

# Apple Sponge And Power Ltd And Ors vs Reserve Bank Of India And Anr on 7 July, 2021

**Author: Prateek Jalan**

**Bench: Prateek Jalan**

\$~3 to 57, 1 (2021 cause list)

\* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

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+ W.P.(C) 306/2019 & CM APPLs. 7039/2019, 52374/2019, 52382/2019, 12568/2020, 12569/2020

APPLE SPONGE AND POWER LTD AND ORS ..... Petitioners  
versus

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA AND ANR ..... Respondents

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+ W.P.(C) 4050/2020 & CM APPLs. 14510/2020, 4983/2021  
SH S N JHUNJHUNWALA & ORS. .... Petitioners  
versus

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA & ORS. .... Respondents

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+ W.P.(C) 5729/2020 & CM APPLs. 20700/2020, 12503/2021  
SH LAGADAPATI MADHUSUDAN  
RAO & ANR. .... Petitioners

versus

IDBI BANK LIMITED & ORS. .... Respondents

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+ W.P.(C) 10968/2019 & CM APPL. 45285/2019  
APPLE NATURAL RESOURCES PVT. LTD. ....  
versus

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA AND ANR. .... Respondents

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+ W.P.(C) 3183/2020 & CM APPL. 11064/2020  
RAMAN GUPTA & ANR. .... Petitioners

versus

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA & ORS. .... Respondents

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+ W.P.(C) 3924/2020 & CM APPL. 14037/2020  
KANTA DEVI ARYA ....

versus

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA & ORS. .... Respondents

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W.P.(C) 306/2019 & Other Connected Matters

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+ W.P.(C) 3991/2020 & CM APPL. 14319/2020

MS SHREE NATHJEE ROLLER FLOUR  
MILLS LIMITED & ORS. ....  
versus  
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+ W.P.(C) 4249/2020 & CM APPLs. 15300/2020, 31465-  
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versus  
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+ W.P.(C) 4317/2020 & CM APPL. 15557/2020  
NARESH KUMAR MITTAL AND ANR .....  
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+ W.P.(C) 4578/2020 & CM APPL. 16537/2020  
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versus  
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+ W.P.(C) 4938/2020 & CM APPLs. 17847-17848/2020  
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versus  
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK (PNB) & ANR. .... R

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+ W.P.(C) 4940/2020 & CM APPLs. 17851-17852/2020  
RAJ SNEH AUTO WHEELS PVT. LTD. .... Pe  
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+ W.P.(C) 4941/2020 & CM APPLs. 17853-17854/2020  
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versus  
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+ W.P.(C) 5087/2020  
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		versus	
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		BANK OF BARODA & ANR.	..... Respon
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+		W.P.(C) 5749/2020 & CM APPL. 20791/2020	
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		versus	
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+		W.P.(C) 5849/2020& CM APPL. 21141/2020	
		SUPERTECH LIMITED	..... Pe
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		SUNIL GUGLANI & ORS.	..... Pet
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		HEM SINGH BHARANA	..... Pe

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+		W.P.(C) 7742/2020 & CM APPL. 25533/2020		
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		versus	
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+		W.P.(C) 275/2021 & CM APPL. 692/2021	
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46	+	W.P.(C) 920/2021 & CM APPL. 2491/2021	
		SINTEX INDUSTRIES LIMITED & ORS.	..... P
		versus	
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47	+	W.P.(C) 925/2021 & CM APPL. 2511/2021	
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50	+	W.P.(C) 3457/2021 & CM APPL. 10486/2021	
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51	+	W.P.(C) 3545/2021 & CM APPL. 10725/2021	
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		SINTEX INDUSTRIES LIMITED & ORS.	..... P
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		GEE CEE CORP. PVT LTD	.....
		versus	
		STATE BANK OF INDIA	.....

