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

+ **CS(COMM) 409/2026**

SANJIV SARAF & ORS.Plaintiffs

Through: Ms. Meera Chature Sankhari, Ms. Soni Singh, Ms. Parkhi Singh and Ms. Khushee Runthala, Advocates.

versus

**MANZAR HASAN MUKHATAR HASAN SYED
& ANR.**Defendants

Through: Mr. Javed R. Sheikh, Mr. Talha A. Rahman, Mr. Faizal Ahmad and Mr. Shukhtiz Sinha, Advocates.

**CORAM:
HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE JYOTI SINGH**

ORDER

% **24.04.2026**

CS(COMM) 409/2026

1. List before the concerned Joint Registrar on 19.05.2026.

I.A. 10702/2026 (u/O XXXIX Rules 1 and 2 r/w Section 151 CPC)

2. This application is filed on behalf of the Plaintiffs seeking *ex parte* ad interim injunction against the Defendants.

3. Mr. Javed R. Sheikh, Advocate appears for the Defendants and submits that he has filed a *vakalatnama*, but the same is not on record. Let the same be brought on record during the course of the day.

4. Let reply be filed within a period of four weeks. Rejoinder, if any, be filed before the next date.

5. Case of the Plaintiffs as set out in the plaint is that Plaintiffs are the Trustees of the Rekhta Foundation, a charitable trust registered under the Registration Act, 1908 on 30.05.2012. Rekhta Foundation was first established by its Trustees, Mr. Sanjiv Saraf and Mr. Ashok Gurnani. In a short span of around 15 years, Rekhta Foundation has had immense social



impact on the preservation, promotion of and democratized access to the languages and literature of the Indian subcontinent, alongside the conservation of its diverse cultural heritage. Emphasizing its role as a catalyst in rejuvenating cultural sensitivity in contemporary society, Rekhta Foundation's efforts are structured around four main categories: Democratizing Access, Preservation, Education, and Promotion of the Indian languages with special focus on Urdu.

6. It is stated that the term Rekhta is an Urdu word that means "hybrid", "scattered" or "mixed". Plaintiffs' adopted the term "Rekhta" not only as a part of its trading name but also as a trademark in 2011, in relation to the diverse set of goods and services offered by Plaintiffs and the mark Rekhta forms an inseparable and integral part of the Plaintiffs' name and reflects the mission of Rekhta Foundation, which is to preserve, promote and democratize access to Indian languages, with special focus on Urdu language, literature and culture. Plaintiffs have been using the mark and name REKHTA continuously since the time of its adoption in 2011.

7. It is stated that Plaintiffs first secured registration for its domain names and the official websites www.rekhta.org and www.rekhta.com on 28.07.2011 and launched the website www.rekhta.org on 13.01.2013, which was one of the earliest milestones achieved by the Plaintiffs. Plaintiffs have provided several technology-oriented solutions and services including the creation of one of the largest digital repository of Urdu literature tracing the rich history of the Urdu language. In view of rapid technological advancements, including the growth of Artificial Intelligence and the increasing use of the internet, it was both natural and necessary for the Plaintiffs to commence and expand its digital presence to effectively promote and disseminate the Urdu language to the widest possible audience for understanding and writing in Urdu Language. Serving as the largest



online repository of Urdu literature, including poetry and e-books globally, the website has attracted academicians, scholars, professors, students and universities, readers from not just from India but more than 160 countries, including in the U.S. Universities such as Harvard, Stanford, Berkley and Chicago.

8. It is averred that with an impressive collection that spans works from over 7,000 poets, spanning from the 13th century to the present day, the website showcases a diverse array of Nazms and Ghazals in Persian, Devanagari and Roman scripts. In its commitment to the preservation of rare Urdu literature, Plaintiffs have digitized an extensive collection of over 2 lakh e-books and magazines across various genres. The preservation, digitization, creating and maintaining access for the dying language began with one machine and today, Plaintiffs own over 40 machines placed in 17 different cities around the country, scanning, uploading and digitizing the content. Further, these e-books available on the Plaintiffs' website for free reading in India along with a plethora of articles written on mysticism and on the nuances of Sufism. Plaintiffs have collated and compiled over 2,000 audios and videos, categorized according to the singer or the Sufi saint. On their website, www.rekhta.org, Plaintiffs have a dedicated page for reading and learning Urdu named as "Rekhta Explorer" which offers wide range of poetry containing 34 different types of shayari content (sinf) including Ghazals, Qita, Rekhti, Masnavi, Geet and many more Prose containing 15 types of prose, Urdu Resources and Rekhta for Poet.

