VERDICTUM.IN

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* IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

+ W.P.(C) 8691/2020

RAHUL MEHRA

..... Petitioner

Through:

: Mr. Chaitanya Gosain & Mr. Anand Thumbayil, Advocates with Petitioner in person.

versus

UNION OF INDIA

..... Respondent

Through: Mr. R. Bala Subramanian, Senior Advocate and Mr. Harish Vaidyanathan Shankar, CGSC with Mr. Srish Kumar Mishra. Mr. Sagar Mehlawat & Mr.Alexander Mathai Paikaday, Advocates for Respondent/ UOI. Mr. Parth Goswami & Mr.Akshay Kumar, Advocates for the Applicant/ IWLF. Advocate Mr. Ankur Goel. for Applicant/ AISCD.

CORAM: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUBRAMONIUM PRASAD

<u>ORDER</u> 02.06.2023

CM APPL. 30009/2023

- 1. The Petitioner seeks time to file a reply.
- 2. He is granted time to do the needful.
- 3. Let the reply be filed before the next date of hearing

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4. List on 14.07.2023

<u>CM APPL. 31600/2023</u>

5. This Application has been filed by the Union of India seeking permission to undertake necessary steps to implement the recommendation of the Committee in furtherance of the development of the sports.

6. This Court, at this juncture, is inclined to confine the present Order for the Special Olympics World Games, 2023 which are scheduled to be held from 17.06.2023 to 25.06.2023 in Berlin, Germany. It is stated that the Special Olympics World Games, also known as "Special Olympiad", is an international sporting event which takes place every two years and alternates between Summer and Winter Games for the intellectually challenged sportsmen and is organized by Special Olympics organization which is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

7. It is submitted by Mr. R. Bala Subramanian, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the Union of India that in view of the various Orders passed by this Court restraining the release of money to the various sports federations, the Union of India is finding it difficult to release money for the purpose of sportsmen to participate in Special Olympics World Games, 2023.

8. On earlier occasions when requests were made by the Union of India and other federations for release of funds to ensure proper participation of Indian teams in world sporting events, this Court has permitted the Union of India to release money to ensure participation of Indian teams in various sports.

9. In view of the above, this Court is inclined to permit the Union of India to release money for travel expenses, accommodation, etc. for the participation of Indian team in Special Olympics World Games, 2023.

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10. However, the Committee which has been appointed by this Court vide Order dated 25.04.2023 shall ensure that the money is spent only on the sportsmen, their training, etc. It is made clear that the Government money should be spent only on training and travel of sportsmen, on arranging coaches for them, other necessary equipment and services like on physiotherapists, trainers, etc. for their participation in Special Olympics World Games, 2023. As the sportsmen are intellectually challenged and a large contingent of so many athletes are participating, they require assistance, for which purpose support staff for these sportsmen be permitted to go with the team. It is made clear that the Government money will not be spent on office bearers of Special Olympics Bharat and office bearers and members of the various Sports Federations who are not concerned with the sports person.

W.P.(C) 8691/2020 and C.M. Nos. 28033/2020, 28090/2020, 32616/2020, 33548-33549/2020, 757/2021, 2435/2021, 5435/2021, 7815-7816/2022, 29318/2022, 31934/2022, 32478/2022, 35858/2022, 5248-5249/2023, 5287/2023

List on 14.07.2023.

SATISH CHANDRA SHARMA, CJ

SUBRAMONIUM PRASAD, J

JUNE 02, 2023 *Rahul*