Present:-

For Petitioners

Mr. Saurabh Kripal, Senior Advocate with Mr. Ma  
 Malik & Ms. Nupoor Maharaj, Advocates in Item n  
 Mr. Malak Bhatt, Ms. Neeha Nagpal, Mr. Vishvend  
 Tomar, Advocates in Item nos. 5, 9, 51.  
 Ms. Priyadarshini Verma and Ms. Aarohi Mikkilin  
 Advocates in Item nos. 8, 34.  
 Mr. Anubhav Taneja, Mr. Sumesh Dhawan, Ms. Vats

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W.P.(C) 306/2019 & Other Connected Matters

& Ms. Ankita Bajpai, Adv. in Item no. 10.  
Mr. Tanmaya Mehta and Mr. Abhinav Mukhi advocat  
Item nos. 13, 14 & 15.  
Mr. Vikas Mehta and Mr. Adith Nair, Advocates i  
no.12.  
Ms. Pratiti Rungta, Advocate in Item nos. 11 &  
Mr. Dayan Krishnan, Sr. Adv. with Mr. Vijay Kau  
Mr. Nitish K. Sharma, Advocates in Item no. 16  
Mr. Prateek Seksaria, Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Mr. R  
Agrawala, Ms. Niyati Kohli, Mr. Pranjit Bhattac  
Mr. Ankit Banati, Advocates in Item nos. 17, 18,  
32, 35, 38, 39, 40, 44, 45, 52, 57.  
Ms. Jayashree Shukla Dasgupta & Ms. Swati Sharm  
Advocates in Item nos. 22, 23, 48.  
Mr. Rajiv Singh, Mr. Rishi Raj Sharma & Mr. Har  
Kumar, Advocates in Item no. 24.  
Mr. Saurabh Kirpal, Sr Adv. with Ms. Priyadarsh  
and Ms. AaroHi Mikkilineni, Adv. in Item no. 3  
Mr. Dayan Krishnan, Sr. Advocate with Mr. Aditya  
Advocate in Item no. 37  
Mr. Sanjeev Bhandari, Advocate, Mr. Rajesh Shar  
Advocate and Mr. Vipin Singh, Advocates in Item  
36, 54.  
Mr. Vijay K. Singh & Mr. Himanshu Dubey, Advoca  
Item no. 42.  
Mr. Ashish Virmani Advocate and Mr. Harsha Goll  
Advocates in Item nos. 46, 49 & 50.  
Mr. Kavin Gulati, Sr. Adv. with Mr. Jasmeet Sin  
Ali, Mr. Pushpendra Singh Bhadoriya, Dr. Amar N  
Mishra, Ms. Ruhsheet Saluja, Advocates for P-2  
nos. 46 & 53.  
Mr. Dayan Krishnan, Senior Advocate with Mr. Susm  
Pushkar, Mr. Anhit Oswal, Ms. Susanah Naushad,  
Gaurav Sharma, Ms. Bhavna Mishra, Advocates in  
55.  
Mr. Manohar Malik & Ms. Nupoor Maharaj, Advocat  
Item no. 56.  
Mrs. Maneesha Dhir, Mr. Karan Batura and Mr. Ka

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Singh, Advocates in Item no. 62.  
Ms. Reena Jain Malhotra, Advocate in Item no. 1



