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	xiii) Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja, Professor, Dept. of Physical Edu., Lady Shri Ram College for Women xiv) Mr. Jaidip Mukerjea xv) Ms. Kiran Bedi xvi) Ms. Anu Peshawaria	

*Note – **The complaints/suggestions received have been attached as received without verification.*

The names and email addresses of the person who has submitted the complaints and/or suggestions have been redacted to ensure their confidentiality, as requested by the senders, who were fearful of retaliation.

Justice Gita Mittal (Retd.)
Administrator, AITA
Place: New Delhi
Date: 13.07.2026

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PREFACE

This consolidated draft contains the proposed amendments to the Rules and Bye-Laws of the All India Tennis Association ("AITA" or the "Association", the said instruments being collectively referred to as, the "Constitution").

By an Order dated 27th April 2026 of the High Court of Delhi in CON. CAS. No. 1378 of 2025 and W.P.(C) No. 13458 of 2024, appointed Justice Gita Mittal (Retd.) as an Administrator of AITA, *inter alia*, to undertake amendments to the Constitution of AITA in conformity with the provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 (the "Act") and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 (the "Rules"). The appointment was accepted, and charge assumed, on 1st May 2026.

The Order dated 27 April 2026 was challenged before the Division Bench of the Delhi High Court by way of LPA Nos. 422 and 446 of 2026. Vide Order dated 18.06.2026 the Division Bench of the High Court directed the Administrator to finalise the proposed amendments to the AITA Constitution after considering the amendments and suggestions proposed by the Interim Executive Committee. The Court further directed the Administrator to oversee completion of the exercise of amending the Constitution of the AITA and ensure that fresh elections to the AITA Executive Committee are conducted in accordance with the Act and the Rules.

It has been the constant endeavour of the Administrator to ensure that sports governance in India remains athlete-centric - designed for the athlete, guided by the interests of the athlete and fostering growth in the game of lawn tennis, and directed towards the welfare, security and holistic development of the athlete who represents the nation. The exercise of restructuring the Constitution has accordingly been undertaken with the primary objective of fostering the growth and enhancing the performance of athletes through a robust, transparent and accountable governance framework.

Guiding Principles

In carrying out this exercise, the Administrator has been guided by the following principles, which the amended Constitution is intended to secure:

- transparency and accountability in the governance and administration of the Association;
- recognition of sporting merit and talent, including through structured representation of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and athletes in the governing bodies of the Association;

- fair and equitable representation of affiliates from across the country, so that the governance of the Association reflects the whole of India instead of syndicates and cartels from only a few states with vested interests;
- gender inclusion, through guaranteed representation of women in the General Body and the Executive Committee;
- inclusion of persons with disabilities and para-athletes, including through the recognition of wheelchair tennis and para-athlete representation;
- the welfare, security and development of athletes, together with the development and promotion of the game and of the infrastructure necessary for it;
- the establishment of independent institutional bodies - including the Ethics Committee, the Dispute Resolution Committee and the Athletes Committee to secure the foregoing objectives; and
- conformity with the Act and the Rules, while preserving the autonomy of the Association and honouring its obligations under the International Charters and Statutes of the International Tennis Federation and the Olympic Charter.

Process and Methodology

In undertaking this exercise, the Administrator has made an incisive examination of the applicable statutes, the judicial precedents on the subject, reports and other material relating to sports governance and administration, including relevant international practices and standards. The Administrator has additionally considered the best practices embodied in the constitutions and governance frameworks of other national sporting bodies, including the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and the All India Football Federation (AIFF), and has taken care to ensure that the amendments conform not only to the domestic statutory framework but also to the principles and obligations emanating from the applicable international sporting instruments.

The Administrator has held extensive consultations and interactions with current and former male and female tennis players, having invited to the conversation recently retired international players, players presently ranked within the top 100 of the world rankings, and the top 20 ranked players in India. Numerous complaints, representations and communications concerning the affairs and functioning of AITA have been received from stakeholders across the country, many of which have been duly considered in the course of this exercise.

The Administrator has also had regard to the amendments proposed by the Executive Committee of AITA, comments and representations received in response to the earlier draft dated 25.05.2026 and the comments and proposed additional amendments received from the AITA on 25.06.2026. Additionally, a protracted hearing was accorded to the Learned Counsels and the Interim Executive

Committee, AITA in terms of the order of the Division Bench. Where those proposals were found to be sound, they have been adopted; where the Administrator has departed from them, the reasons have been recorded.

Structure of this Report

This document comprises the amended Rules of the Association, set out in sequence. Each Rule is, where relevant, accompanied by a comment recording the rationale for the amendment and, in particular, any divergence from the proposals of the Executive Committee of AITA and the reasons for it. The Rules are followed by three Annexures, which form part of the Constitution, namely - Annexure I (Election Bye-Laws); Annexure II (Athletes Committee Bye-Laws); and Annexure III (Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) Bye-Laws).

This exercise brings the Constitution into conformity with the statutory framework and with the principles of good governance set out above. Certain operational instruments contemplated by the Act - including the Code of Ethics, the adoption and implementation of the Safe Sports Policy framed by the National Sports Board, and the framework for anti-doping compliance are to be framed and adopted in accordance with the amended Constitution and the applicable law.

Acknowledgements

The Administrator has had the benefit of the experience, expertise and specialised knowledge of the experts associated with the Office of the Administrator, who have assisted in and contributed to this exercise:

Legal and governance

- Ms. Illa Rawat, Former District & Sessions Judge, Delhi.
- Mr. Rakesh Munjal, Senior Advocate;
- Mr. Arghya Sengupta, Founder and Research Director, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy;
- Ms. Jwalika Balaji, Research Fellow (Research Director's Office), Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy;
- Ms. Shobhana Takiar, Advocate
- Mr. Siddharth Jain, Advocate; and
- Ms. Tanushri Roy, Consultant, Niti Aayog; Lawyer; Mediator

Public Policy and governance

- Dr. B. Venkatesh Kumar, Professor and Chairperson, Center for Governance and Public Policy, Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

Tennis and sports administration

- Mr. Vasanth Bharadwaj, Former International Table Tennis Player and Founder-Director, Tenvic Sports; and
- Mr. Raj Librehan, Former Secretary, International Lawn Tennis Club of India, and Former Director, India Habitat Centre.

Para-sport and inclusion

- Mr. Sunil Jain, Chairman, Indian Wheelchair Tennis Tour.

Sports science and physical education

- Ms. Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, Sports Council of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
- Dr. Meenakshi Pahuja, Professor, Department of Physical Education and Sports, Lady Shri Ram College for Women.

The Administrator has had occasion to convene discussions with former tennis champions, Mr. Jaidip Mukerjea, Ms. Kiran Bedi and Ms. Anu Peshawaria who contributed their valuable insights, lamented about the lack of interest in the tennis administration for development of the game and necessary infrastructure as well as creation of talent bringing the position of Indian tennis from being number one in Asia to nowhere on the international stage. Each person spoken to was emphatic with regard to the maximum age of sports administrators being restricted to 70 years of age and the imperative need to have more sportspersons in sports administration who are the most equipped to ensure the best interests of the players and the game.

A detailed report on the State of Indian tennis has been received from Mr. Vasanth Bharadwaj apart from several grievances made by players all of which are enclosed to enable appraisal of the proposed amendments in the correct perspective.

Additionally, Mr. Sunil Jain has provided a detailed report and summary of his insights and suggestions on making Lawn Tennis in India a more inclusive space for wheelchair users.

The Administrator also records her appreciation of the co-operation extended by the Executive Committee and the office of AITA, and of the many players and stakeholders who participated in the consultations.

The Administrator has had the benefit of the able and efficient assistance of Ms. Karnade Sindhayach, Advocate in drafting and finalisation of the present document.

Justice Gita Mittal (Retd.)
Administrator, All India Tennis Association
Place: New Delhi
Date: *13.07.2026*

ABOUT THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Administrator, Justice Gita Mittal (Retd.), brings to this exercise a combination of sporting, judicial and sports-administration experience that bears directly on the task at hand.

As a sportsperson and sports administrator- The Administrator represented the Delhi team in national-level volleyball competitions, including as its captain between 1968 & 1978, and served as Sports President of Lady Shri Ram College for Women during 1977–78. This early and direct exposure to competitive sport, and to the running of a sports organisation, has informed the Administrator's appreciation of the practical concerns of athletes and administrators alike.

Judicial experience- The Administrator was appointed an Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi on 16 July 2004 and was confirmed as a permanent Judge on 20 February 2006. She served as Acting Chief Justice of the High Court of Delhi from 14 April 2017, and thereafter as Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir from 11 August 2018 until her retirement in December 2020 - the first woman to hold that office.

Experience with the governance of national sports bodies- In the course of her judicial tenure, the Administrator had occasion to closely examine, and adjudicate upon, the governance of national sports federations - including the Indian Hockey Federation, in *Narinder Batra v. Union of India & Ors.*, W.P.(C) 7868/2005, High Court of Delhi, judgment dated 2 March 2009, and the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India, in *Mahipal Singh & Ors. v. Union of India & Ors.*, W.P.(C) 4601/2013, High Court of Delhi, judgment dated 3 August 2018. These matters required a detailed examination of the constitutional, electoral and administrative processes of national sports bodies, and of the standards of governance expected of them. The Administrator also took note of the lack of sporting facilities in the then State of Jammu & Kashmir in *Court on its own motion Vs. Union of India & Ors., PIL No. 25/2018,* and passed several orders regarding development of sports in Jammu & Kashmir & Ladakh seeking the active engagement of National Sports Bodies in all sports disciplines ranging from athletics, equestrian, badminton, tennis, water & winter sports among others.

Direct experience administering a national sports federation- The Administrator was appointed Chairperson of the Committee of Administrators of the Table Tennis Federation of India, pursuant to the order dated 11 February 2022 of the High Court of Delhi in *Manika Batra v. Table Tennis Federation of India & Ors.*, W.P.(C) 10590/2021, and served in that capacity from 18 February 2022 to 2023. In that role, the Administrator was directly responsible for overseeing the affairs of a national sports federation, including the review and reframing of its governing rules - an experience of direct relevance to the present exercise.

It is this combined background - as a player and sports administrator, as a Judge who has adjudicated upon the governance of national sports bodies, and as an administrator who has herself overseen the reframing of a federation's rules, that the Administrator brings to this Report.

PROPOSED CONSOLIDATED DRAFT OF AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION/BYE-LAWS AND THE RULES OF THE ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

I. Memorandum of Association of All India Tennis Association

1. Name of the Organisation

The name of the organization is: "All India Tennis Association."

2. Registered Office Address

The Registered Office of All India Tennis Association is in Kolkata in the State of West Bengal. The working headquarters of the Association shall be located at a venue as decided by the Executive Committee from time to time.

3. Area of Operations

The jurisdiction of the All India Tennis Association extends all over India and the territories of India.

4. Aims and Objectives for Which the Organisation is Established are as Under

The Association shall be the governing body of the game of tennis (hereinafter called "The Game") in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game and those of the Association and particularly:

a) To promote and develop the game of tennis within its jurisdiction.

b) To promote major competitions, tournaments and team championships and to regulate, arrange and manage all matches in connection therewith, to frame and publish rules and regulations for the same and to fix dates and places where such matches and tournaments are to be arranged or held.

c) To promote international championships or international matches and to regulate, arrange and manage all matches in connection herewith when held in India.

d) To make, vary, alter, maintain and enforce rules and regulations for the control and governance of the game in India.

e) To uphold and maintain rules and regulations for the time being in force namely rules of tennis, the rules and regulations of the International Tennis Federation and the Regulations of the International Tennis Federation Championships.

f) To enter and manage teams to represent India in International Team competitions and to arrange and/or manage ties held in India.

g) To collect funds for the Association and to employ the same in such manner as the Central Council considers desirable to achieve the objects of the Association.

h) To invest any part of such funds not required immediately for the said purposes and objects in such manner as may be considered advisable from time to time.

i) To build stadia and tennis courts, to buy, acquire or take on lease any property necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the Association.

j) To make and maintain annual ranking list of players within its jurisdiction.

k) To promote the teaching of the game and to encourage those recognized as coaches and teachers.

l) To encourage talent and in deserving cases help the players in obtaining scholarships, sponsorship, employment and monetary benefits etc.

m) To promote the training of referees and umpires "for conducting the National and International Championships" and other tournaments.

n) To decide all doubtful and disputed points in connection with the game and the Rules and Regulations thereof.

o) Generally do all such acts, matters and things in connection with or incidental to the effective carrying out of any of the objects mentioned in the previous sub-clauses thereof.

p) To preserve the independence of the Association in all matters concerning the game of tennis and in its relation with its affiliated Organisations without the intervention of any outside authority.

q) To preserve the integrity and independence of tennis as a sport.

r) The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter are applicable and no provisions of this Constitution (Codes, Statute Book Rules and Standing Orders etc.) which relate to participation in the Olympic Games and other events approved by or held under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from these principles.

s) In furtherance of its objects, AITA may enter into an agreement with any firm, organisation or concern in which and the members of Executive Committee may or may not be financially interested as Director or partner.

Comment: *The language of Clause 3 has been altered to be consistent with the Rules.*
AITA's proposed amendments have been accepted. The objective of the Memorandum of Association (MOA), as amended, is more holistic and inclusive.

5. Disclaimer Clause

All the income earnings, movable, immovable properties of the Association shall be solely utilized and applied towards the promotion of its aims and objects only, as set forth in the Memorandum of Association and no profit earned thereof, shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividends, bonus, profits, or in any manner whatsoever to the preset or past members of the Organisation or to any persons, claiming through any one or more of the present or past members. No member of the Organisation shall have any personal claim on any movable or immovable properties of the Organisation or make any profit, whatsoever by virtue of his Membership.

II. Rules of the All India Tennis Association

Rules 1- Name

(1) These rules shall be called the All India Tennis Association Rules.

Rule 2 - Applicability

(2) These shall be applicable throughout the country.

(3) These Rules will come into operation from _____.

Comment: *In line with AITA's proposed amendment, which makes the change to "applicable throughout the country".*

Rule 3 – Definitions

3(a) Act: means the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 as amended from time to time.

3(b) AITA: "AITA" means the All India Tennis Association (hereinafter referred to as "The Association").

3(c) Board: means the National Sports Board established under sub-section (1) of section 5 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.

3(d) General Body: "General Body" means the general body of the Association constituted under Rule 6(a).

3(e) Executive Committee: "Executive Committee" means the committee of the Association constituted under Rule 7(a).

3(f) "India" means and includes all territories under the administrative control of the Government of India.

3(g) ITF: means the International Tennis Federation.

3(h) International Charters: means the Rules & Regulations, policies, codes and other such governance documents of the International Tennis Federation.

3(i) National of India: "National of India" shall mean and include a person as defined in Chapter II of the Constitution of India and/or as defined in the standing orders of the ITF under Qualification of a player to represent a country.

3(j) President: "President" means the President of the AITA duly elected by the General Body.

3(k) Vice Presidents: "Vice Presidents" means the Vice Presidents duly elected as such by the General Body.

3(l) Secretary General: "Secretary General" shall mean the Secretary General duly elected by the General Body.

3(m) Joint Secretary: "Joint Secretary" shall mean the Joint Secretary duly elected by the General Body.

3(n) Treasurer: "Treasurer" shall mean the Treasurer duly elected by the General Body.

3(o) Affiliation year or financial year: "Affiliation year or Financial Year" means the period of twelve months from 1st April to the following 31st March.

3(p) Jurisdiction: "Jurisdiction" means that the jurisdiction of the Association extends all over India and the territories of India.

3(q) Tennis: "Tennis" means the game of Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Beach Tennis or any other form of Tennis.

3(r) State Affiliate: "State affiliate" means an affiliate organisation from any state and shall include Union Territory Affiliates as well.

3(s) Sports Rules: means the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 as amended from time to time.

3(t) Sportsperson of outstanding merit: "Sportsperson of outstanding merit" means a person whose name appears on a roster prepared in accordance with the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) Bye-Laws (Annexure III to these Rules).

3(u) Tribunal: means the National Sports Tribunal constituted under sub-section (1) of section 17 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.

Comment: *New defined terms - Act, Board, Tribunal, and Sports Rules - are added because the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 (Sections 5(1) and 17(1)) and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 now form part of AITA's binding governance framework and are referred to throughout these Rules (e.g. Rule 11, Rule 13(g), Rule 22(i)).*

Central Council has been renamed General Body and Executive Committee to track the nomenclature of Section 4(1) of the Act, and each such definition now cross-refers to the substantive constitutive rule (Rule 6(a)/7(a)) rather than repeating its composition in the definitions clause.

Note on Rule 3(t): the sportsperson of outstanding merit roster procedure (call for applications, roster preparation timeline, gender-segregated lists, etc.) is prescribed in the Bye-Laws rather than in this Rule. The cross-reference now points to the finalised Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) Bye-Laws at Annexure III to these Rules.

Rule 4 – Constitution

The Association shall comprise of:

(a) The State Associations affiliated to AITA;

(b) Union Territory Associations affiliated to AITA;

(c) Institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 22 of the Rules, viz Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc.

Comment: *AITA's proposed Rule 4 has not been accepted, which recasts the Association as being comprised of the General Body and the Executive Committee, i.e. its own governing organs. This Revised Draft retains the formulation used in the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023 (State Associations, Union Territory Associations, and Rule 22 institutions), because AITA is, definitionally, a federation of its State and UT units - see the objects clause at Rule 5 and the affiliation provisions at Rules 22-25 - and not merely of its own management structure.*

Rule 5 – Objects

The Association shall be the governing body of the game of Tennis in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game and those of the Association and particularly as defined in Clause 4 of the Memorandum of Association.

Comment: *In line with Section 15 of the Sports Act, 2025 (a recognised sports organisation must further the interests of the sport) and in line with AITA's proposed amendment, which expanded the objects clause to expressly cover the interests of the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game.*

Rule 6 – General Body

6(a) The General Body shall function as the general body of the Association for the purposes of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.

6(b)The General Body shall consist of—
i. the members of the Executive Committee for the time being in office;
ii. one representative of each Affiliate registered with the National Sports Board;
iii. one representative of each Associate Affiliate;

iv. one representative of each institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 22 of the Rules, such as Railways Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc.
v. eight sportspersons of outstanding merit, of whom four shall be men and four shall be women, who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves as outlined in Annexure-III to these Rules; and
vi. One nominee of the Paralympic Committee of India nominated by its Executive Committee.

6 (c) Each sportsperson of outstanding merit and each authorised representative of an Affiliate shall have one vote.

6 (d) The members of the Executive Committee of AITA and the Vice-Presidents can attend the meeting of General Body, but cannot vote in their capacity unless they are nominated by a State Affiliate as their representative.

Comment: *Precedent: Section 4(1)(a) of the Sports Act, 2025 requires every National Sports Body to have a General Body with equal representation from each affiliate unit, ex officio members per its bye-laws, and representation of sportspersons of outstanding merit (SOM) and other prescribed categories.*

Rule 7(1) *of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 mandates that the* ***General Body include, at minimum, four SOM, one representative of each State-level affiliate registered with the National Sports Board, and any other bye-law categories consistent with the International Charters****; Rule 7(2) fixes SOM elections at not less than 75 days before expiry of the Executive Committee's term.*

Rationale: In every sports association, it is desirable to have retired sports players involved in the governance and will result in a more holistic decision-making process. ***This Rule accordingly restructures the Central***

Council into a General Body with, for the first time, eight SOM (four men, four women) and a Paralympic Committee of India nominee, which is a wholly new category of representation required by the Act/Sports Governance Rules rather than a change carried over from AITA's own prior practice.

Further, having one vote from each state affiliate ensures that the politics and conflict internal to state units is not carried through into the governance of AITA.

Divergence from AITA's own redraft: AITA's proposed General Body caps SOM representation at four (two men, two women) and omits a Paralympic Committee of India nominee). AITA's lower SOM figure has not been accepted, since it does no more than meet the statutory minimum and understates the role retired players should have in AITA's principal representative body; the PCI nominee has been retained to preserve para-athlete representation; and Rule 6(d) has been added to put beyond doubt that Executive Committee members/Vice-Presidents attend General Body meetings only as observers unless independently nominated by a State Affiliate, so that office-bearers cannot control the body meant to elect and check them.

Rule 7 – Executive Committee

(a) The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members elected from the General Body and shall include—

(i) President;

(ii) Secretary General;

(iii) Joint Secretary

(iv) Treasurer;

(v) five sportspersons of outstanding merit;

(vi) Two representatives of the Athletes Committee elected from among themselves; and

(vii) Two Vice Presidents; and

(viii) Two Members from state associations of distinction which have:

(a) held at least 8 weeks of ITF (Men / Women) / ATP / WTA tournament in the last 2 yr; and

(b) at least 5 players in ATP / WTA Ranking (Singles / Double) in last 2 yr as well as at least 10 players in AITA men / Women rankings in last 2 yr.

If more than two state associations qualify within this criteria, the weightage shall be as follows:

1. ATP / WTA Tour event: 10 points

2. ATP / WTA Challenger event: 5 points

3. ITF Men / Women: 1 point

4. for min 5 players ranked in ATP / WTA singles in last 3 yr: 2 points

5. 10 players in AITA ranking in men / women in last 3 yr: 1 point

The highest scoring state associations shall then be eligible to send 2 members.

Provided that at least five of the members on the Executive Committee shall be women, including two women sportspersons of outstanding merit and a woman representative of the Athletes Committee.

Provided further that the General Body shall ensure that, to the extent possible, not more than 2 members from the same state are elected to the Executive Committee.

Comment: *Section 4(1)(b) of the Sports Act, 2025 caps the Executive Committee at fifteen members and mandates at least two SOM representatives, two Athletes Committee representatives, and at least four women; Rule 8(2)-(3) of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 require at least one SOM member and one Athletes Committee representative on the Executive Committee to be a woman, and permit bye-laws to reserve further seats for women.*

The Revised Draft fixes the Executive Committee at a maximum of 15 members (President, Secretary General, Joint Secretary, Treasurer,

2 Vice-Presidents, 2 Members), 5 SOM, 2 Athletes Committee representatives, with at least 5 women (exceeding the statutory floor of 4), including 2 women SOM and a woman Athletes Committee representative - the first women's representation requirement of any kind in AITA's Executive Committee.

Divergence from AITA's own redraft: AITA's proposed table-based composition (President, 1 Vice-President, Secretary General, 2 Joint Secretaries, Treasurer, 5 Executive Members, 2 SOM, 2 Athletes Committee representatives = 15) reserves specific named posts by gender (1 Joint Secretary, 1 Executive Member, 1 Athletes representative, 1 SOM) rather than a floor of 5 women, and reduces Vice-Presidents to a single post while retaining 2 Joint Secretary posts (a title this Revised Draft has otherwise dropped from the Executive Committee in favour of Vice-Presidents and Members). AITA's proposal on women members of the EC has not been accepted and preference has been given to a general women's floor of 5 (one-third) over AITA's approach of reserving specific named posts, since a floor is not defeated by a single vacancy and leaves the General Body more flexibility in whom it elects.

It has been proposed to increase the number of posts of Vice Presidents to two and further, the number of proposed Joint Secretaries has been

reduced to a single post, which has been done to provide administrative assistance and support to the Secretary General.

A further proviso has been added requiring that every effort should be made that not more than two members of the Executive Committee are not from the same state. This is to ensure that the Executive Committee is inclusive, representative and interest of no state is compromised.

(b) No member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to participate in the proceedings/discussion on an agenda in an Executive Committee meeting where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up and also not be entitled to vote on the same.

(c) Sub-Committees

The Committees as mentioned below shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. The sub-committees will continue to function till the new sub-committees are appointed.

I. Finance and Legal Committee

II. Ethics Committee

III. Dispute Resolution Committee

IV. Internal Complaints Committee

V. Tournament Committee

VI. Senior Selection Committee

VII. Junior Selection Committee

VIII. Coaching and Development Committee

IX. Athletes Committee

X. Any other committee as may be appointed by the Executive Committee

Comment: *Precedent: Sections 4(1)(c)-(e) of the Sports Act, 2025 make an Ethics Committee, a Dispute Resolution Committee and an Athletes Committee mandatory statutory committees of every National Sports Body, unlike the other sub-committees listed here, which are discretionary. Rationale: The other committees (Tournament, Selection, Coaching Committees, etc.), are retained word-for-word from AITA's proposal, since neither the Act nor the Sports Governance Rules prescribe their composition. In line with AITA's proposed amendment on this point.*

I. Finance and Legal Committee

A Five (5) Member Finance and Legal Committee (which shall include the Secretary General and the Treasurer as *ex officio* members) shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to advise the Association on matters pertaining to, including:

(i) Control of Legal Matters

(ii) Control of the finances and accounts of the Association.

(iii) Decisions on immovable or movable property of the Association.

(iv) Consideration of the accounts and scrutinization of proposals for expenditure.

(v) Ways and means of raising funds for the Association.

(vi) Review of internal audit and statutory audit reports, verification and confirmation of the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer.

(vii) Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and steps to ensure that all procedures, processes, statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly.

(viii) Approval of expenditures above Rs. 50,000/-

II. **Ethics Committee**

(i) An Ethics Committee shall be maintained as a permanent standing committee of the Association.

(ii) The purpose of the Ethics Committee is to help ensure that the sport of tennis is governed ethically and in accordance with the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

(iii) The Ethics Committee shall have independence in its decision-making.

(iv) The Ethics Committee shall have jurisdiction over all members of the General Body, members of the Executive Committee, employees, players, coaches, officials and affiliates.

(v) Its constitution, operation and procedure shall be as provided in the Bye-Laws, in compliance with the International Charters and Statutes of the International Tennis Federation, ITF's Code of Ethics, ITF's Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Guidance and ethical guidelines of the Association, the guidelines of the Indian Olympic Association and any model guidelines issued by the National Sports Board.

(vi) The composition of the Ethics Committee shall be as follows:

a) A person of eminence and repute in sports administration

b) Two Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit within tennis, of whom at least one shall be a woman

c) A person with legal knowledge

d) A person with expertise in finance and accounting

Provided that no person from the incumbent Executive Committee or the General Body of AITA shall be appointed to the Ethics Committee.

(vii) The Ethics Committee, including its Chairman, is appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee.

(viii) The Executive Committee may formulate an AITA Code of Ethics and publish it on the website of AITA.

(ix) The ITF Code of Ethics and the AITA Code of Ethics shall apply to the General Body, Executive Committee, members of the Sub-Committees, members of the affiliaties, and each person who is a candidate for election or is appointed or is seeking appointment in AITA in any capacity.

(x) The Ethics Committee shall function entirely independent of the Executive Committee and General Body. However, the Ethics Committee shall have the liberty to take assistance from AITA staff for administrative support and the proper functioning of the Ethics Committee.

(xi) The Ethics Committee shall depute an observer for the elections of AITA Executive Committee for ensuring that no unethical practices are being adopted during the process.

Comment: *Precedent: Section 4(1)(c) of the Sports Act, 2025 mandates an Ethics Committee constituted per the Association's bye-laws and the International Charters/Statutes.*

Rationale: The existing Ethics Committee is a single sentence - "An Ethics Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for looking into matters relating to adherence to ethical guidelines of the Association and the International Tennis Federation/Olympic Charter" - with no prescribed composition, no independence safeguard, and no bar on Executive Committee/General Body members sitting on it.

The detailed composition in this Rule (a person of eminence, SOM representation, legal and financial expertise), the bar on appointing anyone from the incumbent Executive Committee or General Body, and the requirement that the Committee function entirely independent of the Executive Committee and General Body are therefore new safeguards, not a continuation of existing practice; they follow AITA's own redraft in substance, with two refinements: the Committee's constitution is now expressly required to comply with the ITF's Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Guidance and any model guidelines issued by the National Sports Board, in addition to the ITF Code of Ethics.

III. **Dispute Resolution Committee:**

(i) The Executive Committee shall constitute a 3 member Dispute Resolution Committee with the following composition:

a) A retired Judge of the High Court or higher judiciary

b) Two sportspersons of outstanding merit in tennis

(ii) The Dispute Resolution Committee shall be responsible for hearing and deciding any and all disputes including but not restricted to:

- Regarding elections of AITA or its affiliates;
- Regarding matters involving AITA's affairs;
- Regarding matters involving AITA's affiliates;
- Regarding matters involving affiliates of AITA's affiliates;
- Pertaining to any action against a player;
- Pertaining to selections;
- Pertaining to age fraud;
- Pertaining to any tournament conducted by AITA its affiliates, or affiliates of AITA's affiliates;
- Pertaining to disciplinary action taken by AITA or its affiliates;
- Arising out of the field of play; and
- Pertaining to Safe Sport concerns, including safety, abuse or welfare concerns affecting women, minor athletes or other vulnerable groups under the Safe Sports Policy framed under Section 13 of the Act (other than complaints of sexual harassment, which shall continue to be dealt with by the Internal Complaints Committee); and

Provided, the complaint regarding or pertaining to the internal matter within the State Affiliate shall at first instance be instituted before that State Affiliate's dispute resolution committee. In such cases, the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall hear appeals against the decision of the dispute resolution committee of the State Affiliates.

Provided further, that in hearing any Safe Sport concern under this Rule, the Dispute Resolution Committee shall: (i) include or co-opt at least one member with training or experience in child safeguarding where the complainant/victim or affected person is a minor; (ii) maintain the

confidentiality of the complainant's/victim's identity to the extent possible; (iii) take such interim measures as may be necessary to protect the complainant's/victim's from retaliation pending resolution of the complaint/victim; and (iv) refer the matter to the appropriate law enforcement authority where the allegations may amount to a criminal offence, without prejudice to its own proceedings.

(iii) The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall follow the procedure as deemed appropriate by it. The Dispute Resolution Committee in consultation with the Executive Committee shall duly formulate the forms and procedures for filing complaints before the Dispute Resolution Committee and the same shall be published on the website of AITA.

(iv) The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall act independent of AITA Executive Committee and General Body.

(v) When any dispute arises between AITA and any of its affiliates/affiliates of affiliates/players/coaches/umpires and officials/administrators, or if there is any other dispute relating to internal matters of AITA, the dispute may be resolved through arbitration or mediation, if the parties opt for it.

(vi) There shall be a roster of arbitrators and trained mediators maintained by the Dispute Resolution Committee.

(vii) If the parties opt for arbitration, an arbitration tribunal shall be constituted by the Dispute Resolution Committee by selecting one arbitrator from the roster of arbitrators. The decision of the arbitrator, who will act in accordance with the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, will be final and binding on all parties.

(viii) If the parties opt for mediation, a sole Mediator shall be appointed by the Dispute Resolution Committee from the panel of trained mediators on the roster prepared by the Dispute Resolution Committee. Any settlement pursuant to the mediation by the Mediator shall be final and binding on all parties.

(ix) The Mediation Settlement shall be filed by the Mediator with the Dispute Resolution Committee, which shall maintain a record of such settlements.

(x) In the event of failure of Mediation, the complainant/victim would have the option of again approaching the Dispute Resolution Committee and seeking arbitration in line with the provisions of this clause.

(xi) All disputes shall ordinarily be resolved within a period of ninety (90) days from the date of appointment of the arbitrator or sole mediator.

(xii) If parties are desirous of exploring mediation even while arbitration is underway, or after arbitration, they may approach the Dispute Resolution Committee for appointment of a mediator.

(xiii) If a party wishes to appeal the decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee, or Arbitration, they may do so to the Sports Tribunal constituted under Section 17 of the Act; pending its constitution, they may approach the courts in Delhi.

Comment: *Precedent: Section 4(1)(d) of the Sports Act, 2025 mandates a Dispute Resolution Committee; Section 17 of the Act establishes the National Sports Tribunal as the appellate forum from decisions of a National Sports Body's internal dispute mechanisms.*

Rationale: this Committee replaces what the existing Rules call the "Arbitration Committee," which is only briefly described as being "responsible for dealing with any dispute between AITA and any of its affiliates/affiliates of affiliates/players/coaches/umpires & officials/administrators, and any other dispute relating to internal matters of AITA," with a decision that is "final and binding on all concerned" - it has no defined composition, no roster of arbitrators/mediators, and no timeline.

Separately, the existing Rule 7(n) (powers of the Central Council) vests exclusive jurisdiction for AITA-related disputes in the courts at Delhi and requires all disputes to "always be referred first for arbitration by the AITA Arbitration Committee."

This Revised Draft replaces both provisions with a properly constituted Dispute Resolution Committee (retired judge plus two SOM), an optional roster-based arbitration/mediation mechanism, a 90-day target timeline, and a right of appeal to the National Sports Tribunal under Section 17 of the Act (or, pending its constitution, to the Delhi courts) - which is a considerably more developed dispute-resolution framework than either the existing Rules or AITA's own redraft provide, and is only possible because the Tribunal itself is a creature of the 2025 Act.

Divergence from AITA's own redraft: two aspects of AITA's proposal have not been accepted. First, AITA's draft required every dispute to first be referred to a 3-member Mediation Panel before a complaint could be filed with the Dispute Resolution Committee; we have made mediation optional at the parties' election instead, since a mandatory pre-filing mediation step risks delaying access to the Committee in urgent matters (for example, selection or eligibility disputes ahead of a tournament) and

has no basis in the Act or the Sports Governance Rules. Further, mandatory mediation is against the principles of mediation.

Second, AITA's draft states that recourse to ordinary and constitutional courts of law shall be barred and that the Committee's decisions are final and binding - essentially reproducing, in different words, the existing Rule 7(n)'s attempt to oust the ordinary courts' jurisdiction in favour of Delhi-only recourse and mandatory arbitration.

This ouster of court jurisdiction has not been accepted in either form: the writ jurisdiction of the constitutional courts cannot be excluded by a private association's bye-laws, and Section 17 of the Act itself contemplates an appeal to the National Sports Tribunal rather than a bar on all judicial recourse. This Revised Draft accordingly provides for an appeal to the Tribunal (or the Delhi courts pending its constitution) instead of declaring the Committee's decisions unappealable, and Rule 7(n)'s separate Delhi-exclusive-jurisdiction clause has been dropped from Rule 8 (Powers of the General Body) for the same reason.

IV. Internal Complaints Committee

The Association shall constitute an independent Internal Complaints Committee, as required by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013.

Comment: *Precedent: Section 4 of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013 mandates an Internal Complaints Committee for an organisation of this size.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): the existing Rules deal with this in a single line, tucked into the Executive Committee's powers ("The Executive Committee shall constitute an Internal Complaints Committee to prevent and address..."), with no reference to the POSH Act by name and no cross-reference to any Bye-Law. This Rule relocates the provision to sit alongside the other mandatory/independent sub-committees, names the POSH Act, 2013 expressly, and adds the word "independent,". In line with AITA's proposed amendment, which takes the same approach; no divergence.

V. Tournament Committee

A Tournament Committee shall be appointed to advice on matters relating to Tournaments structuring, scheduling and other related matters.

VI. Senior Selection Committee

A Senior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of teams for all domestic as well as international team events in the senior Men's and Ladies Category.

VII. Junior Selection Committee

A Junior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of Junior teams for all domestic as well as international team events in all Junior age groups.

VIII. **Coaching and Development Committee**

A Coaching and Development Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for all matters relating to coaches, certification & education in the country.

Comment: *These committees (Tournament, Senior Selection, Junior Selection and Coaching) are not mandated by the Sports Act or the Sports Governance Rules and are retained essentially word-for-word from AITA's own redraft. In line with AITA's proposed amendment; no divergence identified.*

IX. **Athletes Committee**

(i) As required by the Olympic Charter, AITA will have an Athletes Committee.

(ii) The composition, eligibility criteria, term, tenure and election procedure of the Athletes Committee shall be as set out in the Athletes Committee Bye-Laws (Annexure-II), and shall comply with the International Charters and Statutes of the International Tennis Federation.

(iii) The Athletes Committee shall elect two of its members to represent it on the Executive Committee, in accordance with Rule 7(a).

Comment: *Precedent: Section 4(1)(e) of the Sports Act, 2025 mandates an Athletes Committee of elected members, and Rule 9 of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 requires Athletes Committee elections to be conducted alongside Executive Committee elections; the Olympic Charter likewise requires an Athletes' Commission with meaningful representation.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): the existing AITA Athletes' Commission already has 8 members, of whom 50% are elected by players and 50% nominated by the Executive Committee, with 2 representatives nominated to the Executive Committee "with concurrence of the President," a minimum of 2 female members, only 1 member from the Seniors category, and an eligibility threshold of an ATP/WTA ranking or ITF Junior ranking inside the top 300 (or ITF Seniors ranking inside the top 25), with a bar only on WADA sanctions.

This Revised Draft keeps the Committee at 8 members but makes it fully elected (4 men, 4 women, all elected by players rather than half nominated by the Executive Committee), adds a bar on prior ITF sanctions and on suspensions of 3 months or more, and a bar for anyone meeting the Rule 11 Sports Governance Rules disqualification criteria - each of which strengthens independence and integrity beyond the status quo.

Divergence from AITA's own redraft: AITA's proposal does not merely retain a lighter version of the status quo - it substantially cuts back the existing 8-member, half-elected Athletes' Commission to just 2 ex officio

Executive Committee members (1 man, 1 woman), with comparatively light eligibility criteria (citizenship, age, and good standing) and no ranking-based merit threshold or anti-doping bar. AITA's reduction is unacceptable, both because it is a step backward from AITA's own current practice and because a 2-member committee does not provide the breadth of athlete representation contemplated by Section 4(1)(e) of the Act; a ranking/achievement threshold remains necessary to ensure the Committee is genuinely representative of competitive athletes rather than a nominal appointment by the Executive Committee.

The existing Commission's practice of nominating EC representatives "with concurrence of the President" has not been retained, since presidential concurrence over the Athletes Committee's own nominees to the Executive Committee contradicts the independence such committees are meant to have.

Note: the detailed composition, eligibility criteria and election mechanics of the Athletes Committee (8 members, 4 men and 4 women, 4-year term, 3-term/12-year cap, full election by players, the eligibility criteria, the 50% women floor, and the one-member Seniors-category cap) have been moved out of this Rule and are now set out in the Athletes Committee Bye-Laws (Annexure II), consistent with the same approach already taken for the Election Bye-Laws and the SOM Bye-Laws. The rationale and precedent analysis above remain applicable to that relocated text; only its location, and the word 'elect' in place of 'nominate' for the Athletes Committee's two Executive Committee representatives (to match the elected-representative model already used in Rule 7(a)), have changed.

Rule 8 – Powers and Functions of General Body

The General Body shall have the following powers :

a. To elect the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General, Treasurer and other members of Executive Committee. In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the powers mentioned above, the General Body shall have the power to convene a general body meeting of any of its affiliated organisations to resolve any dispute which impedes the normal functioning of its affiliated organisations that may have arisen in the management, elections, in conduct of tournaments etc. and to conduct elections by issuing required notice and complying with the formalities as enjoined by the rules. All decisions taken and elections held at meetings convened by the General Body shall be absolutely binding on affiliated organisations. The General Body may also depute such persons according to its own decisions for convening such meeting and for presiding over such meetings and for conduct of such meeting and all decisions taken by these representatives shall be absolutely binding on the affiliated organisation and its members.

b. To carry out the objects of the Association and to make, maintain and publish all necessary Rules and Regulations in connection therewith.

c. To prohibit any act or practice by affiliated members and clubs or Tournament Committees affiliated to such members or by any person which in the opinion of the General Body is detrimental to the interests of the Game and of the Association and to deal with any such member, club or Tournament Committee or person, in such manner as Council may think proper.

d. To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the International Charters or rules framed by the Association.

e. To impose penalty on affiliated organisations and on such members and/or players for any infringement of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

f. To consider and deal with all applications for affiliation and decide all questions as to the right of representation at the meetings of the General Body.

g. To delegate all or any of its powers to its duly appointed committees.

h. To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not a member of the Executive Committee.

i. To establish and maintain office premises, to appoint staff and to appoint auditors.

j. To disaffiliate any organisation which has not complied with any of the rules

and which has not resulted in an automatic disaffiliation. The General Body shall also have the power to readmit such organisation that is disaffiliated under these rules on being satisfied that the noncompliance was not intentional and the circumstances indicated sufficient cause for condoning the noncompliance.

k. To build stadia and tennis courts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body.

l. Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA Executive Committee has the power to inform its Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any member of the executive committee of such an affiliated unit.

Comment: *Precedent: this is a general powers clause; the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules do not separately prescribe the General Body's powers.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): clauses (a)-(k) are carried forward essentially verbatim from the existing Rule 7(a)-(m) (powers of the Central Council) and are in line with AITA's proposed amendment, which is likewise unchanged in substance. Clause (l) - restricting affiliated units from suing AITA directly and requiring recourse through their Affiliate - is also not new: it reproduces the existing Rule 7(o) almost word for word (updating only "office bearer" to "member of the executive committee").

Divergence from the existing Rules and from AITA's own redraft: two clauses of the existing Rule 7 have been deliberately dropped and not replaced. First, existing Rule 7(h) - retained in AITA's own redraft - empowers the Central Council/General Body to decide all questions of eligibility of persons nominated or elected as office-bearers and to annul any election. This has not been carried forward, even though it is long-standing AITA practice, because eligibility and election disputes are properly the subject of the Dispute Resolution Committee's jurisdiction under Rule 7(c) and, on appeal, the National Sports Tribunal under Section 17 of the Act - a freestanding General Body power to annul elections would conflict with that statutory dispute-resolution route, which did not exist when Rule 7(h) was first drafted.

Second, the existing Rule 7(n) - which vests exclusive jurisdiction over AITA-related disputes in the Delhi courts and requires all disputes to first go to the Arbitration Committee - has also been dropped, for the same reason given at Rule 7(c)/Dispute Resolution Committee: such disputes now belong in the Dispute Resolution Committee, with appeal to the Tribunal. AITA's own redraft also does not carry forward Rule 7(n) as such, but reproduces a similar court-ouster effect within its Dispute Resolution Committee clause instead, acceptance of which has not been separately declined. AITA's redraft additionally adds a general power for the General Body "to provide interpretation to these rules... whenever required," which does not appear in the existing Rules. This has not been added, since Rule 33 already provides an interpretation rule and disputes about the meaning of these Rules falling to the Dispute Resolution Committee.

