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

CNR No. DLHC010371982026

+ **CS(COMM) 876/2026**

MHG IP HOLDING SINGAPORE PTE LTD & ORS.Plaintiffs

Through: Mr. Chander M. Lall, Sr. Advocate
with Mr. Amit Parigrahi, Mr. Sahil
Arora, Mr. Akash Choudhary and Ms.
Ishikaa Seth, Advocates.

versus

ANANTARA SPA & ANR.

.....Defendants

Through:

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A. J. BHAMBHANI

ORDER

% **13.08.2026**

I.A. 21773/2026 (exemption from filing lengthy synopsis and list of dates)

By way of the present application, the plaintiffs seek exemption from filing lengthy synopsis and list of dates and events.

2. For the reasons stated in the application, which is duly supported by affidavit, the application is allowed.
3. The synopsis and list of dates and events filed by the plaintiffs are taken on record.
4. The application stands disposed-of.

I.A. 21770/2026 (additional documents)

5. By way of the present application filed under Order XI Rule 1(4) (as amended by the Commercial Courts Act, 2015) read with section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure 1908 ('CPC'), the plaintiffs seek leave to file additional documents.



6. For the reasons stated in the application, which is duly supported by affidavit, the application is allowed.
7. Let the additional documents be filed within 30 days.
8. The relevance and admissibility of the documents so filed will be considered subsequently.
9. The application stands disposed-of.

I.A. 21771/2026 (exemption from pre-institution mediation)

10. By way of the present application filed under section 12A of Commercial Courts Act, 2015 read with section 151 of the CPC, the plaintiffs seek exemption from attempting pre-litigation mediation.
11. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the present case, and in light of the judgment of the Supreme Court in *Yamini Manohar vs. T.K.D. Keerthi*¹ and of a Division Bench of this court in *Chandra Kishore Chaurasia vs. R A Perfumery Works (P) Ltd.*², the plaintiff is exempted from attempting pre-litigation mediation.
12. The application stands disposed-of.

I.A. 21772/2026 (exemption from advance service upon defendants.)

13. By way of the present application filed under section 151 of the CPC, the plaintiffs seek exemption from effecting advance service upon the defendants.
14. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case, the plaintiff is exempted from effecting advance service upon the defendants.
15. Application stands disposed-of.

¹ (2024) 5 SCC 815

² 2022 SCC OnLine Del 3529



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16. Let the plaint be registered as a suit.
17. Issue summons in the suit.
18. Upon the plaintiffs taking requisite steps, let summons be sent to the defendants by all permissible modes, returnable for the next date before the learned Joint Registrar.
19. Let the summons indicate that the defendants are required to file written statements to the plaint within 30 days from the date of receipt of summons, alongwith affidavits of admission/denial of the documents filed by the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs may file replication(s) to the written statements within 30 days thereafter, alongwith affidavits of admission/denial of the documents filed by defendants.
20. List before the learned Joint Registrar for completion of pleadings, for admission/denial of documents and marking of exhibits on 17th November 2026.
21. List before court thereafter.

I.A. 21769/2026

22. By way of the present application filed under Order XXXIX Rules 1 and 2 read with section 151 of the CPC, the plaintiffs seek the following interim reliefs:



a. Pending the hearing and final disposal of the accompanying suit, restrain Defendants No. 1, its proprietor(s), partners, promoters, directors, officers, employees, servants, franchisees, affiliates, associates, sister concerns, licensees, distributors, agents, representatives, successors, assigns and all other persons acting for, through, under or on its behalf from adopting, using, applying for registration, registering, advertising, promoting, marketing, offering, rendering, displaying, publishing or otherwise dealing in, directly or indirectly, the marks "ANANTARA", "ANANTARA SPA", "



", the Plaintiffs' ANANTARA logo/device mark, or any other trademark, service mark, trade name, business name, trading style, corporate name, establishment name, domain name, website identifier, email address, social media handle or any other commercial identifier identical with, deceptively similar to, or incorporating the Plaintiffs' ANANTARA Trademarks or the dominant and essential feature thereof, in relation to spa, wellness, massage, beauty, relaxation, hospitality, hotel, resort, leisure, lifestyle or any allied or cognate goods or services, or in any other manner whatsoever amounting to infringement of the Plaintiffs'



registered **ANANTARA** Trademarks, passing off, dilution, unfair competition or violation of the Plaintiffs' statutory and common law rights.

- b. Pending the hearing and final disposal of the accompanying suit, restrain the Defendants, its proprietor(s), partners, promoters, directors, officers, employees, servants, franchisees, affiliates, associates, sister concerns, licensees, distributors, agents, representatives, successors, assigns and all other persons acting for, through, under or on its behalf from passing off, or enabling others to pass off, its business, establishment, spa, wellness, massage, hospitality or allied services as and for those of the Plaintiffs, or from representing, directly or indirectly, expressly or by implication, that its business, services or commercial activities are associated with, affiliated to, connected with, authorised by, licensed by, sponsored by, endorsed by, approved by or otherwise commercially linked to the Plaintiffs, by adopting, using, advertising, promoting or otherwise exploiting the marks “ANANTARA”, “ANANTARA SPA”, “



”, the Plaintiffs' **ANANTARA** logo/device mark, or any other mark, trade name, business name, domain name, social media identifier or commercial indicia identical with or deceptively similar to the Plaintiffs' **ANANTARA** Trademarks or incorporating the dominant and essential feature thereof.

