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

\+ W.P.(CRL) 1686/2022

RITU KAPUR ..... Petitioner

Through: Ms.Kartika Sharma, Ms.Vanshita Gupta, Advocates.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS. ..... Respondents

Through: Mr.Anurag Ahluwalia, CGSC with Mr.Abhigyan Siddhant, GP for UOI/R1.

Mr.Zoheb Hossain, Senior Standing Counsel with Mr.Vivek Gurnani, Ms.Sara Jain, Mr.Baibhav, Advocates for ED/R-3.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JYOTI SINGH

O R D E R

% 31.01.2024

CRL.M.A.1897/2024 (for permission to travel abroad, by Petitioner)

1. This is an application filed by the Applicant under Section 482 Cr.P.C. seeking permission to travel to Beirut, Lebanon from 15.02.2024 to 25.02.2024; to London, UK from 01.03.2024 to 09.03.2024; to Perugia, Italy from 15.04.2024 to 25.04.2024 and to Copenhagen, Denmark from 23.05.2024 to 02.06.2024, in view of upcoming business meetings and social events, where presence of the Applicant is required, with a further direction to suspend the Look-Out Circular ('LOC') issued against the Applicant, which is the subject matter of challenge in this petition.

2. Learned counsel for the Applicant submits that Applicant is required to travel on account of business meetings including social events and that she has been permitted on several occasions in the past by this Court to travel after furnishing an undertaking that the Applicant shall return to India on the dates given in the undertaking and Applicant has always returned to

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India on time and has never misused the concession granted by this Court.

3. Learned counsel for Enforcement Directorate/Respondent No. 3 opposes the application on the ground that Applicant has several assets abroad and the allegations against her are very serious. Hence, she should not be permitted to travel abroad.

4. Applicant has furnished the details of the places she proposes to travel to including the dates and purpose of travel in paragraph 3 of this application. Applicant has been permitted to travel abroad by this Court on previous occasions and it is not controverted by Respondent No. 3 that she has never misused the liberty granted and has returned back to India on the date undertaken before the Court. In view of these facts and circumstances, this Court deems it appropriate to allow the present application and permit the Applicant to travel on the dates mentioned in the application. Accordingly, it is directed that LOC against the Applicant be suspended from 15.02.2024 to 02.06.2024, subject to the Applicant furnishing an undertaking that she will return to India on or before 02.06.2024. Applicant shall file the itinerary relating to the proposed travel and on her return, shall inform the Enforcement Directorate as well as Bureau of Immigration about her arrival in India. The undertaking shall be filed by the Applicant within three days from today, with advance copies thereof to the learned counsels for the Respondents.

5. List before the learned Joint Registrar (Judicial) on 05.02.2024 for verification of the affidavit of undertaking and further proceedings.

6. Application stands disposed of.

JYOTI SINGH, J

JANUARY 31, 2024/*DU/shivam*

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