For Respondents

Mr. Rajiv Kapur & Mr. Akshit Kapur, Advs.for SB  
nos. 1,4,6,30,31,37,38,41,47,49 and 53.  
Mr Gopal Jain Senior Advocate with Mr. Ramesh B  
Ms Nisha Sharma, Ms Sanya Panjwani, Ms. Jagriti  
Advocates for RBI in Item nos. 3 to 57.  
Mr. Rajesh Kr. Gautam, Mr. Anant Gautam, Mr. Ni  
Sharma & Mr. Madhur Tewatia, Advocates for PNB  
nos. 13, 14, 15, 17, 25, 32, 57.  
Mr. O.P. Gaggar, Advocate for R-9 in Item no. 4  
Item no. 11, R-2 in Item no. 21, R-2 in Item no  
in Item no. 26, R-2 in Item no. 31, R-2 in Item  
Item no. 39, R-3 in Item no. 44, R-2 in Item no  
Item no. 53.  
Mr. Dev P. Bhardwaj, CGSC for UOI in Item no. 4  
Mr. Rakesh Dwivedi, Senior Advocate with Mr. Ra  
& Mr. Akshit Kapur, Advs. for SBI in Item no. 3  
Ms. Smarika Singh & Ms. Yashna Mehta, Advs. for  
Item no. 5.  
Mr. Sanjeev Sabharwal, Sr Panel Counsel with Mr  
Kumar, Advocate for UOI in Item no. 9.  
Mr. Aman Vishal, Adv. for R-5 in Item no. 11.  
Mr. Abhishek Anand & Mr. Kunal Godhwani, Advoca  
R-9 in Item no. 11  
Mr. Sandeep Sethi, Sr. Adv. with Ms. Smarika Si  
Ms.Yashna Mehta, Advs. for SBI/R-2 in Item no.  
Mr. Nishi Chaudhary, Ms. Yashartha Gupta & Ms.  
Ranga, Advocates for PNB in Item nos. 10, 20, 2  
Mr. V.K. Gupta, Advocate for Bank of Maharashtr  
no. 33.  
Mr. Naginder Benipal, Senior Panel Counsel with  
Harithi Kambiri, Advocate for R-2 in Item no. 5  
Mr. Amol Sharma and Ms. Jagriti Ahuja, Advocate  
6/ HDFC bank in Item no. 11, R-14 in Item no. 3  
Item no. 53

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W.P.(C) 306/2019 & Other Connected Matters

Mr. Bhagvan Swarup Shukla, CGSC with Mr. Sarva  
Kumar, Advocate for UOI in Item no. 26.  
Mr. Tushar Singh, Mr. Parthasarathy Bose & Ms.  
Advs. for R-3 in Item no. 36.  
Mr. Saju Jakob & Ms. Ekta Bharati, Advocates fo  
Item no. 49 & R-2 in Item no. 42.  
Mr. Brijesh Kumar Tamber & Ms. Deepika Raghav,  
Advocates for R-3/Indian Bank in Item no. 11, f  
of Baroda in Item no. 16, for R-1/Indian Bank i  
30.  
Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General of India wi  
Mr.Dheeraj Nair, Mr. Varghese Thomas, Ms. Anjal

Anchayil, Mr. Hormuz Mehta, Ms. Avni Sharma, Mr. Allana, Advocates for R-1 in Item nos. 18 & 19.  
Mr. Aman Gandhi, Mr. Dharav Shah, Mr. Abhishek Adv. for HDFC in Item no. 35  
Mr. Sidhartha Barua & Mr. Praful Jindal, Advocates for R-3 in Item nos. 5, 37.  
Mr. Abhindra Maheshwari & Mr. Nishant Bhargava, Advocates for R-4 in Item no. 37.  
Mr. Abhishek Batra, Adv. for HDFC in Item no. 37.  
Mr. Abhirup Dasgupta, Ishaan Duggal and Bhawana Sharma, Advocates for R-5 in Item no. 37 & 41, nos. 44 & 45.  
Mr. Aayush Agarwala, Advocate for Axis Bank in Item no. 37.  
Mr. Rohit Jha, Proxy Counsel for IFCI in Item no. 37.  
Mr. Santosh Kumar Rout, Advocate for Syndicate Bank in Item no. 28, for Central Bank of India in Item no. 28, for PNB in Item no. 55 & for Bank of Maharashtra in Item no. 56.  
Mr. Arun Aggarwal & Mr. R.K. Shrivatav, Advocates for R-6 in Item nos. 4 & 53.  
Mr. Vaibhav Dang, Advocate for Bank of Baroda (R-4) in Item no. 3.  
Ms. Seema Gupta, Advocates for R-17 in Item no. 2/PSB in item nos. 46 & 48.  
Mr. Nishant Awana, Mr. Azmat H. Amanullah &

