

THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

ARBITRATION PETITION NO.1/2026

EASY HANDLING LLC

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

PRADHAAN AIR EXPRESS PRIVATE LIMITED

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. The instant petition under Section 11(6) r/w Section 11(12)(a) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 (1996 Act), seeks the appointment of a 3-member Arbitral Tribunal to adjudicate the disputes between the parties arising out of the Aircraft Charter Agreement (Charter Agreement) dated 08.03.2024.

2. For context, the Petitioner is a company incorporated in Georgia and provides logistic support to its end-customers. The Respondent is a company registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and provides chartered aircraft for the transportation of cargo. The parties entered into an Aircraft Charter Agreement dated 08.03.2024, whereby the Respondent would provide dedicated air freight services to the Petitioner. The Respondent was obligated to operate 25 rotations a month (approx. 6 rotations per week) for a price of USD 20,000 per rotation.

3. It is claimed that disputes arose owing to the Respondent's inability to provide the required number of rotations per week. Aggrieved, the Petitioner sent a

Termination Notice dated 19.07.2024 under Clause 16 of the Charter Agreement, seeking a refund of USD 103,398.65, which is stated to be the advance payment made for which no services were rendered, and the security deposit of USD 50,000.

4. Since no response was received from the Respondent, the Petitioner issued a Notice Invoking Arbitration dated 18.01.2025 under Clause 21 of the Charter Agreement, and nominated Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jayant Nath, Former Judge, High Court of Delhi as its Arbitrator. As the Respondent did not nominate an Arbitrator or reply to the said notice, the instant petition was filed.

5. We have heard learned counsel for the petitioner and perused the material on record.

6. Keeping in view the facts and circumstances recorded above, we deem it just and proper to allow the instant Arbitration Petition and appoint Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chander Shekhar, former Judge of Delhi High Court, as the Arbitrator on behalf of the Respondent. Further, we direct the two Arbitrators, one being already appointed by the Petitioner, to appoint a Presiding Arbitrator in accordance with Clause 21 of the Charter Agreement. The seat and venue of arbitration shall be New Delhi, India. Ordered accordingly.

7. We make it clear that the parties will be at liberty to raise all available contentions before the learned

Arbitral Tribunal.

8. The Arbitral Tribunal shall have the liberty to fix its own remuneration/fees.

9. Pending interlocutory applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

.....CJI.
(SURYA KANT)

.....J.
(JOYMALYA BAGCHI)

NEW DELHI;
MAY 26, 2026

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Arbitration No(s).1/2026

EASY HANDLING LLC

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

PRADHAAN AIR EXPRESS PRIVATE LIMITED

Respondent(s)

Date : 26-05-2026 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Vipul Wadhwa, Adv.
Ms. Kashika Gera, Adv.
Mr. Shreyash Choudhary, Adv.
Ms. Kheyali Singh, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. The Arbitration Petition is allowed in terms of the signed order.
2. All pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

(ARJUN BISHT)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

(signed order is placed on the file)