Ms. Anushka Sharda, Ms. Mona Paranjpe & Ms. Yamini Mookherjee, Advocates for D-1.*

**ORDER**

1. This hearing has been done through hybrid mode.
2. In this matter, the application seeking discovery being **I.A.8461/2020** was disposed of vide judgment dated 30th August, 2022. Vide the said judgment, Defendant No.1/Telegram FZ LLC (*hereinafter "Telegram"*), running the Telegram platform on which certain infringing content was being hosted, was given directions in the following terms:  
  
*"47. In the facts and circumstances of the present case, Telegram-Defendant No.1 is directed to disclose the details of the channels/devices used in disseminating the infringing content, mobile numbers, IP addresses, email addresses, etc., used to upload the infringing material and communicate the same, as per the list of channels filed along with the present application. If there are any further list of infringing channels, the same be also submitted to Telegram within one week. The data relating to the infringing channels and the details as to the devices/servers/networks on which they are created, their creators, operators including any phone numbers, IP addresses, email addresses, used for this purpose shall be disclosed by Telegram within a period of two weeks thereafter. The said information shall at this stage be filed in a sealed cover with the Court. Upon perusing the said information, directions, if any, shall be passed after hearing the parties."*
3. Pursuant to the said judgment, Telegram has filed an affidavit dated 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2022, deposed by Major Lakshmiraj Rathore, as Authorized Representative, confirming that the data as directed by the Court has been filed and is attached as a sealed cover to the affidavit.
4. It is further clarified in the affidavit that some of the data relating to some channels was not available with Telegram in view of the fact that Telegram had to preserve the said data in accordance with law, i.e., initially for a period of 90 days under Rule 3 of the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011, and now for 180 days under Rule 3(2) of the Information Technology (Guidelines for Intermediaries and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. However, the data as was available with Telegram has been handed over in a sealed cover.
5. The affidavit of compliance and the sealed cover is not on record. However, copies have been handed over to the Court. The said data, which is in the form of a chart, has been perused by the Court. It shows that the names of the admins, the phone numbers, and IP addresses of some of the channels as are available with Telegram have been filed. Let copy of the said data be supplied to Id. Counsel for Plaintiffs with the clear direction that neither the Plaintiffs nor their counsel shall disclose the said data to any third party, except for the purposes of the present proceedings. To this end, disclosure to the governmental authorities/police is permissible.
6. The affidavit of Telegram along with the chart containing the data is taken on record.
7. Registry to retain the said data in a sealed cover.
8. List before the Joint Registrar on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.
9. List before the Court for case management on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. This shall not be treated as a part-heard matter. Matter shall be listed before the Roster Bench.