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Mr.Devvrat, Advocates for R-6/Bank of Maharashtra in Item no. 5.  
Mr. Samarendra Kumar, Adv. for Union Bank of India in Item No. 41  
Mr. Sanjay Bajaj, Mr. Rajat Prakash & Mr. Samar Adv. for PNB in Item nos. 36 & 47.  
Mr. Kunal Tandon and Surendra Kumar, Advocates for R-7 in Item no. 37.  
Mr. Vivek Jain & Ms. Ekta Khangawal, Advocates for R-8 in item no. 4, for R-2 & 4 in Item no. 28, for R-3 in Item no. 37  
Mr. Sanjay Kumar Pathak, Sr. Panel Counsel with Ms.K.Kaomudi Kiran Pathak & Mr. Sunil Kumar Jha advocates for R-22 in Item no. 37.  
Mr Syed Arsalan, Mr Prateek Khaitan. Mr Chatany Adv. for R-14 in item no. 5, for R-18 in Item no. 5.  
Mr. Deepak Kumar Vijay, Advocate for R-10 in Item no. 10.  
Mr. Hashmat Nabi and Farah Naaz, Advocate for R-11 in Item no. 47.  
Mr. Anupam S Sharrma, SPP-CBI with Mr. Prakarsh Adv. for R-12 in Item no. 47.  
Ms. Harpreet Kalsi, Advocates for R-13 in Item no. 47.

Mr. Neelanshu Roy, Advocate for Indian Overseas  
Item nos. 47, 51, 53, R-2/Bank of Baroda in Item  
Mr. Ashwini Chawla, Adv. for R-2 in Item no. 47  
Mr. Sarfaraz Khan, Advocate for UCO Bank in Item  
Mr. Arun Kumar Shukla & Mr. Aamir Shaikh, Advoc  
for IDBI Bank/R-1 in Item no. 54.  
Mr. Himanshu Shekhar & Mr. Jamnesh Kumar, Advoc  
for R-1 in Item no. 53.  
Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Sharma & Mr. Rajiv Dalal, Adv  
for R-14 in Item no. 53.  
Mr. Nipun Gautam, Advocate for Liquidator in Item

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRATEEK JALAN

ORDER

% 07.07.2021 The proceedings in the matter have been conducted through video conferencing.

CM APPL. 19600/2021 (for impleadment) & CM APPL. 19601/2021 (for interim relief) in W.P.(C)  
306/2019

1. Issue notice. Mr. Vaibhav Dang, learned counsel, accepts notice on behalf of the proposed respondent - Bank of Baroda.

2. The petitioners have filed these applications for impleadment of Bank of Baroda as respondent no. 4 to this writ petition and for an interim order against the classification of the petitioners' accounts as fraud accounts by the Bank of Baroda.

3. In the main writ petition, only the Punjab National Bank, which was the first bank to classify the petitioners' accounts as fraud accounts under the Master Directions of the Reserve Bank of India ["RBI"] dated 01.07.2016, was made a party. The relief sought in the petition includes a challenge to the constitutional validity of the Master Directions. In view of the fact that the very same circular has been invoked by the Bank of Baroda also, the petitioners' prayer for the impleadment of the Bank of Baroda is justified.

4. CM APPL. 19600/2021 is therefore allowed and the Bank of Baroda is impleaded as respondent no. 4 in the writ petition.

5. Amended memo of parties filed with the application is taken on record.

6. By way of CM APPL. 19601/2021, the petitioners also seek an interim order against further action by the Bank of Baroda, consequent upon classification of the petitioners' accounts as fraud accounts. Having regard to the fact that the validity of the Master Directions itself is under challenge in these writ petitions inter alia on the ground of violation of natural justice, the Court has passed limited interim orders in several petitions. The contention of the petitioners in this petition also is that they were given no notice or opportunity of hearing prior to the classification of the accounts as fraud accounts by the Bank of Baroda. In these circumstances, the petitioners have made out a prima facie case for grant of an ad interim order on the same lines as in the other pending petitions.

