ECIR No.07/HIU/2017 CT Case No.08/2020 CNR No.DLCT11-000207-2020 DoE V. P. Chidambaram & Ors.

07.04.2021

Present: Sh. N. K. Matta, learned Special PP for DoE along with Sh. Rajendra

Singh, IO/Assistant Director and Sh. Dainik Jain, Assistant Enforcement

Officer.

A-1 P. Chidambaram is absent.

Sh. Arshdeep Singh, learned Counsel for A-1.

Sh. Rajesh Mohanan, AR of A-2 M/S Advantage Strategic Consulting

Pvt. Ltd. is absent.

Sh. Giriraj Subramanium, learned Counsel for A-2, A-5 and A-8.

None for A-3 M/S Advantage Starategic Consulting Singapore Pte.

None for A-4 M/S Advantage Estrategia Esportiva S, LU Spain.

Sh. Rajesh Mohanan, AR of A-5 M/S Kriya FMCG Distributer Pvt. Ltd. is absent.

None for A-6 M/S North Star Software Solution Pvt. Ltd.

A-7 Karti P. Chidambaram is absent.

Sh. Prateek Chadha, learned Counsel for A-7.

A-8 Subramaniam Bhaskararaman is absent.

Sh. Bhupender Makhi, AR for A-9 M/S INX Media Pvt. Ltd. is absent.

Sh. J. Rajesh and Sh. Rohit Sharma, learned Counsels for A-9.

A-10 Pratim Mukerjea @ Peter Mukerjea with learned Counsels

Sh. Sandeep Kapoor, Sh. Mridul Yadav, Sh. Ashmeet Singh Anand

and Sh. Apoorva Pandey.

Separate applications seeking exemption from personal appearance of A-1 and A-7 are stated to have been filed in sealed / closed envelopes with Ahlmad of the Court yesterday and it has been submitted by learned Counsels representing them that since the polling of Assembly Elections in their native State of Tamil Nadu has

just concluded yesterday, they were busy with the election process and campaigning being sitting Members of Parliament and hence, they are not in a position to appear before this court today. In view of submissions made by the learned Counsels representing the said accused and also in view of the recent guidelines dated 19.03.2021 issued by the Hon'ble High Court to check the re-spread of Covid 19, the personal appearance of A-1 and A-7 before this court for today is being exempted. Let the exemption applications be placed on record when the envelopes are opened as per the instant protocol of Covid 19. Vakalatnamas for these two accused are stated to be already on record.

An application seeking exemption from personal appearance of A-8 is also sought to be filed today on medical grounds, but due to the protocol of Covid 19, the same cannot be accepted across the table and it is directed to be filed in a sealed / closed envelope today itself with Ahlmad of this court and it be also placed on record when the envelope is opened as per the said protocol. In view of submissions made by the learned Counsel representing the said accused and also in view of the abovesaid guidelines, the personal appearance of A-8 before this court for today is also being exempted.

An application seeking exemption from personal appearance of Sh. Rajesh Mohanan, Authorized Representative (AR) of A-2 and A-5 is also sought to be filed today and in view of submissions made and the abovesaid guidelines of Covid 19, the personal appearance of Sh. Rajesh Mohanan, AR of A-2 and A-5 before this court for today is also being exempted with directions to learned counsel for the said accused to file a signed hard copy of the application, along with Vakalatnama and copies of Board Resolutions in his favour, in a sealed / closed envelope with Ahlmad of the court today

itself and it be placed on record when the envelope is opened as per the said proto ol.

Similarly, a separate application seeking exemption from personal appearance of Sh. Bhupender Makhi, Authorized Representative (AR) of A-9 is also sought to be filed today. In view of submissions made and the abovesaid protocol of Covid 19, the personal appearance of Sh. Bhupender Makhi, AR of A-9 before this court for today is also being exempted with directions to learned Counsel for the said accused to file a signed hard copy of the application along with Vakalatnama and copy of Board Resolution in his favour in a sealed / closed envelope with Ahlmad of the court today itself and it be placed on record when the envelope is opened as per the said protocol.

A-1 is on court bail and A-7 was granted interim protection in this case by the Hon'ble High Court in Writ Petition (Crl.) No.739/2018, which was subsequently transferred to the Hon'ble Supreme Court and has been registered as Tr. C. (Crl.) No.04/2018. It is stated that the said petition is fixed for hearing before the Hon'ble Supreme Court today itself.

A-8 is also on court bail in this case and it has been brought to the notice of court today that some loose papers / file pertaining to bail order and bail bonds of this accused is lying with Ahlmad of the court of Sh. Anurag Sain, Ld. Special Judge CBI-11, RADC, New Delhi. Sh. N. K. Matta, learned SPP also submits that he intends to move an application today for summoning of the said record. Since, this case of DoE against the accused persons as well as the main case of CBI in respect of Scheduled Offences of this case are both pending before this court, the said record /

documents are required to be sent to this court and hence, let a notice be issued to Ahlmad of the abovesaid court to handover all the documents / record pertaining to this case, which are in his custody, to the Ahlmad of this court, with permission of the Ld. Presiding Officer.

An application seeking bail of A-10 is also intended to be moved. Let it be filed in a sealed / closed envelope with Ahlmad of the court today itself and it be placed on record when the envelope is opened as per the instant protocol of Covid 19. Copy of the said application has been supplied to learned SPP for DoE. The matter shall be taken up for reply / arguments on this application at 10.30 am on 16.04.2021. Advance copy of reply of DoE to the bail application shall be supplied to the learned Counsel representing the said accused. Till then, A-10 is granted interim bail and is directed to furnish a personal bond in the sum of Rs.2 Lakhs and it be filed in a sealed / closed envelope with Ahlmad of the court today itself, alongwith Vakalatnama, and it be placed on record when the envelope is opened as per the said protocol of Covid 19.

As far as A-3 and A-4 companies are concerned, learned SPP for DoE has informed the court that according to guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), a minimum 12 week's time is required for serving summons to these two accused as they are based out of India. It is stated that for this reason their summons issued for today could not be put into the process of service. Let fresh summons to these two accused companies be issued for **09.08.2021**. Summons be collected immediately and be served as per the abovesaid guidelines.

None has appeared on behalf of A-6 Company today, though the summons issued to the said company are stated to have been served. Let the report of

service be filed by the IO / HIO in a sealed / closed envelope with Ahlmad of the court and it be placed on record when the envelope is opened as per the instant protocol of Covid 19. In the meanwhile, fresh summons to the said accused be also issued to be served by all the prescribed modes of service for **16.04.2021**.

Sh. Harsh Sharma, surety of A-1 has also come present today and since appearance has already been filed on behalf of A-1, he is being discharged for today. IO / HIO states that other surety Sh. S. Muthukrishnan of this accused is reported to be not existing at his given address for the last around five years. Learned counsel for A-1 submits that he will check the above fact and will place on record the present / fresh address of the said surety, if required.

Let copies of the complaint and documents be supplied to learned Counsels for all the accused persons and the scrutiny of documents shall be completed by 16.04.2021.

Put up on **16.04.2021** for further proceedings, as stated above.

(M. K. Nagpal) Special Judge (PC Act) (CBI)-09, (MPs/MLAs Cases), RADC, New Delhi/07.04.2021