

CONT.P.No.2708 of 202



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 17-10-2025

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THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE M.S. RAMESH

AND

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE V. LAKSHMINARAYANAN

Cont.P.No.2708 of 2025

and Sub.A.No.950 of 2025

Shri. Akash Baskaran,
A-3, 3rd Floor, La Gracia Apartment, K.B.Road, Seethamal
Colony, Teynampet, Chennai - 600 018.

Petitioner(s)

Vs

The Joint Director and 4 others
Direcotrate of Enforcement, Chennai Zone-1, Floor No.5 and
6, BSNL Admin Office, Kushkumar Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai-600 034 and 4 Others

Contemnor(s)

For Petitioner(s): Mr.Vijay Narayanan, Senior Counsel
for Mr.K.M.Kalicharan

For Respondent(s):

Mr.S.V.Raju, Additional Solicitor General
assisted by Mr.N.Ramesh, Special Public Prosecutor (ED)

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by M.S.Ramesh, J.)

By an order dated 20.06.2025, we had passed an *inter-alia* stay of further proceedings pursuant to the Enforcement Directorate Authorization No.103/2025 dated 15.05.2025, pending disposal of the Writ Petition in W.P.(Crl.) No.71 of 2025. Alleging disobedience of the said order by the Enforcement Directorate, as well as the Adjudicating Authority, the present Contempt Petition is filed.



2.Today, the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner produced a copy of the summon dated 20.09.2025 issued by the Office of the Adjudicating Authority, Prevention of Money Laundering Act, New Delhi, informing the petitioner that the matter in O.A.No.166 of 2025 is scheduled for final arguments on 08.10.2025 by 12.15 PM.

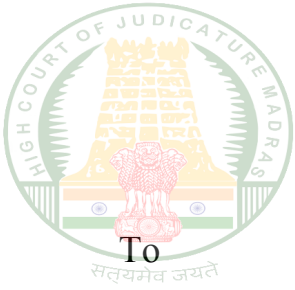
3.When we specifically questioned the learned Additional Solicitor General appearing for the respondents, as to whether the Adjudicating Authority was aware of the interim order passed by this Court, he affirmed that he had brought it to the notice of the Adjudicating Authority and had also referred to an email sent from one Vikas Kumar, Assistant Director of the Directorate of Enforcement to the Registrar/Administrative Officer of the Adjudicating Authority/fifth respondent. In the said email, a copy of the interim order was attached and the Adjudicating Authority was also requested to keep O.A.No.166 of 2025 in abeyance in respect of Shri Akash Baskaran/petitioner until further orders.

4.When the Adjudicating Authority had knowledge about the interim order passed by us, we do not appreciate the manner in which the petitioner has been summoned for placing his final arguments in O.A.No.166 of 2025. In this background, Registry shall issue statutory notice to the respondents 4 & 5, returnable by 14.11.2025.

5.Post the matter on 14.11.2025.

(M.S.R, J.) (V.L.N, J.)
17-10-2025

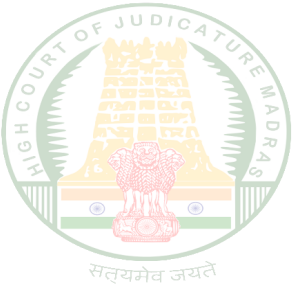
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To

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1. The Joint Director,
Directorate of Enforcement,
Chennai Zone-1,
Floor No.5 and 6, BSNL Admin Office,
Kushkumar Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai-600 034
2. Shri. Puttu Venu,
Deputy Director,
Directorate of Enforcement,
Chennai Zonal Office - I,
5th and 6th Floor, BSNL Administrative Building,
Kushkumar Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600 034.
3. Shri. Vikas Kumar,
Assistant Director,
Directorate of Enforcement,
Chennai Zonal Office - I,
5th and 6th Floor, BSNL Administrative Building,
Kushkumar Road, Nungambakkam,
Chennai - 600034.
4. Shri. Pradeep Kumar Upadhyay,
Chairperson (Actg.), Adjudicating Authority,
Prevention of Money Laundering Act,
4th Floor, Jeevan Deep Building,
Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001.
5. Ms. Nasreen Siddiqui,
The Registrar/Administrative Officer,
Adjudicating Authority (PMLA),
Room No. 26, 4th Floor, Jeevan Deep Building,
Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110001.



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M.S.RAMESH, J.
AND
V.LAKSHMINARAYANAN, J.

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