

GAHC040010882025



THE GAUHATI HIGH COURT
(HIGH COURT OF ASSAM, NAGALAND, MIZORAM AND ARUNACHAL PRADESH)
(ITANAGAR BENCH)

Case No. : CRP/73/2025

Facebook India Online Services Private Limited
registered office at 14th Floor, Skyview 10, The Skyview, Survey No.83/1 of Raidurg
(Panmaqtha) Village, Serilingampally Mandal, Ranga Reddy District, Cyberabad,
Hyderabad, Shaikpet, Telangana, India 500081, being represented by its power of
attorney holder Saanjh Purohit, Daughter of Ashoke Purohit.

VERSUS

Pema Khandu and 7 Ors
Son of Late Dorjee Khandu, resident of DDK Road, Near APSSB Officer, Upper C
Sector, Itanagar 791111, Papum Pare District, Arunachal Pradesh. 2:M/s Awadh TV
Group
Age: 0
Occupation :
Awadh TV Group Building
Sector 22
Noida 201309
Uttar Pradesh
represented by its Chief Managing Director and Editor in Chief
Akash Rabindra Shukla.

3: Akash Rabindra Shukla
Age: 0
Occupation :
Chief Managing Director and Editor and Editor in Chief
M/s Awadh TV Group
Awadh TV Group Building
Sector 22
Noida 201309
Uttar Pradesh.

4: Twitter Communications India Private Limited
Age: 0

Occupation :
having its registered office at C 20
G block
Near MCA
Bandra
Kurla complex
Bandra(E)
Mumbai 400051 also at Office No.1
1st Floor
Fine Mansion
203 D.N. Road
Fort
Mumbai
Maharashtra.

5:Facebook INC
Age: 0
Occupation :
having its registered office at 1 Hackerway
Menlo
Park
California 94025
United States of America.

6:Youtube LLC
Age: 0
Occupation :
subsidiary of Google LLC
D/B/A YouTube and has its address at 901 Cherry Ave
San Bruno
CA 94066
USA and Whistling Wood International
Film City Complex
Aarey Colony
Goregaon (E)
Mumbai 400065.

7:Google India Pvt Ltd
Age: 0
Occupation :
has its offices at First International. Financial Center (FIFC)
Level 7
Unit 701
Plot No.C-54/55
G Block
Bandra Kurla Complex
Bandra East
Mumbai

Maharashtra 400051
and also at 3
North Avenue
Maker Maxity
Bandra Kurla Complex
Bandra East
Mumbai
Maharashtra 400051
and also at No.3
RMZ Infinity Tower
4 Hand 5th Floors
Old Madras Road
Bangalore
Karnataka
560016

8:WhatsApp LLC
Age: 0
Occupation :
1601 Willow Road
Menlo Park
California 94025
United States of America
and also at WhatsApp Attention
Grievance Officer
Post Box No.56 Road No.1
Banjara Hills
Hyderabad 500034
Telangana
India

Advocate for the Petitioner : Tejpal Singh Rathore, Kemo Lollen,Hiranya Kumar Nath

Advocate for the Respondent : ,

B E F O R E

HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE SHAMIMA JAHAN

ORDER

02.07.2025

Heard Mr. Varun Pathak, learned counsel for the petitioner assisted by
Mr. T S Rathore. The instant petition is filed by the petitioner under Section

Article 227 of the Constitution of India, challenging the order dated 01.04.2025 passed by the Special Judge, Sr. Division, Yupia District, Papumpare, Arunachal Pradesh, by which the learned trial court rejected the application for deletion of defendant No. 6 i.e. Facebook India from the Title Suit No. 26/2022, as party respondent.

The main ground taken into consideration by the learned trial court is that the petitioners did not place any documents showing the exact nature of the relationship between the Facebook India & Meta Platform Inc./Meta, USA as well as the related documents showing the legal liability for removing the contents from the Facebook post published in India. The trial court further observed that the respondent/defendant No. 6 i.e. Facebook India is required to enable the Court to effectually adjudicate upon and settle all questions involved in the suit.

Mr. Varun Pathak, learned counsel submits before the Court that in view of the terms and conditions, the Facebook India has no role in removing the contents from the Facebook page and that the task of removing the same only lies with Meta Platform Inc./Meta. Facebook India is only involved in marketing and sales support in the country.

Issue notice to the respondent including the proforma respondent from Nos. 2 to 8, returnable by 2 weeks. Petitioner to take steps for service of notice upon the aforesaid respondents by registered post with A/D as well as with usual process, within 4 days from today. The interim order to be considered on the next date of hearing. Since it is held in the trial court's order that documents were not placed to show the exact nature of agreement of Facebook India, Meta Platform Inc./Meta, the trial court records may be called for from the Court of Special Judge, Sr. Division, Yupia District, Papumpare, Arunachal Pradesh.

List the matter on 28th July, 2025.

JUDGE

Comparing Assistant