Rule 9 - POWERS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

a. The President

i. The President shall preside over all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee.

ii. He shall guide the AITA in all its activities and shall exercise superintendence over members of the Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees in the discharge of their duties.

iii. The President may call a meeting of the Executive Committee at a shorter notice for urgent purpose(s).

b. The Vice Presidents

The Vice Presidents may perform any other specific tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the General Body.

c. The Secretary General

i. Will oversee all the administrative functions and Human Resource matters with the help of executives and other staff as may be required from time to time for efficient running of the office, matters of routine nature relating to the Association and support functions like IT, Website, Social Media, Registrations, Rankings, Meetings.

ii. Will oversee and be responsible for tennis development activities including Coaching and Officiating and for Beach tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Paralympics, Competitions for differently abled and Senior Tennis. Will also be responsible for sponsorships for AITA and other efforts of AITA to raise financial resources.

iii. Will perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association.

iv. Will cause minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body to be correctly recorded, confirmed and kept.

v. Will issue the notices for convening of the meetings of the General Body and Executive Committee as per these Rules. However, on instruction from the President, Executive Committee Meeting can be

called at short notice. As and when required, the Secretary General, with the permission of the President may call the Executive Committee meeting, through virtual/video conference, provided such meetings are fully recorded.;

vi. In case of urgency, will obtain the views of the General Body or members of the Executive Committee by circulation or by any other manner as directed by the President.

d. The Treasurer

i. Within a reasonable time after the close of the financial year, the Treasurer shall furnish the Executive Committee with a statement of accounts, copies of which shall be forwarded to all members of the Executive Committee.

ii. All accounts shall be maintained by the Treasurer and he shall be entitled to pay all bills unless previously countermanded by the Executive Committee or the General Body.

iii. All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Treasurer and the Secretary General or the President.

iv. The above will be subject to the condition that any payment in excess of Rs 50,000/-can be made only when authorized by the Finance and Legal Committee. All amounts received by the Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith.

v. The Treasurer shall ensure that the accounts of the Association are audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association.

vi. Collect all moneys and dues payable to the Association and report to the Executive Committee on all financial matters.

vii. Make an annual statement of accounts and place it before the Annual General Meeting of the General Body.

viii. Submit to the President quarterly statements of income and expenditure.

ix. Disburse the funds of the Association according to the directions of the Executive Committee.

x. Keep a roll of all members and from time to time amend and correct the same as circumstances require.

xi. Employ such clerical and other assistants as may be authorized by

the Executive Committee.

Comment: *Precedent: Section 4(1)(f)-(h) of the Sports Act, 2025 requires a President (head of the Body, presiding over Executive Committee/General Body meetings), a Secretary General (head of administration) and a Treasurer (custodian of funds); this Rule gives operational content to those mandatory offices.*

In line with AITA's proposed amendment, which similarly does not carry forward a dedicated Vice President (Sports) office.

The provision for a casual vacancy which arises because of the President's absence has been dealt with in Rule 16.

Rule 10 – Powers and Duties of the Sub-Committees

a. All sub-committees shall carry out such duties as may be authorized by the General Body. Such duties shall be discharged in accordance with these rules and regulations of the Association.

b. The decisions of all sub-committees excluding the Dispute Resolution Committee and the Internal Complaints Committee, are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee.

c. Normal business of all sub-committees can also be done by post or virtual meetings.

d. Executive Committee may appoint ex-officio members to the sub-committee.

e. Every sub-committee must meet quarterly, at the very least, and submit their report to the Executive Committee.

Comment: *Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): clauses (a)-(d) reproduce the existing Rule 9(a)-(d) verbatim. Clause (e) - requiring every sub-committee to meet quarterly and report to the Executive Committee - is new. The existing Rule 9(b) states, without exception, that "all sub-committees are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee," yet elsewhere the existing Rules separately describe the Arbitration Committee's decisions as "final and binding on all concerned" - an internal inconsistency. This Rule resolves that by expressly carving the Dispute Resolution Committee and the Internal Complaints Committee out of the general "recommendatory" rule, consistent with the mandatory and independent character the Sports Act gives those two committees under Section 4(1)(c)-(d). No divergence from AITA's proposal, which takes the same approach.*

Rule 11 - ELECTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The elections of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be held in strict compliance with the Act and the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time (as specifically outlined in the Election Bye-Laws – Annexure-I).

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: this Rule requires elections to be held in strict compliance with the Act, and in particular Section 16 of the Sports Act, 2025 and Rule 9 of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 (which prescribe the timelines, the appointment of an Electoral Officer, and the procedure for conducting Executive Committee and Athletes Committee elections). The detailed mechanics remain in the Election Bye-Laws, as under the current (2023) Constitution and AITA's own redraft, which are identical in substance on this point - no divergence. The Election Bye-Laws will need to independently comply with the Act and the Sports Governance Rules timelines summarised in Rule 9(6) of the Sports Governance Rules thereof.*

Rule 12 – Eligibility criteria

(i) Every person seeking to contest election to any post in the Executive Committee shall—

(a) be a citizen of India;

(b) be not less than twenty-five years of age on the date of filing of the nomination;

(c) satisfy the age eligibility conditions prescribed under Rule 15;

(d) have the nomination proposed and seconded by voting members of the General Body; and

(e) not be of unsound mind.

A government employee shall additionally file a No Objection Certificate from the employer.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: clauses (a)-(e) implement, virtually word for word, the comprehensive eligibility conditions Section 4(2) of the Sports Act, 2025 prescribes for every Executive Committee candidate - Indian citizenship, minimum age 25, proposal and seconding by voting members, soundness of mind, and (via Rule 15(ii) of this draft) the age ceiling of 70 - together with Schedule I of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 (General Eligibility Criteria) and the Government-servant NOC requirement.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): the existing Rules impose no eligibility criteria at all beyond the NOC requirement for government employees - no citizenship condition, no minimum age, no proposal/seconding requirement, and no soundness-of-mind bar. This entire Rule is therefore new, driven by the Act rather than any prior AITA practice. AITA's own redraft (its Rule 11, Qualifications) is aligned with this Rule in substance and is, in fact, the source of much of this drafting.

Rule 13 – Disqualification criteria

(i) No person shall be eligible to contest election to the posts of President, Secretary General or Treasurer unless such person—

(a) is a sportsperson of outstanding merit; or

(b) has previously served at least one complete term as a member of the Executive Committee of the Association; or

(c) has previously served at least one complete term as the President, Secretary General or Treasurer of an affiliate of the Association.

A partial term of less than two years served on account of filling a casual or permanent vacancy shall not count as a complete term for this purpose.

(ii) No person shall be eligible to hold any office or position as a member of the General Body, Executive Committee or any sub-committee of the Association who—

(a) has been declared insolvent, for the duration of such insolvency;

(b) has been convicted by a court in India for any offence and sentenced to imprisonment;

(c) is subject to a ban imposed by the Ethics Committee, for the duration of such ban;

(d) has been convicted for an offence involving moral turpitude, excepting offences of a political nature;

(e) is under suspension or debarment by the Association, for the duration of such suspension; or

(f) is subject to a finding of an Intractable Conflict of Interest by the Ethics Committee under Rule 14, for so long as that conflict subsists.

In addition, a person shall also be disqualified if such person—

(g) is a member of the governing body of any other National Sports Body other than the Indian Olympic Association; or

(h) has not completed the cooling-off period of one full term after holding the post of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in any other National Sports Body.

The period of disqualification under Clause 13(ii)(a) shall be for the period of insolvency.

The period of disqualification under Clause 13(ii)(c) shall be for the duration of such ban.

The disqualification under Clause 13(ii)(b) shall be permanent. Where

disqualification under Clause 13(ii)(e) arises from debarment, as opposed to suspension, it shall likewise be permanent.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: sub-rule (i) implements the Section 4(2) proviso of the Sports Act, 2025, which requires candidates for the three most powerful posts - President, Secretary General and Treasurer - to have either a direct sporting background (as an SOM) or governance experience (a prior EC term, or a prior term as President/Secretary General/Treasurer of an affiliate), so that those at the apex of the federation have genuine sporting or governance credentials. Sub-rule (ii)(a)-(c) implement the three binding disqualification grounds Rule 11(1) of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 prescribes with specific durations - insolvency, conviction with imprisonment, and an Ethics Committee ban - while (g) and (h) are additional disqualifications permitted under Rule 11(2) of the Sports Governance Rules regarding cross-body membership and cooling-off. Ground (f), tying disqualification to an Intractable Conflict of Interest finding, is new and links directly to Rule 14.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): the existing "Disabilities" rule is far narrower - it applies only to "office bearers," Senior Vice President, Vice President (Sports), Vice Presidents, Joint Secretary or Executive Committee members, not to all General Body/sub-committee members as this Rule now does; it has no defined duration for the insolvency ground; it gives malfeasance-based removal a specific 4-year bar, whereas this Rule instead makes disqualification under the debarment limb of clause (e) permanent; and it does not treat an Ethics Committee ban as a disqualifying event at all. AITA's own redraft (its Rule 12, Disqualifications) is narrower still: it omits the moral turpitude ground, the malfeasance-removal ground, and the Intractable Conflict of Interest ground entirely, and ties a conviction-based disqualification to "one full term of the Executive Committee after completion of such sentence", whereas this Rule instead makes disqualification under the conviction ground (clause (b)) permanent.

Rule 14 – Conflict of interest

(i) For the purposes of Rule 13, a Conflict of Interest arises when the personal, financial or professional interests of an individual associated with AITA, conflict, or may reasonably be perceived to conflict, with that individual's duties and obligations to AITA.

(ii) A Conflict of Interest may be defined as including any of the following forms:—

(a) *Contractual Interest:* When AITA or an Affiliate enters into contractual arrangements with entities in which the individual concerned, or his or her relative, partner or close associate, has an interest, including cases where such involvement may compromise, or be perceived to compromise, the individual's discharge of duties.

(b) *Incompatible Roles*: When the individual holds two separate posts or positions under AITA, the functions of which would require the one to be subordinate to the other or place them in opposition.

(c) *Commercial Conflicts:* When the individual enters into endorsement contracts or other professional engagements with third parties, the discharge of which would compromise the individual's primary obligation to AITA or to the sport, or give rise to a perception that the integrity of the sport stands compromised.

(d) *Prior Relationship:* When the individual has a commercial engagement, past or present, with a vendor, service provider, commercial partner, broadcast partner or sponsor who is being, or is to be, engaged by or on behalf of AITA or an Affiliate.

(e) *Position of Influence:* When the individual occupies a post calling for decisions of governance, management or selection to be made, and a relative, friend or close associate is within the zone of consideration or subject to such decision-making. This includes cases where the individual holds any stake, voting rights or power to influence decisions of any tournament organiser, ranking event or other body operating under the auspices of AITA.

(iii) Within fifteen days of assuming any office or position under AITA, whether on the General Body, the Executive Committee, any sub-committee, or as an office bearer, every individual shall disclose in writing to the Ethics Committee any existing or potential event that may constitute a Conflict of Interest. Such disclosure shall be published on the website of AITA. Failure to make complete disclosure, or any partial or

total suppression thereof, shall render the individual liable to disciplinary action, which may include removal from office without benefits. A declaration under this clause does not give rise to a presumption that a conflict in fact exists; it is made for purposes of information and transparency.

(iv) Complaints:

a) Any person may make a complaint to the Ethics Committee alleging a Conflict of Interest on the part of any individual holding any office or position under AITA. Every such complaint shall be—
(a) made in writing and signed by the complainant; and
(b) accompanied by particulars sufficient to identify the nature and basis of the alleged conflict.

b) The Ethics Committee may also, on its own motion (*suo motu*), take cognizance of any matter that may constitute a Conflict of Interest on the part of any individual holding any office or position under AITA.

c) The Ethics Committee may dismiss, with reasons, any complaint that is frivolous, vexatious or not supported by any particulars. Subject thereto, whether acting on a complaint or in a *suo motu* nature, the Ethics Committee shall inquire into the matter and take such action, as issued in writing, as it considers appropriate under Rule 14(v).

d) All complaints, *suo motu* proceedings and the proceedings thereunder shall be treated as confidential pending the conclusion of the inquiry.

e) The ethics Committee shall adopt a procedure which complies with principles of natural justice.

(v) The Ethics Committee shall classify a Conflict of Interest as either Tractable or Intractable:

(a) A Tractable conflict is one capable of resolution through recusal of the individual concerned and/or full disclosure of the interest involved.

(b) An Intractable conflict is one that cannot be resolved through disclosure and recusal alone. Where the Ethics Committee determines that a conflict is Intractable, the individual concerned shall be required to elect, within such period as the Ethics Committee may specify, between—

- relinquishing the office or position held under AITA; or
- divesting, disassociating from, or terminating the interest, engagement, position or association that gives rise to the conflict—whether held in any other entity, organisation, association, affiliate, company or otherwise.

Failure to make such election, or failure to give effect to the election made, within the period so specified shall render the individual liable to removal from office under AITA.

(vi) A finding of an Intractable Conflict by the Ethics Committee of Interest shall constitute a ground of disqualification under Rule 13(ii)(f) for so long as the conflict subsists.

(vii) No individual shall simultaneously hold more than one of the following posts or positions, except where expressly permitted under these Rules:

- Member of the General Body, Executive Committee or any sub-committee;
- Member of the Ethics Committee;
- Auditor of AITA;
- Service provider to AITA (legal, financial or otherwise); or
- Party to a contractual engagement with AITA (including broadcast partner, commercial partner, sponsor, contractor or otherwise).

(viii) Every individual holding office on the date these Rules come into force shall make the disclosure required under this Rule within ninety days of that date.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: Rule 15 of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 requires every National Sports Federation to have a standing Ethics Committee responsible for ethical compliance, including conflicts of interest, and Section 12 of the Sports Act, 2025 mandates transparency and accountability in the governance of National Sports Bodies. This Rule is the vehicle for that compliance: it sets out a full framework covering disclosure obligations,*

third-party and suo motu complaints to the Ethics Committee, and a Tractable/Intractable classification mechanism ending in a mandatory election between the AITA office and the conflicting interest. An Intractable finding is a freestanding disqualification ground under Rule 13(ii)(f).

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): the existing Constitution has no provision on conflict of interest whatsoever - this Rule is an entirely new addition. In drafting it, the approach adopted by the All India Football Federation (Article 73 of the AIFF Constitution) for the "Incompatible Roles" category of conflict at sub-rule (ii)(b) has been followed, and built out the remaining categories (Contractual Interest, Commercial Conflicts, Prior Relationship, Position of Influence) and the disclosure/complaints/classification machinery to match the level of detail found in comparable National Sports Federation ethics frameworks, since neither the Act nor the Sports Governance Rules prescribe the content of a conflict of interest policy beyond requiring the Ethics Committee to have one.

Divergence from AITA's own redraft: AITA's redraft does not contain a conflict of interest rule at all - it relies solely on its Ethics Committee clause and the ITF's general Code of Ethics/Conflict of Interest Guidance, without a dedicated AITA-specific framework, disclosure timeline, or Tractable/Intractable mechanism. This Rule goes further than AITA's proposal in this respect, rather than differing from it on a point AITA had itself addressed.

Rule 15 – Term and Tenure

(i) All members of the EC shall hold office for one term of four years and after expiry of that period, until their successors are appointed. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election by simple majority.

(ii) No member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to contest election or hold office if such person has attained the age of seventy years on the last date for filing of nominations.

(iii) All members of the EC may hold office, separately or in combination of multiple posts, for a maximum of three terms of four years each per term.

(iv) On completion of two consecutive terms in one or more of those offices, whether singly or in combination of multiple posts, a person shall be ineligible to hold or contest for any of the offices for one full term.

(v) After expiry of that cooling-off period, such person shall again be eligible to contest for any post in the Executive Committee.

(vi) Furthermore, no member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to hold office simultaneously in the governing body of—
(a) any other National Sports Federation or Association except the Indian Olympic Association; or
(b) any State or Union Territory sports association affiliated to, or recognised by, AITA, including Affiliates.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: the four-year term (sub-rule (i)), the 70-year age ceiling (sub-rule (ii)), and the cooling-off structure (sub-rules (iii)-(v)) all implement Section 4(2) and the Section 4(2) proviso of the Sports Act, 2025, together with Rule 8(1) and Rule 11(2) of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): the existing Rule caps the President at 12 years with or without break, and the Secretary General/Treasurer at two successive four-year terms with a four-year cooling-off - it says nothing about other Executive Committee posts, and its age ceiling of 70 applies only to the President, Secretary General and Treasurer. Section 4(2) of the Sports Act extends the 70-year ceiling, and a uniform three-term/cooling-off structure, to all Executive Committee members, not just the three principal office-bearers - this Rule reflects that widening. In line with AITA's proposed amendment, which takes the same approach; no divergence identified.

*AITA has relied on the second proviso to Section 4(2)(d) to urge that the statute permits persons who are seventy five years of age to contest election and seek nominations. This submission fails to consider that the proviso specifically confers a discretion ('**may** contest, only if permitted by the international charters and statutes and the **Bye-Laws**'). Clearly the statute itself envisages that the Bye-Laws of the National Sports body may restrict the age to seventy years or below.*

Significantly, all the top Indian tennis players, former tennis champions and the sports administrators spoken to were unanimous that the age of a sports administrator ought not to be beyond seventy years of age. The existing state of affairs of the game of tennis in India, lack of tennis infrastructure and the apathy with the plight of players, as brought out in the interactions, supports the view that the age of sports administrators/members of the Governing Body and Executive Committee must be restricted to seventy years of age and that they must include of more sportspersons in the policy and decision making bodies.

Rule 16 – Casual Vacancies

(i) In case of the President, Secretary General or Treasurer going out of India for more than three continuous months, a casual vacancy shall be deemed to arise.

(ii) A casual vacancy shall also be deemed to arise if there are circumstances which may prevent members of the Executive Committee from carrying out their duties for a period of more than 30 days. Interim arrangements can be made by the President.

(iii) It is not obligatory to fill in casual vacancies caused in the Executive Committee or sub-committees. Decisions for the same shall rest with the Executive Committee.

(iv) In case the President is not present for any meeting, the members of the Executive Committee may elect a working President to chair the meeting.

Rule 17 – Permanent Vacancies

(i) Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any member of the Executive Committee from attending to his duties for more than 3 months.

(ii) All Permanent vacancies shall be filled by re-elections as soon as may be possible and the elected member shall hold office until the expiry of the term of the General Body, Executive Committee or Sub-Committees, as the case may be.

(iii) Re-election must be conducted within one month of the vacancy arising, failing which any member of the Executive Committee who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy without elections shall be deemed to have completed a full term.

(iv) If the incumbent filling in the permanent vacancy after elections occupies the position for a period of up to 2 years, it shall not be considered as serving a full term. If the incumbent occupies the position for more than 2 years, it shall be considered as him serving a full term.

Comment: *Rationale: Rules 16 (Casual Vacancies) and 17 (Permanent Vacancies) are retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft; neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules separately regulate casual or permanent vacancies, so no statutory alignment point arises here. No divergence except in Rule 16(iv) identified.*

Rule 18 - ACCOUNTS

Within a reasonable time after closure of the financial year, the Treasurer shall furnish to the Executive Committee the statements of accounts of the Association.

a. All bills shall be passed either by the President, Secretary General or the Treasurer before payment.

b. All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Treasurer and the Secretary General or the President.

c. All amounts received by the AITA shall be deposited with the banks of the Association forthwith.

d. A maximum sum of Rs. 5000/- shall be allowed to the Treasurer as imprest cash (at one time).

e. The accounts of the Association shall be audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: the annual-audit requirement in clause (e) implements Section 15(b) of the Sports Act, 2025. Worth noting separately: AITA, as a recognised sports organisation receiving government grants, is also treated as a "public authority" under Section 14(2) of the Sports Act for RTI purposes - a status this Rule does not itself need to state, but which affects how AITA's accounts and records must be maintained and disclosed.*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): clauses (a)-(e) are carried forward essentially unchanged, save that references to the Senior Vice President have been dropped from clause (a) (bill-passing authority) and clause (b) (cheque-signing authority), consequential to that post being abolished under Rule 7. In line with AITA's proposed amendment; no divergence identified.

Rule 19 - MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL BODY

a. Annual General Meeting of the General Body shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date not later than 30th day of September. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be: -

   i. To receive the report of the Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by the Executive Committee and the Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited.

   ii. To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee.

   iii. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year.

b. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the (i) President, or (ii) the Secretary General, anytime as required. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting can also be convened on receipt of requisition by a minimum of five State Affiliates, by specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. A notice of 3 (three) weeks shall be given for such a meeting. If the President or the Secretary General do not issue a notice for such Extra-Ordinary General Meeting within 7 days of the receipt of such requisition as mentioned above, any 3 of the 5 states who have requisitioned, can issue a notice for Extra-Ordinary General Meeting, and such meeting and the business transacted in the meeting shall be considered valid and shall not be legally objected by the Association. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting, other than that mentioned in the notice.

c. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjourned meeting.

d. All businesses of the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. However, any business regarding amendment of these rules and regulations will be decided by three-fourths majority of the members present and who are eligible to vote.

e. In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.

f. Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, and Members of the General Body at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such

meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Secretary General, report of the Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting.

g. At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by show of hands unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is-

(a) Directed by the Chairman, or

(b) Demanded by not less than 25 (twenty-five) percent of persons present and entitled to vote.

h. Elections shall be by secret ballot.

i. All the General Body Meetings shall be always video recorded.

All matters discussed by the General Body in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman.

Comment: *Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): this Rule is carried forward from the existing Meetings of the Central Council rule essentially unchanged, other than consequential updates - references to the Vice President (Sports) has been dropped from the press-release authority at clause (i), consistent with that post being abolished under Rule 7, and mandatory video recording of General Body meetings (clause (i)) is a new addition. Neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules prescribe meeting procedure at this level of detail, so no further statutory alignment point arises. In line with AITA's proposed amendment; no divergence identified.*

In line with Section 8 and Section 2(n) of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1981, three-fourths of votes are needed to amend these rules and regulations; these Rules have been amended accordingly.

Rule 20 - NO CONFIDENCE

Proposal for no confidence of any member of the Executive Committee (except representatives of the SOM or Athletes Committee) can be taken up only at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened specially for this purpose. The proposal should be made by at least 25% of the voting members of the General Body. The Extraordinary General Meeting shall mandatorily be called and convened by the Secretary General on receipt by him of a requisition in writing to the above effect by giving 3 (three) weeks' notice. In the event that such meeting is not called by the Secretary General, then the meeting shall be called by any three state affiliates who shall jointly issue the notice. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. A no confidence proposal would be considered as passed if the votes cast in favour of the proposal are passed with at least more than 50% votes properly recorded at the meeting.

Comment: *Rationale: retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. Neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules prescribe a no-confidence procedure, so this remains a matter of AITA's own internal governance choice. No divergence identified.*

Rule 21 - QUORUM

At the Annual General Meeting or any meeting of the General Body, 10 persons shall form a quorum of which at least eight shall be representatives of affiliated organisations. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.

Comment: *Rationale: the 10-person quorum (at least 8 of whom must be affiliate representatives) is retained without change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. Neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules prescribe a quorum figure, so this remains a matter of AITA's own choice. No divergence identified.*

Rule 22 - AFFILIATIONS

a. All State Affiliates of the All India Tennis Association shall have 1 vote each in the General Body meetings.

b. Any state association/union territory association which desires to become an Associate Affiliate shall apply to the Secretary General.

c. Such applicant state/union territory association must:

   i. have a legal status as a registered as a society, not-for-profit company or trust, and

   ii. must have district or other units affiliated to it.

d. All new affiliations to AITA will be as 'Associate Affiliate' and they shall have no voting rights in the General Body of AITA.

e. All such applicants must apply with the following documents:-

   i. Registration Certificate,

   ii. List of Office-bearers,

   iii. List of affiliated district or other units,

   iv. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting,

   v. Audited accounts, and

   vi. Copy of rules & regulations conforming to these rules and regulations.

f. An Associate Affiliate can apply to the General Body through the Secretary General for promotion as 'State Affiliate with voting rights' and the General Body in its next meeting shall take a decision on such an application on the basis of the tennis promotion activities undertaken by the Associate Affiliate in its State/UT.

g. If more than one body or organisation in a State/UT claims or seeks affiliation to the AITA, which one of the bodies will be entitled to affiliation to the AITA, will be a matter exclusively and entirely within the power and jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of the AITA to decide. If a body/organisation has already been recognized and affiliated to the AITA from a State/UT, no other body/organisation shall be recognized or affiliated to the AITA.

h. Grant of affiliation shall be a matter of discretion of AITA and no applicant shall have a right to get affiliation merely because it meets the aforesaid criteria.

i. Every affiliate and associate affiliate of the Association shall register with the National Sports Board in accordance with Rule 17 of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026. The Association shall facilitate such registration. Failure to register within ninety days of the commencement of these amended Rules shall result in suspension of the voting rights of that affiliate until registration is completed. Every affiliate shall also ensure that its sub-affiliate units are similarly registered.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: clause (i) - requiring every affiliate and associate affiliate to register with the National Sports Board and linking a 90-day registration deadline to suspension of voting rights - implements Section 8(6) of the Sports Act, 2025 and Rule 17 of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 (registration of affiliate units), read with Rule 10(3)(b) of the Sports Governance Rules (which ties affiliate voting rights to NSB registration).*

Rationale (checked against the current AITA Constitution as amended on 29 April 2023): clauses (a)-(h) are carried forward largely unchanged from the existing Rule; clause (i) is an entirely new addition, since the National Sports Board and its registration regime did not exist under the 2023 Constitution. In line with AITA's proposed amendment, which contains an equivalent provision; no divergence identified on this point.

Rule 23 - OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANISATIONS

a. Every organisation affiliated under Rule 22 shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs. 5000/- plus applicable taxes or the amount of fees as decided by the General Body from time to time.

b. The annual contribution for each year shall be payable in advance, on or before the 31 st day of March, provided, however, that the first annual contribution shall be payable within one month of the receipt of notice of affiliation.

c. Every affiliated organisation shall on or before the 30th day of September, in each year, send to the Association a complete list of members of the executive committee, councillors, names of affiliated clubs, district associations and other organizations, minutes of the Annual General Meeting and audited statements of accounts. This provision, however, will not be applicable to Railways Sports Promotion Board and Services Sports Control Board.

d. Notice of every subsequent addition to such list and of any withdrawal there-from shall be sent to the Association by every such organisation.

e. Such other information as may be called for by the Association shall be given by the affiliates, including the associated affiliates, within one month of the receipt of the communication.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: clause (c)'s reporting obligations (annual list of office bearers, councillors, affiliated clubs, AGM minutes and audited accounts) support AITA's ability to ensure its affiliates comply with the Sports Act and rules made under it, per Section 15(b) of the Sports Act, 2025.*

Rationale: retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. No divergence identified.

Rule 24 - DISAFFILIATION

An affiliated association / organization can stand disaffiliated on the occurrence of any of the following by the Executive Committee before disaffiliation.

a. Nonpayment of annual subscription and other dues to the All India Tennis Association by 31st March every year.

b. For non-filing of membership returns as provided for in Rule 23(c).

c. For electing or keeping in its office as an office-bearer or Councillor or as member of any of its sub-committees any person who is suspended by the All India Tennis Association at its General Body Meeting for any reason whatsoever or if he has been convicted by a court of law.

d. For allowing any tennis event involving foreign players or exhibition matches or any other event requiring Government or AITA permission to be held on the courts of any of its affiliated clubs or institution without prior approval of AITA.

e. Any affiliated unit which files legal case against AITA in contravention of Rule 8(l) shall stand automatically disaffiliated. In case of existing legal cases, the unit shall stand automatically disaffiliated if it does not withdraw the case within 1 month of the passing of the resolution by the General Body giving effect to this clause.

f. Non submission of certificate duly approved by the Executive Committee of the affiliated unit stating that as long as a member unit is affiliated to the AITA, it will follow and abide by the constitution of the AITA approved and amended by the General Body from time to time. In case the certificate is not received within 45 days of passing of this resolution, the affiliated unit will be considered automatically disaffiliated.

g. For non-payment of Royalty or any other amount due to AITA.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: AITA's power to disaffiliate is a matter of internal governance rather than something the Act separately regulates - the Act instead gives the National Sports Board its own, separate power to suspend or cancel Board recognition/registration of an affiliate unit under Section 10. The two remedies operate independently of each other.*

Rationale: clauses (a), (b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) are retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. No divergence identified.

Rule 25 - RE-ADMISSION

a. The General Body shall have the power to re-admit any organisation, which stood disaffiliated, after it is satisfied that the disqualification has ceased to exist.

b. An organisation which has stood disqualified shall, on application being made, be normally entitled to re-admission on payment of all its outstanding dues along with a minimum penalty of Rs. 50,000/- on such payment being received by the Treasurer from the said organisation, the Treasurer shall issue a receipt to the organisation. The receipt issued shall be forwarded to the Secretary General of the AITA by the organisation concerned for being placed before the General Body. The General Body, shall as early as possible, re-admit the member unless for reasons to be recorded in writing, the General Body comes to the conclusion that the organisation concerned does not deserve to be re-admitted.

Comment: *Rationale: retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. Neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules regulate re-admission of a disaffiliated unit, so this remains a matter of AITA's own choice. No divergence identified.*

Rule 26 - VOTING

a. The following shall have voting rights in the General Body:

   i. Each State Affiliate will be represented in the General Body by 1 representative who shall be entitled to 1 vote at all meetings of the General Body.

   ii. Each SOM GB Representative shall have 1 vote each at all meetings of the General Body.

b. No person, representing an Associate Affiliate without voting rights, shall have any right to vote on any matter or subject or issue in discussion before the General Body, but such a person may take part in discussions and express his/her views in the General Body Meeting and all the decisions taken by the General Body shall be binding and enforceable irrespective of such person's views expressed in the meeting.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: Rule 10(3)(b) of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026 gives every State-level affiliate registered with the National Sports Board "a maximum of two votes, to be exercised by separate individual representatives" - a ceiling, not a mandate - and Rule 10(3)(a) gives every individual sportsperson of outstanding merit one vote. Sub-rule (a)(ii) (one vote per SOM representative) is fully consistent with this.*

Rationale for one vote per affiliate: this Rule deliberately elects one representative and one vote per State Affiliate, at the lower end of the Sports Governance Rules permissible range (a maximum, not a mandate, of two). The reason is to limit the extent to which purely state-level factional politics within an affiliate translate into weight at the national level - splitting an affiliate's vote across two representatives (or granting it two full votes) makes it easier for internal state-unit rivalries to be imported into AITA's own elections and General Body decisions. This is a considered departure from the AITA Election Bye-Laws (Clause 4(1)), which has been correspondingly amended to one vote per affiliate to match.

Rationale: Sub-rule (b) (Associate Affiliates have no vote but may participate in discussion) is retained without change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft.

Rule 27 - NOTICE

Resolution and motion: The General Body or any affiliated organisation may bring forward any resolution or motion at the Annual General Meeting provided in the case of an affiliated organization, the resolution/motion is seconded in writing by another affiliated organization and due notice thereof is given to the Secretary General on or before the 30th day of April in each year. The Executive Committee can bring forward any resolution/motion at any time before the AGM/EGM.

Rule 28 - WITHDRAWALS

An affiliated organisation desiring to withdraw from the Association must give notice in writing to the Secretary General prior to the 1st day of March in any year, and in default will be liable to pay its subscription for the ensuing year.

Comment: *Rationale: Rules 27 (Notice) and 28 (Withdrawals) are retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. Neither is addressed by the Sports Act or the Sports Governance Rules. No divergence identified.*

Rule 29 - TRAVELLING AND HALTING EXPENSES

The members of the Executive Committee and members of the various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

Comment: *Rationale: retained from the current AITA Constitution, save that references to the Senior Vice President and Vice President (Sports) - both abolished under Rule 7 - have been removed from the list of persons entitled to travelling and halting allowances. In line with AITA's proposed amendment; no divergence identified.*

Rule 30 - SANCTION FOR OPEN TOURNAMENT

Sanction to hold an open tournament, invitation or international tournament shall only be granted to affiliated organisations and to clubs affiliated to such organisations. No tournament shall be held in India without the permission of the AITA. The penalty for both players and the club which has conducted the unauthorized tournament shall be as may be decided by the AITA.

Rule 31 - RULES OF THE GAME

The rules of tennis as adopted and amended from time to time by the International Tennis Federation, the Rules and Regulations of the Association for the time being in force, and the decisions of the General Body on all matters in issue and points arising in connection therewith, shall be binding on all the affiliated organisations, clubs and tournament committees affiliated to such organisations in India.

Comment: *Rationale: Rules 30 (Sanction for Open Tournament) and 31 (Rules of the Game) are retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. Both concern AITA's own regulatory authority over tournaments and playing rules, which the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules leave to the federation itself. No divergence identified and only language refined.*

Rule 32 - RIGHT OF APPEAL

Any club or player affiliated to any affiliated organisation, or any person being a member of such an organisation or club or player being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the governing body of such affiliated organisation, may appeal to the concerned affiliate's jurisdictional state dispute resolution committee and in the absence thereof, to the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: routing appeals through the state dispute resolution committee, and then AITA's own Dispute Resolution Committee, is consistent with Section 4(1)(d) of the Sports Act, 2025 (which mandates a Dispute Resolution Committee) and Section 17 (the National Sports Tribunal as the ultimate appellate forum, reachable via Rule 7(c) of this draft).*

Rationale: the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft both carried a standalone "Disputes" rule requiring all unresolved disputes between/within affiliated units to be referred to arbitration by the "AITA Arbitration Committee." This Revised Draft has not retained a separate Disputes rule - that subject matter is now folded into the Dispute Resolution Committee's jurisdiction at Rule 7(c), which expressly covers disputes "involving AITA's affiliates" and "affiliates of AITA's affiliates." This Rule (Right of Appeal) is the surviving cross-reference from that consolidation and has been updated accordingly. No divergence from AITA's proposal in substance, though AITA's redraft retains the separate Disputes rule that this draft has consolidated away.

Rule 33 - INTERPRETATION

Except where otherwise stated, every reference in these rules to the masculine includes the feminine gender.

Comment: *Rationale: retained without change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. No Sports Act/Sports Governance Rules provision is implicated. No divergence identified.*

Rule 34 - OBLIGATIONS OF PLAYERS

Executive Committee has full powers to suspend any player who fails to comply with any of the following:

a) Registration:

i) It is compulsory for players of all categories, i.e. amateurs and professionals including juniors and veterans to register with AITA. Registered players shall pay the registration charges as fixed by AITA. No affiliated organisation shall accept entry of any player who is not registered with AITA in any tournament conducted under its jurisdiction.

ii) A player must at all times accept the authority of the Association. He shall place himself at the disposal of the Association when required to prepare for and take part in events for which he may be selected to represent his State or Country. If he declines without good reason to place himself at the disposal of the Association, he shall render himself to be suspended.

iii) When playing in any event under the jurisdiction of another National Association, a Player is required to comply with the rules of that National Association as well as those of his own Association. A player shall not play in a tournament match, exhibition match or other competition with or against a person who is under suspension.

iv) A player shall not play in a tournament match, exhibition match or other competition in public, which is not controlled by an authority approved by the National Association of the Country in which the event is held.

v) A player shall not enter or signify the intention to enter for more than one tournament, match or competition advertised to take place during the same period.

vi) A player shall not play for stake declared for, or wager.

vii) A player shall not contribute under his own name to the press, broadcast or television in regard to and during the time of any tournament match or competition, which is held under the jurisdiction of National Association and in which he is entered as or is a competitor, except with the previous consent of the National Association of the country concerned and under the direct control of the Chairman of the committee or other authorized management of the event to which the attribution relates. In no such case may a player receive any pecuniary advantage.

viii) A player shall not advertise in any way within the precincts of tournament match or competition in which he is entered as or is a

competitor.

ix) A player shall in no circumstances participate in the profit or gross receipts of a tournament, match, exhibition match or other competition.

x) No junior player shall, in any way or manner, accept prizes in money.

(b) Junior players – who have not attained their 14th birthday, shall not compete in professional events.

(c) Any sports person and / or support personnel aggrieved by any decision or action of an International Sports Association / Federation imposing any penalty or punishment by way of disciplinary action or otherwise may raise that dispute before the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) and/or the International Council of Arbitration for Sports (ICAS) either by himself / herself or through the NSF concerned.

Comment: *Aligned with the Sports Act and Sports Governance Rules: this Rule's registration requirement and player-conduct obligations are consistent with Section 13(3) of the Sports Act, 2025.*

Resolved: Section 13 of the Sports Act, 2025 requires (i) the National Sports Board to frame a comprehensive Safe Sports Policy for the protection and safety of women, minor athletes and other vulnerable groups (Section 13(1)-(2)), and (ii) every National Sports Body to separately establish an internal grievance redressal mechanism of its own to address safety concerns under that policy (Section 13(3)). Rather than create a new committee, this has been addressed by extending the Dispute Resolution Committee's jurisdiction at Rule 7(c) to Safe Sport concerns, with added safeguards (a child-safeguarding member where a minor is involved, confidentiality, interim protection against retaliation, and referral to law enforcement where relevant) given the vulnerable complainants Section 13 is concerned with. This is kept distinct from the Internal Complaints Committee, which remains confined to sexual harassment complaints under the POSH Act, 2013.

Rationale: sub-rules (a)(i)-(x), (b) and (c) are retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. No divergence identified on the provisions that do exist.

Rule 35 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive committee, as defined in Rule 7(a) of the AITA Rules, shall exercise the following powers. An appeal against the decision of the Executive Committee shall rest with the General Body.

a) All affairs of the association shall be conducted by the Executive Committee and it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to see that the general provisions of the constitution and the Regulations and bye-laws of the Association are complied with by all the members.

b) The Executive Committee shall have supervisory powers over all the tournaments conducted under the auspices of the AITA and may assume the conduct of such tournament, as it may deem advisable.

c) Executive Committee shall, from time to time, frame rules for the conduct of tournaments.

d) The Executive Committee shall have exclusive power to add alter, amend, delete and modify any of the Rules of the tournament from time to time and the same are binding on all the participants from the date Executive Committee has given effect to come in force.

e) The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the funds of the association. It shall sanction and control expenditure, where necessary, and shall generally supervise and conduct the business of the Association.

f) The Executive Committee shall hear and decide all questions submitted to it by the members for decision. All its decisions shall be complied with forthwith. But an appeal there-from may be filed with the General Body by any member who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Executive Committee.

g) The Executive Committee shall meet as and when the work so requires. At a Central Place (where all members could easily assemble) in order to dispose of urgent business of the Association.

h) The time and the place for such meetings shall be fixed by the President and a notice shall be issued by the Secretary General to each member of the Executive Committee at least 15 days before the date fixed for such meeting. The agenda for the meeting shall also be circulated along with the notice of the meeting.

i) The President may decide to call any Executive Committee Meeting virtually instead of a meeting where the members are required to attend the meeting physically. An Executive Committee member can attend a physical meeting virtually with the prior permission of the

President and also can vote virtually. However, giving permission to do so will be at the discretion of the President and depend upon the nature of the agenda. The President shall indicate on the Notice itself as to the manner in which voting on any Agenda has to be undertaken. Any issue arising due to a failed video or audio connection, shall be treated as absence of such a member.

j) All the Executive Committee meetings, physical or virtual shall be video recorded.

k) The Executive Committee may also arrive at decisions on points referred to them by circulation. All matters circulated must be voted on within a period of 5 days from the date of dispatch of the Circular.

l) The Executive Committee shall have authority to appoint sub-committees not provided for in the Rules.

m) A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Secretary General with the concurrence of the President within 15 (fifteen) days of the receipt by him of a requisition in writing from three members of the Executive Committee.

n) The Executive committee shall take decision regarding the Davis Cup, foreign tours and international matches or competitions taking into consideration the recommendation of the relevant sub-committee(s).

o) Quorum: At all meetings of the Executive Committee, the quorum shall be 5, of which at least 3 shall be non-SOM or Athletes Committee members. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.

p) All business of a meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of the votes properly recorded. In case of equality of votes, the President or the Chairman shall have a Casting vote.

q) All matters discussed by the Executive Committee or any Sub-Committee in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest may, however, be released to the press by the Secretary General. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of Secretary General.

r) The Executive Committee shall ensure that the participants in the teams representing the Affiliates or the national teams representing India/Association in sports events do not indulge in any age fraud or impersonation or any other sports fraud. Such matter shall be dealt with the applicable Government guidelines/ Law.

s) The Executive Committee shall always have the powers to ratify or change any action or decision taken by its members or any sub-committee.

Comment: *Rationale: this Rule (the Executive Committee's general powers as a Regulation, distinct from Rule 7's constitutive provisions) is retained essentially unchanged from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft, save for consequential updates already reflected elsewhere in this draft (for example, the shift to permitting virtual meetings, addressed at Rule 9). Neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules regulate the Executive Committee's day-to-day procedural powers at this level of detail. No divergence identified.*

Rule 36 - ALTERATIONS TO THE MOA OR RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Memorandum of Association and the Rules of the All India Tennis Association shall be altered, modified, rescinded or added to by special resolution passed by 3/4th of the members in the general meeting called for the purpose. The governing body shall have powers to make, alter, modify or rescind such bye laws & rules as may be considered necessary in the interest of smooth functioning of the society. Any alteration or amendment to the Rules and Regulations must be either proposed by the Executive Committee or by a minimum of 2 Affiliates of the Association.

Comment: *Rationale: retained without substantive change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft (3/4th special-resolution requirement, proposal by the Executive Committee or two Affiliates). Neither the Sports Act nor the Sports Governance Rules prescribe an amendment procedure for a National Sports Body's own constitutional documents. No divergence identified.*

In line with Section 8 and Section 2(n) of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1981, three-fourths of votes are needed to amend these rules and regulations; these Rules have been amended accordingly.