9. It is stated that Plaintiffs' platform enjoys massive public engagement and recognition, with approximately 27 million users visiting annually, making it one of the most accessed platforms for Urdu literature globally. Plaintiffs have collaborated with more than 55 major libraries and private collections for preservation and digitization of Urdu literature as a result of



which over 2,00,000 books and literary works are currently live and accessible, and over 3,00,000 works have been digitized/scanned to date, thereby making Plaintiffs' platform one of the largest digital repositories of Urdu literature in the world. The scale, reach and impact of Plaintiffs' activities, both online and offline, are unmatched and the name and mark REKHTA have become exclusively associated with Plaintiffs in the minds of the public.

10. It is stated that Plaintiffs are cautious, diligent and proactive in securing their intellectual property and own 14 variants of the mark REKHTA. Details of some of the registered trademarks are as follows:-

SL No.	Trade Mark No.	Trademark	Class	Status
1.	3261475	REKHTA	41	Registered
Services: arranging, managing, organizing and producing Urdu literature oriented events; advisory services relating to Urdu literature; providing education including online education relating to Urdu literature; providing facilities for events; booking of tickets for cultural, educational and other events relating to Urdu literature; hiring, renting, lending Urdu literature oriented books; publication of books, e-books, journals online; studio and recording studio services for movies, motion pictures, music recording				
2.	5852492	REKHTA	25	Registered
Goods: Clothing, ready-made clothing, tee-shirts, shirts, short-sleeve shirts, coats, overcoats / topcoats, waistcoats / vests, jackets [clothing], outer clothing, overalls / smocks, jerseys [clothing], sports jerseys, stuff jackets [clothing], hoods [clothing], sweaters / jumpers [pullovers] / pullovers, saris, shawls, suits, dresses; trousers / pants, skirts, pyjamas / pajamas, leggings [leg warmers] / leg warmers, leggings [trousers], clothing of imitations of leather, clothing of leather; paper clothing; gloves [clothing]; neckties; wristbands; headscarves / headscarfs, bandanas [neckerchiefs], headbands [clothing], headwear, hats, caps being headwear; belts [clothing]; ear muffs [clothing]; face coverings [clothing], not for medical or sanitary purposes / face masks [clothing], not for medical or sanitary				



purposes; footwear, shoes, sports shoes boots, half-boots, heels, sandals, footwear uppers, slippers, socks.				
3.	5852495	REKHTA	35	Registered
Services: Provision of an online marketplace for buyers and sellers of goods and services, online retail store and ordering services, online retail services for downloadable digital music, online wholesale ordering services; goods import-export agency services; administrative processing of purchase orders; public relations; providing business information via a website; presentation of goods on communication media, for retail purposes; business management, providing business information; administration of consumer loyalty programs; advertising / publicity, advertising by mail order, radio advertising, development of advertising concepts, direct mail advertising, dissemination of advertising matter, online advertising on a computer network, production of advertising films, outdoor advertising, organization of exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes, promotion of goods and services through sponsorship of sports events; promotion of goods through influencers, sales promotion for others; marketing, influencer marketing, development of marketing concepts; arranging and conducting of commercial events; demonstration of goods; organization of trade fairs.				
4.	3261476	JASHN-E-REKHTA	41	Registered
Services: arranging, managing, organizing and producing Urdu literature oriented events; advisory services relating to Urdu literature; providing education including online education relating to Urdu literature; providing facilities for events; booking of tickets for cultural, educational and other events relating to Urdu literature; hiring, renting, lending Urdu literature oriented books; publication of books, e-books, journals online; studio and recording studio services for movies, motion pictures, music recording				
5.	3955374	RANG-E-REKHTA	41	Registered
Services: arranging, managing, organizing and producing Urdu literature oriented poetry recital and music events; providing facilities for events; booking of tickets for cultural poetry recital or musical events relating to Urdu literature				
6.	3955375	SHAAM-E-REKHTA	41	Registered



