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IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

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W.P.(C) 16802/2024 and CM APPLs.6363/2025, 10812/2025

AKSHAT BALDWA & ANR.

.....Petitioners

Through: Mr. Rahul Bajaj, Mr. Amritesh Mishra, Ms. Sarah, Mr. Amar Jain and Ms. Shehreen, Advs.

versus

MADDOCK FILMS PRIVATE LIMITED AND ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Vedansh Anand, GP, UOI.
Mr. Sandeep Kumar Mahapatra, Ms. Mrinmayee Sahu and Mr. Tribhuvan, Advs. for R-3.
Mr. Vivek Ayyagari, Adv. for R-4.
Mr. Harshvardhan Jha and Mr. Sumeet Mishra, Advs. for R-5 and 7 (through v/c)
Mr. Saikrishna Rajagopal and Ms. Sneha Jain, Advs. for R-8.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA

ORDER

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01.09.2025

CM APPL.32463/2025

1. Last opportunity is granted to the respondent no.3 / Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to file a reply within a period of three weeks from today, failing which, the concerned Joint Secretary shall join the proceedings virtually on the next date of hearing.
2. Let rejoinder thereto, if any, be filed before the next date of hearing.
3. List on 16.10.2025.

W.P.(C) 16802/2024



4. *Vide* order dated 19.05.2025, it was noted that in the affidavit filed on behalf of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting / respondent no.3, it was stated that the said ministry was in the process of formulating guidelines regarding the inclusion of disabled friendly accessibility features for content on OTT platforms, in accordance with the provisions of RPwD Act, 2016.
5. It was further stated that draft guidelines in this regard had been prepared and were in the process of being finalized.
6. Despite directions that the process of issuance of the concerned guidelines be expedited, it appears that necessary steps have not been taken by the concerned Ministry.
7. Let expeditious steps be taken by the Ministry in this regard, and a status report on affidavit be filed within a period of four weeks from today.
8. In case the relevant guidelines are not formulated, by concerned Joint Secretary shall join the proceedings virtually on the next date of hearing.
9. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that in line with the directions issued *vide* order dated 02.11.2023 in W.P.(C) 445/2023, OTP platforms be interdicted from fresh releases that are not compliant with accessibility features. This aspect shall be considered on the next date of hearing.
10. Mr. Harshvardhan Jha, learned counsel for the respondent nos.5 and 7, submits that the said respondents have fully complied with the accessibility features in respect of the releases pointed out by the petitioner. In the circumstances, at his request, the said respondent nos.5 and 7 are deleted from the array of parties. Needless to say, the said respondents shall continue to ensure incorporation of accessibility features in future releases as well.



11. List on 16.10.2025.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2025/cl

SACHIN DATTA, J