7. The newly added respondent-Bank of Baroda is therefore directed to maintain status quo as of today, as far as the petitioners' classification as fraud accounts and action consequent thereupon is concerned. It is however made clear that the Bank of Baroda may provide an opportunity of personal hearing to the petitioners, if necessary by video conference, and proceed accordingly, notwithstanding the pendency of the present petition.

8. It is also made clear that this order does not come in the way of any inquiry, investigation or other proceedings taken or to be taken by or at the instance of the Bank of Baroda.

9. The newly added respondent may file a counter affidavit to the writ petition within two weeks. Rejoinder thereto, if any, be filed within one week thereafter.

10. As the entire batch of petitions is already part heard, and arguments are being advanced first on the common legal issues relating to the validity of the Master Directions, further hearing need not await the completion of pleadings by the newly added respondent.

11. CM APPLs. 19600/2021 and 19601/2021 stand disposed of with the aforesaid directions.

CM APPL. 28218/2020 in W.P.(C) 5280/2020 CM APPL. 28239/2020 in W.P.(C) 5281/2020

1. These applications have been filed by the respondent no. 1 - Bank of Baroda in these two writ petitions seeking vacation of an interim order dated 14.08.2020 granted by this Court.

2. The operative portion of the interim order dated 14.08.2020 reads as follows:-

"8. In view of the above, the aforesaid placing of the petitioner in the category of 'Fraud' shall be kept in abeyance till the next date. The respondent Bank shall not take any steps prejudicial to the interest of the petitioners."

3. Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General, appearing for the respondent-Bank, submits that in the facts of the present case, a hearing was already granted to the petitioners prior to classification of the petitioners' accounts as fraud accounts and therefore the basis of the interim order does not subsist. He further draws my attention to the orders passed in several other petitions challenging the same Master Directions, wherein it has been made clear that any investigation, inquiry or other proceedings, may continue notwithstanding the interim order passed.

4. Mr. Prateek Seksaria, learned counsel for the petitioners, submits that the ad interim order ought not to be vacated at the stage of final hearing. However, he does not dispute that an inquiry, investigation or other proceedings will not stand interdicted by the interim orders passed in these writ petitions, so long as they are independent of the classification under the impugned Master Directions.

5. Having heard learned counsel for the parties, and in view of the fact that the final hearing of the entire batch of petitions has already commenced, I am not inclined to vacate the interim order

entirely at this stage.

6. However, the submission of the learned Solicitor General with regard to proceedings in the nature of inquiry, investigation etc. is accepted. In other writ petitions, the interim orders bear the clarification of the nature sought by the learned Solicitor General. Mr. Seksaria's objection that the proceedings taken should be independent of the classification of the account as a fraud account under the Master Directions, is also to be found in some of the interim orders.

7. In view of the above, it is made clear that the interim order dated 14.08.2020 passed in these writ petitions will not come in the way of any investigation, inquiry or other proceedings, independent of the classification of the petitioners accounts as fraud accounts under the Master Directions of the RBI dated 01.07.2016. Needless to say, the transactions which form the basis of any criminal proceedings and the transactions which form the basis of the action taken under the Master Directions, may well be the same or overlapping. However, the two proceedings emanate out of different legal provisions and have different legal consequences and would, in that sense, be independent of each other. It is made abundantly clear that neither the right of the Bank to set the criminal law in motion, nor the defences of any person against whom the criminal law is invoked, are sought to be restricted by virtue of the interim order.

8. The applications are disposed of in these terms, leaving it open to the respondent-Bank to file a further application for the same relief, if required at a subsequent stage of the proceedings.