Rule 37 - ANNUAL LIST OF GENERAL BODY MEMBERS

Once in every year a list of the members of the General Body and the Executive Committee shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, West Bengal as required under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.

Comment: *Rationale: retained without change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. This obligation arises under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 (AITA's registering statute), not the Sports Act or Sports Governance Rules. No divergence identified.*

Rule 38 - SUIT & LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President and / or the Secretary as per the provisions of West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the society.

This Rule is subject to Section 23 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025: to the extent a dispute falls within the jurisdiction of the National Sports Tribunal constituted under Section 17 of that Act, no suit or proceeding in respect of that dispute shall lie before a civil court, and the Tribunal's jurisdiction and procedure shall apply instead of a suit under this Rule.

Comment: *Resolved: Section 23 of the Sports Act, 2025 bars civil courts from entertaining any suit or proceeding in respect of matters the National Sports Tribunal is empowered to determine under the Act. This Rule previously allowed the Society to "sue or be sued" generally under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961, without qualification; it now expressly makes that power subject to Section 23. To the extent a dispute falls within the Tribunal's jurisdiction (broadly, AITA governance, elections, discipline and similar matters channelled through Rule 7(c) and Rule 32), ordinary civil suits under this Rule are not maintainable and the Tribunal route applies instead. Suits on matters outside the Tribunal's jurisdiction (for example, ordinary contract or property disputes) are unaffected.*

Rule 39 - DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANISATION

Subject to the provisions of the Sections 24 & 27 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 or any statutory modifications thereof, the society may be dissolved by a resolution to that effect passed by 3/4th members of the society at a general meeting. The said meeting shall also decide the manner of disbursement of the funds & assets of the association, if any after dissolution.

Rule 40 - APPLICABLE STATUTES

The provisions under the following statutes and rules and regulations thereunder shall apply to AITA:

a. The West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961, and Rules and Regulations thereunder as applicable to the Societies registered in West Bengal, and

b. The notified provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the rules and regulations made thereunder.

Comment: *Rationale: Rules 39 (Dissolution) and 40 (Applicable Statutes) are retained without change from the current AITA Constitution and AITA's own redraft. Both arise under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 (AITA's registering statute), not the Sports Act or Sports Governance Rules, though Rule 40(b) correctly adds a cross-reference to the Sports Act and its rules as an applicable statute alongside the West Bengal Act. No divergence identified.*

ANNEXURE I – ELECTION BYE-LAWS

Note: These Election Bye-Laws are largely consistent with AITA's own proposed draft. Where they differ, the Rules and Regulations of the Association have been used as the basis.

AITA Election Bye-Laws

1. Short Title & Definitions

(1) These Bye-Laws shall be called the "Election Bye-Laws" and shall govern the conduct of Election of Office Bearers and Members of the Executive Committee of All India Tennis Association.

(2) In these Bye-Laws, unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) 'clause' and 'sub-clause' mean the clause and sub-clause of these Bye-Laws;

(b) 'Executive Committee Member' means a member of the Executive Committee of All India Tennis Association;

(c) 'AITA' means the All India Tennis Association;

(d) 'Post' includes the office of President, Secretary General, Treasurer, Vice President, Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit member and Athletes Committee representative on the Executive Committee, and Member of the Executive Committee of AITA, as provided in Rule 7(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association;

(e) 'Rule' means a rule of the Rules and Regulations of AITA;

(f) 'Electoral Officer' has the meaning given in Clause 5 below.

2. Executive Committee

The composition of the Executive Committee shall be as provided in Rule 7(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

3. Manner of Election

(1) Office Bearers and Members of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be elected by secret ballot. There shall be no provision for proxy voting.

(2) Election shall be held at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in accordance with the procedure prescribed hereinafter, from amongst the representatives of the Affiliates with voting rights.

(3) All elections conducted under these Bye-Laws shall comply with Schedule II of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026. In the event of any inconsistency between these Bye-Laws and Schedule II, the provisions of Schedule II shall prevail.

4. Electoral College

(1) Each Permanent Member State/Union Territory duly affiliated by AITA as its Permanent Member (Affiliate) and registered with the National Sports Board in accordance with Rule 17 of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 shall have one vote at the elections of the Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members.

(1A) Each sportsperson of outstanding merit ('SOM') on the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association shall be entitled to one vote at the elections of the Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members.

(2) For the purposes of sub-clause (1), each Permanent Member State/Union Territory (Affiliate) shall be represented by one member authorised by the President or Secretary General/Secretary of the Permanent Member State/Union Territory (Affiliate). However, in case the President, Secretary General or Secretary nominates a different person, the person authorised by the President shall be deemed to be the duly authorised person, irrespective of the date.

(3) Each Affiliate/Associate Affiliate shall intimate the name of its representative mentioned in sub-clause (2) to the Association as prescribed in the Notice.

(4) The Association shall prepare the list of the authorised representatives of Affiliates/Associate Affiliates and circulate a copy of the list so prepared to all Affiliates/Associate Affiliates, by display, on the website of AITA.

(5) The Association shall also furnish a duly authenticated copy of the list mentioned in sub-clause (4) to the Electoral Officer as soon as may be after his or her appointment by the Executive Committee under Clause 5 below.

5. Electoral Officer

At least sixty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall, by resolution, appoint an Electoral Officer from the National Sports Election Panel constituted under Section 16 of the Act, for the conduct of elections of Office Bearers and Executive Committee Members of AITA in accordance with these Bye-Laws and Rule 9(2) of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026.

Where the Charters or Statutes of the International Tennis Federation require appointment of any other person as Electoral Officer, the Executive Committee may appoint such other person after furnishing the details, including qualifications and experience, of such person, to the National Sports Board, in accordance with Section 16(5) of the Act.

The Electoral Officer shall, in either case, be independent of the Association and shall not be a member or employee of the Association or of any of its affiliates.

6. Nomination of Candidates

(1) The nomination of a candidate for election as an Office Bearer or Member of the Executive Committee shall be made in the prescribed form.

(2) The nomination of a candidate for election as an Office Bearer or Member of the Executive Committee shall be proposed by one of the representatives of Affiliates with voting rights in the Electoral College list, and also seconded by one such representative.

(3) Each candidate shall be entitled to be nominated by not more than two nomination papers.

(4) Each nomination paper shall be delivered personally or through an authorised representative to the Electoral Officer at the prescribed time.

(5) No person shall be eligible to nominate more than one candidate for the post of President, one candidate for the post of Secretary General and one candidate for the post of Treasurer; and for any other post, not more than the number of seats to be filled for that post, either as proposer or seconder. If a person does so, the nomination paper delivered second in point of time to the Electoral Officer shall be deemed to be inoperative.

(6) No person shall be permitted to withdraw his or her name as proposer or seconder once the nomination paper subscribed by him or her has been delivered to the Electoral Officer.

(7) The Electoral Officer shall, within the prescribed time, prepare a list of all nominations received, post-wise, and publish the same in a conspicuous place in the office of the Association.

(8) The Electoral Office shall also post the details of the Electoral College appointed in terms of Rule 4 on the website of AITA immediately on its formation.

7. Scrutiny of Nominations

(1) On the prescribed date and time, the Electoral Officer shall scrutinise each nomination paper, one by one, and determine its validity or otherwise.

(2) After the scrutiny of nominations, each candidate or one of his or her authorised representatives shall have the right to be present and raise any objection in relation to the nomination of a candidate for the post for which he or she has filed his or her nomination.

(3) As soon as may be, after the scrutiny of all nomination papers has been completed, the Electoral Officer shall prepare a list of validly nominated candidates in the prescribed form, and the contesting candidates may take a copy from the Electoral Officer.

8. Withdrawal of Candidatures

(1) Any candidate whose nomination has been found valid on scrutiny, shall be entitled to withdraw his or her candidature during the prescribed period.

(2) Notice of withdrawal of candidature shall be submitted either by the candidate or by a person duly authorised by him or her in writing.

(3) Notice of withdrawal of candidature shall be final and shall not be allowed to be cancelled.

(4) The Electoral Officer shall accept the notice of withdrawal if satisfied as to its genuineness.

(5) As soon as may be after the prescribed date and time, the Electoral Officer shall prepare the final list of contesting candidates, display a copy of the said list in a conspicuous place in the Association's office and on the Association's website, and also furnish a copy of the same to each of the candidates or their authorised representatives, if they so demand.

(6) The names of the contesting candidates shall be arranged, for each post, in alphabetical order according to the English alphabet.

9. Uncontested Returns; and Contested Elections

(1) Where the number of contesting candidates for any post or category of post is equal to the number of posts to be filled, all such contesting candidates shall be deemed to be duly elected unopposed to those posts, and it shall not be necessary to take a poll for election to such post.

(2) Where the number of contesting candidates for any post or category of post is more than the number of posts to be filled, a poll shall be taken by secret ballot for those posts remaining unfilled.

(3) The ballot papers for the posts remaining unfilled shall be in the prescribed form, to be made individually for each post.

10. Poll

(1) The poll for the posts remaining unfilled under sub-clause (2) of Clause 9 shall be taken post-wise, during the AGM.

(2) Each contesting candidate may nominate one person, from amongst the authorised representatives on the Electoral College list, to be present at the polling station.

(3) At the poll, each authorised representative whose name is included in the Electoral College list shall be entitled to (i) cast one vote for each of the posts remaining unfilled, where only one such seat is to be filled; or (ii) cast as many votes as there are seats to be filled for that post, where more than one seat is to be filled.

Explanation: For any post to be filled by more than one person, each voter may cast as many votes as there are seats to be filled for that post, up to the number of seats for that post specified in Rule 7(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

(4) In case any voter casts votes for more candidates than the number of seats to be filled for a post, his or her vote for that post shall be invalid.

(5) Each voter shall be required, before being supplied with a ballot paper, to sign the authenticated copy of the Electoral College list used by the Electoral Officer for taking the poll.

(6) The voter shall record his or her vote on the ballot paper in secrecy, in a voting compartment specially provided for the purpose at the polling station.

(7) The voter shall record his or her vote on the ballot paper by placing a tick mark (✓) against the name of the candidate of his or her choice; any other mark or word placed on the ballot paper shall render it liable to rejection.

(8) The tick mark shall be placed by the voter only by means of the article specifically provided for the purpose by the Electoral Officer; a ballot paper marked otherwise, including by pen or ball-point pen, shall be liable to rejection.

(9) The ballot paper marked by a voter shall be deposited by him or her in a ballot box specially prepared and sealed by the Electoral Officer and placed at a conspicuous place in the polling station, visible at all times to those present.

(10) The Electoral Officer shall close the poll at the appointed hour; however, all voters present at the polling station at the appointed closing hour shall be entitled to vote even if the poll proceedings continue for some further time.

(11) After all such voters have voted, the Electoral Officer shall close the ballot box and shall not permit any person to vote thereafter.

(12) Polling shall be conducted in the following order: (i) President; (ii) Vice Presidents; (iii) Secretary General; (iv) Treasurer; (v) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and Athletes Committee representatives on the Executive Committee; and (vi) Members of the Executive Committee.

11. Counting of Votes

(1) The Electoral Officer shall take up the counting of votes as soon as may be after the polling for any post is complete.

(2) Each contesting candidate may nominate one authorised representative, who shall be entitled to be present at the place of counting of votes.

(3) The Electoral Officer shall take up the counting of votes post-wise and category-wise, where applicable.

(4) Each ballot paper on which a vote has been recorded in accordance with sub-clauses (6) to (8) of Clause 10 shall be treated as one vote for the candidate for whom it has been validly marked; a ballot paper marked in violation of any of those sub-clauses shall be rejected by the Electoral Officer.

(5) The votes validly cast for each contesting candidate shall be counted post-wise, and category-wise where applicable, and recorded in descending order of the votes cast for each candidate.

(6) The Electoral Officer shall thereafter ascertain the result of the counting and, subject to the Rules, the candidates who have secured the highest number of votes in that descending order, post-wise and category-wise where applicable, equal to the number of seats to be filled for each post or category of posts, shall be deemed to have been duly elected to those posts.

12. Declaration of Results

The names of the contesting candidates deemed to have been elected in accordance with sub-clause (6) of Clause 11 shall be declared as having been duly elected to their respective posts by the Electoral Officer at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

13. Elections to the Athletes Committee

The Electoral Officer shall conduct elections to the Athletes Committee of the Association simultaneously with elections to the Executive Committee, in accordance with Rule 9(2) of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026. The eligibility criteria for candidates and voters for Athletes Committee elections shall be as provided in Rule 7(c) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

14. Election Disputes

Any candidate or voting member aggrieved by the conduct or result of an election held under these Bye-Laws may, within thirty days of the declaration of results, file a petition before such tribunal or authority as is prescribed under the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026. No election shall be called in question except by way of such a petition.

ANNEXURE II – ATHLETES COMMITTEE BYE-LAWS

Note: These Athletes Committee Bye-Laws are largely consistent with AITA's own proposed draft. Where they differ, the Rules and Regulations of the Association have been used as the basis.

AITA Athletes Committee Bye-Laws

1. These Bye-Laws shall be read in addition to the Rules and Regulations of the Association, and shall be governed by the principles contained therein.

2. As required by the Olympic Charter, AITA shall have an Athletes Committee.

3. The Athletes Committee shall have 8 members with its own office bearers, of whom 4 shall be women and 4 shall be men.

4. The Athletes Committee shall have a term of 4 years from the date of election of its members.

5. A member of the Athletes Committee may serve a maximum of three (3) terms, i.e. 12 years.

6. All members of the Athletes Committee shall be elected by the players.

7. Elections to the Athletes Committee shall be held every 4 years, and shall be conducted by the Electoral Officer simultaneously with elections to the Executive Committee.

8. To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Athletes Committee, an athlete must satisfy the following criteria:

(a) must be an Indian citizen;

(b) must be above 18 years of age on the date of announcement of the election;

(c) must have achieved an ATP/WTA ranking and/or ITF Junior Ranking of less than 400 and/or ITF Seniors Ranking (age groups 35+/40+ only) of less than 25, during his or her career;

(d) must never have received any sanction in relation to the World Anti-Doping Code;

(e) must not be currently or have previously been suspended for 3 months or more, or otherwise be ineligible to participate in AITA-recognised tournaments pursuant to any applicable rules or regulations; and

(f) must never have received any sanction from the ITF:

Provided that the athlete shall not be eligible if he or she meets any of the criteria for disqualification given in Rule 11 of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026.

9. Not fewer than fifty per cent of the members of the Athletes Committee shall be women.

10. The Athletes Committee shall have only one member from the Seniors category.

11. The Athletes Committee shall elect two of its members to represent it on the Executive Committee, in accordance with Rule 7(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

12. The constitution, operation and procedure of the Athletes Committee shall otherwise comply with the International Charters and Statutes of the International Tennis Federation.

13. Functions of the Athletes Committee

The Athletes Committee shall:

(a) receive complaints from the athlete community on all questions of concern to athletes;

(b) represent the interests of all athletes competing in ITF and AITA-recognised tournaments;

(c) advise and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on all questions of concern to athletes; and

(d) not otherwise be a decision-making body: its role is to advise and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, and on occasion to other committees of AITA, in accordance with these Bye-Laws.

14. Standards Applicable to Members

Members of the Athletes Committee shall at all times be bound by the Rules and Regulations of the Association. Without prejudice to Clause 8 above, the disqualification criteria applicable to members of the Executive Committee under Rule 13 of the Rules and Regulations of the Association shall also apply to members of the Athletes Committee.

Any dispute or issue relating to the eligibility of a member of, or a candidate for, the Athletes Committee shall be referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee.

15. Expenses

AITA shall cover meeting costs necessarily incurred by members of the Athletes Committee in attending or participating in Committee meetings, including the costs of telephone or video conferencing. Any other expenses must be approved in advance, and no expenses that have not been so approved shall be reimbursed.

16. Code of Conduct

The AITA Code of Conduct (or such other code as may be applicable from time to time) shall apply to all members of the Athletes Committee. Members must familiarise themselves with the content of the applicable Code and comply with it at all times.

17. Amendment and Review

These Bye-Laws shall be reviewed annually at the commencement of each calendar year, and any amendment shall require the approval of the Executive Committee. Any matter arising under these Bye-Laws that is not expressly addressed herein shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

ANNEXURE III – SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT (SOM) BYE-LAWS

Note: These SOM Bye-Laws are largely consistent with AITA's own proposed draft. Where they differ, the Rules and Regulations of the Association have been used as the basis. A stricter prescription for tiered eligibility criteria has been prescribed as the AITA proposal premised merely on ITF participation fails to consider that hundreds of players have played an ITF event. For instance, anybody even ranked number 80 can play an ITF event. It is essential to ensure only sportspersons of highest quality and merit are included in the category of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit. It is necessary to emphasize that SOMs are expected to make a valuable contribution to the development of Tennis in India as the statute has accorded recognition to them and mandated effective participation in sports administration as members of the Governing Body and the Executive Committee of the Organisation as well. Such persons, therefore, must necessarily be of the highest merit.

AITA Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) Bye-Laws

1. These Bye-Laws shall be read in addition to the Rules and Regulations of the Association, and shall be governed by the principles contained therein.

2. AITA shall have a category of retired players who shall be termed Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit ('SOMs'). These Bye-Laws outline, inter alia, the reserved positions for SOMs in AITA management, the procedure for their selection, and their elections.

3. AITA shall maintain two Rosters of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit – one for male sportspersons ('SOM Roster Male') and one for female sportspersons ('SOM Roster Female') (collectively 'SOM Rosters'), which shall be duly published on the website of AITA.

4. Size of the SOM Rosters

The SOM Roster Male and the SOM Roster Female shall each consist of not fewer than ten (10) times the number of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit seats reserved for male sportspersons of outstanding merit and female sportspersons of outstanding merit, respectively, in the General Body under Rule 6(b)(v) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association:

Provided that where, despite compliance with the procedure under Clause 6 below (including the issuance of a fresh call for applications or the adoption of additional tiered criteria), it is not possible to populate a SOM Roster to the threshold specified above, the Executive Committee may finalise that SOM Roster with fewer than the specified number of sportspersons, provided that the Executive Committee records its reasons in writing and reports the same to the National Sports Board.

5. Procedure for Selection of SOMs

(a) The procedure for selection of SOMs shall be in strict compliance with the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time.

(b) The call for applications for inclusion in the SOM Rosters shall be floated by the Executive Committee by issuance of a notice ('SOM Notice') at least 150 days before the expiry of the term of the Executive Committee of AITA.

(c) The SOM Rosters shall be prepared and published on the website of AITA at least 90 days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.

(d) The SOM Notice shall specify the General Eligibility Criteria and Tiered Eligibility Criteria (collectively 'Eligibility Criteria').

(e) The General Eligibility Criteria for applying for inclusion in the SOM Rosters shall be as outlined in the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time.

(f) The SOM Rosters shall be prepared by considering the following tournaments, read with the Tiered Eligibility Criteria stipulated in the Sports Rules:

Tiers:

- **Tier 1:** Medal Winners in the Summer Olympic Games

- **Tier 2:** Applicants who have participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games.

- **Tier 3:** Applicants who have participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games.

- **Tier 4:** Applicants who have been awarded a Major Dhyan Chand or Khel Ratna Award by the Central Government.

- **Tier 5:** Applicants who have been awarded an Arjuna Award by the Central Government, Applicants who have themselves or as part of Indian team won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in Men / Women events of (i) Grand Slams i.e. Wimbledon, Australian Open, French Open and US Open, (ii) Davis Cup, or (iii) Bilie Jean King Cup (iv) Year ending Championships of ATP / WTA

- **Tier 6:** Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in the Asian Games or Commonwealth Games

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- **Tier 7:** Applicants who have themselves or as part of Indian team stood first, second or third in Asia-Oceania Bilie Jean Cup or Asia- Oceania Davis Cup.

- **Tier 8:** Applicants who has won at least Ten (10) sanctioned international events conducted under the aegis of ATP, WTA or ITF (Men & Women Singles only) or Fifteen (15) Doubles events in the same category of events

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- **Tier 9:** Applicants who have won at least at least Five (5) singles or Ten (10) doubles titles in sanctioned international event conducted under the aegis of ATP, WTA or ITF (Men & Women only) or who has won National Championships (Men or Women Singles only) / Gold in National Games in Individual event in Singles.

- **Tier 10:** Applicants who have won at least Two (2) Singles titles in sanctioned International Event conducted under the aegis of ATP, WTA or ITF (Men & Women Only) or Five (5) Doubles titles in any of the above mentioned events and Doubles in National Men / Women Championships who have won, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in the National Games or a National Championship in Individual Singles / Doubles events Men & Women only.

Note: In all of the above, if any medal/ award is revoked, he / she shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit.

(g) The fulfilment of the eligibility criteria shall be checked as on the date on which the SOM Notice is issued by AITA.

6. Populating the SOM Rosters

While populating the SOM Rosters, AITA shall adhere to the following criteria:

(a) In the first instance, all applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and Tier 1 of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria shall be included in the relevant gender's SOM Roster.

(b) In the event the SOM Roster cannot be populated to meet the prescribed threshold, applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and the immediately succeeding Tier of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria shall be included sequentially until the required threshold is met.

(c) Where the number of eligible sportspersons under a particular Tier exceeds the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among such candidates.

(d) Where the concerned SOM Roster still falls short of the prescribed threshold despite compliance with the above steps, AITA may issue a fresh call for applications or frame and adopt additional tiered criteria, consistent with the principles underlying the existing Tiered Eligibility Criteria, subject always to the proviso to Clause 4 above.

(e) The finalised SOM Rosters shall be published on the AITA website.

(f) Any person whose name is reflected in either of the SOM Rosters shall be deemed to be a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit in respect of AITA for the purposes of the Act and the rules framed thereunder.

7. Election of SOM Representatives

(a) There shall be eight (8) sportspersons of outstanding merit, elected by the members of the SOM Rosters from amongst themselves, to represent them in the General Body of AITA ('SOM GB Representatives'), in accordance with Rule 6(b)(v) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association. Each SOM GB Representative shall have one (1) vote each in the meetings of the General Body of AITA. At all times, four (4) SOM GB Representatives shall be elected by the members of the SOM Roster Male from amongst themselves, and four (4) SOM GB Representatives shall be elected by the members of the SOM Roster Female from amongst themselves.

(b) After the election of the SOM GB Representatives, there shall be an election for five (5) sportspersons of outstanding merit, elected by the members of the SOM Rosters from amongst themselves, to represent them in the Executive Committee of AITA ('SOM EC Representatives'), in accordance with Rule 7(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association. Each SOM EC Representative shall have one (1) vote each in the meetings of the Executive Committee of AITA. At all times, at least two (2) SOM EC Representatives shall be women, consistent with the proviso to Rule 7(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.

(c) Any person who has contested or has been elected for the post of SOM GB Representative may also contest for election as a SOM EC Representative.

(d) The elections for the SOM GB Representatives and SOM EC Representatives shall be concluded at least 75 days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.

(e) The elections of SOM Representatives shall be conducted by the Electoral Officer appointed for conducting the elections of the Executive Committee.

(f) The procedure for election of SOM Representatives shall be as per the forms, procedure and rules adopted for the elections of the Executive Committee, as specified in the Sports Rules.

For the elections to the posts in the Executive Committee of AITA (except the SOM EC Representatives), only the SOM GB Representatives shall be eligible to vote and contest. The age, term, tenure, qualifications, disqualifications and other conditions applicable to election to the Executive Committee shall also apply to the election of SOM GB Representatives and SOM EC Representatives.

AITA'S OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE DRAFT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS PREPARED BY THE LEARNED ADMINISTRATOR

PRESENT RULE (AITA RULES AND REGULATIONS, 2020)	LD. ADMINISTRATOR'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS	AITA EC'S PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AND COMMENTS TO THE LD. ADMINISTRATOR'S PROPOSAL
Rule 3(c) (existing) "Central Council" shall mean and include the Office Bearers, Senior Vice President, Vice President Sports, Vice Presidents and Joint Secretaries of AITA, two representatives each nominated by the President / Honorary Secretary of the Affiliates and one representative of each of the Associate Affiliates.	3(c) [Substitute]: 'Central Council' means the general body of the Association constituted under Rule 6(a).	**General Body: Shall have the meaning ascribed in Rule 6(a).** *Comment*: Term "General Body" has been adopted from Section 4 of the Act and replaces the term "Central Council" across the document.
Rule 3(d) (existing) "Executive Committee" means the Executive Committee of the AITA duly elected at Annual General Meeting plus two player representatives nominated by the Athlete's Commission, with concurrence of President, AITA.	3(d)[Substitute]: 'Executive Committee' means the committee of the Association constituted under Rule 6(b).	**Executive Committee: Means the Executive Committee of the AITA duly elected at Annual General Meeting.** *Comment*: Reference to Rule 6(b), as suggested by the Ld. Administrator may be added.
Rule 3(g) "Office-bearers of the AITA" mean and include the President, Hon. Secretary General, and Hon. Treasurer.	-------	**Omitted** *Comment*: No definition of "office bearers" prescribed in the Act.

Rule 3(i) "Senior Vice President" means the Senior Vice President of the AITA duly elected by the Central Council.	3(i) [Deleted] *The definition of 'Senior Vice President' is deleted, the post having been abolished under Rule 6(b).*	**Vice Presidents: Means the Vice Presidents duly elected by the General Body.** *Comment*: Rule 3 (i) was the definition of Vice Presidents as per the existing constitution of AITA and not Senior Vice President. All references to Senior Vice President, Vice President (Sports) and Vice President (Chair) have been omitted by us from the Constitution. A single and simplified definition of Vice President is incorporated.
Rule 3(k) "Vice President Sports (VP Sports)" shall mean the Vice President Sports duly elected by the Executive Committee from amongst the Vice Presidents elected by the Central Council.	3(k) [Deleted]	**Vice President (Chair) and Vice President (Sports) both deleted.**
Rule 3(s) No existing provision.	3(s) [New]: 'Sportsperson of outstanding merit' means a person whose name appears on a roster prepared under Rule 6(aa).	**3(o) Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit: Shall have the scope and meaning ascribed to the term in Annexure III of these Rules.** *Comment*: Annexure III Contains Sportspersons of Outstanding Meri Bye-laws consistent with the National Sports Bodies Rules, 2026. It is further proposed to re-arrange the definitions alphabetically.
Rule 6(a) (existing) Central Council (i) Central Council shall mean and include the Office Bearers, Senior VP, VP Sports, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries of AITA, two representatives each nominated by the President /	6(a) [Substitute] Central Council: The Central Council shall function as the general body of the Association for the purposes of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025. The Central Council shall consist of	**a. General Body** **General Body shall mean and include:** **i. State Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by two representatives each nominated by the Executive Committee of the State Affiliate;**

Honorary Secretary of the Affiliates and one representative each of the Associate Affiliates. (ii) The number of Vice-Presidents shall not exceed eight at any one time. (iii) The number of Joint Secretaries shall not exceed four at any one time.	(a) the members of the Executive Committee for the time being in office; (b) five Vice-Presidents, one from each of the following zones, namely:- (i) the North Zone; (ii) the South Zone; (iii) the East Zone; (iv) the West Zone; and (v) the Central Zone; (c) five Joint Secretaries, one from each of the following zones, namely:- (i) the North Zone; (ii) the South Zone; (iii) the East Zone; (iv) the West Zone; and (v) the Central Zone; (d) one representative of each Affiliate registered with the National Sports Board; (e) one representative of each Associate Affiliate; (f) eight sportspersons of outstanding merit, of whom four shall be men and four shall be women; and (g) One nominee of the Paralympic Committee of India nominated by its Executive Committee. Each sportsperson of outstanding merit and each authorised representative of an Affiliate shall have one vote.	**ii. Associate Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by one representative, provided that Associate Affiliates shall be entitled to participate in proceedings of the General Body without voting rights;** **iii. Four (4) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (2 males and 2 females), who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves as outlined in Annexure III to these Rules;** **iv. Institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, such as Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc without voting rights.** **Only the State Affiliates (2 votes per State Affiliate) and Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit representatives (1 vote each) shall have voting rights in meetings of General Body. The members of the Executive Committee of AITA can attend the meeting of General Body, but cannot vote in their capacity as member of the Executive Committee unless they are nominated by a State Affiliate as their representative.** *Comments:* 1. The newly proposed structure of General Body is completely consistent with the Act.

	Associate Affiliates shall not be entitled to vote but may participate in discussions. 6(aa) The procedure for designating sportspersons of outstanding merit shall be as follows- (i) not less than one hundred and fifty days before the expiry of the term of the Executive Committee, the Association shall issue a public call for applications; (ii) applications shall close sixty days after the call; (iii) not less than ninety days before the expiry of the term, the Association shall prepare gender-segregated rosters of eligible applicants, each roster containing ten times the number of sportspersons required; the rosters shall be populated in order of tier under Schedule I of the Sports Governance Rules, 2026, with the eldest applicant preferred where applicants from the same tier exceed available places; (iv) the rosters shall be published on the Association's official website and submitted to the National Sports Board; and (v) the election or nomination of sportspersons of outstanding merit from the rosters shall be completed not less than seventy-five days before the expiry of the term of the Executive Committee	2. The proposed amendment of the Ld. Administrator provides for offices of Vice President and Joint Secretaries in the General Body which is not provided in the Rules. Further, it does not clarify how the Joint Secretaries and Vice Presidents will be elected as they are not covered under Rule 6(b). 3. There are separate detailed SOM Bye-Laws prepared by us which are in line with the Act and the Rules and hence the same may be used instead of Rule 6(aa) which is not as detailed. 4. Our proposal clarifies how each representative of State shall come. 5. The Ld. Administrator's proposed amendment does not clarify whether all EC members, Joint Secretaries and Vice Presidents shall also have voting rights or not. If yes, the states from which EC members belong will have three votes in AITA GB, which may not be fair for those not having representation in EC. 6. In reality, AITA does not have any defined zones on paper. Thus, in our proposal, the concept of zones has been done away with entirely throughout the document. 7. Number of SOM has been retained strictly from the SG Rules. 8. Paralympic Committee of India has no role whatsoever, even remotely, in AITA and hence, there is no need to include one nominee from there in AITA GB. If at all there should be any position, it should be for a retired para-tennis player who can be nominated jointly by the 4 elected SOM GB members. 9. Given that the Hon'ble High Court has permitted time for States to comply with the Act, there need not

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<td>be a provision allowing only those State Affiliates to vote who are registered with the National Sports Board (NSB). The NSB has yet not been constituted and hence any rule requiring registration with the NSB will be premature at this stage.
10. The number of seats for a particular category of member in the General Body should be commensurate to the population represented by the member. Each State Affiliate represents its entire State, which includes the Districts, Clubs and Taluka therein. On the other hand, each SOM represents retired athletes whose number does not measure up to the vast population and stakeholders that each State Affiliate represents.
11. A guarantee of 4 sportspersons is already higher than that provided in Clause 11.1 of the ITF Constitution, which guarantees only 2 player representatives in the Executive Committee of ITF.</td>
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<td>Rule 6(b) (existing)
Executive Committee
The Executive Committee shall consist of President, Senior Vice President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary General, VP Sports, Hon. Joint Secretaries and Hon. Treasurer, ten (10) members elected from the representatives representing Affiliates and two player representatives representing the AITA Athletes' Commission.</td>
<td>6(b) [Substitute]
Executive Committee:
The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than fifteen members elected from the Central Council and shall include—
• President;
• Secretary General;
• Treasurer;
• five sportspersons of outstanding merit;</td>
<td>b. <u>Executive Committee</u>
i. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members:
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<tr><th>Sr.No.</th><th>Post</th><th>Number</th></tr>
<tr><td>1.</td><td>President</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>2.</td><td>Vice-President</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>3.</td><td>Secretary General</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>4.</td><td>Joint Secretary (Male)</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>5.</td><td>Joint Secretary (Post Reserved for Female))</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>6.</td><td>Treasurer</td><td>1</td></tr>
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	• Two representatives of the Athletes Committee elected from among themselves; and • five members, preferably from each of the Zones (North, South, East, West and Central): Provided that at least five of the members on the Executive Committee shall be women, including two women sportspersons of outstanding merit and a woman representative of the Athletes Committee.		**7.**	**Executive Member (Minimum 1 post reserved for female)**	**5**
			8.	**Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit (1 male and 1 female) who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves [*as prescribed in Annexure III to these Rules*]**	**2**
			9.	**Athletes Commission Representatives (1 male and 1 female) who shall be elected by the members of the Athletes Committee from**	**2**

				amongst themselves.	
				Total:	15

ii. The Executive Committee shall not have more than 15 members.
iii. The term of the Executive Committee shall be of four (4) years.
iv. At least (4) members of the Executive Committee shall be women. This shall include (a) 1 Joint Secretary, (b) 1 Members Executive, (c) 1 representative of the Athletes Committee, and (d) 1 female Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit.
v. At least two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit out of whom 1 shall be male 1 shall be female.
vi. At least two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be representatives from the Athletes Committee out of whom 1 shall be male 1 shall be female and these representatives shall have voting rights except where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up.
vii. The Executive Committee shall exercise the powers as defined in these Regulations and entrusted upon by the General Body.

No member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to vote on an agenda in an Executive Committee meeting where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up.

		Comments: 1. The proposed Executive Committee structure is entirely consistent with the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the Rules thereunder. 2. It maintains a balanced and compact governing body of 15 members, ensures adequate reservation women, athletes and Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, incorporates voting rights for athlete representatives, 3. Our proposal includes an essential safeguard of not allowing EC members to vote where they have a conflict-of-interest. The said safeguard is missing from the draft of the Ld. Administrator. 4. Our proposal guarantees the 4 posts which will remain reserved for women at all times. The said safeguard is missing from the draft of the Ld. Administrator. 5. Maintaining 4 posts for athletes out of 15 equates to a 37.5% reservation for athletes which was the mandate under the earlier regime of Sports Code, the Rahul Mehra judgement, the draft Constitution of IOA, as well as the Sports Act. The proposal of the Ld. Administrator for 5 SOM is not contemplated under any law or court order. No rationale has been provided for the said number in the proposed amendments of the Ld. Administrator. 6. In the same fashion, maintaining 4 reserved seats for women is also in excess of the minimum 30% mark approved in the draft IOA Constitution, the Sports Code, and the Rahul Mehra judgement. The proposal of 5 seats for women is not contemplated under any law or court order and no rationale for the same is

		provided in the proposed amendments of the Ld. Administrator. 7. Proposed independence of election and selection of SOM and Athletes' representatives is already an upgrade from the nomination mechanism provided by the ITC Constitution in Clause 11.1 read with 12.9.
Rule 6(c) Ethics Committee (existing) An Ethics Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for looking into matters relating to adherence to ethical guidelines of the Association and the international sporting bodies.	6(c) [Substitute] Ethics Committee: An Ethics Committee shall be maintained as a permanent standing committee of the Association. The Ethics Committee shall have independence in its decision-making. The Ethics Committee shall have jurisdiction over all members of the Central Council, members of the Executive Committee, employees, players, coaches, officials and affiliates. Its constitution, operation and procedure shall be as provided in the Bye-Laws, in compliance with the International Charters and Statutes of the International Tennis Federation, the guidelines of the Indian Olympic Association and any model guidelines issued by the National Sports Board.	**c. <u>Ethics Committee</u>** **i. A 5-Member Ethics Committee consisting of One (1) Chairman and Four (4) Members (2 male and 2 female) will be appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 years.** **ii. The Ethics Committee shall have at least:** • **1 - a person of eminence and repute** • **1 - SOM from the AITA SOM Roster** • **1 - a person who has in the past been a part of the AITA Executive Committee** • **1 - a person with legal knowledge** • **1 - a person with expertise in finance and accounting** **iii. No person from the incumbent Executive Committee or the General Body of AITA shall be appointed to the Ethics Committee.** **iv. The Ethics Committee shall exercise the powers, perform the functions and follow the procedure which is applicable to the ITF Ethics Commission as per the ITF's Rules & Regulations, ITF's Code of Ethics, ITF's Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest**

		Guidance and ethical guidelines of the Association. **v. The purpose of the Ethics Committee is to help ensure that the sport of tennis is governed ethically and in accordance with the highest standards of honesty and integrity.** **vi. The Executive Committee may formulate an AITA Code of Ethics and publish it on the website of AITA.** **vii. The ITF Code of Ethics and the AITA Code of Ethics shall apply to the Executive Committee, members of the Sub-Committees, and each person who is a candidate for election or is appointed or is seeking appointment in AITA in any capacity.** **viii. The Ethics Committee shall function entirely independent of the Executive Committee and General Body. However, the Ethics Committee shall have the liberty to take assistance from AITA staff for administrative support and the proper functioning of the Ethics Committee.** **ix. The Ethics Committee shall depute an observer for the elections of AITA Executive Committee for ensuring that no unethical practices are being adopted during the process.** <u>*Comments*</u>: 1. The proposed Ethics Committee represents a robust governance mechanism that promotes transparency,

		accountability and institutional integrity within AITA. 2. The Ld. Administrator's proposal does not provide for the exact composition and leaves it for the Bye-Laws to provide for the same. The EC has undertaken the said exercise and after examining the composition of the ITF Ethics Commission, the proposed amendments are formulated. This leaves no space for any future EC to tamper with the composition. Please see this link: Tennis Ethics Commission | ITF 3. The proposed Committee has a balanced composition comprising independent professionals, a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit, legal and financial experts. 4. The proposal carefully and expressly excluding members of the incumbent Executive Committee and General Body, thereby ensuring institutional independence, an issue which has been faced by various NSFs over the several few years. 5. The proposed clauses are in line with Clause 8.2.8 and 17 of the ITF Constitution.
Rule 6(c) Arbitration Committee (existing) An Arbitration Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and be responsible for dealing with any dispute between AITA and any of its affiliates/affiliates of affiliates/players/coaches/umpires & officials/administrators, and any other dispute relating to internal matters of AITA. The decision of	6(c) [Insertion] Dispute Resolution Committee: The Dispute Resolution Committee shall facilitate the resolution of disputes. When any dispute arises between AITA and any of its affiliates/affiliates of	**d. Dispute Resolution Committee** **i. A 5-Member Dispute Resolution Committee consisting of One (1) Chairman and (4) Members will be appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 years.** **ii. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall have the following composition:**

the Arbitration Committee, which will act in accordance with the laws relating to arbitration in the country, will be final and binding on all concerned.	affiliates/players/coaches/umpires and officials/administrators, or if there is any other dispute relating to internal matters of AITA, the dispute may be resolved through arbitration or mediation. There shall be a roster of arbitrators and trained mediators maintained by the Dispute Resolution Committee. If the parties opt for arbitration, an arbitration tribunal shall be constituted by the Dispute Resolution Committee by selecting one arbitrator from the roster of arbitrators, with the consent of all parties to the dispute. The decision of the arbitrator, who will act in accordance with the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, will be final and binding on all parties. If the parties opt for mediation, a sole Mediator shall be appointed by the Dispute Resolution Committee, with the consent of the parties, from the panel of trained mediators on the roster prepared by the Dispute Resolution Committee. Any settlement pursuant to the mediation by the Mediator shall be final and binding on all parties.	• **Chairman - a retired judge of a high court** • **Member - a senior advocate (male)** • **Member - a senior advocate (female)** • **Member - a person who has in the past been a part of the AITA Executive Committee** • **Member - a person with expertise in finance and accounting** **iii. The Chairman shall decide the composition and the number of members hearing the dispute depending on the subject matter of the dispute. However, for matters a. and b. of subsection IV. below the composition of the members hearing will be of all the 5 members.** **iv. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall be responsible for hearing and deciding any and all disputes:** **a. Regarding elections of AITA or its affiliates;** **b. Regarding matters involving AITA's affairs;** **c. Regarding matters involving AITA's affiliates;** **d. Regarding matters involving affiliates of AITA's affiliates;** **e. Pertaining to any action against a player;** **f. Pertaining to selections;** **g. Pertaining to age fraud;**

	All disputes shall ordinarily be resolved within a period of ninety (90) days from the date of appointment of the arbitrator or sole mediator.	**h. Pertaining to any tournament conducted by AITA its affiliates, or affiliates of AITA's affiliates;** **i. Pertaining to disciplinary action taken by AITA or its affiliates;** **j. Arising out of the field of play; and** **Provided, the complaint regarding or pertaining to the internal matter within the State Affiliate shall at first instance be instituted before that State Affiliate's dispute resolution committee. In such cases, the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall hear appeals against the decision of the dispute resolution committee of the State Affiliates.** **v. The decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be final and binding.** **vi. Before any dispute is referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee, it shall first be referred to a Mediation Panel consisting of 3 members (who shall be persons with past experience of conducting mediation) which shall be appointed by the General Body of AITA in the Annual General Meeting in which the election for the Executive Committee is conducted. Only once the said Mediation Panel gives a certificate that there is no scope for amicable settlement in the dispute, then the aggrieved party may**

		file a complaint before the Dispute Resolution Committee. **vii. The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall follow the procedure as deemed appropriate by it. The Dispute Resolution Committee in consultation with the Executive Committee shall duly formulate the forms and procedures for filing complaints before the Dispute Resolution Committee and the same shall be published on the website of AITA.** **viii. The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall act independent of AITA Executive Committee and General Body.** **ix. AITA's members, coaches, players, staff, or any other person or entity in public, which has any dispute with AITA shall not approach any court of law for any grievance with AITA or any of its state/district units. All disputes shall be brought before AITA's Dispute Resolution Committee. Recourse to ordinary and constitutional courts of law shall be barred.** **x. The Chairman of the Dispute Resolution Committee may, from time to time, lay down nominal fees for filing complaints after approval form the Executive Committee.** **xi. AITA shall extend all assistance to the Dispute Resolution Committee in order to ensure that its operations run smoothly and in an efficient manner.**

