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To whom it may concern

31<sup>st</sup> October 2014

Dear Sir

I am writing from Penguin Books India as we will be publishing Vandana Shah's *The Ex Files* on our Shobhaa De imprint in late November 2014.

Vandana Shah is currently a family lawyer practising in the family court in Mumbai and I am requesting permission to launch *The Ex Files* in the Mumbai High Court around 30<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Vandana studied at St Xavier's College in Mumbai and has since donned various hats including that of a model, a deejay and an advertising professional. After being thrown out of her marital home with just the clothes on her back and Rs 750 in the bank, Vandana rebuilt her world and founded the first Indian support group to help people going through a divorce, 360 Degrees Back to Life. She has since come full circle from being a litigant to being a divorce lawyer and practices at the family court in Mumbai. Vandana writes a monthly column in the magazine, Black and White Oman and she edits Ex-Files, India's first divorce newsmagazine. She has also participated in the Lead India Programme and was the winner from Mumbai in 2010. Vandana's work for the cause of women going through divorce in India has resulted in a BBC documentary about her work, entitled *Invisible Women of India*. This was broadcast worldwide on international Women's Day in 2014. Her first book endorsed by the iconic feminist Gloria Steinem won an award and she has translated another book on the Jain faith from English to Hindi.

*The Ex Files* documents her personal journey from divorcee to her inspirational transformation into a lawyer and campaigner helping others going through divorce in India.

Penguin Books India is part of Penguin Random House, the world's largest global publisher, which was formed after the merger of Penguin and Random House in 2013. It is the most well established general trade international publisher in India and home to some of the finest writers across the sub-continent.

We wished to launch this in the High Court as it would be a fitting space for a currently practising lawyer and a book which centres so much around her experiences of the legal system.

Please do let me know if you require any further information on the book or potential launch event. I do hope this will be possible.

Yours faithfully,



Caroline Newbury

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