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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 10138/2023, CM APPL. 39234/2023, CM APPL. 62316/2024, CM APPL. 8809/2025, CM APPL. 35555/2025 & CM APPL. 46970/2025

PADMAJA GARIKIPATI

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Rahul Mehra, Sr. Adv. with Mr. Saurabh Jain, Mr. Chitanya Gosain, Mr. Hanif Chimthanawala, Mr. Prayag Jain, Advocates

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Raj Sekhar Rao, Sr. Adv. with Mr. Parth Gowswami, Mr. Ranjeet Pawar, Advocates for Gymnastic Federation of India (M:6355306939) Ms. Kumudavalli Seetharaman, Advocate for IOA (M:9899785582) Mr. Nishant Gautam, CGSC with Mr. Vardhman Kaushik, Mr. Prithvi Raj Dey, Mr. Shaurya Mani Pandey, Ms. Srijita Koley, Advocates for Ministry of Youth Affairs (M:8837314399)

+ W.P.(C) 1938/2024

**MAHARASHTRA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTED BY ITS AUTHORISED SIGNATORY VIRAL
SHAH**

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Dhaval Deshpande, Ms. Neha Arya, Advocates (M:9999622549)

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Amit Kumar Rana, Advocates



(M:8118303621)

Mr. Vikash Singh, Mr. Ujjwal Chaudhary, Advocates for IOA (M:8802464546)

+ W.P.(C) 2100/2024

MAHARASHTRA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATIONPetitioner

Through: Mr. Dhaval Deshpande, Ms. Neha Arya, Advocates

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Amit Kumar Rana, Advocates (M:8118303621)

Mr. Vikash Singh, Mr. Ujjwal Chaudhary, Advocates for IOA (M:8802464546)

+ W.P.(C) 2103/2024

MAHARASHTRA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATIONPetitioner

Through: Mr. Dhaval Deshpande, Ms. Neha Arya, Advocates

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Amit Kumar Rana, Advocates (M:8118303621)

Mr. Vikash Singh, Mr. Ujjwal Chaudhary, Advocates for IOA (M:8802464546)

+ W.P.(C) 2136/2024, CM APPL. 8885/2024, CM APPL. 11223/2024, CM APPL. 14653/2024, CM APPL. 21623/2024, CM APPL. 4093/2025, CM APPL. 9627/2025, CM APPL. 35632/2025, CM APPL. 36600/2025, CM APPL. 61010/2025 & CM APPL. 61011/2025



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AMIR SINGH

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Hemant Phalpher, Advocate
(M:9810870982)

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC
with Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Amit
Kumar Rana, Advocates
(M:8118303621)
Ms. Kumudavalli Seetharaman,
Advocate for R-3 (M:9899785582)
Mr. Jayant Kumar, Advocate for R-2
(M:9654425878)
Mr. Vikash Singh, Mr. Ujjwal
Chaudhary, Advocates for IOA
(M:8802464546)

+ W.P.(C) 2174/2024 & CM APPL. 9062/2024

SEBASTIAN GEORGE

.....Petitioner

Through: Petitioner in person (through VC)
versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. Mukul Singh, CGSC with Ms. Ira
Singh, Mr. Aryan Dhaka, Advocates
for UOI (M:9990166622)
Mr. Vikash Singh, Mr. Ujjwal
Chaudhary, Advocates for IOA
(M:8802464546)

+ W.P.(C) 3365/2024 & CM APPL. 13847/2024

VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION OF UTTARANCHAL
UTTARAKHAND VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

.....Petitioner

Through: Advocate (appearance not given)
versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents



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Through: Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC
with Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Amit
Kumar Rana, Advocates
(M:8118303621)
Mr. Vikash Singh, Mr. Ujjwal
Chaudhary, Advocates for IOA
(M:8802464546)
Mr. Hemant Phalpher, Advocate for
R-3 (M:9810870982)

+ W.P.(C) 9483/2025 & CM APPL. 40040/2025

PREM SINGH BAJOR & ANR.Petitioners

Through: Advocate (appearance not given)
versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.Respondents

Through: Mr. Premtosh K. Mishra, CGSC with
Mr. Zeeshan Ali, Mr. Prarabdh
Tiwari, Advocates for R-1/UOI
Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC
with Mr. Kushagra Kumar, Mr. Amit
Kumar Rana, Advocates
(M:8118303621)
Mr. Jayant Kumar, Advocate for R-2
(M:9654425878)

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE MINI PUSHKARNA

ORDER

% **24.09.2025**

1. Mr. Rahul Mehra, learned Senior Counsel appearing in W.P.(C) 10138/2023, has handed over to this Court a copy of judgment dated 19th September, 2025, passed by the Supreme Court in *SLP (C) No(s) 30748-30749/2017*, titled as “*All India Football Federation Versus Rahul Mehra & Ors.*”
2. By referring to the aforesaid judgment, learned Senior Counsel for the



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petitioner in *W.P.(C) 10138/2023*, submits that the Constitution of the All India Football Federation (“AIFF”) has been amended. He submits that since all the National Sports Federations (“NSFs”) are on a similar footing, the Constitutions of other NSFs also need to be amended, in terms of the aforesaid judgment dated 19th September, 2025 of the Supreme Court.

3. He further submits that once the Constitution of the NSFs are amended, and are made in line with the said judgment of the Supreme Court, then elections in the said NSFs can be held accordingly.

4. Learned Senior Counsel for the Gymnastic Federation of India (“GFI”) submits that the aforesaid judgment by the Supreme Court is only as an interim measure, i.e., till the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 is notified.

5. He, thus, submits that the Court should allow the elections to happen, and thereafter, the newly elected body will carry out the exercise of amendment of the Constitution, in order to make it compliant with the new Act.

6. At this stage, learned counsel appearing of the Indian Olympic Association (“IOA”), submits that she has instructions to submit that IOA will observe the elections, and that the elections of the NSFs should be conducted at the earliest.

7. *Per contra*, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner in *W.P.(C) 10138/2023*, submits that since the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, has not been notified as yet, the aforesaid judgment of the Supreme Court ought to be followed, in the meanwhile.

8. Mr. Rahul Mehra, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner in *W.P.(C) 10138/2023*, also draws the attention of this Court to the order



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dated 01st February, 2024, passed by the Division Bench of this Court in W.P.(C) 8691/2020, titled as “Rahul Mehra Versus Union of India”, and in particular, relies upon paragraphs 3.1, 3.2 and 4, which read as under:

“3.1 We have specifically asked Mr Anil Soni, learned CGSC, who represents the Union of India (UOI), as to whether according to UOI, the judgment dated 16.08.2022 is applicable to the National Sports Federation (NSF), apart from the Indian Olympic Association (IOA).”

3.2 Mr. Soni, in no uncertain terms, says that the directions contained in the judgment dated 16.08.2022 would apply to the NSF as well.

4. We tend to agree with Mr. Soni. In our view, the judgment dated 16.08.2022 is a judgment in rem and therefore the directions contained therein will apply mutatis mutandis to the NSF, including the applicant/federation.”

(Emphasis Supplied)

9. Learned counsel for the petitioner in W.P.(C) 2136/2024 submits that CM APPL. 61010/2025 has been filed for impleadment of IOA as a respondent in the said petition.

10. Considering the submissions made before this Court, CM APPL. 61010/2025 is allowed. IOA is impleaded as respondent no. 3 in W.P.(C) 2136/2024.

11. Accordingly, CM APPL. 61010/2025 is disposed of.

12. Re-notify on 16th October, 2025.

MINI PUSHKARNA, J

SEPTEMBER 24, 2025/au