



\$~31 to 37

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

+ W.P.(C) 1938/2024

MAHARASHTRA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION
REPRESENTED BY ITS AUTHORISED SIGNATORY VIRAL
SHAHPetitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.Respondents

Through:

32

+ W.P.(C) 2100/2024 & CM APPL. 65308/2025

MAHARASHTRA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATIONPetitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.Respondents

Through:

33

+ W.P.(C) 2103/2024

MAHARASHTRA VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATIONPetitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.Respondents

Through:

34

+ 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. 61011/2025, CM



APPL.65312/2025

AMIR SINGH

.....Petitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS

.....Respondents

Through:

35

+

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

SEBASTIAN GEORGE

.....Petitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through:

36

+

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

VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION OF UTTARANCHAL
UTTARAKHAND VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

.....Petitioner

Through:

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through:

37

+

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

PREM SINGH BAJOR & ANR.

.....Petitioners

Through:

versus



UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondents

Through:

Appearance:

For Petitioners: Dr. Swaroop George, Mr. Dhaval S. Deshpande, Mr. Mobashshir Sarwar, Mr. Abhinandan Jain, Mr. Shivam Prajapati, Mr. Kartikey and Mr. Abhigyan Dwivedi, Advs. in Item 31 to 33

Mr. Hemant, Adv. in Item 34

Ms. Arundhati Katju, Sr. Adv. with Mr. Anil Pandey, Ms. Ritika and Mr. Mihir Man, Advs.

Mr. Sebastian George, petitioner in person in Item 35 (Through VC)

Mr. Bharat Bagla, Adv. (Through VC)

For Respondents: Ms. Kumudavalli, Adv. for R-3 in Item 34

Mr. Jayant Kumar, Adv. for R-2 in Item 37

Mr. Premtosh K. Mishra, CGSC with Mr. Prarabdh Tiwari and Mr. Anurag Tiwari, Advs. for UOI in Item 37

Mr. Mukul Singh, CGSC with Mr. Aryan Dhaka and Ms. Nandini Aggarwal, Advs. for UOI in Item 35

Mr. Vikash Singh and Mr. Ujjwal Chaudhary, Advs. for IOA in Item 31 to 37

Mr. Ripudaman Bhardwaj, CGSC with Mr. Kushagra Kumar and Mr. Amit Kumar Rana, Advs. for UOI in Item 31 to 36

Mr. R.A. Iyer, Adv. for applicant in CM APPL. 65312/2025.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE MINI PUSHKARNA

ORDER

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13.11.2025

1. Learned counsel appearing for the Union of India ("UOI") has handed over to this Court a copy of letter dated 29th October, 2025, issued by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports), Government of India ("GOI"), thereby, granting recognition as a National Sports Federation to Volleyball Federation of India ("VFI"), especially to the Interim Executive Committee of the VFI. The said letter is reproduced as



under:

(Item 31(CR) 13/11)

No. 48-09/2025-GOV-2
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
(Department of Sports)

Hall No. 101, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated:- 29.10.2025

To,

President/Secretary General
Volleyball Federation of India (Interim Body)
Room No. 72, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium,
Chennai- 600003
Email:- vfi2005@gmail.com

Subject: Grant of recognition as a National Sports Federation to Volleyball Federation of India (interim body) - Reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the elections of the Executive Committee (EC) of Volleyball Federation of India (VFI) held on 07.06.2025 under the supervision of the Retd. Justice P.K. Bhat, as per the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi contained in Order dated 09th May, 2025 passed in W.P (C) No. 1938/2024 titled as "Maharashtra Volleyball Association Vs. Union of India & Ors." and other connected matters and to say that it has been decided to accept the election of the interim Executive Committee of the VFI; and to grant the government recognition with immediate effect, with following Office Bearers:

S. No.	Post	Name
(i)	President	Mr. Virender Kanwar
(ii)	Secretary General	Mr. Ramanand Choudhary
(iii)	Treasurer	Mr. Hari Singh Chauhan

2. The above government recognition is subject to the outcome of the ongoing court cases concerning elections to the EC of VFI pending in Hon'ble High Court of Delhi / other Hon'ble High Courts and strictly adherence to the following conditions:

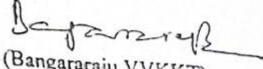
- The interim body of VFI shall strictly adhere to the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 and other guidelines issued by this Ministry from time to time.
- The interim body of VFI shall adhere to the mechanism prescribed by the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB) and shall follow all instructions of FIVB and actively support its developmental programmes for Volleyball in India.



