

ITEM NO.48

COURT NO.3

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 (CIVIL) NO(s). 270 OF 2010

HOCKEY INDIA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(With appln(s) for ex-Parte stay and office report)

WITH S.L.P.(C) NO. 24470 of 2010

(With prayer for interim relief and office report)

Date: 27/08/2010 This Petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R.V. RAVEENDRAN
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE H.L. GOKHALE

For Petitioner(s)

Mr. Ashok Desai, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Mukul Rohtagi, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Nikhil Pillai, Adv.
 Ms. Shyal Trehan, Adv.
 Ms. Diya Kapoor, Adv.
 Ms. Promila Mukherjee, Adv.
 Ms. Manjira Dasgupta, Adv.
 Mr. Vikas Mehta, Adv.

For Respondent(s)

Mr. Gopal Subramanian, SG
 Mr. Rajshekhar Rao, Adv.
 Mr. Devvrat, Adv.
 Mr. D.S. Mahra, Adv.

Ms. Indu Malhotra, Sr. Adv.
 Ms. Liz Mathew, Adv.

Mr. Arvind Nigam, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. D.S. Narula, Adv.
 Mr. Ashwani Kr, Adv.
 Ms. Manmeet Kaur, Adv.

For R-5 Ms. Kusum Lata Sharma, Adv.

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

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Application filed by the Indian Hockey Federation
 for impleadment allowed.

This order is in continuation of our order dated
 25.8.2010. The issue for our consideration is who will
 field the Men's Hockey Team and Women's Hockey Team in
 the Commonwealth Games to be held in October 2010.
 Hockey India claims to be the National Federation

relating to Hockey which is affiliated to International Federation for that sport, that is FIH. The Indian Hockey Federation, which has been impleaded as a party today, admits that, as on date, it is not affiliated to the International Federation and, therefore, cannot field the team.

Learned Solicitor General appearing for the Sports Authority of India submitted that fielding of the team should be done by Indian Olympics Association. He submitted that a National Selection Committee, constituted by the Sports Authority of India, is giving training to the prospective players at Pune. He submitted that the Selection Committee has reputed members like Mr. Zafar Iqbal, Mr. Ajit Pal Singh, Mr. Govinda and Mr. Balbeer Singh and they will assist the Indian Olympic Association for making the selection.

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Ms. Indu Malhotra, learned senior counsel for the Indian Olympic Association submitted that the Indian Olympic Association is merely the apex body of National Sports Federations and, by itself, does not have the expertise to either select the Hockey teams or field the teams or deal with the various related issues which will arise when the event is held. She, therefore, submitted that though the Indian Olympics Association will be willing to field the teams, it will have to associate the National Federation which is affiliated to the International Federation, which, in this case, at present, is Hockey India, the petitioner herein.

Hockey India, Indian Olympics Association and the Sports Authority of India, all agree that the Selection Committee will consist, among others, Mr. Zafar Iqbal,

Mr. Ajit Pal Singh, Mr. Govinda and Mr. Balbeer Singh.

They also agree that the selection of teams will be made from the players who are already under training.

It is

not as if the Sports Authority of India has a set of players, the Hockey India has another set of players and the Indian Olympics Association has yet another set of players. As the players are same and the selectors are

also the same and as the Sports Authority of India

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considers the Indian Olympics Association as the body which should field the entry, we find no reason why

Indian Olympics Association should not do the fielding of the teams in collaboration with the Hockey India, as had been done in regard to the selection for participation in the Women's Hockey World Cup.

We do hope that all these

stake holders will realise that what is important is participation of the best team that India can put forth.

The Indian Olympics Association and the Hockey India will have to make all efforts to select the best team by

including in National Selection Committee the respective coaches. It is stated that the coaches are Mr. Brasa and

Mr. Harinder Singh.

We, accordingly, direct, as an interim measure, that the Indian Olympics Association and the Hockey India will field the men's and women's Hockey teams in the forthcoming Commonwealth Games.

We make it clear that if

the Indian Olympics Association wants to make any additions to the National Selection Committee, it may do so.

List these matters immediately after the Commonwealth Games in the third week of October, 2010.

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(Ravi P. Verma)
Court Master

(M.S. Negi)
Court Master