W.P.(C) 10064/2020

1. Mr. Saurabh Kirpal, learned Senior Counsel for the petitioners, states that the petitioners have settled all their accounts with the respondent no. 2 - Bank of Maharashtra and have been given a No Dues Certificate on 25.03.2021.

2. Mr. V.K. Gupta, learned counsel appearing for the Bank of Maharashtra, seeks an opportunity to take instructions as to whether the petitioners' account, in these circumstances, continues to be classified as a fraud account. Mr. Gupta will revert on this point on the next date of hearing.

CM APPL.19667/2021 (for permitting the respondent no.4 to initiate action against the petitioner and respondent no.5) in W.P.(C) 2237/2021

1. Issue notice. Mr. Ashish Virmani, learned counsel, accepts notice on behalf of the petitioner.

2. The respondent no.4-Bank of India has filed this application for the following reliefs:-

"a. Permit the Respondent No. 4, Bank of India to register a complaint / FIR against the Petitioners/ Respondents so as to set the criminal law into motion and also to initiate actions for the issuance of lookout circular as there is an imminent danger of Petitioners escaping from the justice system.

AND/OR b. Impose restrictions on the Petitioners from travelling abroad without the permission of the court owing to the apprehension of Respondent bank/ Applicant Bank regarding Petitioner's flight risk considering default committed by Respondent Company in repayment of his dues and thereafter, in view of declaration of fraud and initiation of corporate insolvency proceedings before NCLT Delhi, AND/OR c. Pass any other order/direction, which may be deemed fit and proper on the facts and the circumstances of the case and in the interest of justice."

3. Mr. Saju Jakob, learned counsel for the respondent no.4-applicant, submits that the respondent-Bank wishes to institute appropriate criminal proceedings against the petitioners and also to proceed towards the issuance of a Look Out Circular. However, the Bank apprehends that the interim order dated 19.02.2021 passed by this Court restricts it from doing so.

4. The operative portion of the order dated 19.02.2021 reads as follows:-

"7. In these circumstances, the respondents are directed to maintain status quo with regard to the declaration of the accounts of petitioners as fraud accounts and from taking any further steps pursuant thereto. The respondents are free, however, to issue a show cause notice to the petitioners and pass a reasoned order after giving them hearing, if necessary, through video-conferencing. It is also made clear that any investigation, inquiry or other proceedings may continue in accordance with law."

5. In view of the categorical direction that investigation, inquiry or other proceedings will continue in accordance with law, it is clarified that the aforesaid order does not impede the respondent no. 4 from registering a complaint/FIR against the petitioners or other respondents or to initiate action for issuance of a Look Out Circular in accordance with law. Equally, any party against whom such action is taken, is at liberty to challenge the same in accordance with law, if so advised.

6. As the Master Directions of the RBI does not per se concern any restriction on the petitioners from travelling abroad, the relief sought in prayer (b) of the application is not pressed.

7. The application is disposed of in these terms. W.P.(C) 306/2019 & CM APPLs. 7039/2019, 52374/2019, 52382/2019, 12568/2020, 12569/2020, W.P.(C) 4050/2020 & CM APPLs. 14510/2020, 4983/2021, W.P.(C) 5729/2020 & CM APPLs. 20700/2020, 12503/2021, W.P.(C) 10968/2019 & CM APPL. 45285/2019, W.P.(C) 3183/2020 & CM APPL. 11064/2020, W.P.(C) 3924/2020 & CM APPL. 14037/2020, W.P.(C) 3991/2020 & CM APPL. 14319/2020, W.P.(C) 4249/2020 & CM APPLs. 15300/2020, 31465-31466/2020, W.P.(C) 4317/2020 & CM APPL. 15557/2020, W.P.(C) 4578/2020 & CM APPL. 16537/2020, W.P.(C) 4938/2020 & CM APPLs. 17847-17848/2020, W.P.(C) 4940/2020 & CM APPLs. 17851-17852/2020, W.P.(C) 4941/2020 & CM APPLs. 17853- 17854/2020, W.P.(C) 5087/2020, W.P.(C) 5185/2020 & CM APPL. 18695/2020, W.P.(C) 5280/2020 & CM APPLs. 19027/2020, 28218/2020, W.P.(C) 5281/2020 & CM APPLs. 19037/2020, 28239/2020, W.P.(C) 5555/2020 & CM APPL. 20054/2020, W.P.(C) 5749/2020 & CM APPL. 20791/2020, W.P.(C) 5849/2020 & CM APPL. 21141/2020, W.P.(C) 6763/2020 & CM APPL. 23471/2020, W.P.(C) 7233/2020 & CM APPL. 24431/2020, W.P.(C) 7454/2020 & CM APPL.