- c. Restrain the Defendants, its proprietor(s), partners, promoters, directors, officers, employees, servants, franchisees, affiliates, associates, sister concerns, licensees, distributors, agents, representatives, successors, assigns and all other persons acting for, through, under or on its behalf from registering, maintaining, renewing,



operating, hosting, advertising, promoting, transferring, assigning or in any manner whatsoever using the domain name <https://anantara-spa.in/> or any other domain name, URL, sub-domain, website, redirect or other online identifier incorporating the Plaintiffs' ANANTARA Trademarks or any mark identical with or deceptively similar thereto, including any ANANTARA-formative domain name, and from operating or permitting the operation of any website or online platform thereunder during the pendency of the present proceedings.

- d. Pending the hearing and final disposal of the accompanying suit, direct the Defendants, its proprietor(s), partners, promoters, directors, officers, employees, servants, franchisees, affiliates, associates, sister concerns, licensees, distributors, agents, representatives, successors, assigns and all other persons acting for, through, under or on its behalf to forthwith suspend, disable, deactivate, remove and take down all websites, webpages, domain names, URLs, social media accounts, online business listings, digital directories, promotional materials, advertisements, photographs, videos, brochures and all

other online and offline content bearing or displaying the Plaintiffs' ANANTARA Trademarks, including but not limited to the marks "ANANTARA", "ANANTARA



the Plaintiffs' ANANTARA logo/device mark, or any other mark identical with or deceptively similar thereto, including but not limited to the website operating under the domain name <https://anantara-spa.in/>, together with all associated social media pages, online business listings and digital platforms through which the Defendants advertises, promotes or offers its services under the Impugned Marks.

- e. Direct the concerned domain name registrar, registry, registry operator, domain name service provider, web



”, “**ANANTARA** SPA”, or any other ANANTARA-formative mark, have been adopted, used, advertised, promoted or exploited in any manner whatsoever.

- g. Direct the Defendants to maintain true and complete accounts of all bookings, appointments, customer enquiries, revenues, receipts, invoices and all other commercial transactions undertaken under or by reference to the Impugned Marks during the pendency of the present suit, and to preserve all books of account, electronic records and supporting documents relating thereto and produce the same before this Hon'ble Court as and when directed.
- h. Pass such further or other order(s), including any ad interim *ex-parte* order(s), as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit, just and proper in the facts and circumstances of the present case, in the interest of justice.

23. The plaintiffs are stated to be part of the Minor International Public Company Limited group, widely known as the "Minor Hotel Group", an internationally renowned hospitality group engaged in the development, ownership, management and operation of luxury hotels, resorts and hospitality services across numerous jurisdictions worldwide. The plaintiffs have jointly instituted the present suit since, it is stated, that the right to seek the reliefs claimed in the suit vests in them collectively and arises from the same series of acts and transactions forming part of the defendants' alleged infringing activities. The plaintiffs claim to be the lawful proprietors, affiliates and/or authorized users of the well-known trademark 'ANANTARA' and other formative marks, which are stated to be registered,



protected and extensively used in several jurisdictions across the world, including in India, in relation to hospitality, hotel management and allied services. The plaintiffs' registered trademarks have been set out in para 16 of the plaint.

24. Mr. Chander Lall, learned senior counsel appearing for the plaintiffs submits that defendants Nos. 1 and 2 are carrying-on business under the name and style of 'ANTANTARA SPA' and are engaged in the business of providing wellness services and allied hospitality services. Mr. Lall submits that the plaintiffs enjoy statutory and common law rights in the 'ANANTARA' family of trademarks.
25. It is argued that the defendants are using the expression 'ANANTARA' as the dominant, essential, distinctive and source-identifying feature of the defendants' infringing marks; and the addition of the descriptive and generic expression 'SPA' neither distinguishes the defendants' marks from the plaintiffs' well-known 'ANANTARA' trademarks nor does it diminish the deceptive similarity created by the defendants' adoption. It is further argued, that on the contrary, the suffix 'SPA' aggravates the likelihood of deception and confusion, since spa and wellness services constitute an integral and well-recognised component of the plaintiffs' luxury hospitality business, which the plaintiffs render across numerous jurisdictions worldwide under the ANANTARA brand; and that the defendants' adoption of the mark is neither honest nor coincidental. A comparative chart between the plaintiffs' and the defendants' trademarks has been set-out in para 90 of the present application.



26. Furthermore, it is pointed-out that in proceedings before the arbitrator under the .IN Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy, the arbitrator has ruled that the defendants' registration and use of the domain name 'https://anantaraspa.co.in' *prima-facie* does not appear to be *bona-fidé* and appears to be intended to deceive the lay public and to trade on the plaintiffs' reputation.
27. In the circumstances, the arbitrator has directed the .IN Registry to transfer the domain 'https://anantaraspa.co.in' in favour of plaintiff No.1, which has subsequently been done.
28. Issue notice.
29. Upon the plaintiffs taking steps, let notice be sent to the defendants by all permissible modes, returnable for the next date before the learned Joint Registrar.
30. Let the notice indicate that replies to the application be filed within 30 days of service; rejoinder(s) thereto, if any, be filed within 30 days thereafter; with copies to the opposing counsel.
31. Based on a preliminary appreciation of the matter, this court is of the view that the plaintiffs have succeeded in making-out a *prima-facie* case in their favour; that the balance of convenience also lies in favour of the plaintiffs and against the defendants; and it would appear that irreparable loss and injury would be caused to the plaintiffs if the interim injunction as prayed-for is not granted.
32. Accordingly, an *ex-parte ad-interim* order of injunction is passed in favour of the plaintiffs and against the defendants in terms of *prayer (a), (b), (c) and (d)* as extracted above, till the next date of hearing.



33. Plaintiffs are directed to comply with the provision of Order XXXIX Rule 3 CPC, within 10 days.
34. List before the learned Joint Registrar for completion of pleadings in this application on 17th November 2026.
35. List before court after completion of pleadings in this application.

A. J. BHAMBHANI, J

AUGUST 13, 2026

V. Rawat