(Through E-mail. being time bound matter)

From

Manisha Jain, Additional District Judge, Chandigarh(UID No. PB0158).

To

The Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Legal Affairs,
Room No. 439 A 4th Floor A-Wing,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-11000.

(THROUGH PROPER CHANNEL)

No. ADJ/Ahl/2021/_______, Dated :- _______, Chandigarh.

Subject:- To make arrangements for examination of petitioner Prateek Bajaj through Video Conferencing in HMA case No. 922 of 2019 titled Prateek Bajaj Vs. Sumati Gulhati, fixed for 25.05.2021.

Sir,

It is to kindly intimate that the above mentioned HMA petition is pending before this Court and the same is fixed for recording of the statement of the petitioner Prateek Bajaj on 25.05.2021 at 10:00 a.m. (I.S.T.). The said petition is a time bound one as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The statement of the petitioner Prateek Bajaj is ordered to be recorded through Video Conferencing as the petitioner Prateek Bajaj is stationed at Singapore. As per the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana, Chandigarh vide letter No. 1463/Spl./CB2, dated 7.7.2018 & Model Rules received from the Hon'ble Apex Court & forwarded by the Hon'ble High Court, Chandigarh vide letter No. 670/Spl/CB8, dated 21.5.2020 with regard to the examination of a person through Video Conferencing, a Coordinator is required to be appointed both at the Court point as well as at the Remote point from which the required person is to be examined and the said Coordinator at the Remote point shall be an official of an Indian Consulate/the relevant Indian Embassy/the relevant High Commission of India. It is, therefore, requested that the necessary

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arrangements for the examination of above said witness may kindly be made and be forwarded (**preferably through email**) to the concerned Embassy for further necessary action so that the evidence of the witness Prateek Bajaj is recorded on the date and the time fixed by the Court vide order dated 04.05.2021. The copy of the Order dated 04.05.2021 is enclosed herewith.

(MANISHA JAIN)
Additional District Judge,
Chandigarh(UID No.PB0158).

CIS No.:HMA/922/2019.

Prateek Bajaj Vs. Sumati Gulhati

Present: None.

File taken up today on the application moved by the counsel for the applicant-respondent for placing on record the copy of order dated 29.04.2021 passed by Hon'ble High Court in CR-263-2021 (O&M). Report of the Ahlmad has been obtained and she has reported that the order in question has not been received from the Hon'ble High Court till date. The Reader of this Court was directed to verify the said order and she has reported that the order in question has been passed by the Hon'ble High Court.

Vide order dated 29.04.2021, the Hon'ble High Court has directed that the examination of the witness be carried out by the trial Court while adhering to the guidelines as circulated in 2018 as well as the Model Video Conferencing Rules 2020, circulated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Hon'ble High Court had further directed that the Trial Court shall ensure appointment of the Remote Point Coordinator and adherence to the procedure as provided in terms of the said guidelines/Model Rules and in case any deviation is required to be made from the Model Rules to ensure sanctity of the testimony to be recorded, and keeping in view any exigency, the trial Court shall record specific reasons for the same.

Rule 6.9 of the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble High Court regarding Video Conference in the year 2018 provides that the Audio shall be recorded at the Court point and an encrypted master copy with hash value shall be retained in the Court as part of the record and another copy shall also be stored at any other safe

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location for backup in the event of any emergency. The Model Rules 8.9 of the year 2020 provides that an audio-visual recording of the examination of the person examined shall be preserved and an encrypted master copy with hash value shall be retained as a part of the record.

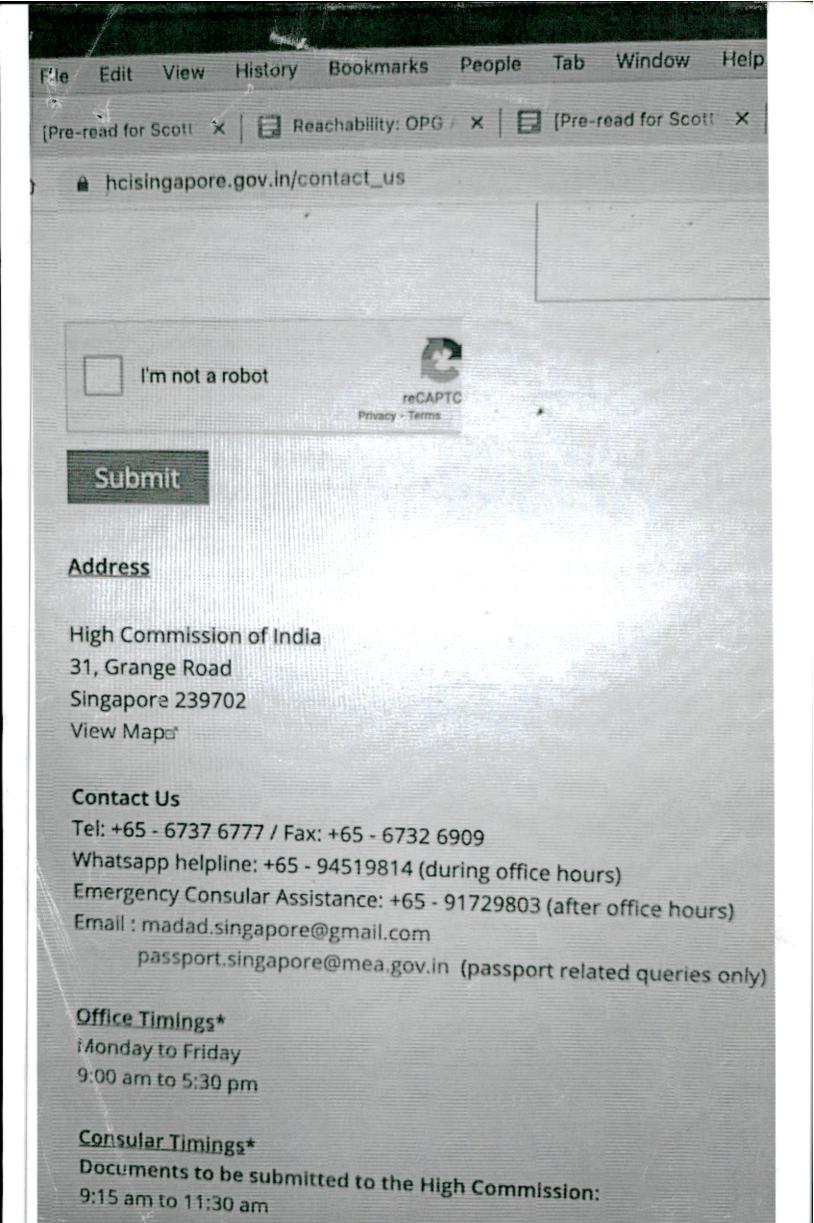
So, the Coordinator at the Court point is directed to adhere to the Rules 8.9 of the Model Rules for Video Conferencing dated 21.05.2020 and to preserve the audio-visual recording of the examination of the witness to be examined instead of Audio recording. Hence, the order dated 04.05.2021 is modified to that extent only and this order shall be read as part and parcel of the said order. Reader of this Court is directed to comply with the directions.

Date of Order :- 12.05.2021

Manisha Jain, Additional District Judge,

Chandigarh/UID No. PB0158

Jyoti Sarup Sharma, Stenographer-II.



◆ To,

The First Consular, High Commission of India, Singapore

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ORDER 26 Rule J. of CPC