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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION
INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO. 27986 OF 2024
IN
SUIT (L) NO. 27984 OF 2024

Prajakta Menezes & Anr. ...Applicants

In the matter between

Prajakta Menezes & Anr. ...Plaintiffs

Vs.

Urmila Pawan Bairagra & Ors. ...Defendants

Adv. Karl Tamboly a/w Ryan D'souza, Reehan Ajmerwalla and Harshavardhan G. Khambete for the Applicants.

Adv. Bilal Qureshi i/by Zaid S. Ansari and Associates for Defendant No.1.

Adv. Afsha Khatri for Defendant Nos.2 and 3.

Adv. Aditya Udeshi a/w Netaji G. i/by M/s. Sanjay Udeshi & Co. for Defendant No.4.

CORAM : ARIF S. DOCTOR, J.
DATE : 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2024

P.C.:-

1. This is a Suit for defamation. The captioned Interim Application *inter alia* seeks a restrain on the Defendants from further publishing any

defamatory material qua the Plaintiffs who are Advocates as also qualified Chartered Accountants and have been acting as Resolution Professionals since the inception of the IBC.

2. I have briefly heard Mr. Tamboly, Learned Counsel appearing on behalf of the Plaintiffs, who is aggrieved by the public notice issued in the Free Press Journal and Navshakti newspapers which he submits makes completely false, unfounded, wild and reckless statement against his clients.

3. Mr. Qureshi has appeared on behalf of Defendant No.1 and undertakes to file his Vakalatnama within a period of one week from today. He also seeks time to put in a Counter Affidavit to the Interim Application, for which purpose he seeks two weeks. Learned Counsel submits that until the next date of hearing, his client shall not publish or cause to be published any such public notice or article or any publication of like nature in the newspapers or anywhere on social media etc.

4. Ms. Khatri, Learned Counsel appearing on behalf of Defendant Nos.2 and 3 submits that her clients have absolutely nothing to do with the public notice that has been issued in the newspapers as noted above. Ms. Khatri also submits that her clients have no intention to publish any such public notice in any newspaper. Ms. Khatri makes a statement in the same terms as made by Learned Counsel for Defendant No.1. She also seeks time to file an Affidavit-in-Reply.

5. Hence, let the Affidavits-in-Reply be filed on or before 27th September, 2024. Rejoinder, if any, to be filed within a period of one week thereafter.

6. List the Interim Application for hearing on 14th October, 2024.

(ARIF S. DOCTOR, J.)