

4th April, 2012.

A Constitution Bench presided over by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is seized of I.A. Nos.4-5, 10, 11, 13 to 31 in Civil Appeal No.9813/2011 and Civil Appeal No.9833/2011 in the case of Sahara India Real Estate Corporation Ltd. & Ors. Etc. vs. Securities and Exchange Board of India & Anr., relating to framing of guidelines for reporting of cases in Media, which have been heard in-part. Hon'ble the Chief Justice had earlier directed that any party, who desires to make submissions in the matter, may do so by way of intervention.

It has been pointed out that following cases dealing with the issue in question, prayers whereof are also indicated hereinbelow, are also pending consideration in this Hon'ble Court and they be also taken up for hearing. Accordingly, Hon'ble the Chief Justice has directed that in following cases, liberty is granted to the parties to make submissions on the afore-stated issue relating to media coverage, when the matter is taken up for hearing on the next date of hearing, i.e., 10th April, 2012.

Sl. No	Case No.	Prayer
1.	Writ Petition (C) No.316/2008 - <u>Dr. Surat Singh vs. Union of India</u>	[1] Issue writ of mandamus or any other writ of the like nature directing Chief of Police of every State to make sure that no media leakage is done of a criminal case pending investigation, more particularly the tendency of the police to rush to media (while police while investigation agency is not sure, who is the real culprit) should be curbed with strict discipline. This Hon'ble Court may further make it

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		clear that any police officer involved in making adverse or character assassination of an accused person or his family/friends or about the victim shall be personally liable for damages done to the dignity and reputation of the person concerned. [2] Issue a writ of mandamus or any other writ of like nature, directing information and Broadcasting Ministry as well as Press Council of India to evolve and enforce certain norms of covering criminal cases pending investigation by media both electronic as well as print media so that the right of privacy and to live with human dignity is not at the mercy of irresponsible press or media as has been done in the case of recent Aarushi murder case. [3] Directions to all the Police Chiefs of the State that there are certain fundamental rights in the Constitution/sensitization of the Police that the fundamental rights are to be displayed in every police station at visible place, example rights of accused, right to appeal, right to have a counsel or right of the accused to remain silent under Article 20(3).
2.	T.C. (C) No.27/2011 - <u>Act now for</u> <u>Harmony and</u> <u>Democracy</u> <u>[ANHAD]</u> vs. State.	[a] Initiate a contempt proceeding against Respondent Nos.4 and 5 [Mr. Prabhu Chawla and Mr. Mihir Srivastav, Editor and Correspondent, India Today] for publishing the confessional statements made by the accused before police and thereby, prejudicing or tending to prejudice the due course of judicial proceeding of those accused; [b] direct the Respondent to lay down directions to be followed by both

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		police and media regarding release/publication of information/evidence against the accused claimed to be obtained by police during interrogation/investigation when the matter is sub-judice.
3.	Writ Petition (C) No. 387/2000 - <u>Common Cause vs. Union of India & Ors.</u>	[i] issue a writ or in the nature of certiorari and/or mandamus and/or any other appropriate writ, order or direction directing the Respondent No.1, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in consultation with the Respondent No.2, Ministry of Home Affairs where necessary, to prescribe definite norms and guidelines for minimisation of presentation of scenes of violence and sexual abuse in the serials and programmes which are telecast by TV channels, for avoidance of undesirable mental impact on the viewers including particularly children, and to ensure that the TV channels and producers of programmes and serials adopt self-regulatory measures to that end....
4.	Criminal Appeal No. 1255/1999 - <u>PUCL vs. State of Maharashtra</u>	M/s. News Broadcasters Association desires to intervene in the matter and to assist this Hon'ble Court on the issue of what norms should govern news coverage by the electronic media.