

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING WITH SPORTS CONTROL BOARDS OF ASSOCIATION OF INDIAN UNIVERSITIES, RAILWAYS, SERVICES, PETROLEUM AND AIR INDIA HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2010**

1. The meeting was held in the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in Shastri Bhawan. Joint Secretary (Sports) chaired the meeting, which was attended by the following representatives from Sports Control Boards/ Sports Promotion Bodies associated with Government of India / Government of India undertakings/ bodies: -

1. Prof. Beena Shah, Member Secretary, AIU
2. Smt. Jhanja Tripathi, Executive Director, Railways Sports Promotion Board
3. Shri. Rakesh Rawat, Joint Secretary, Services Sports Control Board
4. Shri. R. K. Shrivastava, Joint Secretary, Services Sports Control Board
5. Shri. R. S. Jadeja, Secretary, Petroleum Sports Control Board
6. Dr. Ramesh Nambiar, Joint Secretary, Air India Sports Promotion Board
7. Shri. Anand Khare, Manager, Air India Sports Promotion Board

The following officers were present from the Sports Bureau: -

1. Smt. Deepika Kachhal, Director(Sports)
2. Shri Shankar Lal, Under Secretary(Sports)

2. Initiating the discussions, Joint Secretary (Sports) explained that the purpose of convening the meeting was to apprise the members about the government guidelines for recognition of National Sports Federations (NSFs), particularly the provision that requires all NSF's to intimate the Government, well in advance, about their General Body and other meetings involving important matters, including election of office bearers. He cited the example of Hockey and Badminton, wherein the concerned federations have already held, or are in the process of holding their General Body meetings, but did not intimate the Government about the same. As per the guidelines, the Government is not only to be informed well in advance about such meetings, but is also authorized to depute an observer to such meetings.

3. Joint Secretary (Sports) informed the members that on learning about the IHF General Body meeting, which was held on 6.6.2010, the Ministry deputed an observer and the same practice will be adopted for the General Body meetings of Indian Women Hockey Federation (IWHF) and Hockey India (HI), which are learnt to have been scheduled for 12.6.2010 and 14.6.2010, respectively. He confirmed that the Ministry will be deputing a Government



Observer to the forthcoming Governing Body meeting of Badminton Association of India (BAI), which as reported in different sections of press, and confirmed by the members present at the meeting, is scheduled to be held on 13.6.2010 in Chennai. He informed that Smt. Deepika Kachhal, Director (Sports) will be deputed as the Government Observer to this meeting.

4. JS (Sports) informed that the Ministry had sent an email to the President, BAI on 4.6.2010, requesting him to confirm if the General Body of BAI was meeting on 13.6.2010 to, inter-alia, elect its office bearers, but no confirmation was received till date. Since elections to NSFs, which function like public bodies, have to be fair, democratic and transparent, the President, BAI was also requested to supply all relevant papers, including the election schedule, name and the contact details of the Returning Officer, details of election process, date and venue. However till date, BAI has not furnished the information to the Ministry, which not only violates the Government guidelines issued, but also vitiates the entire election process.

5. The members were informed that the Bench of the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court was hearing a Public Interest Litigation on the implementation of the Government guidelines for recognition of NSFs, in which the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS), IOA and several major federations (including BAI) were respondents. He informed that the next date of hearing was on 18.8.2010. Hence, as on date, the guidelines are operative and binding on all the NSFs if they are to retain government recognition. JS (Sports) cited the observations made by the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in CWP 7868 of 2005 that the government guidelines were valid, enforceable and not in violation of the IOC Charter. He further stated that in the recent CWP 3713 of 2008, the IOA had, on its own, submitted before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi that it fully accepts the 2001 government guidelines (at that time the tenure clause was kept under abeyance). The Hon'ble Court questioned the Government for not being an effective regulator, and expressed hope that the Government in consultation with all concerned would find a proper solution in the best interest of Hockey in India.

6. Referring to the resolution passed by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) at its special General Body meeting held on 18.5.2010, JS (Sports) observed that the IOA resolution rejecting the 2001 government guidelines does not cover the NSFs automatically until they themselves resolve to that effect in their General Body. Hence, even this matter has to be deliberated by the General Body of the BAI at their forthcoming meeting.



7. In this regard, attention was also drawn to the Ministry's letter dated 17.5.2010 issued to IOA and all the NSFs, requesting them to carefully deliberate on issues relating to compliance with the 2001 Government guidelines in the context of the "Basic universal principles of good governance in Olympic and sports movement" recommended at the IOC Seminar in February, 2008 and fully endorsed by the XIII<sup>th</sup> Olympic Congress in October, 2009 (**ANNEXURE-1**). It was unanimously agreed that this matter should also be raised at the General Body meeting.