- (iii) The interim body of VFI shall submit bimonthly progress report to this Ministry and FIVB regarding compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court.
- (iv) The interim body of VFI shall align its operations with the principles of transparency, accountability, and good governance.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours sincerely,


(Bangararaju VVKKT)
Director(Sports)

Copy to:-

1. Director General, Sports Authority of India
2. Director, Passenger Marketing, Traffic Commercial, Railway Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi
3. Director/Deputy Secretary, Department of Sports
4. Under Secretaries, Department of Sports
5. CEO (TOPS), SAI/DDG (TEAMS), SAI
6. Technical Director, NIC with the request to upload the letter on the website of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

Copy also to:

1. Ms. P.T. Usha, President, Indian Olympic Association,
Olympic Bhawan, B-29, Qutab Institutional Area,
New Delhi-110016
Email:- ptusha@olympic.ind.in
2. Mr. Fabio Azevedo, President, Fédération Internationale de Volleyball
Château Les Tourelles" Ch. Edouard-Sandoz 2-4 1006 Lausanne Switzerland
Email:- fabio.azevedo@fivb.com

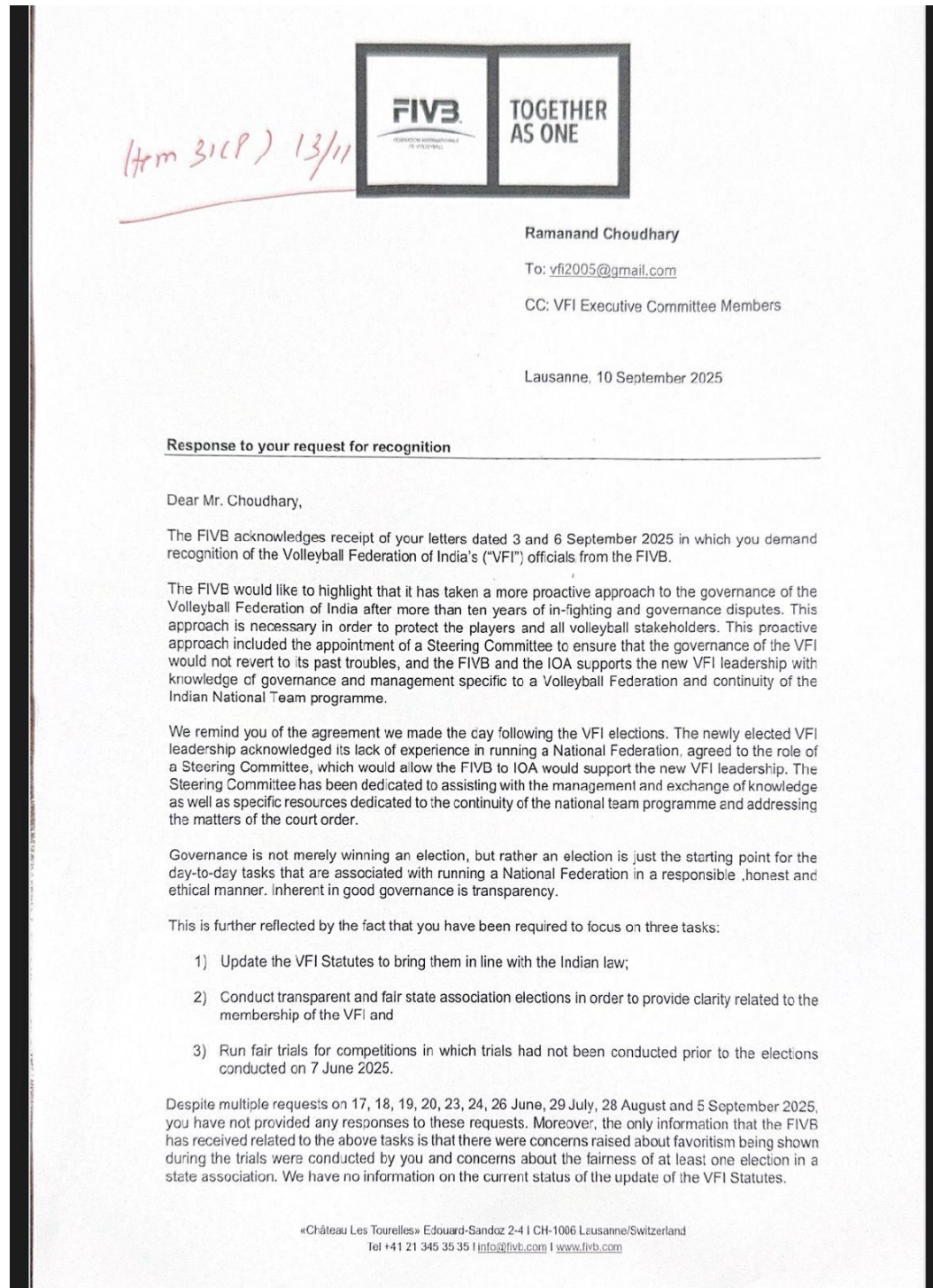
Copy for information to:

PPS to Secretary (Sports)/PS to JS (Sports)

2. *Per contra*, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner in W.P.(C)



2136/2024 has handed over to this Court a letter dated 10th September, 2025, issued by the *Federation Internationale De Volleyball* (“FIVB”), which reads as under:





The FIVB now firmly believes that, while you have participated in calls with the Steering Committee and promised to provide responses, it is clear by your actions that you have no legitimate interest in working with the Steering Committee, which is non-negotiable for the FIVB. Additionally, you and your organization are making unsubstantiated allegations against the staff of the Steering Committee who were made available to you to assist you in running your operations. All information related to the FIVB's activities in India, including its Empowerment project, were clearly described to you in the introductory meeting that you had with FIVB staff.

Working with the Ad-Hoc Committee, the FIVB has developed great relationships with the Indian Olympic Association and the Indian Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport. It was fully ready to assist you in growing the sport of volleyball in India and facilitate these relationships. Unfortunately, your letters clearly convey the message that you would prefer not to work with us.

Based on the above, the FIVB has no choice but to withhold any recognition due to your refusal to allow the Steering Committee to properly oversee compliance with the fundamental governance tasks submitted to you. Thus, it will be required to update its Board of Administration about these unfortunate circumstances and consider any and all actions available.

Thank you very much for your understanding.

Best regards,

Hugh McCutcheon
FIVB Secretary General

Stephen Bock
FIVB Head of Legal & General Counsel

«Château Les Tourelles» Edouard-Sandoz 2-4 | CH-1006 Lausanne/Switzerland
Tel +41 21 345 35 35 | info@fivb.com | www.fivb.com



3. Considering the aforesaid letters, it transpires that a divergent stand has been taken by the GOI and the FIVB.
4. Considering the letter dated 10th September, 2025, issued by FIVB, the UOI is directed to consider as to how it shall ensure that the recognition granted by the UOI *vide* letter dated 29th October, 2025 inures to the benefit of VFI in view of the specific provisions of the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 (“National Sports Code”).
5. Learned counsel appearing for the applicant in application being *CM APPL. 65312/2025* in *W.P.(C) 2136/2024*, submits that the Interim Committee of the VFI, which has been recognized by the GOI for the time being, is undertaking actions, which are beyond its mandate.
6. He submits that the requisite documents in this regard, shall be placed on record. Accordingly, the applicant in the application, i.e., *CM APPL. 65312/2025* in *W.P.(C) 2136/2024*, is allowed to place on record the requisite documents, before the next date of hearing.
7. Let the needful be done.
8. Mr. Sebastian George, petitioner in *W.P.(C) 2174/2024*, who appears through Video Conferencing (“VC”), submits that the VFI has been violating the various provisions of the National Sports Code, which is a serious matter.
9. Learned Senior Counsel appearing for the petitioner in *W.P.(C) 9483/2025*, submits that in the present matter the elections would have be re-held, in consonance with the provisions of the National Sports Code, in view of the various violations of the National Sports Code and orders of this Court.
10. This Court has already clarified in its order dated 10th July, 2025



passed in W.P.(C) 9483/2025, as follows:

“xxx xxx xxx

17. It is clarified that any action taken by the newly elected Executive Committee, shall be subject to the orders of this Court.

xxx xxx xxx”

(Emphasis Supplied)

11. Parties are granted liberty to complete the pleadings, in the meanwhile.

12. List for hearing on 21st January, 2026, in Top Ten Matters in the *Advance List*.

MINI PUSHKARNA, J

NOVEMBER 13, 2025/KR