24894/2020, W.P.(C) 7742/2020 & CM APPL. 25533/2020, W.P.(C) 7765/2020 & CM APPL. 25584/2020, W.P.(C) 8890/2020 & CM APPL. 28643/2020, W.P.(C) 8906/2020 & CM APPL. 28697/2020, W.P.(C) 8907/2020 & CM APPL. 28700/2020, W.P.(C) 8935/2020 & CM APPL. 28828/2020, W.P.(C) 10064/2020 & CM APPL. 32038/2020, W.P.(C) 10138/2020 & CM APPL. 32290/2020, W.P.(C) 10522/2020 & CM APPL. 33284/2020, W.P.(C) 10550/2020 & CM APPLs. 33391/2020, 4112/2021, 4354/2021, W.P.(C) 10796/2020 & CM APPL. 33851/2020, W.P.(C) 11179/2020 & CM APPL. 34880/2020, W.P.(C) 11216/2020 & CM APPL. 34993/2020, W.P.(C) 275/2021 & CM APPL. 692/2021, W.P.(C) 300/2021 & CM APPLs. 772/2021, 16803-16804/2021, W.P.(C) 338/2021 & CM APPL. 889/2021, W.P.(C) 372/2021 & CM APPL. 992/2021, W.P.(C) 752/2021 & CM APPL. 1893/2021, W.P.(C) 754/2021 & CM APPL. 1899/2021, W.P.(C) 920/2021 & CM APPL. 2491/2021, W.P.(C) 925/2021 & CM APPL. 2511/2021, W.P.(C) 1830/2021 & CM APPLs. 5268/2021, 11916/2021, W.P.(C) 2237/2021 & CM APPL. 6482/2021, W.P.(C) 3457/2021 & CM APPL. 10486/2021, W.P.(C) 3545/2021 & CM APPL. 10725/2021, W.P.(C) 3760/2021 & CM APPL. 11322/2021, W.P.(C) 3800/2021 & CM APPL. 11436/2021, W.P.(C) 4193/2021 & CM APPL. 12749/2021, W.P.(C) 4458/2021 & CM APPL. 13634/2021, W.P.(C) 5068/2021 & CM APPL. 15517/2021, W.P.(C) 5178/2020 & CM APPL. 18638/2020, W.P.(C) 12858/2019 & CM APPL. 17313/2021

1. The matters remain part-heard.

2. List for further hearing on 30.07.2021.

3. Mr. Kavin Gulati, learned Senior Counsel and Mr. Kunal Tandon, learned counsel, mention that several writ petitions which have been heard alongwith this batch of petitions have not been listed today in view of the notification of the Court with regard to restricted functioning and hearing of only urgent matters of the years 2020 and 2021. These petitions include W.P.(C) 12460/2019, 12475/2019, 12841/2019, 6830/2020 and 7825/2020.

4. The Registry is directed to list the aforesaid writ petitions also on the next date of hearing. Learned counsel for the petitioners are directed to inform the learned counsel for the other appearing parties of this order in writing within one week from today.

5. The parties are at liberty to file further written submissions in terms of the directions contained in the order dated 21.05.2021 by 23.07.2021. Counter affidavits may also be filed within two weeks.

PRATEEK JALAN, J JULY 7, 2021 'pv/j'