8. Reference was also made to letter of 2.6.2010 issued by the President, BAI, which is apparently addressed to all EC members. It was pointed out that the letter contains a lot of misrepresentation and misinformation, particularly with regard to the quantum of financial assistance given to BAI. Contrary to the assertion made by President, BAI in his letter that Government provides hardly Rs.20 lakh per annum and BAI receives annual sponsorship money to the tune of Rs.8.5 crore, JS (Sports) pointed out that the facts are as under: -

As per the audited statements of receipts and payments & income and expenditure submitted by BAI the position is as follows:

Rs. in lakh (rounded off)					
Years	Total Receipts	Receipts from Government	Total Income	Government grants	Sponsorships (incl. PSUs)
2005-06	293	122 (42%)	107	74 (69%)	18 (17%)
2006-07	375	175 (47%)	184	140 (76%)	20 (14%)
2007-08	342	148 (43%)	172	132 (77%)	0.7 (5%)

As per government budget expenditure figures (excluding expenditure on national coaching camps conducted by SAI and engagement of foreign coaches), the position is as under:

Rs. in lakh (rounded off)			
2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-2010
117	199	265	458

JS (Sports) informed that the Ministry was also providing a lot of support for procurement of imported shuttlecocks and mats for the State Badminton units, amounting to around Rs. 70 lakh annually. Since the President, BAI had totally distorted the facts and had given a misleading picture to the member units, it was decided that this matter must be raised in the Governing Body meeting. It was also noted that in spite of Petroleum Sports Control Board providing financial support to most of the elite Badminton players, and Railways, Air India and AIU playing an important role in the development of the sport, they were being kept in the dark on most of the issues. Serious objection was raised at the intemperate language used by the



President, BAI in his letter of 02.06.2010 wherein he has stated that IOC has issued a SHOW CAUSE notice to Government of India on the tenure issue. JS (Sports) stated that there was no question of IOC issuing a show cause to the Government of India, and the entire correspondence between the IOC and the Government was put on the website of the Ministry for public knowledge. He hoped that the President BAI would be more circumspect in his language in future. Concern was also expressed at the reports that appeared in some section of press that the President, BAI has refused to furnish the information sought by the Government on the forthcoming Governing Body meeting and election of office bearers. Pointing out that the information sought by BAI was yet to be received, Joint Secretary (Sports) stated that it was difficult to understand as to how, providing such information to the Government would risk disaffiliation of BAI by IOA and the BWF. After all, the provision of prior intimation to Government and the right of the Government to depute an observer was part of the terms and conditions of government recognition since inception, which all federations had accepted, and many are also following. He further observed that BAI should have no objection on the presence of a Government Observer at the meeting, along with the observer from BWF and IOA, when the majority funding was coming from the Government. He underlined that the present attitude demonstrated by the President BAI, as though the Government was a non-entity in sports development, was totally contrary to the IOC Charter, which recognises the role of state in sports development and the need for sports bodies to consult, coordinate and cooperate with the Government and maintain harmonious relations. He clarified that Government was doing its best to support the preparation of badminton players even though BAI was yet to comply with the RTI requirement, which IOA and many NSFs have already complied with.

9. Further, it was noted that the information on sponsorship money, as now claimed by the President, BAI, was never shared with the Sports Bureau while seeking financial assistance even though as per the General Financial Rules, the Federation was duty bound to disclose income from all sources to the Government before seeking financial support. Joint Secretary (Sports) stated that the Ministry will separately enquire into this matter, but it was felt necessary to put it on record at this stage.

10. All the Members confirmed that the notice for the General Body meeting was received by them only a week back even though it is dated 18.5.2010. The Secretary, Petroleum Sports Control Board informed that he was not invited to the Executive Committee meeting held on 17.4.2010 even though he is a member of the Executive Committee Meeting and was invited to

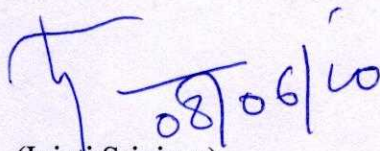


previous meetings of the Executive Committee. Smt. Jhanja Tripathi, Executive Director, Railway Sports Promotion Board informed that she was not invited to the Executive Committee meeting but received a copy of the Executive Committee meeting minutes today, which contains the decision to hold the AGM and election on 13.06.2010. It was noted with concern that member units from Government sports bodies were not kept informed.

11. Based on the deliberations, there was a general consensus that the hurried manner in which elections were being held, without giving all members, adequate notice and opportunity to participate in the same, had vitiated the entire process. In this context, the Joint Secretary (Sports) informed that in the recent elections held in Taekwondo Federation of India and Handball Federation of India, they had informed the Ministry in advance and had followed due election process involving detailed election schedule for receipt of nominations, scrutiny, withdrawal, publication of final list, appointment of independent Returning Officer and Secret Ballot (**ANNEXURE-2 and 3**).

12. On the request of the members, who pointed that they did not have a copy of BAI constitution and that it was also not available on the BAI website, it was agreed that Sports Bureau will circulate copies of BAI and BWF constitutions and list of members (**ANNEXURE-4, 5 and 6**) along with the minutes of today's meeting, to all members under intimation to their respective Ministries.

New Delhi  
08.06.2010

  
(Injeti Srinivas)  
Joint Secretary (Sports)  
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports