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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION NO. 23 OF 2025

Ruzbeh Dossabhoy Raja

.. Petitioner

Versus

State of Maharashtra & Ors.

.. Respondents

Mr. Ajinkya Udane a/w Jay Bhatia a/w Kajal Maurya
for petitioner.

Mr. O. A. Chandurkar, Addl. Govt. Pleader with Mrs.
Savita A. Prabhune, AGP for respondent nos.1 to 6.

Mrs. Shehnaz V. Bharucha and Mr. Ashutosh Mishra
i/by A. A. Ansari for respondent nos.7 and 10.

**CORAM: ALOK ARADHE, CJ. &
BHARATI DANGRE, J.**

DATE: 12th FEBRUARY, 2025

P.C.:

1. The petitioner has filed this Public Interest Litigation seeking direction to the respondents to conduct a detailed study and submit a report as to the type and magnitude of the cyber-attacks on various Maharashtra Government Websites. The petitioner also seeks direction to take preventive measures to ensure that no further cyber-attacks take place and to register First Information Report against the person responsible for such attacks.

2. We have perused the pleadings made by the petitioner.

3. The petitioner claims to be a public spirited individual and holds a Masters Degree in Law (LL.M.) specializing in Information Technology and Intellectual Property Rights Law (IT & IPR) and hence is conversant with the Information Technology Act, 2000 and subject matter of this petition. The petitioner also claims to be Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Mumbai and also an Information Technology Consultant and claims to be well-versed with Internet Technologies, Web Hosting Solutions, Malware Attacks and Domain Name Infrastructure which are all the subject matter of this PIL.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner submitted that the petitioner is ready and willing to give suggestions to respondent nos.4 and 6, i.e., Maharashtra Cyber, Office of Spl. Inspector General of Police-Cyber and Deputy Commissioner of Police, Cyber Crime (Mumbai Police) to ensure that the cyber-attacks do not take place on government websites. The petitioner is also ready and willing to suggest the preventive measures to ensure that cyber-attacks do not take place on government websites.

5. On the other hand, learned Additional Government Pleader, on instructions, submits that in case the petitioner submits the proposal/suggestions to the competent authority, the respondent nos. 4 and 6 shall take steps to ensure its implementation subject to its feasibility.

6. Undoubtedly, there is need to prevent the government websites from the cyber-attacks. The petitioner, who claims to be an expert is willing to give suggestions to the competent authority to prevent such cyber-attacks.

7. In view of the aforesaid, the PIL is disposed of with the liberty to the petitioner to submit proposal/suggestions to respondent nos.4 and 6. Needless to state that on receipt of such proposal/suggestions made by the petitioner, respondent nos.4 and 6 shall take effective steps to implement the same subject to feasibility of the proposal/suggestions.

8. It is made clear that this Court has not expressed any opinion on merits of the matter.

(BHARATI DANGRE, J.)

(CHIEF JUSTICE)