

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION
MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATION NO.73/2026

IN

ARBITRATION PETITION NO.42/2025

NEIL PATEL DIGITAL LLC

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

PRADEEP KUMAAR RAJARATHINAM

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. After hearing the parties and perusing the relevant material on record, *vide* Order dated 18.12.2025, this Court had appointed Justice Abhay S. Oka, a former Judge of this Court, as the sole arbitrator to resolve the dispute between the parties.

2. Pursuant thereto, the Registry of this Court addressed a communication dated 24.12.2025 to Justice Oka, intimating him of the aforesaid appointment. However, this Court is now in receipt of a letter dated 26.12.2025 from Justice Oka, wherein he has expressed his inability to accept the said appointment. Consequently, the instant miscellaneous application has been preferred by the Registry of this Court for necessary directions.

3. We have perused the contents of the letter and fully appreciate the reasons assigned by the learned Judge for declining the assignment. In view of the above, it becomes necessary to appoint another arbitrator so that the arbitral proceedings may commence without further delay. Accordingly, Justice A.S. Bopanna, a former Judge of this Court, is hereby appointed as the sole arbitrator to adjudicate upon the disputes between the parties.

4. In accordance with the agreement entered into between the parties, the proceedings shall be seated and

take place in Bengaluru, Karnataka, India. The Arbitrator shall have the liberty to fix his own remuneration/fees. Initially, the remuneration/fees of the arbitrator shall be borne by the petitioner.

5. Ordered accordingly.

6. The Miscellaneous Application is disposed of in the above terms.

7. The Registry is directed to forthwith communicate a copy of this Order to the learned sole arbitrator.

.....CJI.
(SURYA KANT)

.....J.
(JOYMALYA BAGCHI)

NEW DELHI;
JANUARY 28, 2026

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Miscellaneous Application No.73/2026 in ARBIT.PETITON No.42/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 18-12-2025 in ARBIT.PETITON No.42/2025 passed by the Supreme Court of India]

NEIL PATEL DIGITAL LLC

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

PRADEEP KUMAAR RAJARATHINAM

Respondent(s)

Date : 28-01-2026 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) :By Courts Motion, AOR

Mr. Samiron Borkataky, AOR
Mr. Shiv Sapra, Adv.
Mr. Aviral Tripathi, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :Ms. Gargi Srivastava, AOR
Mr. Dev Rishi, Adv.
Mr. Arpit Shukla, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. The Miscellaneous Application is disposed of in terms of the signed order.
2. All pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(signed order is placed on the file)

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR