



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION
IN ITS COMMERCIAL DIVISION

INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO. 28031 OF 2025
IN
COMMERCIAL IP SUIT (L) NO. 27370 OF 2025
WITH
LEAVE PETITION (L) NO. 27946 OF 2025
IN
COMMERCIAL IP SUIT (L) NO. 27370 OF 2025

Reliance Industries Limited

...Applicant/
Orig. Plaintiff

In the matter between :

Reliance Industries Limited

...Plaintiff

Versus

1. Asif Ahmed, registrant of www.jiocabs.com
2. Usman, proprietor, doing business under the name and style of D.T.S. (Doon Taxi Service)
3. P.D.R. Solutions LLC

...Defendants

Mr. Vinod A. Bhagat, C/o. Arjun T. Bhagat & Co., Advocates for
Applicant/Orig. Plaintiff.

None for Defendants.

CORAM : SOMASEKHAR SUNDARESAN, J.

DATE : OCTOBER 7, 2025

ORDER :

1. Commercial IP Suit (L) No. 27370 of 2025 is a composite Suit

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for infringement of trademark and passing off filed by the Plaintiff, Reliance Industries Limited which owns the “JIO” trademark which is registered under multiple classes.

2. Defendant No. 1 is engaged in providing taxi services and has put to use the name, “JIO” in the conduct of such business. This Defendant also has registered a website with the domain name, “www.jiocabs.com”.

3. Defendant No. 2 also appears to be engaged in providing taxi services using the same website created and registered by Defendant No. 1.

4. Defendant No. 3 is the domain name registrant with whom the aforesaid website has been registered.

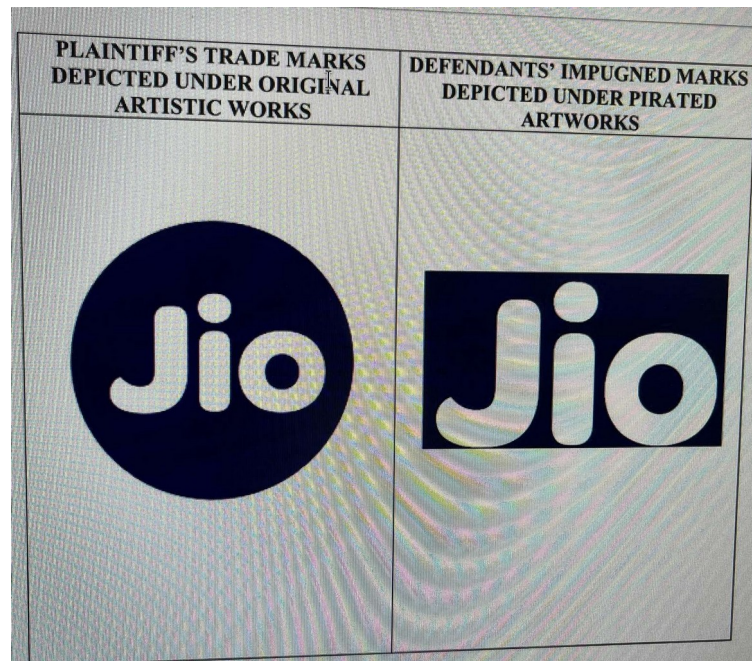
5. In the Complaint, the Plaintiff seeks a restraint against Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 by a perpetual order and injunction against usage of the aforesaid domain name and website, namely, www.jiocabs.com and has sought intervention against the impugned name, mark or artwork that is identical or deceptively similar to the Plaintiff’s trademark and original artistic work using the name “JIO”.

6. It is seen from the material on record that the name “JIO” came to be adopted by the Plaintiff, initially for its digital services in 2016. However, the name and mark used by the Plaintiff, all based on

“JIO” have been registered across classes.

7. Set out at Exhibit W, is the logo and name used by the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 as juxtaposed with the original artistic works of the Plaintiff (Page 372). The Plaintiff has also exhibited at Exhibit T (Page 363), the usage of deceptively similar artwork by the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 and the WhatsApp display picture attached to the number from which the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 are carrying out their taxi operations in the JIO name.

8. The contents of Exhibit W, which compare the Plaintiff's trademark depicted under the original artistic works with the Defendants' impugned mark as set out in Exhibit W and is extracted below :



9. Mr. Vinod Bhagat, Learned Advocate for the Plaintiffs has moved these proceedings after issuance of notice to the Defendants. He has filed an an affidavit of service, which is taken on record. The prayer sought today is restricted to *ad-interim* relief in terms of prayer clauses (a) and (b). Learned Advocate would point out that the Plaintiff is a registrant of the JIO trademark in various classes and the earliest registration was effected in the Class 9, as early as December 9, 2011.

10. Learned Advocate would also draw my attention to various other registrations effected from time to time under various classes, including Class 39, the registration of which is seen from the record at Pages 116 and 117, which cover transport, packaging and storage of goods and travel arrangements effected way back in 2012, so also trademark registration and the certificate issued for the same dated January 24, 2013 (at Pages 117 and 118).

