



2026:KER:23777

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE BECHU KURIAN THOMAS

TUESDAY, THE 17TH DAY OF MARCH 2026 / 26TH PHALGUNA, 1947

WP(C) NO. 47510 OF 2025

PETITIONER:

JOLLYAMMA JOSEPH @ JOLLY
AGED 51 YEARS
PONNAMATTAM VEEDU,
KODATHAI BAZAR, THAMARASERRY,
KOZHIKODE DISTRICT
NOW LODGED AT CENTRAL PRISON KANNUR, PIN - 673573

BY ADVS.
SRI.K.P.PRASANTH
SHRI.P.S.BIJU
SHRI.T.A.AJMAL HUSSAIN
SRI.K.S.STEJO
SHRI.ARUNRAJ S.
SHRI.HIJAS T.T.
SMT.SUNITHA K.G.
SMT.ANITHA V.A.
SMT.SREELAKSHMI K.

RESPONDENTS:

- 1 JIOHOTSTAR PVT. LTD
STAR HOUSE, URMI ESTATE,
95 GANPATRAO KADAM MARG,
LOWER PAREL (WEST), MUMBAI,
MAHARASHTRA, INDIA, PIN - 400013
REPRESENTED BY ITS AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY
- 2 THE SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING,
ROOM NO 552, A WING, SHASTRI BHAWAN,
NEW DELHI, PIN - 110001
- 3 THE REGIONAL OFFICER
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION,
1ST FLOOR, CHITHRANJALI STUDIO COMPLEX,
THIRUVALLUM, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695027



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- 4 THE CHAIRMAN
CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CERTIFICATION,
FILMS DIVISION COMPLEX, PHASE-I BUILDING,
9TH FLOOR, DR. G DESHMUKH MARG,
MUMBAI, PIN - 400066
- 5 MIDHUN MANUEL THOMAS
MANUEL MOVIE MAKERS 60/49E,
3RD FLOOR, JC CHAMBERS, PANAMBILLY NAGAR,
ERNAKULAM, PIN - 682036
- 6 STATE OF KERALA
REPRESENTED BY CHIEF SECRETARY GOVERNMENT OF
KERALA, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT,
THIRUVANTHAPURAM, PIN - 695001

BY ADVS.

SHRI.SANTHOSH MATHEW (Sr.)
SHRI.MATHEW NEVIN THOMAS
SRI.ARUN THOMAS
SMT.VEENA RAVEENDRAN
SMT.KARTHIKA MARIA
SHRI.SHINTO MATHEW ABRAHAM
SMT.LEAH RACHEL NINAN
SHRI.KARTHIK RAJAGOPAL
SHRI.KURIAN ANTONY MATHEW
SMT.APARNNA S.
SHRI.ARUN JOSEPH MATHEW
SHRI.NOEL NINAN NINAN
SHRI.ADEEN NAZAR
SHRI.ROHAN MATHEW
SHRI.SAIBY JOSE KIDANGOOR
SHRI.BENNY ANTONY PAREL
SMT.PRAMITHA AUGUSTINE
SMT.AFSANA KHAN
SHRI.SREERAJ S. RAJARAM
SMT.SNEHA J.
SHRI.ADARSH PADMANABHAN
SHRI.AMAL DILEEP
SMT.ANNA PAUL
SHRI.VICTOR JOSEPH
O.M.SHALINA, DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

THIS WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) HAVING BEEN FINALLY HEARD
ON 17.03.2026, THE COURT ON THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE
FOLLOWING:



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BECHU KURIAN THOMAS, J.

W.P(C) No.47510 of 2025

Dated this the 17th day of March, 2026

JUDGMENT

Petitioner seeks restraint on release/streaming/broadcasting/ promoting a web series titled 'Anali' in any form whatsoever through the OTT platform of the first respondent.

2. Petitioner has taken offence to a proposed web series, which is scheduled to be released through the OTT platform Jio Hotstar. Petitioner believes that the web series is substantially inspired by incidents that are attributable to the criminal cases in which she is now in prison. She alleges that, the proposed web series will malign her, prejudice public opinion and even create an adverse situation for securing her conviction. Pointing out the above, petitioner has preferred a representation before the second respondent, as evident from Exhibit-P4. However, the second respondent forwarded the said representation to the grievance cell of the first respondent as per Annexure-R1(1), and as per Annexure-R1(2), the first respondent rejected the representation. This writ petition was filed while the representation was pending consideration.

3. I have heard Sri. K. P. Prasanth, the learned counsel for the petitioner, Sri. Santhosh Mathew, the learned Senior Counsel, instructed by Sri. Kurian Antony Mathew, the learned counsel appearing on behalf



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of the first respondent, Smt. O. M. Shalina, the learned Deputy Solicitor General of India, and Sri. Saiby Jose Kidangoor, the learned counsel appearing on behalf of the 5th respondent.

4. As the representation submitted by the petitioner has been rejected, the petitioner, has an alternative remedy under Rule 12 of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media, Ethics Code) Rules 2021. Since an alternative remedy exists, it is not appropriate to entertain this writ petition, especially on account of the nature of contentions urged. However, petitioner can be given liberty to pursue the remedy available under Rule 12 of Rules.

Accordingly, this writ petition is disposed of reserving the liberty of the petitioner to pursue her appellate remedy under Rule 12 of the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media, Ethics Code) Rules 2021, against Annexure-R1(2), in accordance with law. If any such appeal is filed, needless to mention, appropriate orders shall be passed without undue delay.

**Sd/-
BECHU KURIAN THOMAS
JUDGE**

jka/17.03.26.



APPENDIX OF WP(C) NO. 47510 OF 2025

PETITIONER EXHIBITS

- Exhibit -P2** A TRUE COPY OF THE SCREEN SHOT OF POSTER OF ANALI WEB SERIES AVAILABLE IN RESPONDENT NO. 1 OTT PLATFORM
- Exhibit -P3** A TRUE COPY OF THE LEGAL NOTICE DATED 15/12/2025 ISSUE TO THE RESPONDENT NO. 1 BY THE PETITIONER THROUGH HER COUNSEL
- Exhibit -P4** A TRUE COPY OF THE LEGAL NOTICE DATED 15/12/2025 ISSUE TO THE RESPONDENT NO. 2 BY THE PETITIONER THROUGH HER COUNSEL
- Exhibit -P5** A TRUE COPY OF THE LETTER ISSUED TO THE RESPONDENT NO. 1 BY THE RESPONDENT NO. 2 DATED 19/12/2025
- Exhibit -P6** A TRUE COPY OF THE ORDER IN CRL.M.P NO. 187/2023 DATED 08/03/2023 WHICH PASSED BY THE HON'BLE SPECIAL ADDITIONAL SESSIONS JUDGE (MARAD CASES), KOZHIKODE
- Exhibit -P7** A TRUE COPY OF THE SCREENSHOT OF EMAIL NOTICE SEND BY THE PETITIONER TO THE RESPONDENT NO. 1 DATED 23/12/2025.

RESPONDENT ANNEXURES

- Annexure R1(1)** A COPY OF THIS COMMUNICATION DATED 19-12-2025 FROM THE RESPONDENT NO. 2 TO THE RESPONDENT NO. 1.
- Annexure R1(2)** A COPY OF THE DECISION DATED 7TH JANUARY 2026.