		Comments: 1. The proposed Dispute Resolution Committee strengthens good governance in AITA by providing an independent and structured mechanism for resolving disputes. 2. The inclusion of legal experts, mediation, and an appellate process promotes fairness, transparency, and accountability. 3. It is in line with the spirit of the National Sports Governance framework, which encourages effective internal dispute resolution and institutional autonomy within sports bodies. 4. The Ld. Administrator's proposal does not provide for the exact composition and leaves it for the Bye-Laws to provide for the same. The EC has undertaken the said exercise and after examining the composition of the ITF Ethics Commission, the proposed amendments are formulated. This leaves no space for any future EC to tamper with the composition. Maintaining a roster will leave scope for arbitrary appointments and manipulation. Thus, it is suggested that a fixed committee be appointed. 5. The suggestion of the Ld. Administrator for concluding the cases within 90 days is welcomed. However, it may not be strictly possible to achieve the same. Thus, it is suggested that the phrase 'endeavour to' may be incorporated.
No Existing Provision	Rule 6(c) [Insertion] Internal Complaints Committee:	**32 (s) The Executive Committee shall constitute an Internal Complaints Committee to prevent and address 'Sexual Harassment of women'.**

	The Association shall constitute an independent Internal Complaints Committee, as required by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013, in accordance with the Bye-Laws.	**Read with Article 6 (e) vi.** *Comment:* This is an already existing Committee and hence, the insertion is not necessary.
<u>Rule 6(d)</u> (existing) AITA ***Athletes' Commission*** As required by the Olympic Charter, AITA will have an Athletes' Commission. The Commission shall be formed with the following criteria: (a) The Commission will have a maximum 8 members with its own office bearers. (b) A member can serve a maximum of three (3) terms, i.e. 12 years. (c) 50% of the members will be elected by the players and 50% will be nominated by the Executive Committee of AITA. (d) Elections to the Commission shall be held every 4 years. (e) To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Commission an athlete must have: (i) been above 18 years of age; (ii) achieved an ATP/WTA ranking and/or ITF Junior Ranking of less than 300 and/or ITF Seniors Ranking (age groups 35+/40+ only) of less than 25, during his/her career; (iii) never received any sanction in relation to World Anti-Doping Code. (f) Election would be conducted in the presence of an AITA appointed Election Observer. (g) Commission will try and maintain Gender Equality and have at least 2 female athletes.	6(d) [Substitute] Athletes Committee: As required by the Olympic Charter, AITA will have an Athletes Committee. The Committee shall be formed with the following criteria: (a) The Committee will have a maximum of 8 members with its own office bearers. (b) A member can serve a maximum of three (3) terms, i.e. 12 years. (c) 50% of the members will be elected by the players and 50% will be nominated by the Executive Committee of AITA. (d) Elections to the Committee shall be held every 4 years. (e) To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Committee, an athlete must have satisfied the following criteria: (i) must be above 18 years of age; (ii) must have achieved an ATP/WTA ranking and/or ITF Junior Ranking of less than 300 and/or ITF Seniors Ranking (age groups 35+/40+ only) of less than 25, during his/her career; and	**6(f) AITA Athletes Committee** **AITA will have an elected Athletes Committee. The Committee shall be formed with the following criteria:** **(a) The Athletes Committee will have 2 members (1 male and 1 female) who shall be ex officio members of the Executive Committee of AITA.** **(b) Term: The Athletes Committee shall have a term of 4 years from the date of their election.** **(c) Tenure: A member can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms, i.e. 12 years, and after that they must undergo a cooling off period of one term i.e. 4 years, before again seeking election to the Athletes Committee.** **(d) Eligibility: To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Athletes Committee an athlete must have satisfied the following criteria:** **i. Must be an Indian citizen, and** **ii. Must be above 18 years of age on the day of announcement of election, and** **iii. be in good standing with AITA, meaning not currently suspended or otherwise ineligible to participate in AITA-recognised tournaments pursuant to any applicable rules or regulations, and**

(h) Commission will have only one member from the Seniors category. (i) The Commission will nominate two representatives to be members of the AITA Executive Committee, with concurrence of AITA President. (j) The Commission will be elected by athletes who qualify to be members as per the above criteria.	(iii) must never have received any sanction in relation to the World Anti-Doping Code: Provided that the athlete shall not be eligible if he or she meets any of the criteria for disqualification given in Rule 11 of the Sports Governance Rules 2026. (f) Elections to the Committee shall be conducted by the Electoral Officer simultaneously with elections to the Executive Committee. (g) Not fewer than fifty per cent. of the members of the Athletes Committee shall be women. (h) The Committee will have only one member from the Seniors category. (i) The Athletes Committee shall nominate two representatives to be members of the Executive Committee. (j) The Committee will be elected by athletes who qualify to be members as per the above criteria. Its constitution, operation and procedure shall comply with the International Charters and Statutes of the International Tennis Federation; in the absence of such guidelines, with those of the Indian Olympic Association; and in the absence of both, with model guidelines issued by the National Sports Board.	**iv. not have previously served a suspension period of three (3) months or longer, unless AITA approves their eligibility taking into account all relevant factors, and** **v. Must never have received any sanction in relation to World Anti-Doping Code, and** **vi. Must never have received any sanction from ITF, AITA or any of its State/UT Affiliate.** **(e) Election would be conducted in the presence of an AITA appointed election observer.** **(f) The Athletes Committee shall perform the functions and shall be elected as per the Athletes Committee bye-laws appended to this Constitution as Annexure II. [Attached]** ***Comments***: 1. The proposed Athletes Committee provides a balanced and democratic platform for athlete representation in AITA's governance structure. 2. The earlier criteria such as ATP/WTA ranking narrowed down the pool of athletes considerably and hence, the same has been proposed to be done away with. Instead, a broader and purely merit based mechanism based on AITA rankings has been provided, which leaves no scope for any tampering in the future. 3. Equal representation of male and female athletes, direct participation in the Executive Committee, clear eligibility standards, term limits, and a cooling-

		off period help ensure transparency, accountability, and fresh leadership. These are in strict compliance with the Act and the Rules. 4. The framework empowers athletes to have a meaningful voice in decision-making while maintaining integrity and good governance standards in line with the objectives of modern sports governance. 5. Exhaustive Athletes Committee Bye-Laws have been laid down so that there is no scope for tampering by future ECs. 6. The eligibility criteria is in strict consonance with the Sports Act and the Rules thereunder. 7. The Ld. Administrator has suggested 50% nomination by EC. Our proposal completely excludes EC from the process and allows athletes to choose their representatives entirely from amongst themselves. 8. The Bye-Laws proposed by us go on to vest proper functioning in the Athletes Committee, which is absent in the proposal of the Ld. Administrator. 9. Applicability of Rule 11 proposed by the Ld. Administrator and 50% reservation for women may be incorporated. 10. ITF does not have any full-time Athletes Commission/Committee. They have a tournament oriented panel. They have shared with us their rules for the World Tennis Tour Player Panel vide email dated 15.05.2026. So we have relied upon that as the guiding tool. **[Email and document shared by ITF attached]**

		11. The term of members in ITF is 2 years as against the higher 4 years proposed by us. Please see Clause 17 of ITF Constitution.
Rule 7 **Powers and Duties of Central Council** (a) To elect the President, Senior Vice President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary General, the Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee, and to convene general body meetings of affiliated organisations to resolve disputes and conduct elections. (b) To carry out the objects of the Association and to make, maintain and publish all necessary Rules and Regulations. (c) To appoint not more than one person to act on the Committee of Management of national tournaments held in India by affiliated organisations. (d) To prohibit any act or practice by affiliated members, clubs or Tournament Committees or by any person which is detrimental to the interests of the Game and the Association. (e) To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the International Federation Rules or rules framed by the Association. (f) To impose penalty on affiliated organisations and on members and/or players for any infringement of the Rules and Regulations of the Association. (g) To consider and deal with all applications for affiliation and decide all questions as to the right of representation at meetings of the Central Council.	7(a) [Consequential amendment]: To elect the President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary General, the Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and members of the Executive Committee, and to convene general body meetings of affiliated organisations to resolve disputes and conduct elections. [**All other sub-clauses (b)–(o): no change]**	**7. POWERS AND DUTIES OF GENERAL BODY** The General Body shall have the following powers :– a. **To elect the President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary General, the Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and other members of Executive Committee.** In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the powers mentioned above, the General Body shall have the power to convene a general body meeting of any of its affiliated organisations to resolve any dispute which impedes the normal functioning of its affiliated organisations that may have arisen in the management, elections, in conduct of tournaments etc. and to conduct elections by issuing required notice and complying with the formalities as enjoined by the rules. All decisions taken and elections held at meetings convened by the General Body shall be absolutely binding on affiliated organisations. The General Body may also depute such persons according to its own decisions for convening such meeting and for presiding over such meetings and for conduct of such meeting and all decisions taken by these representatives shall be absolutely binding on the affiliated organisation and its members. b. To carry out the objects of the Association and to make, maintain and publish all necessary Rules and Regulations in connection therewith.

(h) To decide all questions of eligibility of persons nominated or elected as office-bearers and Councillors of the Central Council and to annul any election. (i) To delegate all or any of its powers to its duly appointed committees. (j) To enlist by co-option or invitation the services of any person for any special purpose. (k) To establish and maintain office premises, to appoint staff and to appoint auditors. (l) To disaffiliate any organisation which has not complied with any of the rules. Also to re-admit organisations that have been disaffiliated. (m) To build Stadia and Tennis Courts on land belonging to the Association or in partnership with another body. (n) In case of dispute between AITA and its office-bearers on one part and State Associations, clubs, institutions, councillors or any individual on the other part, only courts within the territorial area of Delhi State shall have jurisdiction, irrespective of any other territorial jurisdiction. (o) Affiliated units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate/Associate Affiliate will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate/Associate Affiliate. **[EXISTING PROVISION RELIED UPON BY THE LD. ADMINISTRATOR IS NOT THE CORRECT EXISITING PROVISION]**		c. To prohibit any act or practice by affiliated members and clubs or Tournament Committees affiliated to such members or by any person which in the opinion of the General Body is detrimental to the interests of the Game and of the Association and to deal with any such member, club or Tournament Committee or person, in such manner as Council may think proper. d. To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the International Charters or rules framed by the Association. e. To impose penalty on affiliated organisations and on such members and/or players for any infringement of the Rules and Regulations of the Association. f. To consider and deal with all applications for affiliation and decide all questions as to the right of representation at the meetings of the General Body. g. To decide all questions of eligibility of persons nominated or elected as office-bearers and Councillors of the General Body and to annul any election if through non-attendance or any other course, continuation as a member of the General Body is not considered to be in the interest of the Association. h. To delegate all or any of its powers to its duly appointed committees. i. To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not a member of the Executive Committee. j. To establish and maintain office premises, to appoint staff and to appoint auditors. k. To disaffiliate any organisation which has not complied with any of the rules and which has not

		resulted in an automatic disaffiliation. The General Body shall also have the power to readmit such organisation that is disaffiliated under these rules on being satisfied that the noncompliance was not intentional and the circumstances indicated sufficient cause for condoning the noncompliance. l. To build stadia and tennis courts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body. m. Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA Executive Committee has the power to inform its Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any member of the executive committee of such an affiliated unit. n. **To provide interpretation to these rules and regulations, whenever required.** ***Comments:*** 1. The existing Clause 7 with the proposed changes is reproduced above with changes in Bold. 2. Clauses (c) and (n) of the existing constitution have been deleted. 3. Name has been changed to General Body. 4. Additionally new clause (n) has been added to the existing Article.

		5. Provision for dispute resolution of affiliates has been removed due to the new Dispute Resolution Committee ecosystem being introduced by the Act.
<u>Rule 8(b)</u> The Senior Vice President (i) In the absence of the President, the Senior Vice President shall preside over all meetings of the Central Council and the Executive Committee. (ii) The Senior Vice President may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the Central Council. **[EXISTING PROVISION RELIED UPON BY THE LD. ADMINISTRATOR IS NOT THE CORRECT EXISITING PROVISION]**	8(b) [Deleted] The provisions relating to the Senior Vice President are deleted, the post having been abolished under Rule 6(b) [Substitute]. Note: The function of presiding over meetings in the absence of the President should be assigned to a designated senior member of the Executive Committee.	**No post of SENIOR Vice President existed in the existing constitution of AITA.**
Rule 8(d) The VP Sports One of the Vice Presidents will be elected by the Executive Committee to act as VP Sports. Powers include oversight of Professional Tennis activities including Davis Cup, Fed Cup, professional tournaments, Players' issues, Media management	8(d) [Deleted]	**Posts of Vice President (Chair) and Vice President (Sports) both have been deleted.**
<u>Rule 11</u> (existing) **Tenure of Office** Office bearers, Senior Vice President, Vice-Presidents, VP Sports, and Joint Secretaries shall	Rule 11 [Substitute]: All members of the EC shall hold office for one term of four years and after expiry of that period, until their successors are appointed.	**11. QUALFICATIONS FOR ELECTION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **a. A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination to, the Executive Committee, unless:**

hold office for one term of four years. Retiring office bearers shall be eligible for re-election. The President can hold the office for a maximum period of twelve (12) years with or without break. The Hon. Secretary General and the Hon. Treasurer may serve a maximum of two successive terms of four years each after which a minimum cooling off period of four years will apply. The President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer shall cease to hold that post on attaining the age of 70 years. Age limit applies only to three Office Bearers; no limit for VPs, Joint Secretaries, or elected EC members. No office bearer of the AITA shall be eligible to be the office bearer simultaneously of any other NSF except the Indian Olympic Association.	Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election by simple majority. No member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to contest election or hold office if such person has attained the age of seventy years on the last date for filing of nominations. All members of the EC may hold office, separately or in combination of multiple posts, for a maximum of three terms of four years each. On completion of two consecutive terms in one or more of those offices, whether singly or in combination of multiple posts, a person shall be ineligible to hold or contest for any of the offices for one full term. After expiry of that cooling-off period, such person shall again be eligible to contest for any post in the Executive Committee. Furthermore, no member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to hold office simultaneously in the governing body of— (a) any other National Sports Federation or Association except the Indian Olympic Association; or (b) any State or Union Territory sports association affiliated to, or recognised by, AITA, including Affiliates.	**i. such person is a citizen of India who has attained at least twenty-five years (25) of age and is not seventy-five (75) of age on the last date of nomination for election;** **ii. the nomination of such person is duly proposed and seconded by a voting member of the General Body;** **iii. such person is not declared to be of unsound mind;** **iv. such person complies with the International Charters and Statutes and bye-laws relating to age and term of the Executive Committee** **v. such person, if he is a government servant, has necessary approvals from the Government, as applicable.** **b. A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination to, the posts of the President or the Secretary General or the Treasurer, unless such person is (i) a SOM GB Representative, or (ii) has previously served as a member for at least one full term in the Executive Committee of AITA on any post, or (ii) has previously served as the President, or the Secretary General or the Treasurer in any of its State Affiliate units.** **c. A person may continuously hold the position of either the President or the Secretary General or the Treasurer, as the case may be, for up to three consecutive terms separately, or in combination thereof and shall be eligible for election to such posts or to the Executive Committee after a mandatory cooling off period of one term.**

		Comments: 1. The proposed provision is a verbatim reproduction of the relevant provision of the Act. 2. **On The other hand, the amendments proposed by the Ld. Administrator are not in line with the provisions of the Act.** 3. ITF Constitution does not contain any age restriction. Please see Clause 12 of the ITF Constitution in this regard. Hence, as per the Second Proviso to Section 4(2)(d), the upper cap of 75 years is permissible. 4. Any reference to IOC Charter is misplaced as AITA is governed not by the IOC Charter, but by the ITF Charter. If there is anything in the ITF Charter, it is presumed to be permitted by IOC and its Charter as the converse would have resulted in ITF being de-recognised by IOC. 5. It is pertinent to note that Second Proviso to Section 4(2)(e) of the Act imposes cooling-off restrictions only on the positions of President, Secretary, and Treasurer and the same has been proposed by us. There is no provision in the Act which states that the cooling-off rule shall apply to all EC members and posts. 6. The Section 4 of the Act or the Rules do not provide any outer cap of 12 years for holding any office by any person. There is no such cap in the ITF Constitution either and hence, inclusion of the same by the Ld. Administrator is not based on any governing document.

		7. Section 4(2) does not provide for any of the conditions proposed by the Ld. Administrator. 8. Rule 11(2) of NSG Rules is not at all applicable in this case as the provisions therein only pertain to terms, tenures and posts held by an individual in another NSF and not in AITA itself. Moreover, Rule 11 has been proposed to be incorporated *ad verbatim* as a new Clause 12 [*Please see additional clauses proposed below*] by us and hence, that too stands complied with. Usage of Rule 11(2) to apply cooling off criteria to all EC members is not correct.
Rule 13 **Permanent Vacancies** (a) President: Permanent vacancy shall be filled by the Senior Vice President. (b) Senior Vice President: Permanent vacancy shall be filled from amongst the Vice Presidents by the Executive Committee. (c) Honorary Secretary General, the VP Sports, the Hon. Joint Secretaries and the Hon. Treasurer: Permanent vacancy shall be filled by the Executive Committee. (d) Members of the Executive Committee: Permanent vacancy shall be filled by the Executive Committee from amongst the Hon. Secretaries or representatives of the affiliated organisations. It is not obligatory to fill in such vacancies.	13 [Substitute] Permanent Vacancies: All Permanent vacancies shall be filled by re-elections and the elected member shall have hold office until the expiry of the term of the Central Council, Executive Committee or Sub-Committees, as the case may be.	**14. PERMANENT VACANCIES** **Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any member of the Executive Committee from attending to his duties for more than 3 months.** **a. President** **Vice President will fill the permanent vacancy of the post of President till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted.** **b. Honorary Secretary General, Vice President, Hon. Joint Secretaries and Hon. Treasurer** **Permanent vacancy of the posts of Honorary Secretary General, Vice President, Hony. Jt. Secretaries or Hon. Treasurer shall be filled in by the Executive Committee till 3 months**

[EXISTING PROVISION RELIED UPON BY THE LD. ADMINISTRATOR IS NOT THE CORRECT EXISITING PROVISION]		**or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted.** **Any member of the Executive Committee who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy shall not be deemed to have enjoyed a term of 4 years. He will be entitled to contest election as per rules and if elected, hold office for a further term of 4 years and so on as provided herein above.** ***Comment:*** 1. This provision provides fair balance between administrative continuity and democratic governance. 2. It ensures that vacancies do not disrupt the functioning of AITA by permitting temporary appointments, while requiring elections to be held within a short period to restore the mandate of the members.
Rule 14(a) All bills shall be passed either by the President, Honorary Secretary General or the VP Sports before payment.	14(a) [Substitute]: All bills shall be passed either by the President or the Honorary Secretary General before payment	**All bills shall be passed either by the President, Honorary Secretary General or the Treasurer before payment** *Comment*: Only change required is to replace VP Sports with the Treasurer. Just like all other NSFs, the Treasurer is always one of the authorised personnel to pass bills and sign cheques.
Rule 14(b)	14(b) [Substitute]:	Existing provision:

All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General or the President or the Senior Vice President. Cheques for amounts up to Rs.50,000/- may also be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the CEO or CFO. **[EXISTING PROVISION RELIED UPON BY THE LD. ADMINISTRATOR IS NOT THE CORRECT EXISITING PROVISION]**	All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General, or failing them, the President and the Honorary Secretary General. Cheques for amounts up to Rs. 50,000/- may also be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the CEO or CFO.	All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General or the President **This requires no change.**
Rule 15 **Meetings of the Central Council** (a) Annual General Meeting of the Central Council shall be held annually. Ordinary business includes: receiving the report of the SG and Treasurer's statement; electing office-bearers when due; confirming names of councillors; appointing auditors. (b) All other business at an Annual General Meeting or General Meeting shall be deemed "Special Business" and shall be decided by two-third majority of votes properly recorded. (c) An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the President/Executive Committee whenever they think fit, or shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within three months of	15(j) [Consequential amendment]: All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest may be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General, the CEO or any other person subject to approval by the Chairman. [All other sub-clauses (a)–(i): no change]	**MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL BODY** a. Annual General Meeting of the General Body shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date not later than 30th day of September. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be: - i. To receive the report of the Honorary Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by the Executive Committee and the Hon. Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited. ii. To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary General, Hon.

receipt of requisition by a minimum of five affiliates specifying the business. (d) No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted unless a quorum is present. (e) All ordinary business of the AGM shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded. Business regarding "Change of Constitution and Rules" will be decided by two-third majority. (f) In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman shall have a casting vote. (g) Notice of every meeting shall be sent to all office-bearers and members of the Central Council at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. (h) At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by open voting unless ballot is directed by the Chairman or demanded by not less than three persons entitled to vote. (i) Elections shall be by secret ballot. (j) All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest may be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General / VP Sports / CEO / any other person subject to approval by the Chairman.		Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee. iii. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year. b. An Extra-Ordinary General **M**eeting may be convened by the (i) President, or (ii) the Hon. Secretary General, anytime as required. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting can also be convened on receipt of requisition by a minimum of five State Affiliates, by specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. A notice of 3 (three) weeks shall be given for such a meeting. If the President or the Hon. Secretary General do not issue a notice for such Extra-Ordinary General Meeting within 7 days of the receipt of such requisition as mentioned above, any 3 of the 5 states who have requisitioned, can issue a notice for Extra-Ordinary General Meeting, and such meeting and the business transacted in the meeting shall be considered valid and shall not be legally objected by the Association. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting, other than that mentioned in the notice. c. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. No quorum will be

[EXISTING PROVISION RELIED UPON BY THE LD. ADMINISTRATOR IS NOT THE CORRECT EXISITING PROVISION]		necessary for an adjourned meeting. d. All businesses of the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. However, any business regarding amendment of these rules and regulations will be decided by two-third majority of the member present and who are eligible to vote. e. In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote. f. Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries and Members of the General Body at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Hon. Secretary General, report of the Hon. Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting. g. At a meeting, every question or motion shall be

		decided by show of hands unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is- i. Directed by the Chairman, or ii. Demanded by not less than 25 (twenty-five) percent of persons present and entitled to vote. h. Elections shall be by secret ballot. i. All the General Body Meetings shall be always video recorded. j. All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of the President. ***Comments:*** 1. The proposed provisions strengthen democratic governance, transparency, and accountability within AITA by clearly regulating the conduct of General Body Meetings, prescribing notice requirements, voting thresholds, requisition rights, and mandatory video recording of meetings. 2. Amendments are made to Articles (a), (b), (d) and

		(i) of the existing constitution. [Which are visible in the Constitution of AITA – Track change mode]
Rule 21 **Disputes** (a) All unresolved disputes arising within the affiliated units of AITA or between affiliated units of AITA shall be referred to the AITA Arbitration Committee by the affiliated units. The arbitration proceedings shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. (b) The arbitration procedure shall be completed within the period specified by the AITA Executive Committee (President AITA based on the circumstances has the authority to extend or vary the period).	**21 Disputes** All unresolved disputes arising within the affiliated units of AITA or between affiliated units of AITA shall be referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee by the affiliated units.	**This Clause has been proposed to be omitted in view of the proposed incorporation of the new Dispute Resolution Committee, its composition and functioning mechanisms introduced vide proposed amended Clause 6(d).** ***Comment***: 1. The proposed Dispute Resolution Committee is a progressive governance measure that promotes independent, efficient, and expert resolution of disputes within the sport. 2. The inclusion of legal professionals, mediation, and a structured appellate mechanism strengthens transparency, accountability, and institutional autonomy. 3. Thus, this clause is proposed to be deleted.
Rule 23(a) (existing) **Voting** An Affiliate will be required to have 2 representatives. Each representative of an Affiliate shall be entitled to a total of 1 vote at all meetings of the Central Council.	**23(a)** [Substitute]: Every Affiliate registered with the National Sports Board will be required to have one representative each. Each representative shall be entitled to one vote at all meetings of the Central Council and at elections.	The following shall have voting rights in the General Body: i. Each Stat Affiliate will be represented in the General Body by 2 representatives who shall be entitled to a total of 1 vote at all meetings of the General Body. ii. Each SOM GB Representative shall have 1 vote

		each at all meetings of the General Body. ***Comment***: 1. The proposed provision by the Ld. Administrator restricting each Affiliate Unit to only one representative does not find basis either in law or any prevalent practice in an NSF. Thus, the same is unwarranted and it adversely affects the objective of broad-based participation in the governance of the sport. State Affiliates represent a huge population and hence, must be entitled to two votes. 2. Section 4(1)(a) of the Act provides that the General Body shall consist of an equal number of representatives from each Affiliate Unit. The emphasis of the Act is on ensuring equality of representation amongst Affiliate Units and not on limiting representation to a single individual. 3. Therefore, permitting two representatives from each State/UT Affiliate, with equal representation across all Affiliates, remains fully consistent with the letter and spirit of the Act. 4. The existing Constitution of the All India Tennis Association (AITA) provides for two representatives from each affiliated State/UT Association, with each representative having one vote. Tennis is a sport that requires greater outreach

		and development across States and Union Territories. Retaining two representatives from each Affiliate Unit promotes broader engagement and strengthens democratic participation. 5. Further, as pointed out hereinabove, requirement of compliance by State Affiliated with the Act has been postponed till end of this year. Further, the NSB has still not been constituted and may take time. The framework and requirements for registration with NSB have also not been laid down yet. Thus, incorporating the requirement of registration with NSB is premature at this stage.
Rule 23(aa) No existing provision. Sportspersons of outstanding merit did not exist as a General Body category under the existing Rules.	**23(aa)** [New]: Each sportsperson of outstanding merit in the Central Council shall be entitled to one vote at all meetings of the Central Council and at elections.	**Each SOM GB Representative shall have 1 vote each at all meetings of the General Body.** <u>*Comment*</u>: SOM with 1 vote each is consistent with the Act and the phrase General Body has been proposed. Further, Clause 23 has been simplified to read straightforward and can be seen in the chart as well as the file showing the amended constitution of AITA clean/track.
Rule 26 **Travelling and Halting Expenses** The President, Senior Vice President, Hon. Secretary General, VP Sports, Hon. Joint Secretaries and the Hon. Treasurer, the members of	26 [Substitute] Travelling and Halting Expenses: The President, Hon. Secretary General, Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer, the members of the Executive Committee and members of the	**26. TRAVELLING AND HALTING EXPENSES** **The members of the Executive Committee and members of the various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as**

the Executive Committee and members of the various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as may be approved by the Executive Committee.	various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as may be approved by the Executive Committee.	**may be approved by the Executive Committee.** ***Comment***: As it is proposed to empower sub-committees to function more proactively, it is proposed to grant travelling and halting expenses to its members as well.
Rule 30(A) (existing) **Eligibility for Election to the Status of Office Bearers / Executive Committee Member** If the contesting candidate happens to be a Govt employee, the nomination must be accompanied by a 'No Objection Certificate' from the employer indicating that they have no objection in filing nomination for the election to the post desired.	30(A) [Substitute] Eligibility for Election to the Status of Executive Committee Member: (i) Every person seeking to contest election to any post in the Executive Committee shall- (a) be a citizen of India; (b) be not less than twenty-five years of age on the date of filing of the nomination; (c) satisfy the age eligibility conditions prescribed under Rule 11; (d) have the nomination proposed and seconded by voting members of the Central Council; and (e) not be of unsound mind. A government employee shall additionally file a No Objection Certificate from the employer.	Rule 30(A) is proposed to be Omitted *Comment:* The proposed provisions regarding Qualification to the elections to the Executive Committee are incorporated in our proposed to be added in Article 11, which is a verbatim reproduction of Rule 10(2) of the NSB Rules.

Rule 30(B) (existing) **Disabilities** No one shall be eligible to become an office bearer, Senior Vice President, Vice President Sports, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretary or Executive Committee member who (a) Has been convicted for an act of moral turpitude. (b) Has been removed from any office for malfeasance (4-year bar). (c) Has been declared as insolvent. (d) Has been suspended or debarred. (e) An office bearer shall not be an office bearer of any other NSF except IOA.	30(B) [Substitute]: No person shall be eligible to hold any office or position as a member of the Central Council, Executive Committee or any sub-committee of the Association who- (a) has been declared insolvent, for the duration of such insolvency; (b) has been convicted by a court in India for any offence and sentenced to imprisonment; (c) is subject to a ban imposed by the Ethics Committee, for the duration of such ban; (d) has been convicted for an offence involving moral turpitude, excepting offences of a political nature; (e) has been removed from any office of the Association or of an Affiliate for malfeasance; (f) is under suspension or debarment by the Association, for the duration of such suspension; or (g) is subject to a finding of an Intractable Conflict of Interest by the Ethics Committee under Rule 30(C), for so long as that conflict subsists. In addition, a person shall also be disqualified if such person (h) is a member of the governing body of any other National Sports Body other than the Indian Olympic Association; or (i) has not completed the cooling-off period of one full term after holding the post of President,	**12. DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GENERAL BODY, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES** **a. A person shall be disqualified from being a member of the General Body, or of any committee of a AITA, and shall not be eligible for contesting for election to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee, if such person:** **i. is declared insolvent under applicable law; or** **ii. is subject to a conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for an offence, followed by a sentence of imprisonment; or** **iii. is subject to a ban from holding any such position by an order of the Ethics Committee of AITA; or** **iv. is a member of the general body or of any committee of any other National Sports Body which is registered with the National Sports Board under the Act, except the Indian Olympic Association; or** **v. has not completed the cooling off period of one term after having held the position of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in any other National Sports Body which is registered with the National Sports Board under the Act, except the Indian Olympic Association; or**

	Secretary General or Treasurer in any other National Sports Body.	**b. The period of disqualification under Clause 12(a)(i) shall be for the period of insolvency.** **c. The period of disqualification under Clause 12(a)(ii) shall be for a period of one full term of the Executive Committee after the completion of such sentence.** **d. The period of disqualification under Clause 12(a)(iii) shall be for the duration of such ban.** *Comments:* 1. The proposed provision regarding disqualifications is a verbatim reproduction from Rule 11 of the NSB Rules and has been proposed to be added as a new Article 12. 2. There is no provision in the Rules or the Act which provides for disqualification on the ground of (a) "*convicted for an offence involving moral turpitude, excepting offences of a political nature*", (b) "*has been removed from any office of the Association or of an Affiliate for malfeasance;*", (c) "*is under suspension or debarment by the Association, for the duration of such suspension;*" and (d) "*is subject to a finding of an Intractable Conflict of Interest by the Ethics Committee under Rule 30(C), for so long as that conflict subsists.*". Thus, there is no rationale or legal basis for including these proposals. Please note that removal from State Affiliate may be due to political enmity and thus, may not be a valid ground to disentitle an individual from contesting and voting. Further, the term 'malfeasance' has a wide amplitude and

		allowing such terms to be there will lead to misuse in the future and hence, should be avoided.
Rule 30(C) **No existing provision.**	30(C) [New] Conflict of Interest: 30(C). 1. For the purposes of this Rule, a Conflict of Interest arises when the personal, financial or professional interests of an individual associated with AITA, conflict, or may reasonably be perceived to conflict, with that individual's duties and obligations to AITA. A Conflict of Interest may take any of the following forms: (a) Contractual Interest: When AITA or an Affiliate enters into contractual arrangements with entities in which the individual concerned, or his or her relative, partner or close associate, has an interest, including cases where such involvement may compromise, or be perceived to compromise, the individual's discharge of duties. (b) Incompatible Roles: When the individual holds two separate posts or positions under AITA, the functions of which would require the one to be subordinate to the other or place them in opposition. (c) Commercial Conflicts: When the individual enters into endorsement contracts or other professional engagements with third parties, the discharge of which would compromise the individual's primary obligation to AITA or to the	**This proposal has a wide scale ramification on the tennis ecosystem and hence, needs to cater to the special ecosystem prevalent in India for the sport of tennis. Thus, it is suggested that this proposed addition may be discussed threadbare in the General Body Meeting to be held in consonance with the directions of the Hon'ble High Court.**

	sport, or give rise to a perception that the integrity of the sport stands compromised. (d) Prior Relationship: When the individual has a commercial engagement, past or present, with a vendor, service provider, commercial partner, broadcast partner or sponsor who is being, or is to be, engaged by or on behalf of AITA or an Affiliate. (e) Position of Influence: When the individual occupies a post calling for decisions of governance, management or selection to be made, and a relative, friend or close associate is within the zone of consideration or subject to such decision-making. This includes cases where the individual holds any stake, voting rights or power to influence decisions of any tournament organiser, ranking event or other body operating under the auspices of AITA. 2. Within fifteen days of assuming any office or position under AITA, whether on the Central Council, the Executive Committee, any sub-committee, or as an office bearer, every individual shall disclose in writing to the Ethics Committee any existing or potential event that may constitute a Conflict of Interest. Such disclosure shall be published on the website of AITA. Failure to make complete disclosure, or any partial or total suppression thereof, shall render the individual liable to disciplinary action, which may include removal from office without benefits. A declaration under this clause	

	does not give rise to a presumption that a conflict in fact exists; it is made for purposes of information and transparency. 3. Any person may make a complaint to the Ethics Committee alleging a Conflict of Interest on the part of any individual holding any office or position under AITA. Every such complaint shall be— (a) made in writing and signed by the complainant; and (b) accompanied by particulars sufficient to identify the nature and basis of the alleged conflict. The Ethics Committee may also, on its own motion (*suo motu)*, take cognizance of any matter that may constitute a Conflict of Interest on the part of any individual holding any office or position under AITA. The Ethics Committee may dismiss, with reasons, any complaint that is frivolous, vexatious or not supported by any particulars. Subject thereto, whether acting on a complaint or in a *suo motu* nature, the Ethics Committee shall inquire into the matter and take such action, as issued in writing, as it considers appropriate under Rule 30(C)(5). All complaints, *suo motu* proceedings and the proceedings thereunder shall be treated as confidential pending the conclusion of the inquiry.	

	4. The Ethics Committee shall classify a Conflict of Interest as either Tractable or Intractable: (a) A Tractable conflict is one capable of resolution through recusal of the individual concerned and/or full disclosure of the interest involved. (b) An Intractable conflict is one that cannot be resolved through disclosure and recusal alone. Where the Ethics Committee determines that a conflict is Intractable, the individual concerned shall be required to elect, within such period as the Ethics Committee may specify, between- (i) relinquishing the office or position held under AITA; or (ii) divesting, disassociating from, or terminating the interest, engagement, position or association that gives rise to the conflict - whether held in any other entity, organisation, association, affiliate, company or otherwise. Failure to make such election, or failure to give effect to the election made, within the period so specified shall render the individual liable to removal from office under AITA. A finding of an Intractable Conflict of Interest shall constitute a ground of disqualification under Rule 30(B)(g) for so long as the conflict subsists. 5. No individual shall simultaneously hold more than one of the following posts or	

	positions, except where expressly permitted under these Rules: (i) Member of the Central Council, Executive Committee or any sub-committee; (ii) Member of the Ethics Committee; (iii) Auditor of AITA; (iv) Service provider to AITA (legal, financial or otherwise); or (v) Party to a contractual engagement with AITA (including broadcast partner, commercial partner, sponsor, contractor or otherwise). 6. Every individual holding office on the date these Rules come into force shall make the disclosure required under Rule 30(C)(3) within ninety days of that date.	

ADDITIONAL AMENDMENTS PROPOSED TO BE INCORPORATED IN THE CONSTITUTION OF AITA

(These are in addition to the clauses already discussed above and the same are not repeated here for brevity)

Note: In case of any discrepancy, kindly refer to the documents shared previously on 10.06.2026

Provision No.	Existing Provisions of the AITA Memorandum of Association, Rules and Bye-Laws of the All India Tennis Association (AITA)	Proposed Amendments by the Executive Committee to the Memorandum of Association, Rules and Bye-Laws of the All India Tennis Association (AITA)
Memorandum of Association		
Sec-4 (Aims & Objects)	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of tennis (hereinafter called "The Game") in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game and those of the Association and particularly:	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of tennis (hereinafter called "The Game") in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, **the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game and** those of the Association and particularly: ***Comment:*** The proposed amendment broadens the Association's mandate to expressly recognize its responsibility towards players, coaches, and other stakeholders, ensuring that governance and decision-making are inclusive, transparent
Sec-4(s) (Agreements with firms)	In furtherance of its objects, AITA may enter into an agreement with any firm, organisation or concern in which **the office bearers** and the members of Executive Committee may or may not be financially interested as Director or partner.	In furtherance of its objects, AITA may enter into an agreement with any firm, organisation or concern in which the members of Executive Committee may or may not be financially interested as director or partner. ***Comment:*** Term 'office bearers' has been deleted across the Constitution.

Rules of the All India Tennis Association		
Sec-2 (In Recital)	These shall be applicable to all affiliated units in the country.	These shall be applicable **throughout** the country. ***Comment:*** Proposed amendment is change in the language.
Sec-3(a) (AITA)	AITA means the All India Tennis Association (hereinafter referred to as 'The Association').	AITA **or Association:** means the All India Tennis Association. ***Comment*:** Proposed amendment is to incorporate the term Association which has been used across the document.
Sec-3(b) (Association composition)	The Association shall consist of: i. Affiliates with voting rights: A State Tennis Association, Union Territory Tennis Association which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules. ii. Associate Affiliates without voting rights: Institution or any other organisation to which AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, viz Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc.	**Omitted** ***Comment**:* The entire definition and its sub-categories are deleted. The composition of the Association is now addressed under the restructured Rule 6(a) (General Body).
Sec-3(h) (President)	President: Means the President of the AITA duly elected by the Central Council.	**3(g)** President: Means the President of the AITA duly elected by the **General Body.** ***Comment:*** Term 'Central Council' has been changed to General Body to make it consistent with the terminology of the Act.

Sec-3(j) (Hon. Secretary General)	Hon. Secretary General: Shall mean the Hon. Secretary General duly elected by the Central Council.	**3(i)** Hon. Secretary General: Shall mean the Hon. Secretary General duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(k) (Hon. Joint Secretary)	Hon. Joint Secretary: Shall mean the Hon. Joint Secretary duly elected by the Central Council. A total of 4 Joint Secretaries shall be elected, one from each zone (North, South, East, West).	**3(j)** Hon. Joint **Secretaries**: Shall mean the Hon. Joint **Secretaries** duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(l) (Hon. Treasurer)	Hon. Treasurer: Shall mean the Hon. Treasurer duly elected by the Central Council.	**3(k)** Hon. Treasurer: Shall mean the Hon. Treasurer duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(m) (CEO & CFO)	CEO & CFO: Means the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer respectively duly appointed by the Association.	**Omitted.** ***Comment:*** This article has been Omitted since there is no CEO/ CFO post in AITA.
Sec-3(n)	The Affiliation year or Financial Year: Means the period of twelve months from 1st April to the following 31st March.	**Renumbered as 3(l)**
Sec-3(o) (Jurisdiction)	Jurisdiction: The jurisdiction of the Association shall extend all over India and the territories of India.	**3(m)** Jurisdiction: The jurisdiction of the Association shall extend all over India**, including the Union Territories of** India.
Sec-3(p) (Tennis)	Tennis: Means the game of Tennis, Padel/Padel Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Beach Tennis or any other form of Tennis.	**3(n)** Tennis: Means the game of Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Beach Tennis or any other form of Tennis.
Sec-3(q) (Prominent Tennis Player)	Prominent Tennis Player: Shall mean any tennis player who was ranked in AITA/ITF/ATP/WTA or has represented the nation/state/university either individually or in team competitions, during his/her career.	**Omitted.**

		Comment: This provision has been omitted since there is a new process for SOM and Athlete's Committee in the following Articles.
New	**3(b) Board: means the National Sports Board established under sub-section (1) of section 5 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.**	
New	**3(o) Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit: Shall have the scope and meaning ascribed to the term in <u>Annexure III</u> of these Rules.**	
New	**3(p) International Charters: means the Rules & Regulations, policies, codes and other such governance documents of the International Tennis Federation.**	
New	**3(q) ITF: means the International Tennis Federation.**	
New	**3(r) Act: means the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 as amended from time to time.**	
New	**3(s) Sports Rules: means the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 as amended from time to time.**	
New	**3(t) State Affiliate: shall include Union Territory Affiliates as well.**	
New	**3(u) Tribunal: means the National Sports Tribunal constituted under sub-section (1) of section 17 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.** ***Comment*:** The above additional definitions are proposed to incorporate definitions for terms which have been incorporated owing to the new statutory regime.	
Sec-4 (Constitution of Association)	The Association shall comprise of: (a) The State Associations affiliated to AITA; (b) Union Territory Associations affiliated to AITA; (c) Institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the	The Association shall comprise of: (a) **The General Body**; and (b) **The Executive Committee.**

	conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, viz Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc.	***Comment***: This is proposed to simplify the structure of AITA and make it cleat through the Constitution itself.
Sec-5 (Objects)	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of Tennis in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game and those of the Association and particularly as defined in Clause 4 of the Memorandum of Association.	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of Tennis in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, **the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game** and those of the Association and particularly as defined in Clause 4 of the Memorandum of Association. ***Comment:*** The proposed amendment broadens the Association's mandate to expressly recognize its responsibility towards players, coaches, and other stakeholders, ensuring that governance and decision-making are inclusive, transparent
Sec-6	a) Sub-Committees The Committees as mentioned below shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. The sub-committees will continue to function till the new sub-committees are appointed. 1. Management Committee ***(OMITTED)*** 2. Finance and Legal Committee ***(AMENDED)*** 3. International Committee ***(OMITTED)*** 4. Ethics Committee ***(AMENDED)*** 5. Arbitration Committee ***(REPLACED)*** 6. Tournament Committee 7. Senior Selection Committee 8. Junior Selection Committee	e. <u>Sub-Committees</u> ***(AMENDED)*** The Sub-Committees as mentioned below shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. The sub-committees will continue to function till the new sub-committees are appointed. i. Finance and Legal Committee ii. Tournament Committee iii. Senior Selection Committee iv. Junior Selection Committee **v. Coaching Committee *(RENAMED)*** vi. Internal Complaints Committee **(under POSH Act)** vii. Any other committee as may be appointed by the Executive Committee

	9. Coaches Education & Certification Committee ***(RENAMED)*** 10. Internal Complaints Committee 11. Any other committee as may be appointed by the Executive Committee <u>Management Committee</u> (***DELETED)*** A Management Committee shall be appointed to act on behalf of the Executive Committee and shall comprise of: • President • Vice President (Chair) • Hon. Secretary General • VP Sports • Joint Secretaries • Hon. Treasurer • Three (3) persons if so, nominated by the Executive Committee. Decisions of the Management Committee will be confirmed if so required, at the next Executive Committee Meeting. <u>Finance and Legal Committee</u> A Four (4) Member Finance and Legal Committee comprised of the VP (Chair), Hony. Secretary General, VP Sports and Treasurer shall be appointed to advise the Association on matters pertaining to: • Control of Legal Matters • Control of the finances and accounts of the Association.	<u>Finance and Legal Committee</u> ***(AMENDED)*** A **Five (5)** Member Finance and Legal Committee shall be appointed **by the Executive Committee (which shall include the Hony. Secretary General and the Hony. Treasurer as ex officio members)** to advise the Association on matters pertaining to: • Control of Legal Matters • Control of the finances and accounts of the Association. • Decisions on immovable or movable property of the Association. • Consideration of the accounts and scrutinization of proposals for expenditure. • Ways and means of raising funds for the Association. • Review of internal audit and statutory audit reports, verification and confirmation of the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer. • Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and steps to ensure that all procedures, processes, statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly. • Approval of expenditures above Rs. 50,000/- **subject to ratification by the Executive Committee in its next meeting**. <u>Tournament Committee</u>

	• Decisions on immovable or movable property of the Association. • Consideration of the accounts and scrutinization of proposals for expenditure. • Ways and means of raising funds for the Association. • Review of internal audit and statutory audit reports, verification and confirmation of the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer. • Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and steps to ensure that all procedures, processes, statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly. • Approval of expenditures above Rs 50,000. International Committee ***(DELETED)*** A three (3) Member International Committee shall be appointed to advise and represent AITA on International sports bodies & Associations. Any person representing on the Board of Directors of International / Asian Federation/s will automatically be a member of the Committee. Any remaining position will be proposed by the President and ratified by the Executive Committee. Ethics Committee	A Tournament Committee shall be appointed to advice on matters relating to Tournaments structuring, scheduling and other related matters. Senior Selection Committee A Senior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of teams for all domestic as well as international team events in the senior Men's and Ladies Category. Junior Selection Committee A Junior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of Junior teams for all domestic as well as international team events in all Junior age groups. Coaching Committee ***(RENAMED)*** A **Coaching Committee** shall be appointed and would be responsible for all matters relating to coaches, certification & education in the country. ***Comments:*** 1. The proposed Finance and Legal Committee enhances financial discipline and institutional oversight by providing specialised scrutiny of legal, financial, and property-related matters. 2. Requiring review of audits, budgets, and significant expenditures promotes transparency, accountability, and prudent financial management while enabling informed decision-making by the Executive Committee.