Services: arranging, managing, organizing and producing Urdu literature oriented poetry recital and musical events; providing facilities for events; booking of tickets for cultural poetry recital and musical events relating to Urdu literature				
7.	4050904	SUFINAMA	41	Registered
Services: online dissemination of educational and cultural works of literature, including rare manuscripts, books and other articles by and/or about the Sufi Saints; collating, compiling, arranging, managing, organizing and categorizing the rare manuscripts, books and other literary works of Sufi saints or about them by their names, genres and periods of the Sufi saints; collating and compiling and converting the rare manuscripts, books and literary works into e-books and creating an e-library; collation and compilation of rare manuscripts, books and other articles on the subjects of mysticism and Sufism; compilation and consolidation of Urs, being celebrations of Sufi Saints throughout the country through audios and videos recordings, all related to Sufism and/or Sufi saints for building public awareness by providing access through e-books and e-library				
8.	4294168	AAMZISH	41	Registered
Services: providing services of online education, training, teaching and tutorials of Urdu language learning and skill, vocabulary and public awareness building by providing access through the internet including teaching the method of writing the script, meaning and pronunciation of the words through educational material such as audio-visuals, tutorials, whether animated or otherwise and through other teaching methods such as conducting tests, contests and quizzes and conferences on the subjects of Urdu language learning, all offered through the website as well as through the mobile internet services				
9.	4570643	HINDWI	41	Registered
Services: arranging, managing, organizing and producing literature oriented events; advisory services relating to literature; providing education including online education relating to literature; providing facilities for events; booking of tickets for cultural, educational and other events relating to literature; hiring, renting, lending literature oriented books; publication of books, e-books, journals online; studio and recording studio services for movies, motion pictures, music recording.				
10.	5608885	ANJAS	41	Registered



Services: creating an online repository of the literary traditions of Rajasthani language including dissemination, education and popularisation of Rajasthani language and literature through various mediums including poetry, stories, travelogue, folk songs (non-downloadable), folk stories, interviewing for educational purposes, documenting ; creating and publishing a variety of educational material, audio-visual electronic books, dictionaries & journals, online video tutorials (non-downloadable), whether animated or otherwise relating to the ecological, cultural practices and rituals; conducting tests, contests and quizzes, literary and cultural events, and conferences on the subjects of Rajasthani language and literature, all offered online as well as offline.

11.	5852483	REKHTA	16	Registered
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Goods: Books, magazines, printed matter & printed publications, newsletters, pamphlets, banners of papers; bookends, bookmarks/bookmarkers; flyers; cards/charts, booklets; note books, paper sheets, stationary pads; coasters of paper, calendars; cards, greeting cards, postcards, posters; name badges (office requisites), labels of paper or cardboard; bags [envelopes, pouches] of paper or plastic, for packaging, document holder (stationary), envelopes (stationary), folders for paper; stationary covers/wrappers, carrier/shopping bags of paper or plastic; canvas for painting, drawing material, drawing pads; paintings (pictures), framed or unframed; photo albums/scrapbooks; photograph stands, photographs (printed), pictures; plastic sheets, portraits; paper weights; pens and pencils (stationary), writing materials, stencils, pen cases, pen and pencil holders, stands for pens and pencil; punches (office requisite); stamp pads.

12.	5852487	REKHTA	18	Registered
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Goods: Bags, tote bags, travelling bags, handbags, carrying bags, garment bags for travel, reusable shopping bags, rucksacks / backpacks, saddlebags, school bags / school satchels, suitcases, chain mesh purses, bags [envelopes, pouches] of leather, for packing, pocket wallets, purses, net bags for shopping; adhesive tags of leather for bags, labels of leather, luggage tags / baggage tags, sew-on tags of leather for clothing; business card cases, card cases [notecases], key cases, music cases.

13.	7405807	Rekhta	35	Accepted & Advertised
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Services: Provision of an online marketplace for buyers and sellers of goods and services, online retail store and ordering services, online retail services for



downloadable digital music, online wholesale ordering services; goods import-export agency services; administrative processing of purchase orders; public relations; providing business information via a website; presentation of goods on communication media, for retail purposes; business management, providing business information; administration of consumer loyalty programs; advertising / publicity, advertising by mail order, radio advertising, development of advertising concepts, direct mail advertising, dissemination of advertising matter, online advertising on a computer network, production of advertising films, outdoor advertising, organization of exhibitions for commercial or advertising purposes, promotion of goods and services through sponsorship of events; promotion of goods through influencers, sales promotion for others; marketing, influencer marketing, development of marketing concepts; arranging and conducting of commercial events; demonstration of goods; organization of trade fairs.

