

**HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU**

CJ Court

Case: WP(C)PIL No. 7/2025

CM No. 3647/2025

Bakhtawar Singh and ors.

...Petitioner(s)/Appellant(s)

Through: M/s S S Ahmed, Supriya Chouhan & M
Zulkernain Chowdhary, Advocate.

V/s

UT of J&K and ors.

.... Respondent(s)

Through: Ms. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG for respondent
nos. 1 and 2.
Ms. Anshuja Tak, Advocate for respondent
no.3.
M/s Azim H. Laskar & Bikas K. Gupta,
Advocates.
Mr. Amjid Maqbool, Advocate
(*through virtual mode*) for respondent no.4.

**CORAM: HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJNESH OSWAL, JUDGE.**

ORDER
27.04.2026

01. In response to order dated April 07, 2026, Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council (respondent no.3) has filed the necessary affidavit through its Secretary. And, in essence, it is stated that the Council is committed to uphold the fairness, democratic functioning and compliance with the applicable Sports Code. Further, every possible effort is being made for implementation of the National Sports Development Code 2011, framed by the Government of India, as also the guidelines of the Sports Council, including enforcement of the Sports Code 2013. As also, the mandatory guidelines of J & K Sports Council, which the recognized Sports Association are obliged to follow.

It is maintained that the Council has undertaken a systemic exercise to bring recognized Sports Associations in line with the governing norms relating to

the constitution and democratic elections, eligibility of Office bearers, representation of sports persons, District Units and financial discipline. As regards the issue of Office bearers, owing to age, tenure or political/government status, it is stated that upon such issues being brought to the notice of the Council, the concerned Association(s) were required to take corrective measures in conformity with the Sports Code.

The Associations were also cautioned that continued non-compliance would entail financial and regulatory consequences. However, as an immediate corrective measure and to ensure compliance, but without prejudice to the interests of the Sports persons by abrupt de-recognition, respondent no. 3 has withheld the grant of the concerned Association.

02. Upon being pointedly asked, learned counsel for respondent no.3 submits that per the governing norms of the Council, Associations seeking recognition are required to ensure that atleast 25% of its members are outstanding sports persons and 10% are women players with equal voting rights to district units/associations in the elections of the Executive Body. She submits that in all the elections that have been conducted in the recent past by respondent no.3, the Council has assured that there was no violation to the conditions indicated above.

03. In reference to the averments set out in Paragraph no.7 of the affidavit, she submits that the J&K Badminton Association vide its communication No. BAJK/2025-26/-227 dated 14.11.2025 had conveyed to the Council that its President- Sh. Chander Parkash Sharma, had resigned in September 2025. Similarly, the General Secretary- Sh. Balbir Singh Jamwal, had also submitted his resignation. And, even Dr. O D Sharma, Chairman of the Badminton Association has also submitted his resignation on April 21, 2026.

04. However, Mr. S S Ahmed, learned counsel for the petitioners disputes, if Clause (xiv)(k) of Rule 14 of the *Constitution of J&K Sports Council* as regards

inclusion of 25% Members, who are outstanding sports persons, and, 10% as women players in the association, is being adhered to. Accordingly, he submits that the proceedings be deferred for a short date to enable him to furnish a specific affidavit in this regard indicating true and actual position.

05. Adjourned to May 21, 2026.

(RAJNESH OSWAL)
JUDGE

(ARUN PALLI)
CHIEF JUSTICE

Jammu
27.04.2026
Sunita

