

PIA No. 155797/26

24.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH
PRINCIPAL SEAT AT JABALPUR

WP. No. 42065/2026

PETITIONERS:

MRIGENDRA SINGH,
S/o Shri R.N.Singh, Age-58 Years,
Occupation- Advocate,
R/o - 407, South Civil Lines,
Jabalpur (M.P.)

VERSUS

RESPONDENTS:

- 1. UNION OF INDIA,**
Through the Secretary,
Ministry of Electronics and
Information Technology and
Electronics,
Address - Niketan, 6, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi
- 2. WHATSAPP, LLC**
Through its Designated Grievance
Officer,
Address- Unit B8 & B10,
The Executive Center,
Level 18, DLF Cyber City,
Building No. 5, Tower A, Phase III,
Gurugram, Haryana - 122002.
- 3. META PLATFORMS INC,**
Through its Grievance Officer,
Address- Unit B8 & B10,
The Executive Center,
Level 18, DLF Cyber City,
Building No. 5, Tower A, Phase III,
Gurugram, Haryana - 122002.

Presented on 06/10/2026
By V. Mahawar
[Signature]
Presentation/Receiving Assistant



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WRIT PETITION UNDER ARTICLE 226 OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

1. Particulars of the Cause/order against which the petition is made:

- (i) Date of Order : Nil
- (ii) Passed in Order No. : Nil
- (iii) Passed by : Nil

(iv) Subject Matter In Brief:

The Petitioner files the present Writ Petition challenging the arbitrary, unilateral, non-communicated, and unlawful actions of Respondent No. 2 (WhatsApp LLC) in blocking/suspending the primary WhatsApp account (**+91-9425155211**) and repeatedly restricting the secondary WhatsApp account (**+91-9685155233**) of the Petitioner without showing any cause, issuing any prior notice, or affording an opportunity of hearing.

The said actions are in flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of natural justice, statutory mandates under Rule 3(2) of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, and the fundamental rights guaranteed under Articles 14, 19(1)(g), and 21 of the Constitution of India

Hence, this petition.



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2. **A declaration that no proceeding on the same subject matter has been previously instituted in any court, authority or tribunal. If instituted, the status or result thereof, along with copy of the order: -**

That the Petitioner declares that no proceeding on the same subject matter has been previously instituted in any court, authority or tribunal.

3. **Details of remedies exhausted:**

The petitioner declares that the Petitioner does not have any alternative efficacious remedy for the redressal of the instant issue.

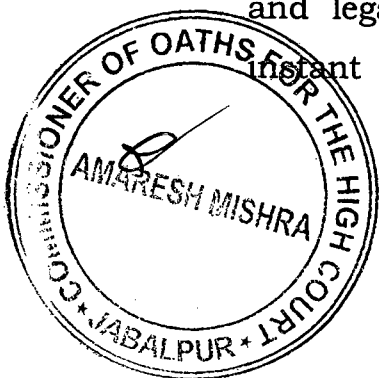
4. **Delay, if any, in filing the petition and explanation therefore:**

That, the petitioners further declare that there is no delay on their part to file the present petition before this Hon'ble Court.

5. **Facts of the Case:**

5.1 That, The Petitioner is a designated Senior Advocate practicing primarily before the Hon'ble High Court of Madhya Pradesh and the Supreme Court of India. He commands high professional standing and an impeccable reputation within the Bar and the Bench.

5.2 That, in the discharge of his solemn constitutional obligations and legal duties towards litigants, the Petitioner relies on instant communication platforms, primarily WhatsApp, to



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handle high-stakes litigation, coordinate court filings, receive briefing notes, and communicate with fellow advocates and client representatives.

5.3 That, The Petitioner was using his registered primary mobile number +91-9425155211 for several years as his primary business and professional handle on WhatsApp.

5.4 That, without any prior warning, show-cause notice, or disclosure of an alleged violation of terms, Respondent No. 2 arbitrarily and unilaterally blocked the Petitioner's primary account, instantly cutting off crucial judicial communication during active litigation matters.

5.5 That, on 23.08.2026, the Petitioner submitted a formal in-app review/appeal following Respondent No. 2's statutory grievance mechanism. However, Respondent No. 2 failed to resolve the appeal or provide any reasons within the strict timelines mandated by Rule 3(2) of the IT Rules, 2021.

5.6 That, due to severe disruption of ongoing legal practice and urgent client matters, the Petitioner procured a secondary SIM card with mobile number +91-9685155233. Shockingly, Respondent No. 2 restricted and suspended this newly activated WhatsApp account on 04.10.2026.

5.7 That, a formal Legal Notice dated 02.09.2026 was served upon Respondent No. 2 through his counsel, demanding immediate restoration and technical disclosure. Despite receipt of the notice, Respondent No. 2 failed to restore access or show any legitimate grounds for its actions. A copy of the legal notice



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along with the receipt is marked and filed herewith as **ANNEXURE - P/1.**

5.8 That, the aforementioned legal notice was duly delivered to the Respondent no 2 on 14.09.2026 but the Respondent no 2 failed to take action upon such notice and no action was taken for restoration of whatsapp accounts of the petitioner.