14.	7405808	Rekhta	42	Objected
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Services: Software as a service (SaaS); artificial intelligence as a service [AIaaS] featuring software for human interaction, learning and improving languages and text analysis, for speech and language recognition; computer services, namely, a learning platform for users to learn languages via computer programs and mobile applications available online on PC, smartphones, tablets and other mobile devices; downloadable computer software and programs for natural language processing, understanding, reasoning, detecting, recognizing, analyzing, creating, generating, enhancing, and/or editing text, voice, speech, audio, images, graphics, and/or video; Platform-as-a-service (PaaS); diagnostics and analysis, syncing, storing, and archiving data, analyzing data; software as a service (SAAS) featuring software for automated content deployment, for providing customers and users with automated content recommendations, for automated product recommendations and for content and experience personalization; text and data mining, namely, providing text and data mining services, citation data mining services, and analytical data mining services using published material and metadata; software services (SaaS) for managing metadata; hosting online web facilities and computer software applications for others for organizing and conducting language teaching, learning and meetings, events and interactive discussions via communication networks; application service provider (asp), providing a website featuring technology that enables online users to learn and improve in multiple languages; computer programming and services for providing



an online, interactive website for posting and discussing texts in multiple languages via a global computer network, and for the collection and dissemination of various works in multiple languages; digitization of document namely books, manuscripts, and textual archives; conversion, updation and preservation of data digitally; electronic publications featuring books, magazines, newspapers, periodicals, newsletters, journals and manuals; creating data, documents, books in digital format; hosting of third party content, photos, videos, text, data and images; providing search engines; providing information such as encyclopedic knowledge, dictionaries, manuscripts, quotations, books, textual sources, catalogues, media files, and other educational content in the field of literature and languages; providing temporary use of non-downloadable computer software and computer interface containing a proprietary collection of information for use in connection with language proficiency, testing, assessment and improvisation, to create on-line personalized information services; providing online non-downloadable software and computer programs for multilingual text and speech recognition, translation, and transcription; creating searchable indexes of information such as encyclopedic knowledge, dictionaries, manuscripts, quotations, books, textual sources, catalogues, media files, and other educational content; maintaining and hosting interactive websites for others featuring online databases, digital content on the internet interactive through multilingual encyclopedia consisting of encyclopedic knowledge, dictionaries, manuscripts, quotations, books, textual sources, catalogues, media files, and other educational content that allows users to publish texts such as poetry, shayari, ghazal, couplets; providing online non-downloadable chatbot software for simulating conversations; providing websites featuring that enables users to upload and share information on a wide variety of topics and subjects in an interactive, website, all the aforesaid services in relation to multiple languages with focus on Urdu, Devanagari, Hindi and included in class 42.

11. It is stated that Plaintiffs are also the registered owners of the domain names and the websites containing the mark Rekhta with gTLDs “.com” and “.org” and other domain names with ccTLDs as well as the domain names without the mark Rekhta and own over 85 domain names. Each of these websites are active, cater to a different and specific nature of services to help the connoisseurs of the language and navigate the large world of Rekhta Foundation and its activities as well as for purchasing the high quality and wide range of products and services offered by Plaintiffs. Details of some of the domain names are as follows:-



S No.	Domain Names	Dates
1.	rekhta.org	28-07-2011
2.	sufinama.org	14-10-2014
3.	jashnerekhta.org	11-11-2014
4.	rekhtabooks.com	27-05-2015
5.	rangerekhta.org	28-07-2016
6.	aamozish.com	28-10-2016
7.	rekhtafoundation.org	12-07-2017
8.	hindwi.org	22-12-2017
9.	shaamerekhta.org	28-06-2018
10.	jashnerekhta.ac	18-01-2019
11.	rekhtafoundation.co.uk	26-06-2020
12.	jashnerekhta.org.uk	02-07-2020
13.	rekhtadictionary.com	17-09-2020
14.	hindwidictionary.com	31-12-2021
15.	anjas.org	12-01-2022
16.	rekhtalabs.org	15-02-2022
17.	anjasmahotsav.org	28-08-2022
18.	rekhtax.org	08-10-2024

12. It is stated that Plaintiffs' platform enjoys massive public engagement and recognition, with approximately 27 million users visiting annually, making it one of the most accessed platforms for Urdu literature globally and when a search for the term "REKHTA" on the internet search engine platform www.Google.com is initiated, the Google Autocomplete or predictions, prompts the users to search "Rekhta Foundation", "Rekhta Dictionary", "Rekhta books", "Rekhta Taqti", "Rekhta Urdu". Details of the social media presence of the Plaintiffs are as follows:-

- a) X (formerly known as Twitter): <https://x.com/rekhta>: 720.8K followers;
- b) Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RekhtaOfficial>: 1.6M followers;
- c) YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@RekhtaOfficial>: 461K subscribers, 1.8K videos;
- d) LinkedIn: <https://in.linkedin.com/company/rekhta-foundation>: 7K followers;



- e) Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/rekhta_foundation/: 1.1 Million followers; and
- f) Telegram: https://t.me/Rekhta_Official: 6.32K subscribers, 1.38K photos.

13. It is stated that Plaintiffs have been recognized from August 2023-August 2024 as a Great Place To Work-Certified by Great Place To Work and have also won various awards like Junoon Award and Rumi Award in the year 2018. Plaintiffs being a charitable trust, secures sponsorship of the events from various companies, organizations and other entities, which also reflects the credibility and reputation attached to the events organized and/or hosted by the Rekhta Foundation. Some of the prominent sponsors who have collaborated with the Plaintiffs include 'Trident', 'Indigo', 'HCL Concerts', 'Taj Mahal' 'Milton', 'Vedanta', 'Hamdard Khaalis Masale', 'Polyplex', 'Uflex', 'Ibaadat'; 'CBD Group', 'Havells', 'SafeExpress', 'Pathways World School' and many more well-established and distinguished institutions, organizations and organizers.

14. It is stated that since the launch of the Rekhta Foundation, the annual revenues of Plaintiffs through various events and products sold under the REKHTA Marks have increased. Details of the annual revenue generated by the Plaintiffs from 2014-2015 to 2024-2025 are as follows:-

Financial Year	Annual Revenue (INR.)
2014-2015	19,50,000.00
2015-2016	49,30,447.00
2016-2017	1,14,96,507.00
2017-2018	1,79,78,970.00
2018-2019	1,63,36,393.00
2019-2020	4,07,56,348.00
2020-2021	3,37,68,772.31
2021-2022	10,52,34,968.00
2022-2023	14,56,64,162.00
2023-2024	18,85,95,848.00
2024-2025	19,86,53,405.90



15. It is stated that Plaintiffs have expended huge sums of money on advertisement of the Rekhta Foundation and its activities under the REKHTA marks. Details of the annual expenditure relating to promotional and other activities towards various events, activities, products and services provided/sold under the REKHTA Marks from 2013-2014 to 2024-2025 are as follows:-

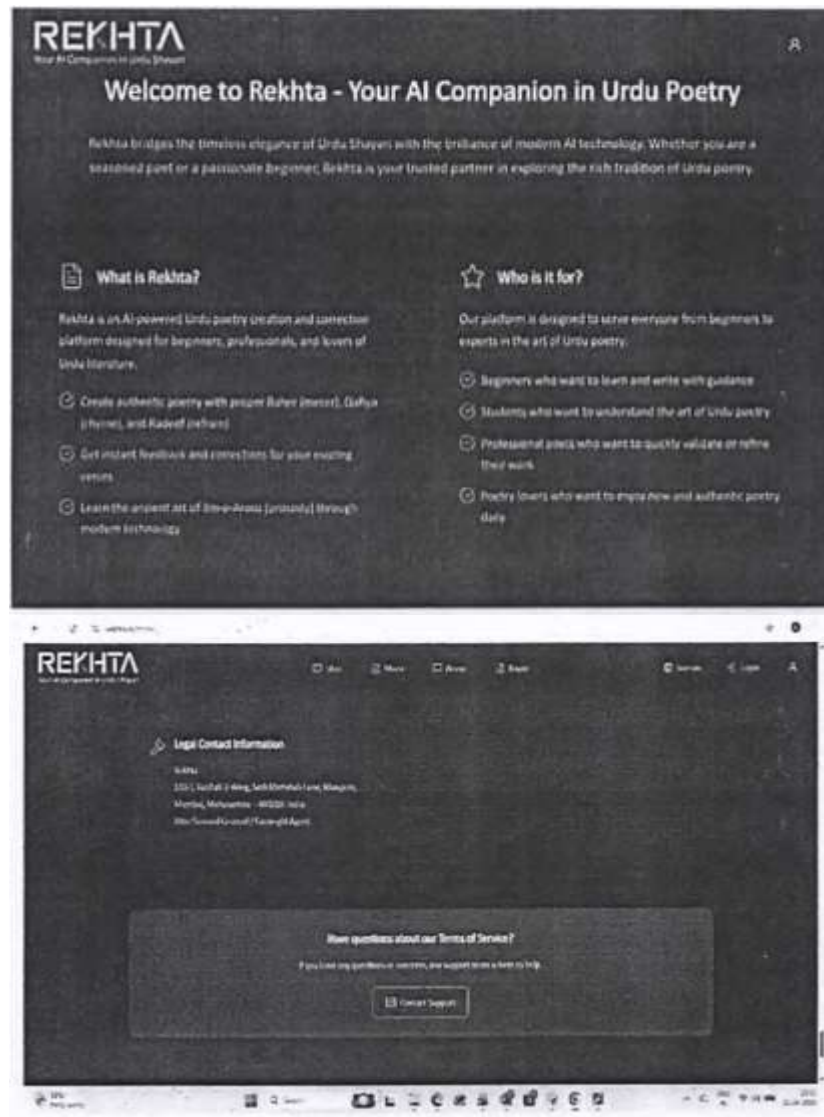
Financial Year	Annual Expenditure on Advertisement (INR.)
2013 – 2014	11,810.00
2014-2015	1,08,110.00
2015-2016	2,79,081.00
2016-2017	7,96,097.00
2017-2018	6,90,016.00
2018-2019	13,47,666.00
2019-2020	19,45,942.00
2020-2021	15,36,260.00
2021-2022	46,95,906.00
2022-2023	90,31,077.00
2023-2024	3,51,18,756.00
2024-2025	4,15,96,722.00

16. It is stated that Plaintiffs did not have any knowledge nor information about the Defendants and their activities until they filed an application bearing TM No. 7405808 to register the mark “Rekhta” in Class 42 before the Trade Marks Registry, Delhi. In the Examination Report dated 09.02.2026, two marks were cited as being “earlier marks”, both of which were Defendants’ marks, i.e. Registration No. 2500420 and Application No.7066009. Thereafter, Plaintiffs learnt that Defendant No.1 had submitted a letter dated 09.02.2026 objecting to Plaintiffs’ application under examination. In this letter, Defendant No. 1 claims ownership of the lapsed registration no. 2500420, which as per the records of the Registry is reflected in the name of Defendant No. 2. Defendants had not



only applied but also secured registration for mark **REKHTA** in Class 42.

17. It is stated that Plaintiffs thereafter conducted an internet search with both the Defendants' names and it was found that Defendant No. 1 has been operating two websites i.e., www.axissoftmedia.com and <https://rekhta.in/www.rekhta.in>. Upon visiting the impugned website, www.rekhta.in, Plaintiffs learnt that Defendants claim that “*Rekhta is an AI-powered Urdu poetry creation and correction platform designed for beginners, professionals, and lovers of Urdu literature*”. Screenshots of the impugned website are as follows:-





18. Having heard learned counsel for the Plaintiffs and upon perusal of the documents, I am of the view that Plaintiffs have made out a *prima facie* case for grant of ad interim injunction against the Defendants. Balance of convenience lies in favour of the Plaintiffs and they are likely to suffer irreparable harm in case the interim injunction, as prayed for, is not granted.

19. Accordingly, till the next date of hearing, Defendants and all others acting on their behalf are restrained from operating the website with domain name <https://rekhta.in> and/or any other domain name which includes the word REKHTA.

20. At this stage, learned counsel for the Defendants, on instructions, states that Defendants are willing to explore the possibility of an amicable settlement and parties be referred for mediation, to which counsel for the Plaintiffs has no objection. Accordingly, with the consent of the parties, they are referred to the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre where they shall appear on 07.05.2026.

21. List before Court on 04.08.2026.



22. Copy of the order be sent to the learned Coordinator, Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre for appointment of a Mediator.

JYOTI SINGH, J

APRIL 24, 2026/YA/AK