11. The word “JIO” is subject matter of registration on September 7, 2012, while the label using the name, “JIO” is registered on January 24, 2013. The registration is valid until January 24, 2033 (Page 119). The Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 appear to be conducting taxi services using the “JIO” name in Dehradun and Delhi. Although their website referred to above indeed, also refers to services being available in Mumbai, Mr. Bhagat would indicate that the operations appear to be

based in Dehradun with services being marketed as an inter-state national level service.

12. The Plaintiff has engaged with the the phone numbers provided on the website through WhatsApp and would annexe the transcript of such conversation in Exhibit S which would clearly indicate that there is an active use of the “JIO” name for purposes of running the business branded as Jiocabs.

13. In these circumstances, Learned Advocate would submit that there is a need for urgent intervention and protection in favour of the Plaintiff at least on an *ad-interim* basis in terms of prayer clauses (a) and (b) of the Interim Application.

14. Learned Advocate would also candidly point out that after these proceedings were served on the Defendants, they appear to have changed their name thereby indicating that they may not be desirous of continuing the violative conduct any further. Nevertheless, he would submit, based on this evident acknowledgement, it would only be appropriate that the Plaintiff be protected from abuse of its brand name.

15. Learned Advocate would also point out that the content of the internet website has been changed and access to the address “www.jiocabs.com” now takes the user to a different website which no longer shows the portal as the one complained of in the Plaint.

16. That, the “JIO” name is subject matter of protection as a well-known trademark is a matter, that has been already examined by various Benches of this Court. The Plaintiff annexes an order dated August 23, 2021 passed by a Learned Single Judge of this Court pointing out that the Plaintiff is registered proprietor of the “JIO” mark and a series of such marks with all trade variants under 14 separate registrations, and that there were, at that time, at least 11 different domain names featuring the word “JIO”.

17. Having examined the material brought on record on behalf of the Plaintiff and having examined the copies of the rival marks and the labels appended to the Plaintiff, and the conduct of the parties, a strong *prima facie* case has been made out for grant of urgent *ad-interim* interlocutory reliefs. Despite service, the Defendants had not entered appearance, and indeed, after service, they appear to have mended their approach to the use of the brand name and have switched to a new name, but the domain name continues. The strength of the *prima facie* case in favour of the Plaintiff is strongly underlined. The continued usage of a well-known and protected brand name would indeed cause grave injury and considering the mending of ways by the Defendants, even the balance of convenience would be in favour of grant of the *ad-interim* relief.

18. In these circumstances, in my opinion, it would be appropriate to accord *ad-interim* relief in terms of prayer clauses (a) and (b), as set out in the Interim Application, which read thus :

(a) *pending the hearing and final disposal of the suit, the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 (and such other individuals/entities which are discovered during the course of the proceedings to have been engaged in infringing the Plaintiff's trade mark and artwork) by themselves, their proprietors, servants, agents, assignees and all those connected with the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 in their business be restrained by an order and temporary injunction of this Hon'ble Court from offering and rendering taxi services or from using in any manner whatsoever in relation to any other services or goods, the impugned domain name/website www.jiocabs.com and the impugned counterfeit mark JIO and/or any name, mark or label identical with and/or deceptively similar to the Plaintiffs trade mark JIO, so as to infringe upon on the Plaintiff's trade mark JIO registered under Nos. 2247460; 3016543 amongst others in class 09; 2247360; 2391638 amongst other in class 38; 2391639, 2466113, 4951548 amongst others in class 39;*

(b) *pending the hearing and final disposal of the suit, the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 (and such other individuals/entities which are discovered during the course of the proceedings to have been engaged in infringing the Plaintiff's trade mark and artwork) by themselves, their proprietors, servants, agents, assignees and all those connected with the Defendant Nos. 1 and 2 in their business be restrained by an order and temporary injunction of this Hon'ble Court from offering and rendering taxi services or from using in any manner whatsoever in relation to any other services or goods, the impugned pirated artwork of JIO (appended at Exhibits R, S & T to the Plaint) or any other artwork which is identical with and/or substantially similar to the Plaintiff's original artistic work of JIO (appended at Exhibit M to the Plaint), so as to*

infringe upon the Plaintiff's copyright subsisting in the original artistic work of its JIO.

19. It is made clear that should the Defendants be desirous of varying, altering or vacating the *ad-interim* relief granted hereby, the Defendants may appear before the Court, and present its say.

20. Affidavit in reply, if any, may be filed within a period of four weeks from the upload of this order on the website of this Court. Rejoinder, if any, may be filed within two weeks thereafter. List for further consideration of *interim* relief on ***November 28, 2025.***

21. All actions required to be taken pursuant to this order, shall be taken upon receipt of a downloaded copy as available on this Court's website.

[SOMASEKHAR SUNDARESAN, J.]