Hence the petition on following grounds.

6. Grounds Urged:

- 6.1. Because, Respondent No. 2 acted as complainant, judge, and executioner without issuing a show-cause notice or affording a reasonable opportunity of hearing prior to taking down WhatsApp account of the Petitioner.
- 6.2. Because, instant communications are fundamental to the modern legal profession. Arbitrarily shutting down communication access disables a practicing advocate from performing statutory court duties, violating the fundamental right to practice a profession.
- 6.3. Because, Respondent No. 2 failed to adhere to the statutory dispute timeline under Rule 3(2) of the IT Rules, 2021.
- 6.4. Because, Reputational Harm and Defamation: Repeated automated bans create a false, derogatory imputation that a designated Senior Advocate is involved in illicit activity or spamming, causing civil and professional defamation.



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6.5. Because, by blocking the Petitioner's WhatsApp accounts without notice, Respondent No.2 has disrupted the judicial proceedings, impairing the constitutional right to speedy trial and effective access to justice for numerous litigants represented by the Petitioner.

6.6. Because, Respondent No.2 enjoys a dominant market position as the default digital communication network in India. Unilateral termination of service without a transparent dispute mechanism constitutes an abuse of dominant power and commercial arbitrariness.

6.7. The petitioner reserves his right to raise and argue additional ground at the time of hearing.

7. Relief Prayed for:

In view of the facts and circumstances stated above, it is therefore most humbly prayed that this Hon'ble court be pleased to:

- (i) Issue a Writ of Mandamus directing Respondent No. 2 to immediately and unconditionally restore full access and functionality to the Petitioner's primary (+91-9425155211) and secondary (+91-9685155233) WhatsApp accounts.



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- (ii) Direct Respondent No. 1 to initiate appropriate regulatory action against Respondent No. 2 for non-compliance with the Information Technology Rules, 2021.
- (iii) Any other relief as deemed fit and proper in the circumstances of this case, along with the cost of this Writ Petition be also awarded.

8. Interim Order/writ, if prayed for:

The petitioner most humbly prays that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to issue an interim direction to Respondent No. 2 to provisionally restore the Petitioner's WhatsApp accounts (+91-9425155211 and +91-9685155233) during the pendency of the present petition.

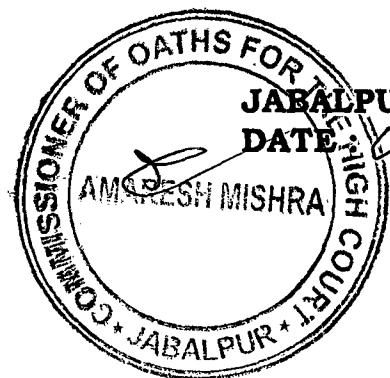
9. Documents relied on but not in possession of the petitioner:

Nil.

10. Caveat:

That, no notice of lodging a caveat by the opposite party is received.

An affidavit in support is filed herewith.




GHUNCHA RASOOL
COUNSEL FOR PETITIONER

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PETITIONER:-

MRIGENDRA SINGH

VERSUS

RESPONDENTS :

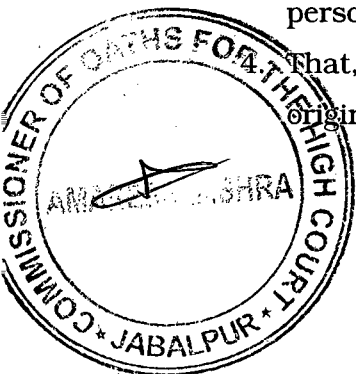
UNION OF INDIA & ANR

AFFIDAVIT

I, Mrigendra Singh, S/o- Shri R.N. Singh, A/a- 58 years, R/o- 407, south Civil Lines Jabalpur (M.P.) the deponent, do hereby solemnly affirm on oath and declare as under:

1. That, I am the petitioner in the instant writ petition and as such fully conversant with the facts of the case and authorized to sign this affidavit.
2. That, the contents of the writ petition have been drafted by my counsel and I Have understood the same.
3. That, the contents of paras 1 to end is correct and true to the best of my personal knowledge and belief.

That, all annexures attached along with are true copies of their respective originals.



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[Signature]
DEPONENT

VERIFICATION

I, Mrigendra Singh, the deponent named above, do hereby verify and sign at Jabalpur, this ^{6th} day of ^{Oct}, 2026 that the contents of paras 1 to end above are correct and true to the best of my personal knowledge and belief.

[Signature]
Identified by me

06 OCT 2026
Sworn before me on the 06 day of Oct, 2026
At Jabalpur by Mrigendra Singh
Son of R. N. Singh

Who is personally known to me (or) who has been identified by Sagedi Raju
Whose Signature are [Signature] is these to appended
Jabalpur

[Signature]
DEPONENT
(Amarendra Mishra)
Commissioner of Oath
For the High Court
(JABALPUR)

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