SRINATH SRIDEVAN SENIOR ADVOCATE

No. 24, Judge Jambulingam Road, Jagadambal Colony,

DURGAPURAM, MYLAPORE, CHENNAI, TAMILNADU 600 004 PROCEEDINGS No 11 OF THE RETURNING OFFICER DATED 12.02.2024

SRINATH SRIDEVAN Senior Advocate, Madras High Court

In Re Elections to the Rowing Federation Of India

Proceedings in relation to e-mail from Shri Rajiv Sharma & Shri Ramnik dated 11.02.2024 & 12.02.2024

These proceedings are in relation to the communications received from Shri Rajiv Sharma and Shri Ramnik, referred to above.

Issue 1: Applicability of Model Election Guidelines

I have noted Shri Rajiv Sharma's concern.

In Clause 5 of my Election Guidelines, I have made it abundantly clear that the elections will be conducted in accordance with the NSC, which includes the MEG. Therefore, there is no element of ambiguity or surprise in this.

No addendum is warranted in this regard.

Issue 2: Inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit

The Bye laws of RFI has been framed and approved by MYAS and only thereafter the Ministry gives necessary recognition. As stated by Mr.Rajiv Sharma, Clause Clause 3.20 to Annexure 2 mandates reservation of 25% of elected post to eminent Sports Person.

The RFI By Laws appear to be in line with this. Clause 11.3 of the RFI bye laws reads thus:

11.3 The Five 'Executive Committee' Members of the Rowing Federation of India's "Executive Council" have to be prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit.

The following Eligibility Condition must be met by the Five 'EC members' as in Annexure 8:

The RFI has also defined the term, "sportsperson of outstanding eminence".

In this regard, Clause 12 of the Election Guidelines is clear. Hence, I cannot go against the Sports code and RFI Bye laws.

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Issue 3: Manipur Rowing Association

I refer to my Proceedings No. 9 dated 11.02.2024, requested for certain documents and clarification.

From the Email dated 12.02.2024 of Shri Rajiv Sharma, it is seen that the Writ Petition No. 66 of 2022 is listed before the Hon'ble High Court of Manipur is listed tomorrow.

The order of the Hon'ble High Court will certainly bind all parties to the litigation, as well as these elections.

Needless to say, if Hon'ble High Court directs that the Manipur Rowing Association is permitted to send nominees to the Electoral College, the Federation would be bound to immediately comply with the same, and publish a revised Form -1.

Issued on the 12th of February, 2024

Mr.Srinath Sridevan ELECTION OFFICER