



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

COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION PETITION (L.) NO. 15614 OF 2026

M. Vijay Gopal

...Applicant

V/s.

Pioneer Infotech Pvt. Ltd. & Anr.

...Respondents

Mr. Akash Loya with Mr. Aditya Sheth ib. Sujit Lahoti & Associates, for
the Applicant.

Mr. Dashang Doshi with Mr. Chirag Chanani, for Respondent No.1.

Ms. Chinmayee Ghag i/b. Zastriya, for Respondent No.2.

CORAM: SANDEEP V. MARNE, J.

DATED: 8 May 2026.

P.C.:

1) This is an application under Sections 11 and 15 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (**Arbitration Act**) for substitution of Arbitrator. By order dated 27 January 2026, this Court had appointed sole Arbitrator for adjudication of disputes and differences between the parties. However, by email dated 1 April 2026, the learned Arbitrator has shown unwillingness to take up the assignment. In view of the above position, I proceed to pass the following order :

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signed by
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SAWANT
Date:
2026.05.08
17:13:09
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(A) Ms. Payal Vardhan, an Advocate of this Court is hereby appointed as substitute Arbitrator in place of Arbitrator appointed vide order dated 27 January 2026 to adjudicate upon the disputes and differences between the parties. The contact details of the substituted Arbitrator are as under :

Office Address :- A/10 Tamarind House, Tamarind Lane,
Fort, Mumbai.

Email ID :- payalvardhan@gmail.com

Mobile No.:- 7666111250

(B) A copy of this order be communicated to the learned sole Arbitrator by the Advocates for the Petitioner within a period of one week from the date of upload of this order. The Petitioner shall provide the contact and communication particulars of the parties to the Arbitral Tribunal alongwith a copy of this order.

(C) The learned sole Arbitrator is requested to forward the statutory Statement of Disclosure under Section 11(8) read with Section 12(1) of the Act to the parties within a period of 2 weeks from receipt of a copy of this order.

(D) The parties shall appear before the learned sole Arbitrator on such date and at such place as indicated by her to obtain appropriate direction with regard to conduct of the arbitration including fixing a schedule for pleadings, examination of witnesses, if any, schedule of hearings etc.

(E) The sole Arbitrator shall be entitled to the fees prescribed under the Bombay High Court (Fee Payable to Arbitrators)



Rules, 2018 and the arbitral costs and fees of the Arbitrator shall be borne by the parties in equal proportion and shall be subject to the final Award that may be passed by the Tribunal

2) All issues on merits are expressly kept open to be agitated before the Arbitral Tribunal.

3) With the above directions, the Commercial Arbitration Petition is **allowed and disposed of**.

[SANDEEP V. MARNE, J.]