

OFFICE OF THE RETURNING OFFICER

W.F.I ELECTIONS - 2023

(In the matter of formation of Electoral College- Assam State)

Coram: **Justice Shri M.M. Kumar,
Former Chief Justice, J&K High
Court and Returning Officer,
WFI Elections 2023**

Date: **25/07/2023**

ORDER

Assam Wrestling Association has approached High Court by filing Writ Petition WP(C) 3757 of 2023 with a prayer that the Association may be permitted to participate in the election process of WFI, 2023. The High Court had stayed the election process vide its order dated 25.06.2023 (Sunday). The stay order was later vacated by Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP Diary No. 25626/2023 on 18.07.2023. It paved the way for recommencing the election process. Accordingly, Revised Remaining Schedule were notified on 21.07.2023 and 22.07.2023. The net result as on the date of notification was that the writ petition of Assam Wrestling Association was simply pending. Before approaching the High Court the Association had applied for affiliation as member of the WFI vide its application dated 09.06.2023. According to the letter dated 22.07.2023 sent by Ad-hoc Committee, WFI has granted membership to the Association with

immediate effect. The requisite amount of Rs 20,000 prescribed for new entrants, alongwith annual fee of Rs 3000 has already been deposited. The WFI has also clarified that the grant of membership shall remain subject to the result of Writ Petition WP(C) 3757 OF 2023.

As a result of recognition /affiliation by WFI, the Assam Wrestling Association has now nominated 2 names, namely, Shri Ratul Sarma and Shri Devender who are the executive members of the Association.

It is evident from the above mentioned facts that Assam Wrestling Association fulfills the eligibility criteria as provided in Article XIII(b) and (d) of the constitution of WFI. The pendency of Writ Petition in the High Court or SLP before Hon'ble the Supreme Court would not constitute any basis to refuse the relief claimed by the Association. Accordingly, both the names warrant inclusion in the list of eligible members of Electoral College of WFI Election 2023. I order accordingly.

...Sd...

**[Justice M.M. Kumar]
Returning Officer &
Chief Justice, High Court of J&K [Retd.]**