

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.574/2026 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)

IA No. 57182/2026 - MODIFICATION OF COURT ORDER

Date : 06-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

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

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Samiron Borkataky, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

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

1. At the outset, it is necessary to mention that this miscellaneous application is the third round of proceedings between the parties seeking the appointment of an arbitrator.

2. *Vide* Order dated 18.12.2025, this Court had allowed the underlying Arbitration Petition and appointed Justice Abhay S. Oka, a former Judge of this Court, as the Sole Arbitrator to resolve the disputes between the parties. Justice Oka, however, expressed his inability to accept the said appointment and consequently, miscellaneous application No.73/2026 came to be filed.

3. Thereafter, with a view to ensuring that the arbitral

proceedings commence without further delay, *vide* Order dated 28.01.2026, this Court had appointed Justice A.S. Bopanna, a former Judge of this Court, as the sole arbitrator to adjudicate upon the disputes between the parties.

4. However, now the Petitioner-Applicant has filed the instant miscellaneous application seeking modification of the Order dated 28.01.2026 to the extent of appointing a different substitute arbitrator. It has been averred that the name of Justice AS Bopanna was originally suggested by the respondent, but the same was not agreed upon by the Petitioner.

5. We have heard the learned counsel appearing for the Petitioner and perused the material on record. In the interest of justice and equity, we appoint Justice R. Banumathi, a former Judge of this Court, as the sole arbitrator to adjudicate upon the disputes between the parties.

6. 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.

7. Ordered accordingly.

8. Application (IA No.57182/2026) for modification is allowed. The Miscellaneous Application is disposed of in

the above terms.

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

(ARJUN BISHT)  
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR