



\$~91

* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
+ **CONT.CAS(C) 1452/2023**
BHARTIPetitioner

Through: Ms. Meera Kaura Patel, Advocate
(DHCLSC) along with Mr. Zainab
Hussain, Ms. Ritika Saini, Advocates
and Petitioner in person.

versus

PRADEEP KUMAR GAURRespondent
Through: Respondent in person.

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA

ORDER

% **11.02.2026**

1. During the course of hearing, the respondent, who appears in person, submits that he is desirous of relinquishing the custody of the child to the petitioner. To work out the modalities in this regard, the parties are referred to mediation under the aegis of the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre.
2. In case the mediation fails, the petitioner shall be at liberty to file an appropriate application before the concerned Family Court for obtaining the custody of the child.
3. *Vide* order dated 16.12.2025, it has been, *inter-alia*, directed as under:-

“2. Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner alleges that the respondent has been blocking the video calls of the petitioner with the child and despite giving a statement that he has no objection with the same.

3. The respondent shall produce the child before the Delhi High Court



Mediation and Conciliation Centre on 20.12.2025 at 03:00 P.M. and on 03.01.2026 at 03:00 P.M, where the petitioner shall meet the child under guidance of the counsellor appointed by the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre.”

4. Pursuant to the aforesaid order, the concerned counsellor submitted a report wherein it has been pointed out that on 20.12.2025, the respondent did not report to the Mediation Centre. Further, multiple attempts to contact the respondent *via* phone calls did not meet with any response.
5. The respondent/father neither attended the meeting nor provided any prior intimation for his absence.
6. Such conduct, *prima facie*, constitutes wilful disregard of the directions contained in the order dated 16.12.2025.
7. The concerned counsellor has also noted that the interaction between the child and the petitioner/mother took place on 03.01.2026.
8. According to the counsellor, during the interaction, the child's behaviour was observed to be cooperative, comfortable and receptive towards the mother. The petitioner initiated communication with the child in a calm and appropriate manner to which the child responded positively. It is further stated in the report of the counsellor that the petitioner brought gifts for the child, which were accepted happily and without hesitation, indicating positive emotional response and attachment. The overall interaction between the mother and the child, according to the counsellor, was cordial and emotionally stable.
9. It transpires during the course of hearing, that the exams of the concerned child are scheduled from 16.02.2026 to 13.03.2026.
10. Considering the aforesaid circumstances, the following directions are issued:



- i. Commencing immediately, the respondent shall ensure / facilitate the video call interaction between the petitioner and concerned child on every alternate day at any time after 05:00 PM; and
 - ii. With effect from 14.03.2026, upon conclusion of the child's final term examinations, the respondent shall produce the child before the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre every Saturday, including on 14.03.2026 at 03:00 PM, to enable interaction between the petitioner and the child under the guidance of the same counsellor (Dr. Rabya Umman). The counsellor shall also be entitled to interact with the parties separately.
11. It is made clear that any violation of the aforesaid directions shall entail severe action against the respondent for committing wilful disobedience of the orders passed by this Court.
12. List on 27.04.2026.

SACHIN DATTA, J

FEBRUARY 11, 2026/r