

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION (C) NO. 882 OF 2025

VODAFONE IDEA LTD. & ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

1. The present writ petition has been filed by the petitioners seeking issuance of a writ or direction to quash the demands raised by the respondent for additional Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for the period upto the Financial Year 2016-2017. The petitioners also seek further directions to the respondent to comprehensively reassess and reconcile all AGR dues for the said period, in accordance with the Deduction Verification Guidelines dated 03.02.2020.

2. The matter has been adjourned from time to time, inasmuch as Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General of India has been seeking

instructions from the Union of India.

3. Learned Solicitor General, on instructions, submits that taking into consideration the change in circumstances, i.e., the Union of India acquiring 49 per cent equity in the petitioners' Company and keeping in view the public interest involving 20 crore customers availing the petitioners' services, the Union of India is willing to examine the issues raised by the petitioners. He further submits that the Union of India is also willing to reconsider the matter and take an appropriate decision, subject to the permission of this Court.

4. Taking into account the change in circumstances, wherein the Union of India itself has infused substantial equity in the petitioners' Company and considering that the issue involved is likely to have a direct bearing on the interests of 20 crore customers, in the peculiar facts of this case we find that there shall be no impediment in the Union of India reconsidering the issue and

taking an appropriate decision in accordance with law.

5. We clarify that this is a matter falling within the policy domain of the Union of India and if, in the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case, the Union of India, keeping in view the larger public interest, desires to reconsider the issue, there is no reason to restrain or prevent it from doing so.

6. It is further to be noted that the prayer in the petition itself restricts its claim only to the additional AGR demand raised by the respondent for the period up to the Financial Year 2016-17.

7. We further clarify that this order is passed only with regard to the petitioner-Vodafone Idea Ltd., taking into consideration the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case as put up by the Union of India, that it has acquired 49 per cent equity in the petitioners' Company and that the issue involves public interest inasmuch as 20 crore consumers are being affected.

8. In that view of the matter, we dispose of the present writ petition with the aforesaid observations.

9. Pending application(s), if any, stand(s) disposed of.

.....CJI
(B.R. GAVAI)

.....J
(K. VINOD CHANDRAN)

New Delhi
October 27, 2025

ITEM NO.21

COURT NO.1

SECTION X

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

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s). 882/2025

VODAFONE IDEA LTD. & ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 229839/2025 - STAY APPLICATION)

Date : 27-10-2025 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE K. VINOD CHANDRAN

For Petitioner(s) :

Mr. Mukul Rohatgi, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Mahesh Agarwal, Adv.
Mr. Rishi Agrawala, Adv.
Ms. Madhavi Agarwal, Adv.
Ms. Manavi Agarwal, Adv.
Ms. Kalyani Bhide, Adv.
Mr. E. C. Agrawala, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

Mr. Tushar Mehta, learned S.G.
Ms. Astha Singh, Adv.
Mr. Bhuvan Kapoor, Adv.
Ms. Mili Baxi, Adv.
Mr. Amrish Kumar, AOR
Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh, Adv.

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

1. The writ petition is disposed of in terms of the signed order.
2. Pending application(s), if any, stand disposed of.

(DEEPAK SINGH)

ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(ANJU KAPOOR)

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

[Signed order is placed on the file]

