

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

MAIN CASE No: W.P.No.268 of 2024

PROCEEDING SHEET

Sl. No	DATE	ORDER	OFFICE NOTE.
2.	04.01.2024	<p><u>NJS, J</u></p> <p><u>I.A.No.1 of 2024</u></p> <p>Heard learned counsel for the petitioner, who appeared through online.</p> <p>Mr.Jupudi V.K.Yagnadutt, learned counsel takes notice on behalf of the 1st respondent.</p> <p>Referring to the various averments made in the affidavit filed in support of the writ petition as also the material filed along with the same, the learned counsel made elaborate submissions. While fairly stating that the petitioner is not alleging <i>mala fides</i> but only aggrieved by the selection process, which is not in consonance with the scheme for the 'Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award', he further submits that the 2nd respondent has been impleaded by name as the Hon'ble Minister-in-charge for Youth Affairs & Sports is the competent authority for relaxation of any clause as provided under Para 11.12 of the said scheme.</p> <p>Drawing the attention of this Court to the documents evidencing various awards including Arjuna Award to the petitioner, the learned counsel submits that as per the list of medals won by the petitioner and the points earned as per the criteria fixed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the petitioner is eligible for 148.74 points, whereas the respondents 15 and 16 would be eligible for 58.5</p>	

		<p>points. While contending that the petitioner is aggrieved by the action of the Selection Committee in ignoring/not taking into consideration the relevant factors, he submits that the denial of Award to the petitioner is without any rationale and contrary to the policy.</p> <p>Referring to the judgment in Tatpal Singh Jaggi v. Union of India, reported in 2015 SCC OnLine Del 11602, the learned counsel made further submissions that a Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in similar circumstances, interfered with the selection of the respondent No.5 therein for 'Rashtriya Khel Puraskar Award'. The learned counsel submits that the object of the scheme, would be defeated if a meritorious sports personality like the petitioner is ignored. The learned counsel also submits that the petitioner had made a representation dated 14.12.2023 to the Hon'ble Union Minister for Sports/2nd respondent setting out all the relevant aspects and the petitioner being a sports personality right from the age of 5 years is against any acts of disrepute to the sports, expecting necessary action on the said representation, but the same did not yield any response. He submits that under the said circumstances, the petitioner is constrained to approach this Court.</p> <p>Having considered the submissions made by the learned counsel for the petitioner and perusing</p>	
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the material on record as also the judgment on which reliance is placed, *prima facie*, this Court see that there is justification in the grievance of the petitioner. However, the matter needs to be examined further.

Therefore, issue notice to respondents 3 to 16.

Learned counsel for the petitioner is permitted to take out personal notice to respondents 3 to 16 by RPAD and file proof of service by the date of next adjournment.

List this case on 05.02.2024.

In the meanwhile, considering the submission that a representation dated 14.12.2023 is made to the Hon'ble Minister of Sports & Youth Affairs, New Delhi/2nd respondent herein, this Court deems it appropriate to pass an interim order providing that necessary action on the same be taken, as expeditiously as possible, before 08.01.2024.

NJS, J

Note: Furnish C.C. today.
B/o.
BLV

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