	An Ethics Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for looking into matters relating to adherence to ethical guidelines of the Association and the International Tennis Federation/Olympic Charter. Arbitration Committee ***(DELETED)*** An Arbitration Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and be responsible for dealing with any dispute between AITA and any of its affiliates/affiliates of affiliates/players/coaches/umpires & officials / administrators, and any other dispute relating to internal matters of AITA. The decision of the Arbitration Committee, which will act in accordance with the laws relating to arbitration in the country, will be final and binding on all concerned. Tournament Committee A Tournament Committee shall be appointed to advice on matters relating to Tournaments structuring, scheduling and other related matters. Senior Selection Committee A Senior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of teams for all domestic as well as international team events in the senior Men's and Ladies Category. Junior Selection Committee A Junior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of Junior	3. An additional safeguard of ratification of Finance Committee decisions in the EC has been proposed to ensure that no arbitrary decisions are taken by a select few. 4. Renaming is proposed to give clarity to the stakeholders on the purpose of the concerned sub-committee.

	teams for all domestic as well as international team events in all Junior age groups. <u>Coaches Education & Certification Committee</u> A Coaches Education & Certification Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for all matters relating to Coaches Certification & Education in the country.	
Sec-7	**The phrase 'Central Council' is replaced with 'General Body' across Sec-7** **Sub-sections under Sec-7 will be renumbered due to omissions as outlined hereunder.**	
Sec-7(c)	To appoint not more than one person to act on the Committee of Management of the national Grass Court Championship of India, National Hard Court Championship of India and on any other tournaments held in India by any affiliated organisation or any club or Tournament Committee affiliated to such organisation and the expenses of such appointed person shall be met by the Affiliate holding the tournament.	**Omitted.** ***Comment*:** These committees no longer exist and hence, it is proposed to omit this provision.
Sec-7(e)	To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the international Federation Rules or rules framed by the Association.	To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the **International Charters** or rules framed by the Association. ***Comment*:** This is aimed at aligning with phraseology used in Act.
Sec-7(j)	To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not an office-bearer or councilor.	To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not **a member of the Executive Committee**.

		Comment: The term 'office bearer' is omitted across the document.
Sec-7(l)	To build Stadia and Tennis Courts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body.	To build **s**tadia and **t**ennis **c**ourts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body. ***Comment***: This is a grammatical change as the terms were in uppercase and not defined anywhere.
Sec-7(n)	In case of dispute between the AITA and/or its office-bearers on one part and State Association or Union Territory Association, units affiliated to State Association, Club, Institution, Councillor or any individual on other part, relating to matters covered under rules and regulations of the AITA, only courts within territorial area of Delhi State shall have jurisdiction to try such matters, irrespective of any other territorial jurisdiction of a party or person to the dispute in such matters and this Rule is binding on its Affiliates, Associates, Councillors, clubs or Institutions, individual person or persons connected directly or indirectly with the AITA**.** All disputes shall always be referred first for arbitration by the AITA Arbitration Committee.	**Omitted.** ***Comment:*** Change is proposed owing to the new Dispute Resolution Committee having been set up.
Sec-7(o)	Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA	Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA Executive Committee has the power to inform its

	Executive Committee has the power to inform its Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any office bearer of such an affiliated unit.	Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any **member of the executive committee** of such an affiliated unit. ***Comment*:** The term 'office bearer' is omitted across the document.
New	**7(n) To provide interpretation to these rules and regulations, whenever required.**	
Sec-8 (Powers and Duties of Office-Bearers)	POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICE-BEARERS a. The President ***(AMENDED)*** The President shall be the Chairman/Chairperson of the Association and of the Central Council. He shall preside over all meetings of the Central Council and the Executive Committee. He shall guide the AITA in all its activities and shall exercise superintendence over office-bearers and members of the Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees in the discharge of their duties. He shall have overall powers of supervision over the working of the Association and its efficient administration. His decision on the day to day affairs being administered and executed by the other Office Bearers, Vice President (Chair), Vice President (Sports) and Joint Secretaries will be final. In particular, the President shall have the following powers/responsibilities:	POWERS AND DUTIES OF **MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **a. The President** **i. The President shall preside over all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee.** **ii. He shall guide the AITA in all its activities and shall exercise superintendence over members of the Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees in the discharge of their duties.** **iii. The President may call a meeting of the Executive Committee at a shorter notice for urgent purpose(s).** **b. The Vice President** i. In the absence of the President, **the Vice President presides over** all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body. ii. The Vice President may perform any other **specific** tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the General Body.

	• To implement the objectives of the Association • To deal with all disciplinary matters arising in the AITA or in relation to the Affiliates / Associate Affiliates as per rules on the subject, provided that any decision in relation to those matters shall be made by the Executive Committee and/or the General Meeting. b. The Vice President (Chair) ***(AMENDED)*** One of the Vice Presidents will be designated as Vice President (Chair) by the Central Council in the AGM. i) In the absence of the President, the Vice President (Chair) shall act in exercising all powers of the President, including presiding over all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Central Council. ii) The Vice President (Chair) may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the Central Council. c. The Hon. Secretary General i) Will oversee all the Administrative functions and Human Resource matters with the help of executives and other staff as may be required from time to time for efficient running of the office, matters of routine nature relating to the Association and support functions like IT, Website, Social Media, Registrations, Rankings, Meetings.	**c. The Hon. Secretary General** i. Will oversee all the administrative functions and Human Resource matters with the help of executives and other staff as may be required from time to time for efficient running of the office, matters of routine nature relating to the Association and support functions like IT, Website, Social Media, Registrations, Rankings, Meetings. ii. Will oversee and be responsible for tennis development activities including Coaching and Officiating and for Beach tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Paralympics, Competitions for differently abled and Senior Tennis. Will also be responsible for sponsorships for AITA and other efforts of AITA to raise financial resources. iii. Will perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association. iv. Will cause minutes of all meetings of the **Executive Committee and the General Body** to be correctly recorded, confirmed and kept. v. Will **issue the notices for convening of the meetings of the General Body and Executive Committee as per these Rules**. However, on instruction from the President, Executive Committee Meeting can be called at short notice. **As and when required, the Hony. Secretary General, with the permission of the President may call the Executive Committee meeting, through virtual/video conference, provided such**

	ii) Will oversee and be responsible for tennis development activities including Coaching and Officiating and for Beach tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Paralympics, Competitions for differently abled and Senior Tennis. Will also be responsible for sponsorships for AITA and other efforts of AITA to raise financial resources. iii) Will perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association. iv) Will cause minutes of all meetings of the Association and the Council to be correctly recorded, confirmed and kept. v) With the consent of the President, will convene meetings of the Central Council, Executive Committee etc. whenever required. However, on instruction from the President, Executive Committee Meeting can be called at short notice and to the extent possible all meetings would be through virtual/video conference. vi) In case of urgency, will obtain the views of the Central Council or members of the Executive Committee by circulation or by any other manner as directed by the President. d. The Vice President (Sports) ***(OMITTED)*** One of the Vice Presidents will be designated as Vice President (Sports) by the Central Council in the AGM. His/Her powers will be as under:	**meetings are fully recorded.** vi. In case of urgency, will obtain the views of the **General Body** or members of the Executive Committee by circulation or by any other manner as directed by the President. **d. The Honorary Joint Secretaries** i. All the duties & powers of the Hon. Joint Secretaries shall be entrusted to them by the Executive Committee. ii. In the absence of the Hony. Secretary General the Executive Committee shall appoint one of the Joint Secretaries to discharge the functions of the Hony. Secretary General. **e. The Honorary Treasurer** i. Within a reasonable time after the close of the financial year, the Hon. Treasurer shall furnish the Executive Committee with a statement of accounts, copies of which shall be forwarded to all members of the Executive Committee. ii. All accounts shall be maintained by the Hon. Treasurer and he shall be entitled to pay all bills unless previously countermanded by the Executive Committee or the **General Body**. iii. All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General or the President iv. The above will be subject to the condition that any

	i) Will oversee all matters relating to Professional Tennis sporting activities including the Davis Cup and Fed Cup and all professional tournaments. ii) Will have overall charge and responsibility for Professional Tennis Activities including Teams' Selections, Camps, Tournaments, International Exposure, Players' issues, coordination with Athletes' commission and professional players, Media management and Interactions on Tennis matters. iii) Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association. e. The Honorary Joint Secretaries ***(AMENDED)*** A total of 4 Joint secretaries shall be elected by the Central Council, one from each zone of India, namely North, South, East and West. Each joint secretary would represent each of the 4 zones respectively. All the duties & powers of the Hon. Joint Secretaries shall be entrusted to them by the Executive Committee & / or by the President. f. The Honorary Treasurer i) Within a reasonable time after the close of the financial year, the Hon. Treasurer shall furnish the Executive Committee with a statement of accounts, copies of which shall be forwarded to all members of the Executive Committee. ii) All accounts shall be maintained by the Hon. Treasurer and he shall be entitled to pay all	payment in excess of Rs 50,000/- can be made only when authorized by the Finance and Legal Committee. All amounts received by the Hon. Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith. v. All amounts received by the Hon. Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith. vi. The Hon. Treasurer shall ensure that the accounts of the Association are audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association. vii. Collect all moneys and dues payable to the Association and report to the Executive Committee on all financial matters. viii. Make an annual statement of accounts and place it before the Annual General Meeting of the **General Body**. ix. Submit to the President quarterly statements of income and expenditure. x. Disburse the funds of the Association according to the directions of the Executive Committee. xi. Keep a roll of all members and from time to time amend and correct the same as circumstances require. Employ such clerical and other assistants as may be authorized by the Executive Committee. ***Comments*:** 1. The powers of the President and the Secretary have been proposed to be diluted. 2. The objective is preventing concentration of unchecked authority in the President and Secretary.

	bills unless previously countermanded by the Executive Committee or the Central Council. iii) All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General or the President iv) The above will be subject to the condition that any payment in excess of Rs 50,000/- can be made only when authorized by the Finance and Legal Committee. v) All amounts received by the Hon. Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith. vi) The Hon. Treasurer shall ensure that the accounts of the Association are audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association. vii) Collect all moneys and dues payable to the Association and report to the Executive Committee on all financial matters. viii) Make an annual statement of accounts and place it before the Annual General Meeting of the Central Council. ix) Submit to the President quarterly statements of income and expenditure. x) Disburse the funds of the Association according to the directions of the Executive Committee. xi) Keep a roll of all members and from time to time amend and correct the same as circumstances require.	3. The above changes also focus on collective decision making. 4. Posts which are no longer in the EC eg: VP (Sports), have been omitted.

	xii) Employ such clerical and other assistants as may be authorized by the Executive Committee.	
Sec-9 (Powers and Duties of the Sub-Committees)	9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES a. All sub-committees shall carry out such duties as may be authorized by the Central Council. Such duties shall be discharged in accordance with the Regulations of the Association. b. All sub-committees are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee. c. Normal business of all sub-committees can also be done by post or virtual meetings. Executive Committee may appoint ex-officio members to the sub-committee.	**9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES** a. All sub-committees shall carry out such duties as may be authorized by the **General Body**. Such duties shall be discharged in accordance with **these rules and regulations** of the Association. b. All sub-committees are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee. c. Normal business of all sub-committees can also be done by post or virtual meetings. d. Executive Committee may appoint ex-officio members to the sub-committee. e. **Every sub-committee must meet quarterly and submit their report to the Executive Committee.** ***(NEW)*** ***Comment***: The addition is proposed so that there is a constitutional mandate to meet and transact once in each quarter. This will ensure effective and actual working of each sub-committee. It will help to avoid dormant sub-committees.
Sec-10 (Election Bye Laws)	10. ELECTION BYE LAWS - Attached as Annexure 1	**10. ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **The elections of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be held in strict compliance with the Act and the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time (as specifically outlined in the Annexure I to these Rules).**

		***Comment*:** The proposed addition incorporates a direct mandate to abide by the Act and the Rules before making a reference to the Bye-Laws. This helps to ensure that the Bye-Laws are always aligned with the Act and the Rules.
Sec-12 (Casual Vacancies)	The phrase 'office-bearers' used throughout.	**Sec-12 to be renumbered as Sec-13** The phrase **'members of the Executive Committee'** replaces 'office-bearers' throughout the Casual Vacancies provision. ***Comment***: This is proposed as the phrase 'office bearer' has been omitted.
Sec-13 (Permanent Vacancies)	13. PERMANENT VACANCIES Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any office-bearer from attending to his duties for more than 3 months. a) President Vice President (Chair) will fill the permanent vacancy of the post of President till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. b) Honorary Secretary General, Vice President (Chair), Vice President (Sports), Hon. Joint Secretary and Hon. Treasurer Permanent vacancy of the posts of Honorary Secretary General, Vice President (Chair), Vice President (Sports), Hon. Jt. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer shall be filled in by the Executive	**Sec-13 to be renumbered as Sec-14** 14. Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any **member of the Executive Committee** office-bearer from attending to his duties for more than 3 months. a. President Vice President will fill the permanent vacancy of the post of President till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. b. Honorary Secretary General, Vice President, Hon. Joint Secretaries and Hon. Treasurer Permanent vacancy of the posts of Honorary Secretary General, Vice President, Hony. Jt. Secretaries or Hon. Treasurer shall be filled in by the Executive Committee till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted.

	Committee till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. Any office bearer who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy shall not be deemed to have enjoyed a term of 4 years. He will be entitled to contest election as per rules and if elected, hold office for a further term of 4 years and so on as provided herein above.	Any **member of the Executive Committee** who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy shall not be deemed to have enjoyed a term of 4 years. He will be entitled to contest election as per rules and if elected, hold office for a further term of 4 years and so on as provided herein above. ***Comment*:** This is proposed as the phrase 'office bearer' has been omitted.
Sec-14(a) (Accounts - bills)	All bills shall be passed either by the President, Honorary Secretary General or the VP Sports before payment.	**Sec-14 to be renumbered as Sec-15** 15(a) All bills shall be passed either by the President, Honorary Secretary General or the **Treasurer** before payment. ***Comment:*** Being in charge of the financials and accounts, Treasurer is the appropriate officer for passing bills and not VP.
Sec-15 (Meetings of the Central Council)	15. MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL (a) Annual General Meeting of the Central Council shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date earlier than six weeks after the 31st day of March. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be: - i) To receive the report of the Honorary Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by	**Sec-15 to be renumbered as Sec-16** 16. MEETINGS OF THE **GENERAL BODY** a. Annual General Meeting of the General Body shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date **not later than 30th day of September**. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be: i. To receive the report of the Honorary Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by the Executive

	the Executive Committee and the Hon. Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited. ii) To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary General, Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee. iii) To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year. (b) All other business transacted at an Annual General Meeting or any General Meeting shall be deemed 'Special Business', and shall be decided by two-third's majority of votes properly recorded. ***(OMITTED)*** (c) An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the President/Executive Committee whenever they think fit, or shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within three months of receipt of requisition by a minimum of five affiliates specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. (d) No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a	Committee and the Hon. Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited. ii. To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary General, Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee. iii. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year. b. **An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the (i) President, or (ii) the Hon. Secretary General, anytime as required. An Extra-Ordinary General meeting can also be convened** on receipt of requisition by a minimum of five State Affiliates, by specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. A notice of 3 (three) weeks shall be given for such a meeting. **If the President or the Hony. Secretary General do not issue a notice for such Extra-Ordianry General Meeting within 7 days of the receipt of such requisition as mentioned above, any 3 of the 5 states who have requisitioned the meeting, can issued a notice for Extra-Ordianry General Meeting, and such meeting and the business transacted in the meeting shall be considered valid and shall not be legally objected to by the Association.** No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting, **other than that mentioned in the notice**. c. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum

	quorum is present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjourned meeting. (e) All ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. However, any business regarding 'Change of Constitution and Rules' will be decided by two-third majority of the member present and who are eligible to vote. All business of an Extraordinary General Meeting, being special, shall be decided by tow-third majority of votes properly recorded. (f) In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman shall have a casting vote. (g) Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries and Members of the Central Council at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Hon. Secretary General, report of the Hon. Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting.	is present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjourned meeting. d. All business of the Annual General Meeting **or Extraordinary General Meeting** shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. **However, any business regarding amendment of these rules and regulations will be decided by two-third majority of the member present and who are eligible to vote.** e. In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman **of the meeting** shall have a casting vote. f. Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries and Members of the **General Body** at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Hon. Secretary General, report of the Hon. Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting. g. At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by **show of hands** unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is-

	(h) At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by open voting unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is- (aa) Directed by the Chairman or (ab) Demanded by not less than three persons present and entitled to vote. (i) Elections shall be by secret ballot. (j) All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of the President.	i. Directed by the Chairman, or ii. Demanded by not less than **25 (twenty-five) percent of** persons present and entitled to vote. h. Elections shall be by secret ballot. i. **All the General Body meetings shall be video recorded**. All matters discussed by the **General Body** in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of the President. ***Comments:*** 1. The revised provision strengthens democratic governance by introducing greater procedural clarity, fixing a definite timeline for holding the Annual General Meeting, providing an effective mechanism for members to requisition an Extraordinary General Meeting, requiring video recording of General Body meetings to enhance transparency, and simplifying the voting procedure. 2. Overall, the amendments improve accountability, member participation, and institutional transparency while reducing the scope for procedural disputes.
Sec-16	16 NO CONFIDENCE	**Sec-16 to be renumbered as Sec-17**

(No Confidence)	Proposal for no confidence in Executive Committee or any Office Bearer(s) / Members(s) thereof can be taken up only at an EGM convened specially for this purpose. The proposal should be made by at least 25% of the affiliated organizations. The EGM shall be called and convened by the Hon. Secretary General on receipt by him of a requisition in writing to the above effect. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. A no confidence proposal would be considered as passed if the votes cast in favour of the proposal are at least two-thirds of the votes properly recorded at the meeting	17. NO CONFIDENCE Proposal for no confidence of any member of the Executive Committee (except representatives of the SOM or Athletes Committee) can be taken up only at an EGM convened specially for this purpose. The proposal should be made by at least 25% of the voting members of the General Body. The EGM shall mandatorily be called and convened by the Hon. Secretary General on receipt by him of a requisition in writing to the above effect by giving 3 (three) weeks' notice. In the event that such meeting is not called by the Hony. Secretary General, then the meeting shall be called by any three State Affiliates, who shall jointly issue the notice. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. A no confidence proposal would be considered as passed if the votes cast in favour of the proposal are more than 50 percent of the votes properly recorded at the meeting. ***Comments:*** 1. The revised provision strengthens democratic accountability by providing a clear and enforceable mechanism for moving a no-confidence motion while preventing procedural delays through an alternative method of convening the meeting. 2. It also protects independent representatives from political removal and ensures that the will of the majority of voting members prevails, thereby promoting transparency, fairness, and responsible governance. 3. It has been experienced in the past that the Secretary and President would block no-confidence motions against them by not calling meetings. This has been catered to by

		providing for mandatory calling a meeting once the requisition is received. 4. Earlier threshold of 2/3rd votes has been proposed to be diluted to 50% votes so that the incumbent officials at all times enjoy at least a simple majority. This reflects true democracy.
Sec-17 (Quorum)	17. QUORUM At the AGM or any meeting of the Central Council, 10 persons shall form a quorum of which at least eight shall be representatives of affiliated organisations.	Sec-17 to be renumbered as Sec-18 18. QUORUM At the AGM or any meeting of the General Body, 10 persons shall form a quorum of which at least eight shall be representatives of affiliated organisations. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary. ***Comments:*** 1. The revised provision provides greater procedural certainty by prescribing a clear mechanism for adjournment and reconvening in the absence of a quorum. 2. This ensures that the business of the Association is not unduly delayed while maintaining the initial quorum requirement, thereby balancing effective governance with practical administrative.
Sec-18	18. AFFILIATIONS	**Sec-18 to be renumbered as Sec-19**

(Affiliations)	All State Associations /Union Territory Associations which are Full Member of the All India Tennis Association shall have 2 votes. i. Any State Association / Union Territory which may desire to become an Associate Affiliate shall apply to the Hon. Secretary General. Such applicant State / Union Territory Association must have a legal status as a registered association and have a minimum of 50% of the district level associations affiliated to it or club/institutions which are affiliated. All new affiliations to AITA will be as 'Associate Affiliate' in the initial stage. All such applicants must apply with the following documents:- a) Registration Certificate, b) List of Office-bearers, c) List of affiliated District Tennis Associations / Clubs / Institutions / Members d) Minutes of last two Annual General Meetings e) Audited accounts for last two years. f) Copy of Rules & Regulations conforming to AITA Regulations.	19. AFFILIATIONS a. **All State Affiliates of the All India Tennis Association shall have 2 votes each.** b. Any state association/union territory **association** which desires to become an Associate Affiliate shall apply to the Hon. Secretary General. c. Such applicant state/union territory association must: i. have a legal status **as a registered society, not-for-profit company or trust, and** ii. **must have district or other units affiliated to it**. d. **All new affiliations to AITA will be as 'Associate Affiliate' and they shall have no voting rights in the General Body of AITA.** e. All such applicants must apply with the following documents:- i. Registration Certificate, ii. List of Office-bearers, iii. **List of affiliated district or other units**, iv. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting, v. Audited accounts, and vi. Copy of rules & regulations conforming to **these rules and regulations**.

	ii. An Associate Affiliate on fulfilment of the following criteria can apply for promotion as 'Affiliate with voting rights':- (DELETED) a) Should have at least two training centres with three (3) courts each, b) Should have at least Five (5) AITA Registered Coaches, c) Should have a minimum of Fifty (50) AITA registered players d) Should have conducted at least four (4) AITA/ITF tournaments in the preceding year. iii. Any affiliate that does not fulfill in time the above requirements listed in 18(iii) hereinabove, will be treated as an Associate Affiliate without voting rights on the decision of the Executive Committee. Such Associate Affiliates may reapply to the Association for becoming an Affiliate with voting rights on fulfilment of applicable conditions in 18(iii). iv. All such applications must be governed by the rules and in accordance with Regulations to these rules. The applicant shall forward the following documents to AITA Office addressed to the Hon. Secretary General: a) Name and address of the training centres.	f. An Associate Affiliate can apply **to the General Body through the Hony. Secretary General** for promotion as '**State** Affiliate with voting rights' and the General Body in its next meeting shall take a decision on such an application on the basis of the tennis promotion activities undertaken by the Associate Affiliate in its State/UT. g. If more than one body or organisation in a State/UT claims affiliation to the AITA, which one of the bodies will be entitled to affiliation to the AITA, will be a matter exclusively and entirely within the power and jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of the AITA to decide. If a body/organisation has already been recognized and affiliated to the AITA **from a State/UT**, no other body/organisation shall be recognized or affiliated to the AITA. h. **Grant of affiliation shall be a matter of discretion and no applicant shall have a right to get affiliation merely because it meets the aforesaid criteria.** ***Comments:*** 1. The revised provision simplifies and rationalizes the affiliation framework by replacing rigid eligibility criteria with a merit-based assessment of actual tennis development activities. 2. It broadens the categories of eligible legal entities, provides a transparent process for obtaining voting rights through the General Body, and promotes flexibility while

	b) List of AITA Registered Coaches with their registration number c) List of AITA Registered Players with their ITN numbers d) List of tournaments held along with the results e) List of Affiliated District Associations f) List of affiliated clubs / institutions v. If more than one body or organisation in a State claims affiliation to the AITA, which one of the bodies will be entitled to affiliation to the AITA, will be a matter exclusively and entirely within the power and jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of the AITA to decide. If a body/organisation has already been recognized and affiliated to the AITA, no other body/organisation shall be recognized or affiliated to the AITA.	ensuring that affiliation decisions remain focused on the genuine promotion and development of tennis.
Sec 19 (Obligations of Organisations)	19. OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANISATIONS a. Every organisation affiliated under Rule 18 shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs. 5000/- plus applicable tax (es). b. The annual contribution for each year shall be payable in advance, on or before the 31st day of March, provided, however, that the first annual	**Sec-19 to be renumbered as Sec-20** 20. OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANISATIONS a. Every organisation affiliated under **Rule 19** shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs. 5000/- plus applicable **taxes or the amount of fees as decided by the General Body from time to time**. b. The annual contribution for each year shall be payable in advance, on or before the 31st day of March, provided,

	contribution shall be payable within one month of the receipt of notice of affiliation. c. Every affiliated organisation shall on or before the 31st day or March in each year, send to the Association a complete list of office bearers, councillors, names of affiliated clubs, district associations and other organizations, minutes of the Annual General Meeting and audited statements of accounts. This provision, however, will not be applicable to Railways Sports Promotion Board and Services Sports Control Board. d. Notice of every subsequent addition to such list and of any withdrawal there-from shall be sent to the Association by every such organisation. e. Such other information as may be called for by the Association within one month of the receipt of the communication.	however, that the first annual contribution shall be payable within one month of the receipt of notice of affiliation. c. Every affiliated organisation shall on or before the **30th day of September** in each year, send to the Association a complete list of **members of its executive committee**, councillors, names of affiliated clubs, district associations and other organizations, minutes of the Annual General Meeting and audited statements of accounts. This provision, however, will not be applicable to Railways Sports Promotion Board and Services Sports Control Board. d. Notice of every subsequent addition to such list and of any withdrawal there-from shall be sent to the Association by every such organisation. e. Such other information as may be called for by the Association **shall be given by the affiliates, including the associated affiliates,** within one month of the receipt of the communication. ***Comments:*** The revised provision enhances administrative flexibility and accountability by empowering the General Body to revise affiliation fees as required and also collect applicable taxes on the same as difficulties in this regard were faced by AITA in the past.
Sec-21 (Disputes)	21. DISPUTES (a) All unresolved disputes arising within the affiliated units of AITA or between affiliated units of AITA shall be	**Omitted.**

	referred to the AITA Arbitration Committee by the affiliated units. The arbitration proceedings shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act 1996. (b) The arbitration procedure shall be completed within the period specified by the AITA Executive Committee (President AITA based on the circumstances of the case has the authority to extend or vary the period).	***Comment:*** Sec-21 (Disputes) deleted in its entirety. Dispute resolution now addressed comprehensively through new Dispute Resolution Committee under Rule 6(d).
Sec-23 (Voting)	This has been reframed and simplified.	**23. VOTING** **a. The following shall have voting rights in the General Body:** **i. Each Stat Affiliate will be represented in the General Body by 2 representatives who shall be entitled to a total of 1 vote at all meetings of the General Body.** **ii. Each SOM GB Representative shall have 1 vote each at all meetings of the General Body.** **b. No person, representing an Associate Affiliate without voting rights, shall have any right to vote on any matter or subject or issue in discussion before the General Body, but such a person may take part in discussions and express his/her views in the General Body Meeting and all the decisions taken by the General Body shall be binding and enforceable irrespective of such person's views expressed in the meeting.**

		Comment**:** Proposed amendment is aligned with the current structure of AITA and complies with the Act and NSB Rules. It is aimed at simplifying the existing clause which was complexly worded for no reason.
Sec-29 (Right of Appeal)	Any club or player affiliated to any affiliated organisation, or any person being a member of such an organisation or club or player being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the Governing Body of such affiliated organisation, may appeal to the AITA within a period of 30 days of the said decision or ruling and the appeal shall be heard at such place and time and by such persons and in such manner as the Central Council shall direct. Expenses incurred in connection with such an appeal shall be paid by such parties to the appeal and in such manner as the Central Council shall determine.	Any club or player affiliated to any affiliated organisation, or any person being a member of such an organisation or club or player being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the governing body of such affiliated organisation, may appeal to the **concerned affiliate's jurisdictional state dispute resolution committee and in the absence thereof, to the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee.** ***Comment:*** The proposed amendment is to make the present provision consistent with the Dispute Resolution Structure**.**
Sec-32(k)	A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within one month of the receipt by him of a requisition in writing from three members of the Executive Committee.	A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within **15 (fifteen) days** of the receipt by him of a requisition in writing from three members of the Executive Committee. ***Comment***: This has been proposed keeping in mind the past conduct of erstwhile Secretaries delaying calling of meetings when the same are adverse to their interests.
Sec-32(m)	The Executive committee shall take decision regarding the Davis Cup, foreign tours and international matches or competitions.	The Executive committee shall take decision regarding the Davis Cup, foreign tours and international matches or competitions

		taking into consideration the recommendation of the relevant sub-committee(s). ***Comment:*** The proposed amendment takes into consideration the recommendation of expert committees.
Sec-32(n)	Quorum: At all meetings of the Executive Committee, 5 persons shall form a quorum of which at least two shall be elected representatives of affiliated organizations.	Quorum: At all meetings of the Executive Committee, 5 persons shall form a quorum, of which at least 2 (two) shall be who **are not SOM representatives or Athletes Committee representatives. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.** ***Comment:*** This provision ensures that at least 2 persons attending the EC meeting are elected members of the Executive Committee elected by the General Body of AITA.
Sec-32(o)	No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum of requisite number be present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjoined meeting.	**Omitted.** ***Comment***: This provision was self-contradictory and hence, is proposed to be removed.
Sec-32(p)	The Executive Committee shall always have the powers to ratify any action or decision taken by the Office Bearers/sub-committee.	The Executive Committee shall always have the powers to ratify **or change** any action or decision taken by **its members or any** sub-committee.
New		**32(i) The President can decide to call any Executive Committee Meeting virtually instead of a meeting where**

		members are required to attend physically. If an EC is called with physical presence, a member can attend virtually with prior permission of the President and can also vote virtually. However, to give such permission will be at the discretion of the President depending upon the nature of the agenda. Any issue arising due to a failed video or audio connection shall be treated as absence of such a member. ***Comment*:** 1. The proposed provision modernizes the functioning of the Executive Committee by enabling virtual participation while preserving the flexibility to hold physical meetings where necessary. 2. It promotes greater participation, reduces logistical constraints, ensures continuity in decision-making, and provides procedural clarity regarding virtual attendance and voting, thereby enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the Association's governance.
New		**32(j) All the Executive Committee meetings, physical or virtual shall be video recorded.**
Sec-34 (Rules which must be in the constitution of an affiliate/associate affiliate)	34. RULES WHICH MUST BE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF AN AFFILIATE / ASSOCIATE AFFILIATE a) Every State Association Affiliate must have its own Rules & Regulations which are in	**Omitted.** ***Comment:*** There is no need for a separate provision to this effect as the Act ensures necessary compliance by Affiliates.

	conformity with the Rules & Regulations of the AITA. b) Every Affiliate/Associate Affiliate must get AITA approval prior to any amendment to their Constitution. An AITA Observer will be appointed for election of Office Bearers, when due, of the Affiliate/Associate Affiliate. The expenses for the AITA Observer will be borne by AITA.	
Sec-35 (Standing Orders)	35. STANDING ORDERS 1) The meetings of the Central Council shall be called by the Hon. Secretary General with the approval of the President and shall be held at such place as may be decided by the President. 2) A copy of every report to be presented at a council meeting shall as far as possible, be sent to each member at least five clear day prior to the date fixed for the meeting at which such report is to be considered, Any report on matter of urgency shall be circulated to the members either before or at such meeting and shall be read at the meeting by the member presenting the report or by the Hon. Secretary General. The Chairman's decision, whether the matter is of urgency or not, shall be final.	**Omitted.** ***Comments:*** 1. These were non-democratic and vested unilateral powers in the President and Secretary vis-à-vis venue of meetings, deciding whether there is urgency or not, accuracy of minutes, veto power of chairman on all points of discussion etc.. Thus, all such provisions have been proposed to be removed. 2. Removal of these clauses allows more transparent, accountable and democratic functioning of AITA.

	3) At every meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting shall be taken as the first ordinary business and, if accurate, signed by the Chairman of the meeting. 4) All questions at the Council meeting shall be decided by show of hands. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie. 5) Every notice of motion to be placed on the Agenda for a meeting shall be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary General and shall be signed by the member of the Council giving it. 6) The decision of the Chairman upon all points of orders shall be final. All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential Matters of public interest may, however, be communicated by the Hon. Secretary General to the press subject to the approval of the Chairman.	
Sec-37 (Annual list of governing body members)	37. ANNUAL LIST OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS Once in every year a list of the office bearers and members of the Governing Boyd, viz. the Executive Committee shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies,	**Sec-37 to be renumbered as Sec-34** 34. ANNUAL LIST OF **GENERAL** BODY MEMBERS Once in every year a list of **the members of the General Body and the Executive Committee** shall be filed with the Registrar of

	West Bengal as required under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.	Societies, West Bengal as required under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.
Sec-38 (Suit & Legal Proceedings)	The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President and / or the Secretary as per the provisions of West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the society.	**Sec-38 to be renumbered as Sec-35** The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President and / or the Secretary as per the provisions of West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the society. **In all such cases, the President/Hony. Secretary General shall not be personally liable.** ***Comment*:** This has been incorporated so that no single individual is held accountable for the collective decision taken by the body.
Sec-40 (Application of the Act)	40. APPLICATION OF THE ACT All the Sections of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the Societies registered in West Bengal shall apply to the society.	**Sec-40 to be renumbered as Sec-37** **37. APPLICABLE STATTUES** The provisions under the following statutes and rules and regulations thereunder shall apply to AITA: a. The West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the Societies registered in West Bengal, and b. **The notified provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the rules and regulations made thereunder.**

		***Comment*:** This is necessary to ensure perpetual compliance with the Act.
New		**Annexure I** **Election Rules** ***Comment:*** The Election Rules have been amended to strictly incorporate Schedule II to the NSB Rules and are fully in line with the NSB Rules and the Act. Document is reproduced hereunder.
New		**Annexure II** **Athletes Committee Bye-Laws** ***Comment*:** These have been formulated to give a proper scope, purpose and structure to the Athletes Committee. These are formulated keeping in mind Clause E1.3.1 of the ITF Constitution, and the ITF Athletes Committee document shared by ITF with AITA. Document is reproduced hereunder.
New		**Annexure III** **Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Bye-Laws** ***Comment*:** These have been formulated in strict compliance with the NSB Rules and the tiers are curated keeping in mind the importance of various tournament in the tennis ecosystem.

ANNEXURE I

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AITA

Election Rules

1. Definitions and Interpretation

(i) In these Election Rules (which shall include the Act and the Sports Rules), unless the context otherwise requires:

(a) "candidate" shall mean any candidate contesting for Election to an Elected Post;

(b) "Election" shall mean the election of the Executive Committee of AITA conducted in accordance with these Election Rules for an Elected Post;

(c) "general meeting" shall mean a meeting of all members of the General Body of AITA, that is called and conducted in accordance with such AITA's bye-laws; and

(d) "nomination" shall mean the process through which a candidate formally submits such candidate's interest to contest for an Election to an Elected Post in accordance with these Election Rules.

(e) "Form" or "Forms" shall mean the various forms appended to Schedule II - Election Rules appended to the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026.

(ii) Any terms used in these Election Rules but not defined herein, shall strictly and literally have the meaning ascribed to them in the Act and the Sports Rules.

2. Scope and Applicability

(i) These Election Rules strictly and literally apply to all elections in the AITA.

(ii) Any candidate, voting member or other participant in the election shall also be subject to the Act, and the AITA's Code of Ethics if he is not otherwise already bound and covered by the same.

3. Reserved Posts

(i) At least one of the sportspersons of outstanding merit on the Executive Committee and one of the representatives from the Athletes Committee on the Executive Committee, shall be a woman.

(ii) At all times, at least 4 members of the AITA Executive Committee shall be women.

(iii) One of the posts of a Jt. Secretary shall be reserved for a woman.

(iv) One of the posts of the Executive Committee (over and above the posts mentioned in (i),(ii) and (iii) above) shall be reserved for a woman.

4. Election to Executive Committee.

(i) The Executive Committee shall, by resolution, appoint an Electoral Officer from the National Sports Election Panel, at least sixty days prior to the expiry of such Executive Committee's term, for the preparation of the electoral roll and conduct of elections to the Executive Committee.

(ii) The Executive Committee shall, in consultation with the Electoral Officer appointed under sub-rule (i), notify the date for elections, at least fifty days prior to the expiry of such Executive Committee's term.

(iii) The Electoral Officer shall be responsible for ensuring smooth conduct of the elections to the Executive Committee of AITA in compliance with these Election Rules.

(iv) The AITA shall provide the requisite number of administrative staff as specified by the Electoral Officer to assist such officer to conduct the elections to the Executive Committee.

(v) The timelines for elections of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be as follows:

Event	Timeline
Submission of application to be a sportsperson of outstanding merit	Within sixty days of the call for applications under sub-rule (1) of rule 5.

Preparation of a roster of male sportspersons of outstanding merit and a roster of female sportspersons of outstanding merit	At least ninety days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Election or nomination of sportspersons of outstanding merit to the General Body	At least seventy-five days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Appointment of an Electoral Officer	At least sixty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Notification of election date	At least fifty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Preparation and release of draft electoral roll	At least forty-five days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Call for elections, release of final electoral roll and invitation for nominations	At least thirty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.

(vi) any person who meets the eligibility criteria under sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Act and is not subject to disqualification under rule 11 may contest for election to the Executive Committee of a National Sports Body. The said provisions shall be construed strictly in their literal sense, and no interpretative exercise shall be permissible.

(vii) Members of the General Body of AITA, shall be eligible to be included in the electoral college and participate and vote in the election to its Executive Committee as specified below, namely:

(a) every individual sportsperson of outstanding merit shall have one vote; and

(b) every State Affiliate unit of AITA, shall have a maximum of two votes, to be exercised by separate individual representatives of such State Affiliate (who need not be members of the concerned State Affiliate).

(viii) The electoral roll for an election to the Executive Committee shall consist of only such members or their representatives in the General Body of AITA that have voting rights as per sub-rule (2) or sub-rule (3), as the case may be, and are not otherwise strictly disqualified

under the provisions of the Act, Rule 11 of the Sports Rules or these Election Rules in their literal sense.

(ix) For the election of the Executive Committee, any disqualification(s) incurred by a voter or a candidate owing to the position held by him/her or his/her involvement in in a State/UT Affiliate unit or their district affiliate units shall not be relevant for the purpose of sub-rule (viii).

(x) The eligibility of a voter and a candidate shall be tested strictly in accordance with the express and literal provisions of the Act, the rules made thereunder and these Election Rules.

(xi) The draft electoral roll for the election shall be prepared and released by the Electoral Officer in consultation with the then Executive Committee of AITA, at least forty-five days prior to the expiry of the term of such Executive Committee:

Provided that the Electoral Officer's decision shall be final and binding in respect of the inclusion or non-inclusion, as the case may be, of any person on the electoral roll.

(xii) The Electoral Officer shall provide for at least seven days from the release of the draft electoral roll, to receive and respond to any objections regarding the composition of the final electoral roll.

5. Conduct of Elections

(i) Elections shall generally take place at the Annual General Meeting of the AITA, where so required may also take place at a specially convened general meeting.

(ii) Elections shall always be by secret ballot.

6. Electoral Officer

(i) All administrative matters relating to any election shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Officer.

(ii) The Electoral Officer shall be responsible for supervising the administrative process relating to the elections, including:

(a) ensuring the correct application of the Act, and these Rules;

(b) setting reasonable deadlines for each stage of the elections in accordance with the model calendar provided under clause 5 of these Election Rules, and enforcing such deadlines strictly;

(c) determining and distributing the appropriate documentation and forms, including nomination forms and ballot papers, for each stage of the elections and enforcing and verifying their proper use;

(d) distributing information to voting members, other members, the media and public;

(e) managing relations with government bodies or the National Sports Board and any observers as deputed by the National Sports Board;

(f) causing the publication of all notifications and forms concerning the elections on the official websites of the AITA, the National Sports Board and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; and

(g) all other tasks necessary to ensure the smooth running of the electoral process.

(iii) The Electoral Officer may, only for reasons of practical necessity, modify the Forms, while ensuring that the principles of this Schedule are adhered to. This provision shall not entitle the Election Officer to expand the scope of any provision of the Act and the rules made thereunder and the Rules & Regulations of AITA and shall at all times construe the provisions in their literal sense and strictly.

7. Calling elections and the electoral roll

(i) Elections shall be called by the AITA's Executive Committee in consultation with the Electoral Officer, at least thirty days prior to the expiry of such Executive Committee's term, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the AITA's constitutional documents and shall be included in the agenda of the applicable general meeting.

(ii) The call for elections shall contain, at a minimum, the following:

(a) the name of the Electoral Officer;

(b) the final electoral roll prepared and released by the Electoral Officer pursuant to sub-rule (6) of rule 10 and in accordance with Form 1;

(c) the Elected Posts that are the subject of such Elections and any pre-requisites or qualifications for Candidates to contest such Elected Posts;

(d) an invitation to file for nominations for Elected Posts by interested Candidates;

(e) the nomination form to be submitted by interested Candidates which shall be in accordance with Form 2; and

(f) the electoral calendar which shall be in accordance with the model calendar specified in sub-clause (iii) below:

(iii) The Electoral Officer shall conduct the Elections in accordance with the following model calendar:

Event	Day
Call for Elections, invitation for nominations and release of final electoral roll	Day 1
Filing of nominations	Day 8 to Day10
Announcement of draft list of nominations received	Day 10
Objections to draft list of nominated candidates	Day 11 to Day 14
Scrutiny and disposal of objections to Draft list of nominated candidates	Day 15 to Day 16
Final list of nominated candidates	Day 17
Withdrawal of nominations	Day 18
Final list of contesting candidates	Day 19
Polling and announcement of results	Day 21

(iv) The Electoral Officer may, only for reasons of practical necessity, modify the model calendar specified in sub-clause (iii), while ensuring that the elections are completed within a maximum period of twenty-one (21) days.

8. Contingency mechanism when no female representatives are nominated as representatives by State Affiliates:

(i) In the event that, prior to the commencement of the nomination process, when no female representatives are nominated by the State Affiliates, a Draw of Lots ("**the Mechanism**") shall be undertaken.

(ii) Under the Mechanism, two (2) State Affiliates shall be selected by draw of lots, conducted in a transparent and recorded manner by

the Executive Committee.

(iii) One of the two State Affiliates selected through the Mechanism shall be mandatorily required to nominate one (1) female representative for the purpose of contesting the election for the reserved post for woman Jt. Secretary, and the other shall be mandatorily required to nominate one (1) female representative for the purpose of contesting the election to the reserved post for woman on the Executive Committee. Such State Affiliate shall re-send the names of their representatives within 2 (two) days after they are drawn through the mechanism.

(iv) Failure of selected State Affiliates to nominate a female representative shall render its nominations invalid and the Affiliate shall be deemed to have forfeited their right to participate, vote and contest in that election.

(v) Such two State Affiliates selected through the draw of lots in a given election shall be excluded from all subsequent draws in the next elections until every other two State Affiliates have been selected at least once.

(vi) Once all State Affiliates have been drawn at least once, the rotation cycle shall automatically reset, and all State Affiliates shall again become eligible to be mandated for being drawn in the next draw of lots.

(vii) A record of selections shall be maintained by the AITA Secretariat and certified by the Electoral Officer.

9. Nominations

(viii) The nomination of a candidate for election shall be proposed and seconded by persons on the electoral roll.

(ix) Every nomination form shall be delivered to the Electoral Officer in person by the candidate himself within the deadline specified.

(x) No member shall nominate more than one candidate for the same Elected Post, either as proposer or seconder and, if he so does, only the first valid nomination shall be accepted, and all other nominations of such member, shall be deemed to be void and inoperative.

(xi) No person shall be permitted to withdraw his name as proposer or seconder, once the nomination form endorsed by him has been delivered to the Electoral Officer.

(xii) The Electoral Officer shall prepare a list of all nominations received by him, Elected Post-wise in accordance with Form 3.

10. Scrutiny and Finalisation of Nominations

(i) The Electoral Officer shall scrutinise each nomination form received by him and determine its validity or otherwise strictly and literally as per the qualifications and disqualifications stipulated in the Act, rules made thereunder and the AITA's Rules & Regulations.

(ii) During the scrutiny of nominations under sub-clause (i), each Candidate or one of his authorised representatives shall have the right to be present and raise any objection in relation to nomination of another Candidate for the Elected Post for which he has filed his nomination.

(iii) Pursuant to the scrutiny of nomination forms, the Electoral Officer shall prepare a list of validly nominated candidates in accordance with Form 4.

(iv) Every candidate whose nomination has been found valid on scrutiny shall be entitled to withdraw his candidature prior to the commencement of the Election by providing notice to the Electoral Officer in accordance with Form 5, and the Electoral Officer shall accept the notice of withdrawal if he is satisfied as to the genuineness of such notice.

(v) Any notice of withdrawal of candidature shall be final and shall not be allowed to be cancelled.

(vi) The Electoral Officer shall prepare the final list of contesting candidates in accordance with Form 6 of these Bye-Laws.

(vii) The AITA shall produce the ballot papers in accordance with Form 7 under the supervision and charge of the Electoral Officer.

(viii) The ballot papers shall be printed clearly and legibly, and the names of the contesting candidates shall be arranged, for each Elected Post, in alphabetical order according to the english alphabet.

11. Campaign Practices

(i) Electoral campaigns shall be carried out by the candidates in a fair manner and, in a spirit of respect for fundamental ethical principles.

(ii) Candidates shall conduct all campaigns with dignity and moderation and with respect for any other candidates, the AITA and its members.

(iii) A Candidate shall not produce any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image of another candidate or cause him prejudice, and criticism of other candidates, if made, shall be confined to their policies and programme, past record and work.

(iv) No Candidate shall engage in criticism based on unverified allegations or distortion against any other Candidate, and there shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes.

(v) Every Candidate may present to the members in the electoral roll, his plans and views for the Elected Post, in the form of a written document, which shall be published by the Electoral Officer in accordance with clause 4 (i) (g) of these Election Rules.

(vi) Candidates shall avoid excessive expenditure in campaigning, recognizing that it could become a factor of inequality amongst the candidates.

(vii) The promotion of a candidate shall exclude any form of publicity, including the use of new media or social networks, and no public meeting or gathering of any kind may be organised in the process of promoting a candidature, and no use, free of charge or in return for payment, of the services of a journalist or the media may be made in order to place a candidate at an advantage or a disadvantage.

(viii) All candidates shall scrupulously avoid all activities that are "corrupt practices", including bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters.

(ix) Candidates may, in no case and under no pretext, give presents, offer donations, gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature, directly or indirectly, to voting members.

(x) The incumbent Executive Committee member, shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that they have used their official position for the purposes of their election campaign and in particular shall not -

(a) use official transport including, vehicles, machinery and personnel for furtherance of their campaign;

(b) issue any advertisement at the cost of the AITA or its members in the newspapers and other media or misuse the AITA's official media channels during the elections;

(c) sanction grants or payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced; and

(d) enter into any promise or undertaking to be performed, whatever the timing of such performance, for the direct or indirect benefit of any of the AITA's members or its partners.

12. Neutrality and Independence

(i) As the voting is secret, voting members are prohibited individually or collectively, from announcing publicly, in any form whatsoever,

their intention to vote or not vote for a candidate.

(ii) Incumbent Executive Committee members shall refrain from making any public declaration and may in no way support a candidate.

(iii) Candidates shall not -

(a) accept instructions from any person;

(b) accept direct or indirect assistance, be it financial, material or in kind, by any third party, or

(c) enter into any form of undertaking with any person likely to affect the freedom of decision or action of the Elected Post.

(iv) The AITA's executive team and administration shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times, and no support or service in relation to a candidature may be requested from any member of the AITA's administration or staff.

13. Polling

(i) Where the number of contesting candidates for any Elected Post or category of Elected Post is equal to the number of Elected Posts to be filled, all such contesting candidates shall be deemed to be duly elected unopposed to those Elected Posts, and it shall not be necessary to take a poll for election to such Elected Post.

(ii) Where the number of contesting candidates for any Elected Post or category of Elected Post is more than the number of Elected Posts to be filled, a poll shall be taken by secret ballot for those Elected Posts remaining unfilled.

(iii) At the poll, members who are in the electoral roll, shall be entitled to,-

(a) cast one vote for each of the Elected Posts remaining unfilled, where only one such seat is to be filled; and

(b) cast as many votes as are the number of seats to be filled for an Elected Post, where more than one seat is to be filled.

(iv) The ballot papers shall contain the name(s) of the Candidate(s), and the voters must mark one candidate only.

(v) Every voter shall be required, before he is supplied with a ballot paper, to give his signature on the authenticated copy of the electoral roll for taking the poll.

(vi) Except for the circumstance under sub-clause (i), a secret ballot shall always be conducted, regardless of how many candidates there are, and the secrecy of the ballot shall be guaranteed by the provision of a procedure ensuring privacy for the voter, and the Electoral

Officer shall conduct the distribution and counting of the ballot papers and be responsible for ensuring that the process is properly documented.

(vii) Voting members must vote in person where required.

(viii) The voter shall record his vote on the ballot paper in secrecy in a voting compartment specially provided for the purpose at the polling station.

(ix) The voter shall record his vote on the ballot paper by placing a tick mark against the name of the candidate of his choice, and the tick mark to indicate the vote shall be placed by the voter only by means of an article (such as a stamp) specifically provided for the purpose by the Electoral Officer.

(x) The ballot paper marked by a voter shall be deposited by him in a ballot box specially prepared and sealed by the Electoral Officer and placed at such a conspicuous place in the polling station that it shall be constantly visible to all present in the polling station.

(xi) The Electoral Officer shall close the poll at the designated time of closure, and such voters who are present at the polling station at the appointed closing hour, if any, shall be entitled to vote even if the poll proceedings have to be extended for sportspersons of outstanding merit more time.

(xii) The number of ballot papers that have been distributed shall be announced by the Electoral Officer before the commencement of the voting, and if the number of ballot papers returned in the poll is equal to or less than the number of ballot papers distributed, the Election shall be declared valid, but if the number returned in the poll exceeds that of the ballot papers distributed, the vote shall be declared null and void and another poll shall be taken immediately.

14. Counting of Votes

(i) The Electoral Officer shall take up the counting of votes, post-wise and category-wise, as soon as may be, after the polling process is complete.

(ii) Every contesting candidate can nominate one authorised representative who shall be entitled to be present at the place of counting of votes, and other than such authorised representative, only the Electoral Officer and members of the AITA's executive or administrative team, as specifically approved by the Electoral Officer, may take part in the count.

(iii) Every ballot paper on which a vote has been recorded shall be treated as one vote for the candidate for whom it has been validly

marked.

(iv) The following ballot papers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected by the Electoral Officer, namely:-

(a) those that do not bear the official distinctive marks defined by the Electoral Officer;

(b) those that bear any words other than the names of the candidates;

(c) those that are illegible or have been defaced;

(d) those that bear identifying marks; and

(e) those that include votes for more candidates than permitted in a particular poll.

(v) The Electoral Officer shall write on the back of any invalid ballot paper, in red, the reasons for its invalidity and confirm with a signature.

(vi) The votes validly cast for each of the contesting candidates shall be counted post-wise, and category-wise where applicable, and recorded in the descending order of the votes so cast for each candidate in accordance with Form 8.

(vii) The Electoral Officer shall thereafter ascertain the result of counting and the candidates who have secured the maximum number of votes in the said descending order, post-wise and category wise, where applicable, equal to the number of seats to be filled for each Elected Post or category of Elected Posts, where applicable, shall be deemed to have been duly elected to those Elected Posts.

(viii) After completing and verifying the count, the Electoral Officer shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose and seal them immediately, and the AITA shall keep these envelopes and shall retain them atleast until the declaration of results of the immediately subsequent Election of the Executive Committee, or till the pendency of any legal proceedings relating to such Elections, whichever is later.

15. Declaration of Results

(i) Once the count has been completed and verified, the names of contesting candidates who shall be deemed to have been elected at the Elections shall be declared by the Electoral Officer at the general meeting.

(ii) The results of the election shall be declared in accordance with Form 9 and published on AITA's official website within twenty-four (24) hours of completion thereof.

(iii) If, after the counting of the votes, an equality of votes is found to exist between any candidates, and the addition of one vote will entitle any of those candidates to be declared elected, the Electoral Officer shall forthwith decide between those candidates by lot, and proceed as if the candidate on whom the lot falls had received an additional vote.

16. Sanctions and Complaints

(i) All administrative matters relating to any election not covered by the Act, these rules or the AITA's bye-laws shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Officer.

(ii) In the event of a breach of these Election Rules, the Electoral Officer may refer the same to the AITA's Ethics Committee, who may make to the candidate in question:

(a) observations, which may be made public; or

(b) issue a warning, which will be automatically made public on the AITA's official website.

(iii) If a candidate or a voting member has any specific complaint or problem regarding the conduct of elections he may bring the same to the notice of the Electoral Officer.

(iv) Any decision by the Electoral Officer under these rules shall be final and binding, and any petition to the National Sports Tribunal relating to conduct or outcome of election shall be limited to only any violation of the provisions relating to the process of conduct of election under this Schedule:

Provided that no such petition may be filed after a period of thirty days from the declaration of results of any election.

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Annexure II

ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ATHLETES COMMITTEE BYE-LAWS

1. These Bye-Laws shall be read in addition to the above Rules, and shall be governed by the principles contained therein.
2. The Athletes Committee shall perform the following functions:
   a. It shall receive complaints from the athlete's community on all questions of concern to athletes.
   b. It shall represent the interests of all athletes competing in ITF and AITA-recognised tournaments.
   c. It shall advice and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on all questions of concern to athletes.
   d. The Athletes Committee is not a decision-making body. Its role is to advise and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, and on occasion to other committees of AITA, in accordance with these Bye-Laws.
3. The election to the Athletes Committee shall be as follows:
   a. The election shall be conducted by the same Electoral Officer who is appointed for conducting the elections of the Executive Committee of AITA.
   b. To be eligible for election to the Athletes Committee, a candidate must fulfil the eligibility criteria mentioned in Clause 6(f)(d) of the Rules.
   c. Any member of the Athletes' Committee shall be elected by and from among a pool of athletes which shall comprise of a total of upto 50 active athletes whose AITA ranking is as follows:
      - Top 15 men (singles)
      - Top 15 women (singles)
      - Top 10 men (doubles)
      - Top 10 women (doubles)

d. An athlete appearing in more than one category, shall be included as a single person in the pool and will pave the way for an additionally lower ranked player in that category. If there are more than one persons emerge as eligible, a person shall be selected by drawing a lot.

e. The aforesaid rank shall be held by the athlete on the date of publication of the notification of the elections.

f. Anyone from among this pool of athletes seeking election as member of the Athletes' Commission shall submit his/her application as per the process provided in the notice by the Electoral Officer.

g. In the absence of any rules or regulations issued by the Government of India in this regard, the forms, procedure and steps adopted for the election of Executive Committee of AITA shall also be implemented and followed for the elections of the Athletes Committee.

4. Members of the Athletes Committee shall always be bound by the AITA's Rules and all regulations. The age, term, tenue, qualifications, disqualifications etc. applicable for the election to the Executive Committee shall also apply for the election of Athletes Committee Chairperson, Executive Committee Representatives and General Body Representatives.

5. Any dispute or issue relating to the eligibility of a member of the Athletes Committee, or of a candidate to become a member of the Athletes Committee, shall be referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee.

6. Expenses

   AITA shall cover meeting costs necessarily incurred by members in attending or participating in Committee meetings, including costs of telephone or video conferencing. Any other expenses must be approved in advance and no other expenses (not-approved) shall be reimbursed.

7. Code of Conduct

   The AITA Code of Conduct (or such other code as may be applicable from time to time) shall apply to all members of the Athletes Committee. Members must familiarise themselves with the content of the applicable Code and comply with it at all times.

8. Amendment and Review

   These Bye-Laws shall be reviewed annually at the commencement of each calendar year, and any amendments must be approved in writing by the AITA Executive Committee. Any matter arising that is not addressed in these Bye-Laws shall be determined by the President of AITA in consultation with the AITA Executive Committees. ***

Annexure III

ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT BYE-LAWS

1. These Bye-Laws shall be read in addition to the above Rules, and shall be governed by the principles contained therein.
2. AITA shall have a category of retired players who shall be termed Sports Persons of Outstanding Merit ("**SOMs**"). These Bye-Laws outline, *inter alia*, the reserved positions for SOMs in AITA management, procedure for their selections and also their elections.
3. AITA shall maintain two Rosters of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit - 1 for male sportspersons ("**SOM Roster Male**") and 1 for female sportspersons ("**SOM Roster Female**") (collectively "**SOM Rosters**") which shall be duly published on the website of AITA.
4. The SOM Rosters shall consist of 20 sportspersons each.
5. Procedure for selection of SOMs:
    a. The procedure for selection of SOMs shall be in strict compliance of the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time.
    b. The call for applications for inclusion in the SOM Rosters shall be floated by the Executive Committee by issuance of a notice ("**SOM Notice**") at least 150 days before the expiry of the term of the Executive Committee of AITA.
    c. The SOM Rosters shall be prepared and published on the website of AITA at least 90 days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
    d. The SOM Notice shall specify the General Eligibility Criteria and Tiered Eligibility Criteria (collectively "**Eligibility Criteria**").
    e. The General Eligibility Criteria for applying for inclusion in the SOM Rosters shall be as outlined in the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time.
    f. The SOM Rosters shall be prepared by considering the following tournaments reads with the Tiered Eligibility Criteria stipulated in the Sports Rules:

Tier	Tournament

Tier 1	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 2	Applicants who have participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games.
Tier 3	Applicants who have participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games.
Tier 4	Applicants who have been awarded a Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or an Arjuna Award by the Central Government, provided that any award if rescinded or returned, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 5	Applicants who have themselves or as part of Indian team won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in (i) Grand Slams i.e. Wimbledon, Australian Open, French Open and US Open, (ii) Davis Cup, or (iii) Bilie Jean King Cup, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 6	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games or Asian Games, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 7	Applicants who have themselves or as part of Indian team stood first, second or third in Asia-Oceania Bili Jean Cup or Asia-Oceania Davis Cup, provided that any result if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 8	Applicants who have participated in at least five sanctioned international events conducted under the aegis of ITF, ATP, WTA, or an affiliate of ITF.

Tier 9	Applicants who have participated in at least one sanctioned international event conducted under the aegis of ITF, ATP, WTA, or an affiliate of ITF.
Tier 10	Applicants who have who have themselves or as part of a team won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in the National Games or a National Championship or equivalent competition.

g. The fulfilment of the eligibility criteria shall be checked as on the date on which the SOM Notice is issued by AITA.

6. While populating the SOM Rosters, AITA shall adhere to the following criteria:
   a. In the first instance, all applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and Tier 1 of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria shall be included in the relevant gender's SOM Roster.
   b. In the event the SOM Roster cannot be populated to meet the prescribed threshold, applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and the immediately succeeding Tier of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria shall be included sequentially until the required threshold is met.
   c. Where the number of eligible sportspersons under a particular Tier exceeds the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among such candidates.
   d. Where the concerned SOM Roster still falls short of the prescribed threshold despite compliance with the above steps, AITA may issue a fresh call for applications or frame and adopt additional tiered criteria, consistent with the principles underlying the existing Tiered Eligibility Criteria.
   e. The finalised SOM Rosters shall be published on the AITA website.
   f. Any person whose name appears whose name is reflected in either of the SOM Rosters shall be deemed to be a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit in respect of AITA for the purposes of the applicable Act and rules framed thereunder.
7. Election of SOM Representatives:
   a. First, there shall be four (4) sportspersons of outstanding merit who are elected by the members of the SOM Roster from amongst themselves to represent them in the General Body of AITA ("**SOM GB Representatives**"). Each SOM GB Representative shall have one (1) vote each in the meetings of the General Body of AITA. At all times, 2 SOM GB Representatives shall be males and

2 SOM GB Representatives shall be females.

b. After the election of the SOM GB Representatives, there shall be an election for two (2) sportspersons of outstanding merit who are elected by the members of the SOM Roster from amongst themselves to represent them in the Executive Committee of AITA ("**SOM EC Representatives**"). Each SOM EC Representative shall have one (1) vote each in the meetings of the Executive Committee of AITA. At all times, 1 SOM GB Representatives shall be a male and 1 SOM GB Representative shall be a female.

c. Any person who has contested or has been elected for the post of SOM GB Representative can also contest for the election of SOM EC Representative.

d. The elections for the SOM GB Representatives and SOM EC Representatives shall be concluded at least 75 days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.

e. The elections of SOM Representatives shall be conducted by the Electoral Officer who is appointed for conducting the elections of the Executive Committee.

f. The procedure for election of SOM Representatives shall be as per the forms, procedure and rules adopted for the elections of the Executive Committee as specified in the Sports Rules.

8. For the elections to the posts in the Executive Committee of AITA (except the SOM EC Representatives), only the SOM GB Representatives shall be eligible to vote and contest. The age, term, tenue, qualifications, disqualifications etc. applicable for the election to the Executive Committee shall also apply for the election of SOM GB Representatives and SOM EC Representatives.

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Proposed Amendments to the Memorandum of Association, Rules and Bye-Laws of the All India Tennis Association (AITA)
in compliance with the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026

Comparative Chart of Existing Provisions and Proposed Amendments

Provision No.	Existing Provisions of the AITA Memorandum of Association, Rules and Bye-Laws of the All India Tennis Association (AITA)	Proposed Amendments to the Memorandum of Association, Rules and Bye-Laws of the All India Tennis Association (AITA)
Memorandum of Association		
Sec-4 (Aims & Objects)	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of tennis (hereinafter called "The Game") in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game and those of the Association and particularly:	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of tennis (hereinafter called "The Game") in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, **the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game and** those of the Association and particularly:
Sec-4(s) (Agreements with firms)	In furtherance of its objects, AITA may enter into an agreement with any firm, organisation or concern in which the office bearers and the members of Executive Committee may or may not be financially interested as Director or partner.	In furtherance of its objects, AITA may enter into an agreement with any firm, organisation or concern in which the members of Executive Committee may or may not be financially interested as director or partner.
Rules of the All India Tennis Association		
Sec-2 (In Recital)	These shall be applicable to all affiliated units in the country.	These shall be applicable **throughout** the country.
Sec-3(a) (AITA)	AITA means the All India Tennis Association (hereinafter referred to as 'The Association').	AITA **or Association:** means the All India Tennis Association.
Sec-3(b) (Association composition)	The Association shall consist of: i. Affiliates with voting rights: A State Tennis Association, Union Territory Tennis Association which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules. ii. Associate Affiliates without voting rights: Institution or any other organisation to which AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, viz Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc.	**Omitted** *Note: The entire definition and its sub-categories are deleted. The composition of the Association is now addressed under the restructured Rule 6(a) (General Body).*

Sec-3(c) (Central Council)	Central Council: Shall mean and include the Office Bearers, Vice Presidents and Joint Secretaries of AITA, two representatives each nominated by the President / Honorary Secretary of the Affiliates and one representative of each of the Associate Affiliates.	**General Body**: Shall **have the meaning ascribed in Rule 6(a).**
Sec-3(d) (Executive Committee)	Executive Committee: Means the Executive Committee of the AITA duly elected at Annual General Meeting plus two player representatives nominated by the Athlete's Commission, with concurrence of President, AITA.	Executive Committee: Means the Executive Committee of the AITA duly elected at Annual General Meeting.
Sec-3(g) (Office-Bearers)	Office-bearers of the AITA: Means and include the President, Hon. Secretary General, and Hon. Treasurer. Any person, who is a national of India and otherwise eligible, will be entitled to be an office-bearer.	**Omitted.**
Sec-3(h) (President)	President: Means the President of the AITA duly elected by the Central Council.	**3(g)** President: Means the President of the AITA duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(i) (Vice President)	Vice Presidents: Means the Vice Presidents duly elected by the Central Council. Vice President (Chair): Means the one Vice President from amongst the Vice Presidents elected by the Central Council and designated as Vice President (Chair) by the Central Council in the AGM. Vice President (Sports): Means one Vice President from amongst the Vice Presidents elected by the Central Council and designated as Vice President (Sports) by the Central Council in the AGM.	**3(h) Vice President**: Means the Vice Presidents duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(j) (Hon. Secretary General)	Hon. Secretary General: Shall mean the Hon. Secretary General duly elected by the Central Council.	**3(i)** Hon. Secretary General: Shall mean the Hon. Secretary General duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(k) (Hon. Joint Secretary)	Hon. Joint Secretary: Shall mean the Hon. Joint Secretary duly elected by the Central Council. A total of 4 Joint Secretaries shall be elected, one from each zone (North, South, East, West).	**3(j)** Hon. Joint **Secretaries**: Shall mean the Hon. Joint **Secretaries** duly elected by the **General Body.**

Sec-3(l) (Hon. Treasurer)	Hon. Treasurer: Shall mean the Hon. Treasurer duly elected by the Central Council.	**3(k)** Hon. Treasurer: Shall mean the Hon. Treasurer duly elected by the **General Body.**
Sec-3(m) (CEO & CFO)	CEO & CFO: Means the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer respectively duly appointed by the Association.	**Omitted.**
Sec-3(n)	The Affiliation year or Financial Year: Means the period of twelve months from 1st April to the following 31st March.	**Renumbered as 3(l)**
Sec-3(o) (Jurisdiction)	Jurisdiction: The jurisdiction of the Association shall extend all over India and the territories of India.	**3(m)** Jurisdiction: The jurisdiction of the Association shall extend all over India**, including the Union Territories of** India.
Sec-3(p) (Tennis)	Tennis: Means the game of Tennis, Padel/Padel Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Beach Tennis or any other form of Tennis.	**3(n)** Tennis: Means the game of Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Beach Tennis or any other form of Tennis.
Sec-3(q) (Prominent Tennis Player)	Prominent Tennis Player: Shall mean any tennis player who was ranked in AITA/ITF/ATP/WTA or has represented the nation/state/university either individually or in team competitions, during his/her career.	**Omitted.**
New	**3(b) Board: means the National Sports Board established under sub-section (1) of section 5 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.**	
New	**3(o) Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit: Shall have the scope and meaning ascribed to the term in <u>Annexure III</u> of these Rules.**	
New	**3(p) International Charters: means the Rules & Regulations, policies, codes and other such governance documents of the International Tennis Federation.**	
New	**3(q) ITF: means the International Tennis Federation.**	
New	**3(r) Act: means the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 as amended from time to time.**	
New	**3(s) Sports Rules: means the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 as amended from time to time.**	
New	**3(t) State Affiliate: shall include Union Territory Affiliates as well.**	
New	**3(u) Tribunal: means the National Sports Tribunal constituted under sub-section (1) of section 17 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.**	
Sec-4 (Constitution of Association)	The Association shall comprise of: (a) The State Associations affiliated to AITA; (b) Union Territory Associations affiliated to AITA;	The Association shall comprise of: (a) **The General Body**; and (b) **The Executive Committee.**

	(c) Institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, viz Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc.	
Sec-5 (Objects)	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of Tennis in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game and those of the Association and particularly as defined in Clause 4 of the Memorandum of Association.	The Association shall be the governing body of the game of Tennis in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, **the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game** and those of the Association and particularly as defined in Clause 4 of the Memorandum of Association.
Sec-6 (Management: Central Council)	MANAGEMENT: CENTRAL COUNCIL The Central Council shall supervise and control the administration of the AITA and game in India through the Executive Committee and other sub-committees. a) Central Council Central Council: Shall mean and include Affiliates of AITA, each of which shall be represented by two representatives each nominated by the President / Honorary Secretary of the Affiliates; and Associate Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by one representative, provided that Associate Affiliates shall be entitled to participate in proceedings of the Central Council without voting rights. b) Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees The Executive Committee shall consist of President, Vice Presidents, Hon. Secretary General, Hon. Joint Secretaries and Hon. Treasurer, ten (10) members elected from the representatives representing Affiliates and two player representatives representing the AITA Athletes' Commission. Provided that at least 25% of the strength of the Executive Committee shall consist of prominent tennis players. In the event such number is not achieved, the Executive Committee shall nominate as many tennis players from the prominent players to form part of the Exeutive Committee. The Executive Committee shall exercise the powers as defined in the Regulations and entrust upon by the Central Council.	MANAGEMENT: **GENERAL BODY** The **General Body** shall supervise and control the administration of the AITA and game in India through the Executive Committee and other sub-committees. **a. <u>General Body</u> *(AMENDED)*** **General Body shall mean and include:** **i. State Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by two representatives each nominated by the Executive Committee of the State Affiliate;** **ii. Associate Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by one representative, provided that Associate Affiliates shall be entitled to participate in proceedings of the General Body without voting rights;** **iii. Four (4) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (2 males and 2 females), who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves as outlined in <u>Annexure III</u> to these Rules;** **iv. Institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, such as Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc without voting rights.** **Only the State Affiliates (2 votes per State Affiliate) and Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit representatives (1 vote each) shall have voting rights in meetings of General Body. The**

c) Sub-Committees

The Committees as mentioned below shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. The sub-committees will continue to function till the new sub-committees are appointed.

1. Management Committee
2. Finance and Legal Committee
3. International Committee
4. Ethics Committee
5. Arbitration Committee
6. Tournament Committee
7. Senior Selection Committee
8. Junior Selection Committee
9. Coaches Education & Certification Committee
10. Internal Complaints Committee
11. Any other committee as may be appointed by the Executive Committee

Management Committee (***DELETED)***

A Management Committee shall be appointed to act on behalf of the Executive Committee and shall comprise of:

- President
- Vice President (Chair)
- Hon. Secretary General
- VP Sports
- Joint Secretaries
- Hon. Treasurer
- Three (3) persons if so, nominated by the Executive Committee.

Decisions of the Management Committee will be confirmed if so required, at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

Finance and Legal Committee

A Four (4) Member Finance and Legal Committee comprised of the VP (Chair), Hony. Secretary General, VP Sports and Treasurer shall be appointed to advise the Association on matters pertaining to:

- Control of Legal Matters

members of the Executive Committee of AITA can attend the meeting of General Body, but cannot vote in their capacity as member of the Executive Committee unless they are nominated by a State Affiliate as their representative.

b. Executive Committee *(AMENDED)*

i. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members:

Sr.No.	Post	Number
1.	President	1
2.	Vice-President	1
3.	Secretary General	1
4.	Joint Secretary (Male)	1
5.	Joint Secretary (Post reserved for Female)	1
6.	Treasurer	1
7.	Executive Member (Minimum 1 post reserved for female)	5
8.	Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit (1 male and 1 female) who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves [*as prescribed in Annexure III to these Rules*]	2
9.	Athletes Commission Representatives (1 male and 1 female) who shall be elected by the members of the Athletes Committee from amongst themselves.	2
	Total:	15

ii. The Executive Committee shall not have more than 15 members.

	• Control of the finances and accounts of the Association. • Decisions on immovable or movable property of the Association. • Consideration of the accounts and scrutinization of proposals for expenditure. • Ways and means of raising funds for the Association. • Review of internal audit and statutory audit reports, verification and confirmation of the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer. • Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and steps to ensure that all procedures, processes, statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly. • Approval of expenditures above Rs 50,000. International Committee ***(DELETED)*** A three (3) Member International Committee shall be appointed to advise and represent AITA on International sports bodies & Associations. Any person representing on the Board of Directors of International / Asian Federation/s will automatically be a member of the Committee. Any remaining position will be proposed by the President and ratified by the Executive Committee. Ethics Committee An Ethics Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall be responsible for looking into matters relating to adherence to ethical guidelines of the Association and the International Tennis Federation/Olympic Charter. Arbitration Committee ***(DELETED)*** An Arbitration Committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee and be responsible for dealing with any dispute between AITA and any of its	**iii. The term of the Executive Committee shall be of four (4) years.** **iv. At least (4) members of the Executive Committee shall be women. This shall include (a) 1 Joint Secretary, (b) 1 Members Executive, (c) 1 representative of the Athletes Committee, and (d) 1 female Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit.** **v. At least two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit out of whom 1 shall be male 1 shall be female.** **vi. At least two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be representatives from the Athletes Committee out of whom 1 shall be male 1 shall be female and these representatives shall have voting rights except where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up.** **vii. The Executive Committee shall exercise the powers as defined in these Regulations and entrusted upon by the General Body.** **viii. No member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to vote on an agenda in an Executive Committee meeting where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up.** **c. <u>Ethics Committee</u> *(AMENDED)*** **i. A 5-Member Ethics Committee consisting of One (1) Chairman and Four (4) Members (2 male and 2 female) will be appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 years.** **ii. The Ethics Committee shall have at least:** • **1 - a person of eminence and repute** • **1 - SOM from the AITA SOM Roster** • **1 - a person who has in the past been a part of the AITA Executive Committee** • **1 - a person with legal knowledge** • **1 - a person with expertise in finance and accounting** **iii. No person from the incumbent Executive Committee or the General Body of AITA shall be appointed to the Ethics Committee.**

	affiliates/affiliates of affiliates/players/coaches/umpires & officials / administrators, and any other dispute relating to internal matters of AITA. The decision of the Arbitration Committee, which will act in accordance with the laws relating to arbitration in the country, will be final and binding on all concerned. Tournament Committee A Tournament Committee shall be appointed to advice on matters relating to Tournaments structuring, scheduling and other related matters. Senior Selection Committee A Senior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of teams for all domestic as well as international team events in the senior Men's and Ladies Category. Junior Selection Committee A Junior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of Junior teams for all domestic as well as international team events in all Junior age groups. Coaches Education & Certification Committee A Coaches Education & Certification Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for all matters relating to Coaches Certification & Education in the country. d) AITA Athletes' Commission ***(AMENDED)*** AITA will have an Athletes' Commission. The Commission shall be formed with the following criteria: (a) The Commission will have a maximum 8 members with its own office bearers. (b) A member can serve a maximum of three (3) terms, i.e. 12 years (c) 50% of the members will be elected by the players and 50% will be nominated by the Executive Committee of AITA.	**iv. The Ethics Committee shall exercise the powers, perform the functions and follow the procedure which is applicable to the ITF Ethics Commission as per the ITF's Rules & Regulations, ITF's Code of Ethics, ITF's Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Guidance and ethical guidelines of the Association.** **v. The purpose of the Ethics Committee is to help ensure that the sport of tennis is governed ethically and in accordance with the highest standards of honesty and integrity.** **vi. The Executive Committee may formulate an AITA Code of Ethics and publish it on the website of AITA.** **vii. The ITF Code of Ethics and the AITA Code of Ethics shall apply to the Executive Committee, members of the Sub-Committees, and each person who is a candidate for election or is appointed or is seeking appointment in AITA in any capacity.** **viii. The Ethics Committee shall function entirely independent of the Executive Committee and General Body. However, the Ethics Committee shall have the liberty to take assistance from AITA staff for administrative support and the proper functioning of the Ethics Committee.** **ix. The Ethics Committee shall depute an observer for the elections of AITA Executive Committee for ensuring that no unethical practices are being adopted during the process.** **d. Dispute Resolution Committee *(NEW)*** **i. A 5-Member Dispute Resolution Committee consisting of One (1) Chairman and (4) Members will be appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 years.** **ii. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall have the following composition:** • **Chairman - a retired judge of a High Court** • **Member - a senior advocate (male)** • **Member - a senior advocate (female)** • **Member - a person who has in the past been a part of the AITA Executive Committee**

	(d) Elections to the Commission shall be held every 4 years. For the first period of 2020-2024, four (4) persons have been nominated by the athletes. (e) To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Commission an athlete must have satisfied the following criteria:- i. Must be above 18 years of age ii. Must have achieved an ATP/WTA ranking and / or ITF Junior Ranking of less than 300 and / or ITF Seniors Ranking (age groups 35+ /40+ only) of less than 25, during his/her career. iii. Must never have received any sanction in relation to World Anti-Doping Code. (f) Election would be conducted in the presence of an AITA appointed Election Observer. (g) Commission will have representation of at least 2 female athletes. (h) Commission will have only one member representing the Seniors category. (i) The Commission will nominate two representatives to be members of the AITA Executive Committee, with concurrence of AITA President. (j) The Commission will be elected by athletes who qualify to be members as per the above criteria.	• **Member - a person with expertise in finance and accounting** **iii. The Chairman shall decide the composition and the number of members hearing the dispute depending on the subject matter of the dispute. However, for matters under sub-section iv(a) and iv(b) below, the composition of the members hearing will be of all the 5 members.** **iv. The Dispute Resolution Committee shall be responsible for hearing and deciding any and all disputes:** **a. Regarding elections of AITA or its affiliates;** **b. Regarding matters involving AITA's affairs;** **c. Regarding matters involving AITA's affiliates;** **d. Regarding matters involving affiliates of AITA's affiliates;** **e. Pertaining to any action against a player;** **f. Pertaining to selections;** **g. Pertaining to age fraud;** **h. Pertaining to any tournament conducted by AITA its affiliates, or affiliates of AITA's affiliates;** **i. Pertaining to disciplinary action taken by AITA or its affiliates; and** **j. Arising out of the field of play.** **Provided the complaint regarding or pertaining to the internal matter within the State Affiliate shall at first instance be instituted before that State Affiliate's dispute resolution committee. In such cases, the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall hear appeals against the decision of the dispute resolution committee of the State Affiliates.** **v. The decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be final and binding.** **vi. Before any dispute is referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee, it shall first be referred to a Mediation Panel consisting of 3 members (who shall be persons with past experience of conducting mediation) which shall be appointed by the General Body of AITA in the Annual General Meeting in which the election for the Executive Committee is conducted. Only once the said Mediation Panel gives a certificate that there is no scope for amicable**

		settlement in the dispute, then the aggrieved party may file a complaint before the Dispute Resolution Committee. **vii. The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall follow the procedure as deemed appropriate by it. The Dispute Resolution Committee in consultation with the Executive Committee shall duly formulate the forms and procedures for filing complaints before the Dispute Resolution Committee and the same shall be published on the website of AITA.** **viii. The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall act independent of AITA Executive Committee and General Body.** **ix. AITA's members, coaches, players, staff, or any other person or entity which has any dispute with AITA shall not approach any court of law for any grievance with AITA or any of its state/district units. All disputes shall be brought before AITA's Dispute Resolution Committee. Recourse to ordinary and constitutional courts of law shall be barred.** **x. The Chairman of the Dispute Resolution Committee may, from time to time, lay down nominal fees for filing complaints after approval form the Executive Committee.** **xi. AITA shall extend all assistance to the Dispute Resolution Committee in order to ensure that its operations run smoothly and in an efficient manner.** e. <u>Sub-Committees</u> ***(AMENDED)*** The Sub-Committees as mentioned below shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. The sub-committees will continue to function till the new sub-committees are appointed. i. Finance and Legal Committee ii. Tournament Committee iii. Senior Selection Committee iv. Junior Selection Committee **v. Coaching Committee *(RENAMED)*** vi. Internal Complaints Committee **(under POSH Act)** vii. Any other committee as may be appointed by the Executive Committee

		Finance and Legal Committee ***(AMENDED)*** A **Five (5)** Member Finance and Legal Committee shall be appointed **by the Executive Committee (which shall include the Hony. Secretary General and the Hony. Treasurer as ex officio members)** to advise the Association on matters pertaining to: • Control of Legal Matters • Control of the finances and accounts of the Association. • Decisions on immovable or movable property of the Association. • Consideration of the accounts and scrutinization of proposals for expenditure. • Ways and means of raising funds for the Association. • Review of internal audit and statutory audit reports, verification and confirmation of the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer. • Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and steps to ensure that all procedures, processes, statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly. • Approval of expenditures above Rs. 50,000/- **subject to ratification by the Executive Committee in its next meeting**. Tournament Committee A Tournament Committee shall be appointed to advice on matters relating to Tournaments structuring, scheduling and other related matters. Senior Selection Committee A Senior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of teams for all domestic as well as international team events in the senior Men's and Ladies Category. Junior Selection Committee

		A Junior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of Junior teams for all domestic as well as international team events in all Junior age groups. Coaching Committee ***(RENAMED)*** A **Coaching Committee** shall be appointed and would be responsible for all matters relating to coaches, certification & education in the country. **f. AITA Athletes Committee *(AMENDED)*** **AITA will have an elected Athletes Committee. The Committee shall be formed with the following criteria:** **i. The Athletes Committee will have 2 members (1 male and 1 female) who shall be ex officio members of the Executive Committee of AITA.** **ii. Term: The Athletes Committee shall have a term of 4 years from the date of their election.** **iii. Tenure: A member can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms, i.e. 12 years, and after that they must undergo a cooling off period of one term i.e. 4 years, before again seeking election to the Athletes Committee.** **iv. Eligibility: To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Athletes Committee an athlete must have satisfied the following criteria:** **a) Must be an Indian citizen, and** **b) Must be above 18 years of age on the day of announcement of election, and** **c) be in good standing with AITA, meaning not currently suspended or otherwise ineligible to participate in AITA-recognised tournaments pursuant to any applicable rules or regulations, and** **d) not have previously served a suspension period of three (3) months or longer, unless AITA approves their eligibility taking into account all relevant factors, and** **e) Must never have received any sanction in relation to World Anti-Doping Code, and** **f) Must never have received any sanction from ITF, AITA or any of its State/UT Affiliate.**

		v. Election would be conducted in the presence of an AITA appointed election observer. **vi. The Athletes Committee shall perform the functions and shall be elected as per the Athletes Committee bye-laws appended to this Constitution as <u>Annexure II</u>.**
Sec-7	**The phrase 'Central Council' is replaced with 'General Body' across Sec-7** **Sub-sections under Sec-7 will be renumbered due to omissions as outlined hereunder.**	
Sec-7(c)	To appoint not more than one person to act on the Committee of Management of the national Grass Court Championship of India, National Hard Court Championship of India and on any other tournaments held in India by any affiliated organisation or any club or Tournament Committee affiliated to such organisation and the expenses of such appointed person shall be met by the Affiliate holding the tournament.	**Omitted.**
Sec-7(e)	To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the international Federation Rules or rules framed by the Association.	To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the **International Charters** or rules framed by the Association.
Sec-7(j)	To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not an office-bearer or councilor.	To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not **a member of the Executive Committee**.
Sec-7(l)	To build Stadia and Tennis Courts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body.	To build **s**tadia and **t**ennis **c**ourts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body.
Sec-7(n)	In case of dispute between the AITA and/or its office-bearers on one part and State Association or Union Territory Association, units affiliated to State Association, Club, Institution, Councillor or any individual on other part, relating to matters covered under rules and regulations of the AITA, only courts within territorial area of Delhi State shall have jurisdiction to try such matters, irrespective of any other territorial jurisdiction of a party or person to the dispute in such matters and this Rule is binding on its Affiliates, Associates, Councillors, clubs or Institutions, individual person or persons connected directly or indirectly with the AITA. All disputes shall always be referred first for arbitration by the AITA Arbitration Committee.	**Omitted.**

Sec-7(o)	Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA Executive Committee has the power to inform its Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any office bearer of such an affiliated unit.	Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA Executive Committee has the power to inform its Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any **member of the executive committee** of such an affiliated unit.
New	**7(n) To provide interpretation to these rules and regulations, whenever required.**	
Sec-8 (Powers and Duties of Office-Bearers)	POWERS AND DUTIES OF OFFICE-BEARERS a. The President ***(AMENDED)*** The President shall be the Chairman/Chairperson of the Association and of the Central Council. He shall preside over all meetings of the Central Council and the Executive Committee. He shall guide the AITA in all its activities and shall exercise superintendence over office-bearers and members of the Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees in the discharge of their duties. He shall have overall powers of supervision over the working of the Association and its efficient administration. His decision on the day to day affairs being administered and executed by the other Office Bearers, Vice President (Chair), Vice President (Sports) and Joint Secretaries will be final. In particular, the President shall have the following powers/responsibilities: • To implement the objectives of the Association • To deal with all disciplinary matters arising in the AITA or in relation to the Affiliates / Associate Affiliates as per rules on the subject, provided that any decision in relation to those matters shall be made by the Executive Committee and/or the General Meeting. b. The Vice President (Chair) ***(AMENDED)*** One of the Vice Presidents will be designated as Vice President (Chair) by the Central Council in the AGM.	POWERS AND DUTIES OF **MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** a. The President **i. The President shall preside over all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee.** **ii. He shall guide the AITA in all its activities and shall exercise superintendence over members of the Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees in the discharge of their duties.** **iii. The President may call a meeting of the Executive Committee at a shorter notice for urgent purpose(s).** b. The Vice President i. In the absence of the President, **the Vice President presides over** all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body. ii. The Vice President may perform any other **specific** tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the General Body. c. The Hon. Secretary General i. Will oversee all the administrative functions and Human Resource matters with the help of executives and other staff as may be required from time to time for efficient running of the office, matters of routine nature relating to the Association and support functions like IT, Website, Social Media, Registrations, Rankings, Meetings.

	i) In the absence of the President, the Vice President (Chair) shall act in exercising all powers of the President, including presiding over all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the Central Council. ii) The Vice President (Chair) may perform any other tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the Central Council. c. The Hon. Secretary General i) Will oversee all the Administrative functions and Human Resource matters with the help of executives and other staff as may be required from time to time for efficient running of the office, matters of routine nature relating to the Association and support functions like IT, Website, Social Media, Registrations, Rankings, Meetings. ii) Will oversee and be responsible for tennis development activities including Coaching and Officiating and for Beach tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Paralympics, Competitions for differently abled and Senior Tennis. Will also be responsible for sponsorships for AITA and other efforts of AITA to raise financial resources. iii) Will perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association. iv) Will cause minutes of all meetings of the Association and the Council to be correctly recorded, confirmed and kept. v) With the consent of the President, will convene meetings of the Central Council, Executive Committee etc. whenever required. However, on instruction from the President, Executive Committee Meeting can be called at short notice and to the extent possible all meetings would be through virtual/video conference. vi) In case of urgency, will obtain the views of the Central Council or members of the Executive	ii. Will oversee and be responsible for tennis development activities including Coaching and Officiating and for Beach tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Paralympics, Competitions for differently abled and Senior Tennis. Will also be responsible for sponsorships for AITA and other efforts of AITA to raise financial resources. iii. Will perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association. iv. Will cause minutes of all meetings of the **Executive Committee and the General Body** to be correctly recorded, confirmed and kept. v. Will **issue the notices for convening of the meetings of the General Body and Executive Committee as per these Rules**. However, on instruction from the President, Executive Committee Meeting can be called at short notice. **As and when required, the Hony. Secretary General, with the permission of the President may call the Executive Committee meeting, through virtual/video conference, provided such meetings are fully recorded.** vi. In case of urgency, will obtain the views of the **General Body** or members of the Executive Committee by circulation or by any other manner as directed by the President. d. The Honorary Joint Secretaries i. All the duties & powers of the Hon. Joint Secretaries shall be entrusted to them by the Executive Committee. ii. In the absence of the Hony. Secretary General the Executive Committee shall appoint one of the Joint Secretaries to discharge the functions of the Hony. Secretary General. e. The Honorary Treasurer i. Within a reasonable time after the close of the financial year, the Hon. Treasurer shall furnish the Executive Committee with a statement of accounts, copies of which shall be forwarded to all members of the Executive Committee. ii. All accounts shall be maintained by the Hon. Treasurer and he

	Committee by circulation or by any other manner as directed by the President. d. The Vice President (Sports) ***(OMITTED)*** One of the Vice Presidents will be designated as Vice President (Sports) by the Central Council in the AGM. His/Her powers will be as under: i) Will oversee all matters relating to Professional Tennis sporting activities including the Davis Cup and Fed Cup and all professional tournaments. ii) Will have overall charge and responsibility for Professional Tennis Activities including Teams' Selections, Camps, Tournaments, International Exposure, Players' issues, coordination with Athletes' commission and professional players, Media management and Interactions on Tennis matters. iii) Perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association. e. The Honorary Joint Secretaries ***(AMENDED)*** A total of 4 Joint secretaries shall be elected by the Central Council, one from each zone of India, namely North, South, East and West. Each joint secretary would represent each of the 4 zones respectively. All the duties & powers of the Hon. Joint Secretaries shall be entrusted to them by the Executive Committee & / or by the President. f. The Honorary Treasurer i) Within a reasonable time after the close of the financial year, the Hon. Treasurer shall furnish the Executive Committee with a statement of accounts, copies of which shall be forwarded to all members of the Executive Committee. ii) All accounts shall be maintained by the Hon. Treasurer and he shall be entitled to pay all bills unless previously countermanded by the Executive Committee or the Central Council.	shall be entitled to pay all bills unless previously countermanded by the Executive Committee or the **General Body**. iii. All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General or the President iv. The above will be subject to the condition that any payment in excess of Rs 50,000/- can be made only when authorized by the Finance and Legal Committee. All amounts received by the Hon. Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith. v. All amounts received by the Hon. Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith. vi. The Hon. Treasurer shall ensure that the accounts of the Association are audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association. vii. Collect all moneys and dues payable to the Association and report to the Executive Committee on all financial matters. viii. Make an annual statement of accounts and place it before the Annual General Meeting of the **General Body**. ix. Submit to the President quarterly statements of income and expenditure. x. Disburse the funds of the Association according to the directions of the Executive Committee. xi. Keep a roll of all members and from time to time amend and correct the same as circumstances require. xii. Employ such clerical and other assistants as may be authorized by the Executive Committee.

	iii) All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Hon. Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary General or the President iv) The above will be subject to the condition that any payment in excess of Rs 50,000/- can be made only when authorized by the Finance and Legal Committee. v) All amounts received by the Hon. Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith. vi) The Hon. Treasurer shall ensure that the accounts of the Association are audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association. vii) Collect all moneys and dues payable to the Association and report to the Executive Committee on all financial matters. viii) Make an annual statement of accounts and place it before the Annual General Meeting of the Central Council. ix) Submit to the President quarterly statements of income and expenditure. x) Disburse the funds of the Association according to the directions of the Executive Committee. xi) Keep a roll of all members and from time to time amend and correct the same as circumstances require. xii) Employ such clerical and other assistants as may be authorized by the Executive Committee.	
Sec-9 (Powers and Duties of the Sub-Committees)	9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES a. All sub-committees shall carry out such duties as may be authorized by the Central Council. Such duties shall be discharged in accordance with the Regulations of the Association. b. All sub-committees are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee. c. Normal business of all sub-committees can also be done by post or virtual meetings. d. Executive Committee may appoint ex-officio members to the sub-committee.	**9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES** a. All sub-committees shall carry out such duties as may be authorized by the **General Body**. Such duties shall be discharged in accordance with **these rules and regulations** of the Association. b. All sub-committees are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee. c. Normal business of all sub-committees can also be done by post or virtual meetings. d. Executive Committee may appoint ex-officio members to the sub-committee.

		e. **Every sub-committee must meet quarterly and submit their report to the Executive Committee.** ***(NEW)***
Sec-10 (Election Bye Laws)	10. ELECTION BYE LAWS - Attached as Annexure 1	**10. ELECTION TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** **a. The elections of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be held in strict compliance with the Act and the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time (as specifically outlined in the Annexure I to these Rules).**
Sec-11 (Tenure of Office Bearers)	11. TENURE OF OFFICE BEARERS ***(OMITTED)*** The President can hold the office for a maximum period of twelve (12) years with or without break. The Hon. Secretary General and the Hon. Treasurer may serve a maximum of two successive terms of four years each after which a minimum cooling off period of four years will apply to seek fresh election to either post. The President, the Secretary General and the Treasurer shall be eligible if he/she be less than 70 years old on the election date. And if any member is thus elected before the age of 70, then he/she shall continue the full tenure. Furthermore, no office bearer of the AITA shall be eligible to be the office bearer simultaneously of any other National Sports Federation/Association except of the Indian Olympic Association.	**11. QUALFICATIONS FOR ELECTION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** ***(NEW)*** **a. A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination to, the Executive Committee, unless:** **i. such person is a citizen of India who has attained at least twenty-five years (25) of age and is not seventy-five (75) of age on the last date of nomination for election;** **ii. the nomination of such person is duly proposed and seconded by a voting member of the General Body;** **iii. such person is not declared to be of unsound mind;** **iv. such person complies with the International Charters and Statutes and bye-laws relating to age and term of the Executive Committee; and** **v. such person, if he is a government servant, has necessary approvals from the Government, as applicable.** **b. A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination for the post President or the Hony. Secretary General or the Treasurer, unless such person (i) is a SOM GB Representative, or (ii) has previously served as a member for at least one full term in the Executive Committee of AITA on any post, or (iii) has previously served as the President, or the Secretary General or the Treasurer in any of its State Affiliate units.** **c. A person may continuously hold the position of either the President or the Secretary General or the Treasurer, as the case may be, for up to three consecutive terms separately, or in combination thereof and shall be eligible for election to such posts or to the Executive Committee after a mandatory cooling off period of one term.**

Sec-12 (New - Disqualifications)	-	**12. DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GENERAL BODY, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES** **a. A person shall be disqualified from being a member of the General Body, or of any committee of a AITA, and shall not be eligible for contesting for election to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee, if such person:** **i. is declared insolvent under applicable law; or** **ii. is subject to a conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for an offence, followed by a sentence of imprisonment; or** **iii. is subject to a ban from holding any such position by an order of the Ethics Committee of AITA; or** **iv. is a member of the general body or of any committee of any other National Sports Body which is registered with the National Sports Board under the Act, except the Indian Olympic Association; or** **v. has not completed the cooling off period of one term after having held the position of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in any other National Sports Body which is registered with the National Sports Board under the Act, except the Indian Olympic Association; or** **b. The period of disqualification under Clause 12(a)(i) shall be for the period of insolvency.** **c. The period of disqualification under Clause 12(a)(ii) shall be for a period of one full term of the Executive Committee after the completion of such sentence.** **d. The period of disqualification under Clause 12(a)(iii) shall be for the duration of such ban.**
Sec-12 (Casual Vacancies)	The phrase 'office-bearers' used throughout.	**Sec-12 to be renumbered as Sec-13** The phrase '**members of the Executive Committee'** replaces 'office-bearers' throughout the Casual Vacancies provision.
Sec-13 (Permanent Vacancies)	13. PERMANENT VACANCIES Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any office-bearer from attending to his duties for more than 3 months. a) President	**Sec-13 to be renumbered as Sec-14** 14. Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any **member of the Executive Committee** office-bearer from attending to his duties for more than 3 months. a. President

	Vice President (Chair) will fill the permanent vacancy of the post of President till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. b) Honorary Secretary General, Vice President (Chair), Vice President (Sports), Hon. Joint Secretary and Hon. Treasurer Permanent vacancy of the posts of Honorary Secretary General, Vice President (Chair), Vice President (Sports), Hon. Jt. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer shall be filled in by the Executive Committee till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. Any office bearer who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy shall not be deemed to have enjoyed a term of 4 years. He will be entitled to contest election as per rules and if elected, hold office for a further term of 4 years and so on as provided herein above.	Vice President will fill the permanent vacancy of the post of President till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. b. Honorary Secretary General, Vice President, Hon. Joint Secretaries and Hon. Treasurer Permanent vacancy of the posts of Honorary Secretary General, Vice President, Hony. Jt. Secretaries or Hon. Treasurer shall be filled in by the Executive Committee till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted. c. Any **member of the Executive Committee** who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy shall not be deemed to have enjoyed a term of 4 years. He will be entitled to contest election as per rules and if elected, hold office for a further term of 4 years and so on as provided herein above.
Sec-14(a) (Accounts - bills)	All bills shall be passed either by the President, Honorary Secretary General or the VP Sports before payment.	**Sec-14 to be renumbered as Sec-15** 15(a) All bills shall be passed either by the President, Honorary Secretary General or the **Treasurer** before payment.
Sec-15 (Meetings of the Central Council)	15. MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL (a) Annual General Meeting of the Central Council shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date earlier than six weeks after the 31st day of March. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be: - i) To receive the report of the Honorary Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by the Executive Committee and the Hon. Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited. ii) To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary General, Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee. iii) To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year.	**Sec-15 to be renumbered as Sec-16** 16. MEETINGS OF THE **GENERAL BODY** a. Annual General Meeting of the General Body shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date **not later than 30th day of September**. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be: i. To receive the report of the Honorary Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by the Executive Committee and the Hon. Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited. ii. To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Secretary General, Hon. Joint Secretaries, Hon. Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee.

	(b) All other business transacted at an Annual General Meeting or any General Meeting shall be deemed 'Special Business', and shall be decided by two-third's majority of votes properly recorded. ***(OMITTED)*** (c) An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the President/Executive Committee whenever they think fit, or shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within three months of receipt of requisition by a minimum of five affiliates specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. (d) No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjourned meeting. (e) All ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. However, any business regarding 'Change of Constitution and Rules' will be decided by two-third majority of the member present and who are eligible to vote. All business of an Extraordinary General Meeting, being special, shall be decided by tow-third majority of votes properly recorded. (f) In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman shall have a casting vote. (g) Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries and Members of the Central Council at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Hon. Secretary General, report of the Hon. Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting. (h) At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by open voting unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is-	iii. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year. b. **An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the (i) President, or (ii) the Hon. Secretary General, anytime as required. An Extra-Ordinary General meeting can also be convened** on receipt of requisition by a minimum of five State Affiliates, by specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. A notice of 3 (three) weeks shall be given for such a meeting. **If the President or the Hony. Secretary General do not issue a notice for such Extra-Ordianry General Meeting within 7 days of the receipt of such requisition as mentioned above, any 3 of the 5 states who have requisitioned the meeting, can issued a notice for Extra-Ordianry General Meeting, and such meeting and the business transacted in the meeting shall be considered valid and shall not be legally objected to by the Association.** No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting, **other than that mentioned in the notice**. c. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjourned meeting. d. All business of the Annual General Meeting **or Extraordinary General Meeting** shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. **However, any business regarding amendment of these rules and regulations will be decided by two-third majority of the member present and who are eligible to vote.** e. In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman **of the meeting** shall have a casting vote. f. Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries and Members of the **General Body** at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Hon. Secretary General, report of the Hon. Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting.

	(aa) Directed by the Chairman or (ab) Demanded by not less than three persons present and entitled to vote. (i) Elections shall be by secret ballot. (j) All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of the President.	g. At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by **show of hands** unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is- i. Directed by the Chairman, or ii. Demanded by not less than **25 (twenty-five) percent of** persons present and entitled to vote. h. Elections shall be by secret ballot. i. **All the General Body meetings shall be video recorded**. j. All matters discussed by the **General Body** in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Hon. Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of the President.
Sec-16 (No Confidence)	16 NO CONFIDENCE Proposal for no confidence in Executive Committee or any Office Bearer(s) / Members(s) thereof can be taken up only at an EGM convened specially for this purpose. The proposal should be made by at least 25% of the affiliated organizations. The EGM shall be called and convened by the Hon. Secretary General on receipt by him of a requisition in writing to the above effect. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. A no confidence proposal would be considered as passed if the votes cast in favour of the proposal are at least two-thirds of the votes properly recorded at the meeting.	**Sec-16 to be renumbered as Sec-17** 17. NO CONFIDENCE Proposal for no confidence **of any member of the Executive Committee (except representatives of the SOM or Athletes Committee)** can be taken up only at an EGM convened specially for this purpose. The proposal should be made by at least **25% of the voting members of the General Body**. The EGM shall **mandatorily** be called and convened by the Hon. Secretary General on receipt by him of a requisition in writing to the above effect **by giving 3 (three) weeks' notice. In the event that such meeting is not called by the Hony. Secretary General, then the meeting shall be called by any three State Affiliates, who shall jointly issue the notice.** No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. A no confidence proposal would be considered as passed if the votes cast in favour of the proposal are **more than 50 percent** of the votes properly recorded at the meeting.
Sec-17 (Quorum)	17. QUORUM At the AGM or any meeting of the Central Council, 10 persons shall form a quorum of which at least eight shall be representatives of affiliated organisations.	**Sec-17 to be renumbered as Sec-18** 18. QUORUM At the AGM or any meeting of the General Body, 10 persons shall form a quorum of which at least eight shall be representatives of affiliated organisations. **If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.**
Sec-18 (Affiliations)	18. AFFILIATIONS	**Sec-18 to be renumbered as Sec-19** 19. AFFILIATIONS

	All State Associations /Union Territory Associations which are Full Member of the All India Tennis Association shall have 2 votes. i. Any State Association / Union Territory which may desire to become an Associate Affiliate shall apply to the Hon. Secretary General. Such applicant State / Union Territory Association must have a legal status as a registered association and have a minimum of 50% of the district level associations affiliated to it or club/institutions which are affiliated. All new affiliations to AITA will be as 'Associate Affiliate' in the initial stage. All such applicants must apply with the following documents:- a) Registration Certificate, b) List of Office-bearers, c) List of affiliated District Tennis Associations / Clubs / Institutions / Members d) Minutes of last two Annual General Meetings e) Audited accounts for last two years. f) Copy of Rules & Regulations conforming to AITA Regulations. ii. An Associate Affiliate on fulfilment of the following criteria can apply for promotion as 'Affiliate with voting rights':- ***(DELETED)*** a) Should have at least two training centres with three (3) courts each, b) Should have at least Five (5) AITA Registered Coaches, c) Should have a minimum of Fifty (50) AITA registered players d) Should have conducted at least four (4) AITA/ITF tournaments in the preceding year. iii. Any affiliate that does not fulfill in time the above requirements listed in 18(iii) hereinabove, will be treated as an Associate Affiliate without voting rights on the decision of the Executive Committee. Such Associate Affiliates may reapply to the Association for becoming an Affiliate with voting rights on fulfilment of applicable conditions in 18(iii).	a. **All State Affiliates of the All India Tennis Association shall have 2 votes each.** b. Any state association/union territory **association** which desires to become an Associate Affiliate shall apply to the Hon. Secretary General. c. Such applicant state/union territory association must: i. have a legal status **as a registered society, not-for-profit company or trust, and** ii. **must have district or other units affiliated to it**. d. **All new affiliations to AITA will be as 'Associate Affiliate' and they shall have no voting rights in the General Body of AITA.** e. All such applicants must apply with the following documents:- i. Registration Certificate, ii. List of Office-bearers, iii. **List of affiliated district or other units**, iv. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting, v. Audited accounts, and vi. Copy of rules & regulations conforming to **these rules and regulations**. f. An Associate Affiliate can apply **to the General Body through the Hony. Secretary General** for promotion as '**State** Affiliate with voting rights' and the General Body in its next meeting shall take a decision on such an application on the basis of the tennis promotion activities undertaken by the Associate Affiliate in its State/UT. g. If more than one body or organisation in a State/UT claims affiliation to the AITA, which one of the bodies will be entitled to affiliation to the AITA, will be a matter exclusively and entirely within the power and jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of the AITA to decide. If a body/organisation has already been recognized and affiliated to the AITA **from a State/UT**, no other body/organisation shall be recognized or affiliated to the AITA. h. **Grant of affiliation shall be a matter of discretion and no applicant shall have a right to get affiliation merely because it meets the aforesaid criteria.**

	iv. All such applications must be governed by the rules and in accordance with Regulations to these rules. The applicant shall forward the following documents to AITA Office addressed to the Hon. Secretary General: a) Name and address of the training centres. b) List of AITA Registered Coaches with their registration number c) List of AITA Registered Players with their ITN numbers d) List of tournaments held along with the results e) List of Affiliated District Associations f) List of affiliated clubs / institutions v. If more than one body or organisation in a State claims affiliation to the AITA, which one of the bodies will be entitled to affiliation to the AITA, will be a matter exclusively and entirely within the power and jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of the AITA to decide. If a body/organisation has already been recognized and affiliated to the AITA, no other body/organisation shall be recognized or affiliated to the AITA.	
Sec 19 (Obligations of Organisations)	19. OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANISATIONS a. Every organisation affiliated under Rule 18 shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs. 5000/- plus applicable tax (es). b. The annual contribution for each year shall be payable in advance, on or before the 31st day of March, provided, however, that the first annual contribution shall be payable within one month of the receipt of notice of affiliation. c. Every affiliated organisation shall on or before the 31st day or March in each year, send to the Association a complete list of office bearers, councillors, names of affiliated clubs, district associations and other organizations, minutes of the Annual General Meeting and audited statements of accounts. This provision, however, will not be applicable to Railways Sports Promotion Board and Services Sports Control Board.	**Sec-19 to be renumbered as Sec-20** 20. OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANISATIONS a. Every organisation affiliated under **Rule 19** shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs. 5000/- plus applicable **taxes or the amount of fees as decided by the General Body from time to time**. b. The annual contribution for each year shall be payable in advance, on or before the 31st day of March, provided, however, that the first annual contribution shall be payable within one month of the receipt of notice of affiliation. c. Every affiliated organisation shall on or before the **30th day of September** in each year, send to the Association a complete list of **members of its executive committee**, councillors, names of affiliated clubs, district associations and other organizations, minutes of the Annual General Meeting and audited statements of accounts. This provision, however, will not be applicable to Railways Sports Promotion Board and Services Sports Control Board.

	d. Notice of every subsequent addition to such list and of any withdrawal there-from shall be sent to the Association by every such organisation. e. Such other information as may be called for by the Association within one month of the receipt of the communication.	d. Notice of every subsequent addition to such list and of any withdrawal there-from shall be sent to the Association by every such organisation. e. Such other information as may be called for by the Association **shall be given by the affiliates, including the associated affiliates,** within one month of the receipt of the communication.
Sec-20 (Disaffiliations)	**Sec-20 to be renumbered as Sec-21** References to 'Central Council' to be reworded to 'General Body'	
Sec-20(b)	For non-filing of membership returns as provided for in Rule 19(c).	For non-filing of membership returns as provided for in **Rule 20(c)**.
Sec-21 (Disputes)	21. DISPUTES (a) All unresolved disputes arising within the affiliated units of AITA or between affiliated units of AITA shall be referred to the AITA Arbitration Committee by the affiliated units. The arbitration proceedings shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act 1996. (b) The arbitration procedure shall be completed within the period specified by the AITA Executive Committee (President AITA based on the circumstances of the case has the authority to extend or vary the period).	**Omitted.** *Note: Sec-21 (Disputes) deleted in its entirety. Dispute resolution now addressed comprehensively through new Dispute Resolution Committee under Rule 6(d).*
Sec-22 (Re-admission)	References to 'Central Council' to be reworded to 'General Body'.	
Sec-23 (Voting)	This has been reframed and simplified.	**23. VOTING** **a. The following shall have voting rights in the General Body:** **i. Each Stat Affiliate will be represented in the General Body by 2 representatives who shall be entitled to a total of 1 vote at all meetings of the General Body.** **ii. Each SOM GB Representative shall have 1 vote each at all meetings of the General Body.** **b. No person, representing an Associate Affiliate without voting rights, shall have any right to vote on any matter or subject or issue in discussion before the General Body, but such a person may take part in discussions and express his/her views in the General Body Meeting and all the**

		decisions taken by the General Body shall be binding and enforceable irrespective of such person's views expressed in the meeting.
Sec-24 (Notice)	References to 'Central Council' to be reworded to 'General Body'.	
Sec-26 (Travelling and halting expenses)	The President, Vice President (Chair), Hon. Secretary General, VP Sports, Hon. Joint Secretaries and the Hon. Treasurer, the member of the Executive Committee and Members of the various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as may be approved by the Executive Committee.	The members of the Executive Committee and members of the various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as may be approved by the Executive Committee.
Sec-28 (Rules of the game)	References to 'Central Council' to be reworded to 'General Body'.	
Sec-29 (Right of Appeal)	Any club or player affiliated to any affiliated organisation, or any person being a member of such an organisation or club or player being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the Governing Body of such affiliated organisation, may appeal to the AITA within a period of 30 days of the said decision or ruling and the appeal shall be heard at such place and time and by such persons and in such manner as the Central Council shall direct. Expenses incurred in connection with such an appeal shall be paid by such parties to the appeal and in such manner as the Central Council shall determine.	Any club or player affiliated to any affiliated organisation, or any person being a member of such an organisation or club or player being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the governing body of such affiliated organisation, may appeal to the **concerned affiliate's jurisdictional state dispute resolution committee and in the absence thereof, to the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee.**
Heading	REGULATIONS SANTIONED BY THE ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION - General Regulations	**Omitted.**
Sec-32 (Executive Committee)	References to 'Central Council' to be reworded to 'General Body'. Clauses are renumbered owing to omission and additions as mentioned hereunder.	
Sec-32(g)	Each member of the Executive Committee must be a member of an affiliated organization affiliated directly or indirectly to the AITA.	**Omitted.**
Sec-32(j)	The Executive Committee may also arrive at decisions on points referred to them by circulation. All matters circulated	The Executive Committee may also arrive at decisions on points referred to them by circulation. All matters circulated must be voted on within a period of **5 days** from the date of dispatch of the Circular.

	must be voted on within a period of 15 days from the date of dispatch of the Circular.	
Sec-32(k)	A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within one month of the receipt by him of a requisition in writing from three members of the Executive Committee.	A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Hon. Secretary General within **15 (fifteen) days** of the receipt by him of a requisition in writing from three members of the Executive Committee.
Sec-32(m)	The Executive committee shall take decision regarding the Davis Cup, foreign tours and international matches or competitions.	The Executive committee shall take decision regarding the Davis Cup, foreign tours and international matches or competitions **taking into consideration the recommendation of the relevant sub-committee(s).**
Sec-32(n)	Quorum: At all meetings of the Executive Committee, 5 persons shall form a quorum of which at least two shall be elected representatives of affiliated organizations.	Quorum: At all meetings of the Executive Committee, 5 persons shall form a quorum, of which at least 2 (two) shall be who **are not SOM representatives or Athletes Committee representatives. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.**
Sec-32(o)	No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum of requisite number be present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjoined meeting.	**Omitted.**
Sec-32(p)	The Executive Committee shall always have the powers to ratify any action or decision taken by the Office Bearers/sub-committee.	The Executive Committee shall always have the powers to ratify **or change** any action or decision taken by **its members or any** sub-committee.
New		**32(i) The President can decide to call any Executive Committee Meeting virtually instead of a meeting where members are required to attend physically. If an EC is called with physical presence, a member can attend virtually with prior permission of the President and can also vote virtually. However, to give such permission will be at the discretion of the President depending upon the nature of the agenda. Any issue arising due to a failed video or audio connection shall be treated as absence of such a member.**
New		**32(j) All the Executive Committee meetings, physical or virtual shall be video recorded.**

Sec-34 (Rules which must be in the constitution of an affiliate/associate affiliate)	34. RULES WHICH MUST BE IN THE CONSTITUTION OF AN AFFILIATE / ASSOCIATE AFFILIATE a) Every State Association Affiliate must have its own Rules & Regulations which are in conformity with the Rules & Regulations of the AITA. b) Every Affiliate/Associate Affiliate must get AITA approval prior to any amendment to their Constitution. c) An AITA Observer will be appointed for election of Office Bearers, when due, of the Affiliate/Associate Affiliate. The expenses for the AITA Observer will be borne by AITA.	**Omitted.**
Sec-35 (Standing Orders)	35. STANDING ORDERS 1) The meetings of the Central Council shall be called by the Hon. Secretary General with the approval of the President and shall be held at such place as may be decided by the President. 2) A copy of every report to be presented at a council meeting shall as far as possible, be sent to each member at least five clear day prior to the date fixed for the meeting at which such report is to be considered, Any report on matter of urgency shall be circulated to the members either before or at such meeting and shall be read at the meeting by the member presenting the report or by the Hon. Secretary General. The Chairman's decision, whether the matter is of urgency or not, shall be final. 3) At every meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting shall be taken as the first ordinary business and, if accurate, signed by the Chairman of the meeting. 4) All questions at the Council meeting shall be decided by show of hands. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote in the event of a tie. 5) Every notice of motion to be placed on the Agenda for a meeting shall be sent in writing to the Hon. Secretary General and shall be signed by the member of the Council giving it. 6) The decision of the Chairman upon all points of orders shall be final.	**Omitted.**

	7) All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential Matters of public interest may, however, be communicated by the Hon. Secretary General to the press subject to the approval of the Chairman.	
Sec-36 (Alterations to the MOA or Rules and Regulations)	**To be renumbered as Sec-33**	
Sec-37 (Annual list of governing body members)	37. ANNUAL LIST OF GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS Once in every year a list of the office bearers and members of the Governing Boyd, viz. the Executive Committee shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, West Bengal as required under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.	**Sec-37 to be renumbered as Sec-34** 34. ANNUAL LIST OF **GENERAL** BODY MEMBERS Once in every year a list of **the members of the General Body and the Executive Committee** shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, West Bengal as required under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.
Sec-38 (Suit & Legal Proceedings)	The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President and / or the Secretary as per the provisions of West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the society.	**Sec-38 to be renumbered as Sec-35** The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President and / or the Secretary as per the provisions of West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the society. **In all such cases, the President/Hony. Secretary General shall not be personally liable.**
Sec-39 (Dissolution of the organisation)	**To be renumbered as Sec-36**	
Sec-40 (Application of the Act)	40. APPLICATION OF THE ACT All the Sections of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the Societies registered in West Bengal shall apply to the society.	**Sec-40 to be renumbered as Sec-37** **37. APPLICABLE STATTUES** The provisions under the following statutes and rules and regulations thereunder shall apply to AITA: a. The West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the Societies registered in West Bengal, and **b. The notified provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the rules and regulations made thereunder.**
Sec-41	**To be renumbered as Sec-38**	

(Essential Certificate)	
New	**ANNEXURE I - Election Rules** ***(Amendments are made to the Original Bye-Laws, but the document is essentially entirely new)***
New	**ANNEXURE II - Athletes Committee Bye-Laws**
New	**ANNEXURE III - Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Bye-Laws**

The State of Indian Tennis: A Crisis of Leadership

There was a time when India commanded respect on the world tennis stage.

From the elegance of Ramanathan Krishnan to the heroics of Vijay Amritraj, Ramesh Krishnan, Leander Paes, Mahesh Bhupathi and Sania Mirza, Indian tennis consistently produced champions who competed with the world's best. India regularly featured in Grand Slams, reached three Davis Cup finals, produced world-class juniors, and inspired generations to dream beyond our shores.

Today, that legacy lies in tatters.

Despite greater government funding, improved sports science, increased corporate sponsorship and more international tournaments being hosted in India than ever before, Indian tennis has witnessed a dramatic decline. There is virtually no presence in singles at the highest level, women's tennis has all but disappeared from the global rankings, and our once-feared Davis Cup team has spent years outside the elite of world tennis.

This decline cannot be dismissed as bad luck or a temporary lack of talent.

India continues to produce gifted young players. What has failed them is the system.

For decades, the administration of Indian tennis has remained concentrated in the hands of the same small group of individuals. Fresh ideas have been resisted, accountability has been absent, and positions of influence have too often appeared to circulate within the same families and close associates. Merit has frequently taken a back seat to patronage, conflicts of interest have gone unchecked, and institutional reform has repeatedly been postponed.

No successful sporting nation operates this way.

When administrators become permanent fixtures, innovation dies. When decision-making is driven by relationships rather than competence, athletes become collateral damage. And when governance serves those in office rather than the sport itself, decline becomes inevitable.

Indian tennis today is living proof.

The Evidence

1. A Vanishing Presence on the World Stage

For decades, India maintained a consistent presence at the highest levels of international tennis. Whether through singles, doubles or junior competition, Indian players regularly featured in Grand Slam qualifying events, main draws and Davis Cup campaigns.

That picture has changed dramatically.

The country now has only one player inside the ATP Top 300, no woman inside the WTA Top 300, and for the first time in decades there was no Indian singles player competing in either the qualifying or main draw at Wimbledon 2026. Even doubles participation has shrunk to just two male players competing alongside foreign partners.

This decline has occurred despite India hosting more international tournaments than ever before. The Challenger circuit, ITF events and WTA tournaments have expanded considerably, yet these opportunities have not translated into world-class results.

Hosting tournaments is important. Producing players is what ultimately matters.

This decline is particularly striking because India today hosts more professional tournaments than at any point in its history. The country continues to stage the WTA 125 L&T Mumbai Open, four ATP Challenger Tour events in Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi and Pune, and a busy ITF circuit that should, in theory, provide an ideal pathway for aspiring professionals. Yet the results tell a very different story.

The loss of India's flagship ATP event illustrates this decline. The Chennai Open, later renamed the Maharashtra Open, was once the country's premier ATP tournament and attracted some of the biggest names in world tennis. However, the tournament licence was lost to Hong Kong for the 2024–25 season, leaving India without an ATP Tour event for the first time in decades.

Despite increased tournament opportunities, India today has only one player, Sumit Nagal, inside the ATP Top 300, with his ranking fluctuating between 219 and 282. There is currently no Indian woman inside the WTA Top 300. At Wimbledon 2026, India had no representation in either the men's or women's singles qualifying or main draw. Doubles representation has also reduced dramatically, with only Yuki Bhambri, Anirudh Chandrashekar and Sriram Balaji competing alongside foreign partners bowing out in the first round and having no representation in the Mixed Doubles category either.

2. The Collapse of India's Junior Pipeline

Perhaps the greatest concern is not today's rankings, but tomorrows.

India once produced a steady stream of elite juniors who won Grand Slams, reached the top of world rankings and earned scholarships at leading American universities. Junior success formed the foundation of Indian tennis for generations.

Today, that pipeline has almost disappeared.

Indian junior tennis was once among the strongest in Asia. Players such as Ramanathan Krishnan, Leander Paes and Yuki Bhambri, who won the 2009 Australian Open boys' singles title, demonstrated that Indian juniors could compete with and defeat the world's best.

Those successes opened doors to sponsorships, professional careers and NCAA scholarships in the United States. Junior rankings were not simply statistics; they were passports to world-class training environments and international competition.

Today, while India still has five boys inside the ITF Junior Top 100, led by Kriish Tyagi, the girls' side presents a stark contrast of isolated brilliance amidst a broader lack of depth. Although rising star Maaya Rajeshwaran Revathi has made a breakthrough into the Top 100, this achievement is an individual triumph rather than evidence of a thriving, systemic development pipeline. A nation that once consistently produced a deep pool of Top 10 juniors now relies on rare, exceptional talents who succeed despite the system, not because of it. Furthermore, the weakening of domestic pathways has severely impacted the broader NCAA recruitment pipeline that once benefited so many Indian players.

When the overall junior system lacks depth and institutional support, the professional system inevitably follows.

3. International Success Cannot Hide Domestic Failure

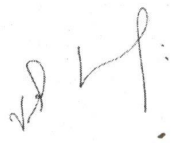
India's historic 3–2 Davis Cup victory over the Netherlands in February 2026, then ranked World No. 6, served as a timely reminder that Indian tennis has not run out of talent. Against the odds, the team produced one of its finest performances in recent years, advancing to the second round of the Davis Cup Qualifiers and taking a significant step towards a return to the elite Finals. It was India's best Davis Cup campaign in over fifteen years and proof that, when given the opportunity, Indian players are still capable of competing with the world's best.

Yet one inspiring victory cannot mask a far more troubling reality.

India is one of the most decorated nations in Davis Cup history outside the traditional powerhouses, having reached the Finals on three occasions, in 1966, 1974 and 1987. For a country with such a proud legacy, spending much of the past fifteen years outside the elite tier of world tennis is a stark measure of its decline. The Netherlands victory demonstrated what Indian players can achieve; it also highlighted how infrequently they have been given the system and support to compete consistently at that level.

The picture in women's tennis remains a complex mix of historic struggle and sudden flashes of brilliance. For decades, the Billie Jean King Cup team battled relegations and remained confined to the Asia/Oceania zones, never reaching the elite World Group. However, in 2025, leveraging the home advantage in Pune, the team produced a historic campaign. With crucial victories over South Korea and Chinese Taipei, they secured a maiden berth in the World Group Play-offs. Yet, this historic achievement ultimately highlights a frustrating truth about the state of the sport. It proves that the talent is undeniably present, but it also exposes how much these players have had to rely on individual resilience rather than a robust, high-performance ecosystem. Sporting success cannot be left to chance; it requires institutions that consistently prepare athletes to perform on the biggest stages.

The conclusion is difficult to ignore. India's players continue to show flashes of brilliance and the ability to upset stronger opponents. The talent exists. What has been missing is a high-performance system capable of producing those results consistently. Sporting success cannot depend on isolated moments of inspiration; it requires institutions that repeatedly prepare athletes to perform on the biggest stages.



4. Infrastructure: The National Tennis Centre That Never Was

Every successful tennis nation has invested in a world-class high-performance centre where its best players can train together, learn from one another and benefit from elite coaching, sports science, physiotherapy, nutrition and performance analysis. From the academies of Spain to the national training centres of France and Great Britain, these institutions have become the backbone of sustained international success.

For more than three decades, Indian tennis has spoken about creating such a National Tennis Centre. Administrators have repeatedly announced ambitious plans, identified land and promised a centralised high-performance academy that would bring together the country's most talented juniors and professionals under one roof. Yet despite decades of discussion, the vision has never materialised.

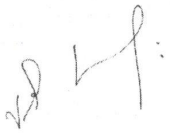
The failure to establish a permanent national training hub has forced many of India's leading players to build their careers abroad. Rather than benefiting from a unified high-performance environment within India, they have had to seek coaching, competition and support overseas. Even today, India's highest-ranked singles player, Sumit Nagal, trains in Germany, a telling reflection of the limitations of the domestic system.

The closure of the National Tennis Centre (NTC) in Delhi on 31 December 2024 therefore represented far more than the loss of a single academy. It marked the collapse of what was intended to become the flagship institution of Indian tennis. At a time when the Government of India has significantly expanded investment in elite sport through initiatives such as Khelo India and the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), Indian tennis found itself without the one institution that virtually every successful tennis nation considers indispensable.

More troubling, however, was not simply that the National Tennis Centre failed,but the circumstances surrounding its failure.

The NTC had been established by the AITA itself in 2020 as the foundation of a new high-performance model. Yet within just four years it had ceased operations.

In late 2024, the Delhi High Court suspended the AITA election results. Then, in April 2026, it took the extraordinary step of appointing former Chief Justice Justice Gita Mittal as a court-appointed Administrator to oversee the functioning of the federation and implement structural reforms. For a national sporting federation to require judicial supervision is both exceptional and deeply concerning. It reflects not merely administrative shortcomings, but a crisis of governance that extends to the very institutions responsible for developing the sport.



The National Tennis Centre should have stood as a symbol of Indian tennis's ambition. Instead, it has become a symbol of unrealised potential. While players continue to chase excellence, often thousands of kilometres away from home, the country's flagship high-performance project lies abandoned, a stark reminder that infrastructure alone cannot transform a sport. Without transparent governance, sound financial management and accountable leadership, even the best ideas are destined to fail.

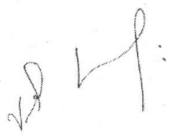
5. Governance Without Accountability

No sporting organisation can succeed without effective governance. Around the world, successful sporting bodies are built on transparency, accountability and the distribution of responsibility. Leadership is renewed periodically, responsibilities are clearly defined, and no individual becomes indispensable to the functioning of the institution.

Unfortunately, Indian tennis has evolved in the opposite direction. Over the years, authority has become concentrated in the hands of a small group of administrators, with some office bearers simultaneously occupying multiple influential positions across the national federation, state associations, Olympic bodies and even other sporting organisations. In one notable instance, a single administrator held six significant positions across Indian sport at the same time, including responsibilities within the national federation, a state association, the Indian Olympic Association, the Davis Cup team and other sporting bodies.

The issue is not whether one individual is capable of performing multiple roles. The larger question is whether any sporting ecosystem should allow so much influence to rest with so few people. Good governance depends upon the separation of responsibilities, independent oversight and the continuous development of new leadership. When authority becomes concentrated for prolonged periods, accountability weakens, fresh ideas struggle to emerge and institutional renewal inevitably suffers.

Healthy sporting organizations build systems that outlast individuals. Leadership should be rotational, succession should be planned, and governance should exist to serve athletes, not administrators.



6. Conflicts of Interest and the Culture of Nepotism

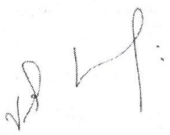
Perhaps the greatest challenge facing Indian tennis today is not simply declining results, but declining confidence in the fairness of the system itself. Players, parents and coaches must believe that opportunities are earned through merit. Once that confidence is lost, participation suffers, trust erodes and the credibility of the institution begins to diminish.

One area that has attracted considerable criticism is the overlap between administration, officiating, coaching and selection. The current structure has seen multiple members of the same families occupy influential positions across officiating, coaching, administration and selection committees, while senior relatives simultaneously hold leadership positions within state associations. Whether each appointment was made independently is ultimately secondary to the larger issue: such overlapping relationships inevitably create the perception of conflicts of interest and weaken confidence in the impartiality of the system.

The same concerns extend to coaching and team selection. Over many years, members of the professional selection committee have also seen close family members appointed as national coaches, selectors and support staff for India's representative teams. While each individual may possess the necessary qualifications, modern governance standards require that appointments not only be fair but also be demonstrably independent. The appearance of impartiality is just as important as impartiality itself.

Questions have also been raised regarding commercial conflicts of interest within Indian tennis administration. Members of the federation's executive structure have been associated with businesses involved in the construction of tennis courts, while the federation itself plays an important role in approving internationally recognised court surface providers for tournaments and infrastructure projects across the country. Even where every decision is made with complete integrity, such overlapping regulatory and commercial interests inevitably invite questions and reinforce the need for stronger conflict-of-interest safeguards.

These examples are not isolated concerns but symptoms of a broader governance culture. The strongest sporting organisations are built upon transparent processes, independent oversight and clearly defined conflict-of-interest policies that protect the integrity of decision-making. Indian tennis deserves governance that inspires confidence among players, parents, coaches and sponsors alike. Until that confidence is restored, rebuilding the sport will remain an uphill task.



7. Merit Must Replace Patronage

At the heart of every successful sporting nation lies a simple principle: merit must be the only currency that matters. Players must earn selection through performance, coaches must be appointed on competence, and administrators must create an environment where every athlete believes that hard work, not influence, determines opportunity.

That confidence is the foundation upon which sporting excellence is built.

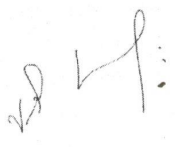
The success of players such as Sumit Nagal, who built much of his professional career by training overseas and creating his own support ecosystem, demonstrates that Indian players possess the ability to compete with the world's best. His achievements are a testament to individual determination, but they also raise a fundamental question: should India's leading players have to look outside the country to fulfil their potential? A robust sporting system should nurture talent, not compel it to seek opportunities elsewhere.

Every successful tennis nation encourages competition not only among players, but also among coaches, selectors and administrators. Leadership positions should be openly contested, periodically reviewed and filled through transparent, merit-based processes. Meritocracy is not simply desirable, it is indispensable. Only when every player believes that performance alone determines opportunity can Indian tennis restore confidence in its institutions and begin rebuilding a culture of excellence.

8. The UTR Ban: A Self-Inflicted Setback

Modern tennis has embraced technology and data-driven evaluation to identify and develop talent. Among the most significant innovations has been the **Universal Tennis Rating (UTR)**, a globally recognised rating system used by professional academies, coaches and universities to evaluate players across tournaments and countries. Today, UTR has become an integral part of the international tennis ecosystem.

For thousands of aspiring Indian players, particularly those seeking admission to American universities, UTR represents far more than a ranking. It is a gateway to scholarships, collegiate tennis programmes and international exposure. Colleges increasingly rely on UTR profiles to assess prospective student-athletes, making it one of the most important tools available to young players pursuing both education and elite sport.



Against this global backdrop, the decision in October 2020 to restrict participation in privately organised UTR events proved to be a significant setback. At a time when the COVID-19 pandemic had already curtailed competitive opportunities, Indian players were effectively prevented from participating in tournaments that would have allowed them to build internationally recognised UTR profiles. While the objective may have been to regulate competitive tennis within the country, the unintended consequence was that many Indian juniors found themselves disadvantaged compared with their international peers.

The strongest voices of concern came not from administrators, but from parents and players. Many argued that the restrictions limited access to a globally accepted pathway that had become increasingly important for securing university scholarships and international opportunities. While players in other countries continued to build their UTR credentials, many Indian juniors were left with fewer opportunities to demonstrate their abilities on a platform recognised worldwide.

The episode reflects a broader challenge facing Indian tennis. In an increasingly interconnected sporting world, success depends upon embracing innovation and aligning with internationally accepted best practices. Isolation serves no one. The long-term cost of policies that restrict opportunity is borne not by administrators, but by the young athletes whose careers depend on competing in a global ecosystem.

Conclusion

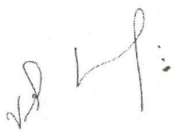
Indian tennis does not suffer from a shortage of talent.

It suffers from a shortage of leadership.

The players continue to work, parents continue to sacrifice, coaches continue to dedicate their lives to the game, and governments have shown a greater willingness than ever before to invest in sport. Yet the results continue to decline because the institutions responsible for developing the game have failed to evolve.

Every successful sporting nation eventually renews itself. New leaders replace old ones, governance becomes more transparent, conflicts of interest are eliminated, and merit becomes the only currency that matters.

Indian tennis must now make that choice.



The sport cannot continue to be governed as though it belongs to a handful of individuals or families. It belongs to every young player dreaming of Wimbledon, every parent investing in a child's future, and every Indian who wants to see the tricolour compete once again among the world's best.

The time for cosmetic change has passed.

Indian tennis needs structural reform, independent governance, transparent administration and a new generation of leadership with the courage to put the sport ahead of personal influence. Until that happens, the decline will continue, not because India lacks champions, but because its institutions have failed them.

Vasanth Bharadwaj

Signature

6th July, 2026

SUBMISSION ON WHEELCHAIR TENNIS GOVERNANCE IN INDIA, INSTITUTIONAL EXPERIENCES (2015–2026), AND OBSERVATIONS ON THE PROPOSED AITA CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS

Submitted To

Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Gita Mittal
Administrator
All India Tennis Association (AITA)

Prepared & Submitted by

CA Sunil Jain

Founder Trustee of NGO "Astha" Bengaluru

No 44,1st Cross, Azadnagar, Chamarajapete

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COVERING NOTE

This submission is respectfully placed before the Administrator in the context of the ongoing governance reform process within the All India Tennis Association.

The purpose of this submission is threefold:

1. To place on record the lived experience of stakeholders engaged in the development of wheelchair tennis in India over the past decade.
2. To identify systemic governance and administrative issues that have impacted the development of wheelchair tennis.

3. To offer constructive observations on the proposed redrafted Constitution of AITA, particularly from the perspective of inclusive sports governance and alignment with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

This submission is not intended as a complaint, nor does it seek any special consideration, relief, or preferential treatment. It is submitted in good faith to assist the ongoing governance reform process.

SECTION I

ORGANISATIONAL BACKGROUND

[Organisation Name] has been engaged in wheelchair tennis development for approximately a decade.

The organisation's work has included:

- Development of competitive structures
- Tournament organisation
- Athlete support
- Stakeholder coordination
- Infrastructure development
- Advocacy for institutional clarity

The organisation functions without recurring institutional funding and has largely relied on voluntary efforts and stakeholder support.

SECTION II

GOVERNANCE CONTEXT AND EVOLUTION OF WHEELCHAIR TENNIS (PRE-2016 TO 2016)

Prior to 2016, significant ambiguity existed regarding the governance structure of wheelchair tennis in India.

Questions persisted regarding the respective roles of:

- AITA
- PCI
- Other disability sport structures

Through sustained stakeholder engagement and discussions with various authorities, including the late Shri Nar Singh, efforts were undertaken to establish clarity regarding the legitimate governance framework.

The launch of the Indian Wheelchair Tennis Tour was undertaken with the objective of aligning wheelchair tennis development with the recognised national governing structure.

A significant milestone was achieved in December 2016 when the first AITA-ranked wheelchair tennis tournament was organised in collaboration with KSLTA.

This represented the first meaningful integration of wheelchair tennis into a recognised national ranking structure.

SECTION III

INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION CHALLENGES

Over the years, repeated representations were made seeking:

- Governance clarity
- Formal communication channels
- Institutional accountability
- Clear stakeholder engagement mechanisms

Communication with AITA was often difficult.

Following sustained efforts and engagement by various stakeholders, a Wheelchair Tennis Committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Anil Mahajan.

However, stakeholders experienced:

- Limited communication
- Lack of documented responses
- Absence of structured consultation
- Limited visibility into decision-making processes

Representations made to the Committee frequently remained unanswered.

Escalations were also made to ITF. However, ITF's governance framework limited its ability to intervene in domestic governance matters.

SECTION IV

ATHLETE PATHWAYS, SELECTION SYSTEMS, AND COACHING FRAMEWORKS

The following governance concerns continue to exist:

National Team Selection

Selection processes for international events, including World Team Cup participation, have not consistently been accompanied by publicly communicated criteria and timelines.

Coaching Appointments

No transparent framework appears to exist for appointment and evaluation of wheelchair tennis coaches.

Coach Development

No structured national pathway exists for development and certification of wheelchair tennis coaches.

Junior Development

Repeated requests for establishment of a Junior Wheelchair Tennis Circuit have not resulted in institutional action.

State Registration

Many state associations lack formal systems for registration and representation of wheelchair tennis players.

SECTION V

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE DELAYS

A dedicated Wheelchair Tennis Excellence Centre was established in Bengaluru through an investment of approximately INR 2.5 Crores.

Application for recognition as an AITA Academy was submitted on 11 August 2025.

The prescribed application fee was paid.

Despite repeated follow-up:

- The application remained pending.
- No objective review process was communicated.
- No decision timeline was provided.

Following escalation, an inspection was conducted by KSLTA on 20 May 2026.

Thereafter, no further communication was received.

Consequences included:

- A tournament conducted in March 2026 not receiving ranking points.
- Significant expenditure without intended sporting outcomes.
- Reduced stakeholder confidence.
- Uncertainty for athletes.

SECTION VI

SYSTEMIC GOVERNANCE OBSERVATIONS

The central governance concern is not absence of activity but absence of clearly defined and consistently implemented systems.

The key issues identified are:

- Lack of transparent administrative processes
- Lack of structured communication protocols
- Absence of published timelines
- Absence of predictable decision-making systems
- Lack of accountability mechanisms
- Lack of institutional continuity independent of individuals

The development of wheelchair tennis cannot rely solely upon goodwill, charity-oriented approaches, or individual efforts.

It requires a governance framework grounded in transparency, accountability, and rights-based participation.

SECTION VII

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PROPOSED AITA CONSTITUTION

The proposed Constitution represents a significant step forward in governance reform.

Positive provisions include:

- Athlete representation
- Women athlete representation
- Recognition of wheelchair tennis
- Inclusion of PCI representation
- Enhanced governance mechanisms

However, the following gaps remain.

1. Absence of Disability Representation in Governance

The Constitution does not provide for direct representation of wheelchair tennis athletes or persons with disabilities in governance structures.

2. Absence of Dedicated Wheelchair Tennis Committee

No mandatory Wheelchair Tennis Development Committee has been proposed.

3. Absence of Accessibility Obligations

No provisions address:

- Accessibility of facilities
- Accessibility of communications
- Accessibility of digital systems
- Accessibility of tournaments

4. Absence of Equal Opportunity Framework

No explicit non-discrimination or equal opportunity provisions are included.

5. Absence of Selection Transparency Requirements

No requirement exists for publication of wheelchair tennis selection criteria and timelines.

6. Absence of State Registration Framework

No requirement exists for affiliated state associations to register wheelchair tennis players.

Suggested Constitutional Additions

- Disability representation within governance structures
- Dedicated Wheelchair Tennis Committee
- Accessibility obligations
- Equal opportunity provisions
- Transparent selection framework
- State registration requirements

SECTION VIII

ORGANISATIONAL POSITION

The observations contained herein arise from lived operational experience accumulated over a decade of engagement with wheelchair tennis development.

The organisation seeks neither relief nor preferential treatment.

The objective is to contribute constructively towards development of a transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance framework.

SECTION IX

PERSONAL STATEMENT OF CA SUNIL JAIN

I submit this statement in my individual capacity as founder and long-term stakeholder in wheelchair tennis development.

For approximately ten years, I have devoted substantial personal time, professional capacity, and resources towards development of wheelchair tennis in India.

This engagement has been voluntary and undertaken without institutional backing.

I do not consider this commitment a sacrifice and do not seek recognition for it.

However, prolonged engagement within an environment characterised by governance uncertainty, communication gaps, and absence of predictable administrative systems has significantly constrained the ability of developmental efforts to achieve sustainable outcomes.

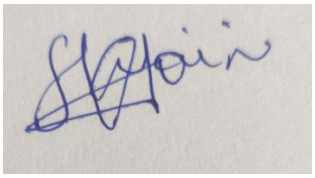
Such conditions affect not only organisations and athletes but also discourage future contributors, professionals, donors, volunteers, and institutions from investing their resources and expertise into the ecosystem.

A transparent governance framework, supported by structured communication and accountability mechanisms, would significantly strengthen stakeholder confidence and long-term sustainability of wheelchair tennis development in India.

CONCLUSION

This submission is respectfully placed on record in the hope that the ongoing governance reform process presents an opportunity to establish a transparent, accountable, and inclusive framework for wheelchair tennis in India.

Submitted respectfully,



CA Sunil Jain

Founder

Astha (NGO)

25th June 2026

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

[redacted] - Meeting with Administrator

[redacted] Fri, May 22, 2026 at 10:35 AM

To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

Hon'ble Justice Gita Mittal,

Thank you for organising this meeting and for the efforts being made towards engaging directly with the players.

I respectfully feel that for this interaction to be fully open and representative of the concerns of active professional players, it may be better if retired players who currently hold positions within state associations or the existing tennis administration are not part of the discussion.

Given that some retired players today simultaneously occupy influential administrative roles within state bodies and the broader tennis structure, many active players may not feel entirely comfortable speaking freely on certain issues concerning governance, selection, opportunities, and administration.

An independent interaction exclusively with current players may therefore allow for more honest and constructive feedback.

Regards

[redacted]

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

AITA Administrator Meeting

[redacted] Mon, May 25, 2026 at 2:46 PM
To: "Gmail Administrator.aita" <administrator.aita@gmail.com>, karnade@gitamittal.com

Respected Ma'am,

[redacted]

There are few points I'd like to share with you and bring to notice as I've got this opportunity.

1. Currently in India it's great that we are getting the opportunity of ITF (W15, 35 and W75) and WTA (125K) tournaments but we need more number of tournaments especially W15, W35 and W50 as this helps to REDUCE the travelling expenses to abroad. Since tennis is an individual sport all expenses are generally born by the player unless they have financial support.

2. Now that in singles and doubles there are many players with similar rankings their tournament schedule is also similar many times. As you might know recovery is an important aspect, would request to provide a physiotherapist for tournaments in India and abroad wherever possible. For abroad tournaments if 2 or more players play the same events it would be really helpful if you could send someone with us. As the tournament has only one physio and 32 players to treat so it's upon availability. Most of us are from different parts of the country and have own individual coaches so that's why doesn't make sense to ask for a travelling coach instead physio will be helpful.

3. It would be very helpful if the TOPS players are allowed reimbursement for their air tickets as many times we finish a match and need to book immediately due to time difference it's beyond Indian working hours and the official travel agent for the SAI is unavailable. So we can book tickets online or with our own agent and submit the bill for reimbursement.

4. To have transparency on what is financially committed by ITF for representing India at the Billie Jean King Cup (Indian Team) and what what amount AITA shares with the players.

Thanking You,
Yours Sincerely,
[redacted]

[redacted]

241

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

Thoughts on Strengthening Indian Tennis

[redacted]
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

Mon, Jun 1, 2026 at 10:01 AM

Hi Mam

Was a pleasure e meeting you during the zoom call. I wish you every success in what is undoubtedly a challenging and important role for Indian tennis.

Having spent over two decades as a player within the system - from junior nationals to representing India professionally - I wanted to share a few observations and questions that I believe deserve discussion as we look toward the future of our sport.

Transparency in Selection Committees

What is the process for appointing selectors to national selection panels?

What qualifications, experience, and conflict-of-interest safeguards are considered?

Is the selection process publicly documented?

Governance and Administrative Tenure

Are there term limits for elected administrators, committee members, and office bearers?

How does AITA ensure fresh perspectives and succession planning while retaining institutional knowledge?

I observe the same individuals remaining involved for decades; is there a framework for periodic renewal?

National Training Centre (NTC) Effectiveness

Why are many of India's top professional players not regularly training at the National Tennis Centre?

What investments are needed in coaching, sports science, recovery, competition, and facilities to make the NTC a preferred destination?

Should India consider multiple regional high-performance centres rather than relying primarily on Delhi?

Lack of a Strong Domestic Development Circuit

There is a significant gap between junior/national-level tennis and international Futures/Challenger e[redacted]nts.

Does the current domestic competition structure provide enough high-quality matches for player dev[redacted]opment?

Can a stronger national circuit help players develop before incurring the costs of international trave[redacted]

Tournament Prize Money and Player Economics

Current national-level prize money pools are often too low to meaningfully support player development.

A ₹1 lakh total prize-money kitty does little to offset any expenses.

In my humble opinion Increasing minimum prize money standards could improve participation, raise competitive standards, and allow players to stay in India longer before seeking competition abroad.

India has produced world-class players despite the system. The challenge now is building structures, governance, high-performance centres, and a meaningful domestic circuit that help produce world-class players because of the system.

Thank you for hearing me out.

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

AITA tournament at bahadurgarh

1 message

[redacted] Wed, Jun 3, 2026 at 11:30 AM
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

Really bad clay courts, I saw many players ankles get injured.

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

Suggestions for betterment of Indian tennis

[redacted] Sat, Jun 6, 2026 at 1:48 PM
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

Respected Ma'am,

[redacted] Just wanted to share a couple of points which I think will help Indian Tennis Players:

• National Tennis Centre

I believe if most of the top players in the country could have a structured and monitored place to train under some good guidance/coach, physio, fitness trainers and recovery will help the Tennis Players significantly.

• Domestic Circuit for Indian Tennis Players

I believe there are no proper domestic tournaments which helps the players transition to compete at ITF Futures / Challengers Tournament.

The majority of the AITA 1 lakh tournament lacks the basic facilities and conditions to compete and improve. And players can't even cover up the expense for that particular week even if he/she wins the tournament.

In my humble opinion, i believe this will make a huge difference in the improvement of Indian Tennis.

Thanking you
Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

Grievances

[redacted] Mon, Jun 8, 2026 at 6:20 PM
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to formally raise serious concerns regarding the organization, player welfare, and integrity of tournaments being conducted in Bahadurgarh, Faridabad.These issues have persisted over multiple events and are negatively affecting players' safety, confidence, and trust in the tournament system.

1. Unsafe Court Conditions

The condition of the courts is extremely poor and poses a significant safety risk to players. There have been instances where players have suffered serious injuries, including ankle injuries that have required extended recovery periods. Despite repeated concerns from players, adequate measures have not been taken to ensure that the playing surface meets acceptable safety standards.

2. Inadequate Supply of Match Balls

Players are provided with only two balls for competitive matches. This is far below the standard expected for professional or competitive tournaments and adversely affects the quality and fairness of play.

3. Excessively Late Release of Draws

Tournament draws are often released as late as 11:00 PM on the night before matches. Players are forced to wait throughout the day without knowing their schedule, which disrupts rest, recovery, travel planning, and preparation. Such practices demonstrate a lack of professionalism and consideration for participants.

4. Lack of Transparency and Alleged Manipulation of Draws

The draw process lacks transparency. Full draws are frequently not published, and there appears to be no independent oversight or player representatives present during the draw-making process. Instead of a transparent bracket system, players are often informed only of individual match-ups.

This has created widespread concern among participants regarding the fairness of the competition. There is a strong perception that certain players known to the organizers consistently receive favorable placements and easier paths through the draw. In some cases, players have reportedly advanced to later rounds through walkovers against opponents who never appeared, raising further questions about the legitimacy of the draw process.

5. Concerns Regarding Doubles Rankings and Reporting

The tournament reportedly does not conduct doubles events, yet doubles ranking points appear to be awarded to certain players through results submitted from these tournaments. If true, this is a serious matter that undermines the credibility of the ranking system and disadvantages players who earn their rankings through legitimate competition.

Requested Action

Given the seriousness of these concerns, I respectfully request that the relevant authority:

Conduct an independent inspection of the court facilities.

Review tournament operations and compliance with organizational standards.

Investigate the draw-making process and ensure full transparency through publicly available draws.

Verify the accuracy of all results submitted for ranking purposes, particularly doubles results.

Implement measures to protect player welfare and ensure fair competition.

Players invest significant time, effort, and financial resources to participate in tournaments. They deserve safe playing conditions, transparent administration, and a fair competitive environment. I hope these concerns will be investigated thoroughly and appropriate corrective action will be taken.

Sincerely,

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

AITA complain

[redacted]
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

Mon, Jun 8, 2026 at 6:23 PM

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally express my concern regarding several issues experienced during the tournament conducted under the aegis of AITA. As a player participating in the event, I believe these concerns significantly impacted the quality of competition and player welfare.

The issues observed during the tournament include:

1. **Court Conditions**
    - The playing courts were not maintained to an acceptable competitive standard.
    - Surface inconsistencies and inadequate preparation affected fair play and player safety.
    - In certain instances, courts were not ready on schedule, leading to unnecessary delays.
2. **Ball Quality**
    - The balls provided appeared to deteriorate unusually quickly and did not maintain consistent playing characteristics.
    - There were concerns regarding the quality and suitability of the balls for competitive tournament play.
3. **Officiating and Refereeing**
    - There were several instances of inconsistent officiating and lack of uniform application of rules.
    - Players faced difficulties in obtaining timely intervention or clarification from tournament officials when disputes arose.
    - Concerns raised during matches were often not addressed adequately.
4. **Scheduling and Tournament Management**
    - Match schedules were frequently altered or communicated at short notice.
    - Delays and uncertainty regarding match timings created avoidable inconvenience for players.
    - Tournament operations lacked transparency and consistency in communication.
5. **Player Welfare and Facilities**
    - Basic player facilities and support services did not meet the standards expected at a national-level tournament.
    - There were concerns regarding access to adequate recovery, hydration, and player-support arrangements.
6. **General Administrative Concerns**
    - Players found it difficult to obtain clear responses regarding grievances and operational issues.
    - There appeared to be a lack of accountability and effective mechanisms for addressing player concerns during the event.

I believe these issues are not isolated incidents but reflect broader concerns regarding tournament administration and player experience. As stakeholders in Indian tennis, players deserve professionally managed events that uphold standards of fairness, safety, and competitive integrity.

I request that these concerns be formally recorded and investigated, and that appropriate measures be taken to improve standards for future tournaments.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

Unprofessional refree

[redacted] Mon, Jun 8, 2026 at 5:52 PM
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

In most of the tournaments there is this tournament refree called Vaishali who is super rude to the players and don't care about them, many players including in the ITF masters don't want to play when she is the refree. She does what she wants, zero respect to anyone.
Please take a look into this.
She is completely anti-tennis.

Gmail

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

Complain

[redacted] Mon, Jun 8, 2026 at 5:57 PM
To: administrator.aita@gmail.com

I played a tournament in bhubneshwar and tournament refree and director changed the venue of tournament when the tournament was going on and the player i played was local and they favored him ...they changed the timing to 8pm and my opponent did not come till 10pm and they still did not took any action and I have to play that late

Gmail Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

FORWARDING COMPLAINT RECIEVED BY THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR ON 25.05.2026 FOR YOUR COMMENTS

2 messages

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com> Fri, Jun 26, 2026 at 6:40 PM
To: Sunder Iyer <siyer30@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Iyer,

The enclosed complaint was received by the Office of the Administrator on 25.05.2026.
The same is being forwarded to you for your information and comments.

Regards,
Illa Rawat,
Facilitator to Administrator, AITA

Complaint.pdf
495K

Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com> Wed, Jul 8, 2026 at 7:39 PM
To: Sunder Iyer <siyer30@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Iyer,

Your comments regarding the complaint received by the Office of the Administrator on 25.05.2026, forwarded to you on 26.06.2026 via the trail mail, are still awaited. Please treat this matter as urgent and submit your response at the earliest.

[Quoted text hidden]
[Quoted text hidden]

To,

Date: 25.05.2026

The Administrator

All India Tennis Association

New Delhi

Subject: Request for Inquiry into Allegations of Corruption Against the Hon. Secretary Maharashtra State Lawn Tennis Association

Respected Madam,

1. I write to you on behalf of players and others who love the sport of tennis with a deep sense of concern regarding the allegations of corruption and financial irregularities involving the current Secretary of MSLTA.

2. It is extremely alarming that there appears to be a misuse of authority, lack of financial transparency, irregular administrative practices, and decisions that may not be in the best interests of the association or the sport.

3. Such allegations, having gone unnoticed this far, have the potential to severely damage the credibility and reputation of the sport and the association, discourage players and sponsors, and erode public confidence in the administration of the sport.

4. Surprisingly, this very person is now holding the position of Secretary of AITA under your administration. His unethical practices and financial irregularities at MSLTA is openly known but, seem to be hushed up. If enquired it would be clear that his son and the company he's a part of are given all event management contracts for International events and other Tennis events in Maharashtra for many years now and his wife Sheetal Iyer, is also earning money from MSLTA by various means apart from officiating. Clearly, there appears to be a conflict of interest which though noticed by many is being ignored for many years. It erodes the confidence of the lovers of the sport and this monopoly needs to be stopped.

5. If looked closer, he through his members of the family controls the officiating (umpiring, etc.) in India and also are involved in running MSLTA for many decades now. The

practices of Kannamwar families (Nitin Kannamwar, Sheetal Kannamwar Iyer, Sunder Iyer, Leena Nageshkar and family), have been tainted by nepotism and unfair treatment of officials for far too long. Instead of recognizing talent and dedication, promotions are bestowed upon family members and close associates. This unethical cycle has stifled the growth and potential of countless officials who have poured years of their lives into the field of officiating and no one else is allowed to grow in the field of Officiating in the country and many good talented officials have given up the profession due to this conduct from his family.

6. Through this representation, we only seek a fair investigation by your office which could bring the truth out.

7. In the interest of fairness, transparency, and good governance, we respectfully request your good office to:
    a. Initiate an independent and impartial inquiry into the allegations made against the Secretary of MSLTA, now AITA.

    b. Examine all financial records, approvals, expenditures, and related administrative decisions during the relevant period of his tenure as Secretary of MSLTA.

    c. Take suitable action based on the findings of the inquiry in accordance with the rules and regulations of the applicable laws of land.

8. It is important that the association continues to uphold the principles of accountability, ethics, and transparency expected from sporting bodies in India. Prompt action in this matter will reinforce confidence among players, officials, sponsors, and the Tennis community at large.
9. I trust that this matter will receive your immediate attention and necessary action. We hope that this be treated as an anonymous representation keeping in mind the interest of players, fans, parents, officials and all those passionate about the sport we love, tennis.

Thanking you.

Gmail Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

Reply to the email

1 message

Sunder Iyer <siyer30@gmail.com> Fri, Jul 10, 2026 at 10:34 AM
To: Administrator AITA <administrator.aita@gmail.com>

10/ 7/2026

Respected Madam

First of all apologies for the late reply

I hereby write to you with regard to the unnamed anonymous complaint received by you against me as MSLTA's Secretary. Madam, at the outset I would like to request you to not pay heed to anonymous complaints, more so when they are not substantiated with any particulars and are based on mere bald allegations.

The said anonymous complaint seems to have been sent clandestinely by someone to tarnish my reputation, something I have built by tirelessly working for over two decades for the development of our beloved sport of Tennis. My credentials and track record are unblemished, and if you ask anybody in the sporting ecosystem about me, all you will hear is my dedication to the sport with no interest in making any financial gains either for myself or my family members.

It is for this reason that in the court proceedings also, when my name was proposed to be sent to ITF and ATF for their General Meetings, even the Petitioners had no objection to the same [Please Para 45 see order dated 10.10.2025].

I have been involved with the sporting and the social field for the last 35 years , apart from the field of tennis

I am the founder secretary of Rashtriya Khel Puraskar awarded Lakshya Sports NGO which has supported over 200 sportspersons and over 25 Olympians whom we supported with over Rs 50 Crores of funding over the last 16 years . Tennis payers Olympians Ankita Raina , Prarthana Thombare , Asian Games Gold Medallist Rutuja Bhosale , Arjun Kadhe , Siddanth Banthia , Manas Dhamne (india No 2 Mens player) , Vaishnavi Adkar (World University Games Silver Medallist) , Sahaja Yamlapalli (India No1 Womens Player) , Maya Rajeshwaran (India No 1 Junior Girls) are some of the players who we have been Supporting apart from players in Table tennis including Manika Batra , Soumyajit Ghosh and Sharath Kamal

I am a trustee of the Village Uplift society in Vidarbha which manages 4 AshramShala and 10 schools in the Adivasi and Tribal areas apart from 2 colleges for the underprivileged boys and girls and have garnered over Rs. 2 Crores through CSR for various projects

I started the Eklavya Scheme with the Tribal Department of Government of Maharashtra to help tribals join the mainstream and we trained over 80 tribal boys and girls to become certified tennis coaches, officials, you will be happy that 70 of them have got jobs across India proving that Sports is a great leveler, many of these children who didn't have shoes to wear or knowledge about tennis are drawing over Rs 50000 per month and some of them even have bought flats and their own cars due to this opportunities created for them.

I'm a member of 2 subcommittees of the Dept of Sports Govt of Maharashtra apart from being a core committee member of Maharashtra Olympic Association and advisory committee of two reputed Universities.

Our team at PMDTA for which I'm and member has collected over Rs.7.5 crores to support the Dream Doubles Project of India which is being run by Rohan Boppana has put over 8 Indian Doubles

players including Yuki Bhambari , Shriram Balaji , Annirudh Chandrashekar who will all be playing in the Asian Games in Japan.

In 2025 for the first time I have been able to get team sponsor for our BKJC team whereby every member of the team received ₹330000 each as additional bonus

I had Initiated Project Grand Slam with CSR funds from Amalgam Steels of Orrisa to ensure Indian Girls make it to the Junior Grand Slam events as India did not have a single girl play the Grandslams in last 4 years , this borne fruits as Maya Rajeshwaran made it to the grand Slam main round last year playing Australian , French Open and now Wimbledon

It is disheartening and demotivating to see such malicious letters. When someone sends it anonymously, it casts serious aspersions on the contents of the complaint and its bona fides.Thus, it is requested that you may disregard this complaint.

It is further submitted that the complaint pertains to allegations regarding MSLTA which is 60 year old reputed association and its dealings. I submit that AITA does not have any involvement or role to play vis-a-vis MSLTA's internal dealings as MSLTA has fool proof systems in place including two layered Audit Policies , Office Bearers Committee and Council which approves each and every payment made by the Association . Thus, on this count as well, you need not go into the complaint as AITA's administrator.

Without prejudice to the above, please note that the complaint does not give any details such as the details of contracts, tournaments, or the exact alleged means by which my wife earns monies from MSLTA. I would like to say that neither my family nor I have ever illegally taken a single penny from MSLTA till date.

Thus, I request you to share the details of the email id from which the said complaint has been received by you so that we can help you ascertain its genuineness and also ask the purported complainant to give particulars of the allegations, so that I am enabled to give a response, if necessary.

Regards,
Sunder Iyer.

Summary of Complaints/Suggestions

Date	Complaint/Suggestion
22.05.26	Conduct a separate interaction exclusively with current active players, without retired players holding administrative positions, to enable open and honest discussion on governance and player concerns.
25.05.2026	- Increase the number of ITF W15, W35, and W50 tournaments in India to reduce player's travel expenses. - Provide physiotherapists for Indian tournaments and, where feasible, accompany groups of players at overseas tournaments. - Allow TOPS players to book their own flights and claim reimbursement for air tickets. - Ensure transparency regarding the financial support provided by the ITF and All India Tennis Association for representing India at the Billie Jean King Cup.
25.05.2026	- Initiate an independent and impartial inquiry into the allegations made against the Secretary of MSLTA, now AITA. - Examine all financial records, approvals, expenditures, and related administrative decisions during the relevant period of his tenure as Secretary of MSLTA. - Take suitable action based on the findings of the inquiry in accordance with the rules and regulations of the applicable laws of land.
01.06.2026	- Lack of transparency in selection committees. - Impose limits on governance and administrative tenure. - Evaluate the effectiveness of National Training Centre. - Lack of strong Domestic Development Circuit. - Increase in tournament prize money and player economics.
03.06.2026	Need for improved infrastructure to minimise injuries.
06.06.2026	- Need for more effective National Training Centres. - Lack of strong Domestic Development Circuit. - Increase in tournament prize money and player economics.
08.06.2026	- Need for improved infrastructure. - Inadequate logistical arrangements. - Excessive delay in releasing results. - Lack of transparency. - Concerns regarding double rankings and reporting.
08.06.2026	- Need for improved infrastructure. - Low quality equipment. - Inconsistency in officiating matches. - Inadequate tournament management. - Lack of player welfare facilities.
08.06.2026	Improper tournament management.
08.06.2026	Unprofessional Behaviour of Support Staff.

ILLA RAWAT

9717592062 | illa_rawat@yahoo.co.in

Date of Birth: 31.01.1966

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- B.Sc. (General) "B" Group —Miranda House, University of Delhi (1986)
- LL.B.; Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi (1989)
- LL.M. (3-year course pursued whilst in Government service); Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi (1999).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1. **Principal Judge, Family Court, New Delhi District, Patiala House Courts.** (04 December 2025 till superannuation)
2. **Judge Incharge (Mediation), Delhi Mediation Centre (Headquarters), Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (31 May 2025 –04 December 2025)
   - Administrative In-charge of Mediators and staff at the Delhi Mediation Centre (Headquarters).
   - Coordinating with the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC), Supreme Court of India and the Delhi High Court in respect of mediation activities in Delhi, including during the "Mediation For Nation" campaign (01 July 2025 – 30 September 2025).
   - Chairperson of Committee constituted for selection of Advocate Mediators for the 40-Hour Training Programme on the Concept and Techniques of Mediation; the Committee concluded interviews for selection of 100 Advocate Mediators, and results were announced with the approval of the Delhi High Court.
   - Conducted a 40-hour Training Programme on the Concept and Techniques of Mediation for 25 Judicial Officers.
   - Conducting regular mediations in referred cases; assigning cases to Advocate and Judicial Mediators on the panel of the Mediation Centre at Tis Hazari Courts; compiling data received from other Mediation Centres functioning in District Courts for the Delhi High Court and MCPC.
   - Actively working to evolve techniques for educating stakeholders and eliciting voluntary participation in mediation proceedings; prepared a video in Hindi titled '***Mediation Ek Samadhan***' for this purpose.
   - Received 40-hour training in the Concept and Techniques of Mediation in 2010; has been regularly conducting mediations since then, irrespective of the jurisdiction held. Shortlisted for TOT Programme; ***designated as a "Potential Trainer***".
3. **District Judge (Commercial Court-03), Central District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (25 August 2022 – 31 May 2025)
   - Presided over the Special Court constituted and monitored by the Ministry of Law and Justice under the "Ease of Doing Business" initiative, for early disposal of commercial disputes falling under Section 2(1)(c) of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015.
   - Adjudication included disposal of commercial disputes, objections and petitions under the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, and Intellectual Property Rights matters.
4. **Additional Principal Judge, Family Courts, West District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (25 July 2021– 25 August 2022)
   - Adjudicated upon matrimonial disputes and child custody cases under the Hindu Marriage Act, Special Marriage Act, and Indian Divorce Act.
   - All cases falling under the purview of the Family Courts Act, 1984, including injunction disputes, partition suits, and petitions for maintenance under Section 125 Cr.PC, were also dealt with in this jurisdiction.
5. **Judge, Family Court, Central District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (6 December 2019 –25 July 2021)
   - Adjudicated upon matrimonial disputes, child custody matters, and all cases falling under the Family Courts Act, 1984, including maintenance petitions under Section 125 Cr.PC, injunction disputes, and partition suits.
6. **Judge, CBI Court, Rouse Avenue Courts, New Delhi** (15 February 2019 – 6 December 2019)
   - Adjudicated cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002, encompassing corruption cases, bank frauds, disproportionate assets cases, trap cases, and related matters.
7. **Additional Sessions Judge (FTC) / Pilot Court, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi** (24 April 2017 – 15 February 2019)

- Dealt with cases of adult victims of sexual offences as part of the ***Pilot Court Project*** of the Delhi High Court; the project recorded total time taken at each stage of proceedings from 02 January 2017 to 31 December 2017.
- Judge In-charge of the Vulnerable Witness Room Complex; conducted training programmes and demonstrations on the functioning of the Vulnerable Witness Rooms established for deposition of victims of sexual offences. This required monitoring of support persons and infrastructure necessary for smooth functioning of these rooms. Several visitors, judicial officers, students, and stakeholders from other States and countries who came as observers were also shown around and explained the working of these rooms.
- Chairperson of several court-administration committees, including General Branch and Library Committee.

8. **Presiding Officer, Labour Court-V, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi** (24 January 2015 – 24 April 2017)
   - Adjudicated upon labour matters referred from the Labour Department, Government of NCT of Delhi.
   - Court also functioned as Special Court under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and as Appellate Court for cases of Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace.
   - Following the abolition of Labour Court-I and Labour Court-II, all matters remanded from the High Court and/or pertaining to those Courts were additionally assigned to Labour Court-V.
9. **Additional Sessions Judge-01, North District, Rohini Courts, Delhi** (2 January 2012 – 24 January 2015)
   - Initially designated as Special Court under the Children Act, 1960, with general sessions cases also assigned.
   - Upon enactment of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, all cases pertaining to child victims were transferred to this Court, which was thereupon designated as the POCSO Court for the district.
   - In the absence of Vulnerable Witness Rooms at Rohini Court Complex at that time, developed innovative techniques for recording statements of child victims; achieved approximately a one-fourth rate of conviction.
10. **Additional District Judge, Central District, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (July 2009-2 January 2012)
    - Presided over the matrimonial court prior to establishment of Family Courts in Delhi; adjudicated matrimonial disputes and child custody cases under the Hindu Marriage Act, Special Marriage Act, and Indian Divorce Act, as well as general civil cases assigned from time to time.
11. **Additional Sessions Judge (Fast Track Court), Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (1 November 2008 – July 2009)
    - Pursuant to bifurcation of districts, assigned the oldest sessions cases as Judge, Fast Track Court; dealt with criminal appeals, revisions, and bail matters.
12. **Additional District Judge (Fast Track Court), Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (8 September 2008 – 1 November 2008)
    - Upon promotion as a DHJS officer, appointed Presiding Officer of the Fast Track Court (Civil); adjudicated upon property disputes, injunction matters, possession and recovery suits, appeals, and revisions.
13. **Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board, Kingsway Camp, Delhi** (4 November 2005 – 8 September 2008)
    - Upon coming into force of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000, the post of Principal Magistrate
    - Took up the matter of establishing the post of Principal Magistrate and Staff for JJB as well as for creation of infrastructure for smooth functioning of JJB with the Delhi High Court. Upon the initiative of the undersigned the Hon'ble Delhi High Court was pleased to issue several directions to the Department of Social Welfare; as a result, the dedicated post of Principal Magistrate as well as staff for the JJB were created, and the post was subsequently encadred in the Judicial Service.
    - Secured budgetary allocation for the JJB; brought about considerable improvement in infrastructure; effectively implemented computerisation; and made provision for free legal aid to all children in conflict with law (CCLs) and their parents.

- Carried out successful bifurcation of the JJB and facilitated establishing a second JJB at the premises of Prayas Home for Boys, Delhi Gate.
- Made relentless efforts, under the guidance of the JJ Committee of the Delhi High Court, to improve conditions at observation homes, ensure early disposal of inquiries of CCLs, and create effective probation services for rehabilitation.
- Contributed to educating stakeholders — including police officials and advocates — on the provisions of the JJ Act, 2000; regularly invited as Resource Person by organisations such as HIPA Gurugram and DSLSA.
- Chaired sessions with Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur and Professor Ved Kumari at the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal (20–22 April 2007).
- Inquiry report submitted by the undersigned led to the landmark judgment in CWC vs. Adiwasi Sewa Samiti, delivered on 3 September 2008.
- Edited the Juvenile Justice Newsletter from 1 January 2010 onwards.

14. **Metropolitan Magistrate, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi** (16 August 2003 – 4 November 2005)
    - Adjudicated criminal cases involving theft, cheating, road accidents, misappropriation, kidnapping, forgery, illegal possession of firearms and liquor; had cases from PS Vasant Kunj, Delhi Cantt., and R.K. Puram, in a Court that had a pendency of over 10,000 cases.
    - Served as link Court to the CBI Court and Mahila Court; recorded statements of witnesses under Section 164 Cr.PC and conducted Test Identification Proceedings of accused persons and case property.
15. **Civil Judge, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (1 May 2002 – 16 August 2003)
    - Presided over a newly created court; adjudicated upon property disputes, injunction matters, possession suits, and recovery suits.
16. **Metropolitan Magistrate, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (June 2001 – September 2001)
    - Adjudicated cases involving road accidents, thefts, cheating, misappropriation, and possession of firearms and liquor from PS Sarai Rohilla and Punjabi Bagh; proceeded on maternity leave in September 2001.
17. **Magistrate, Juvenile Court** (August 2000 – June 2001)
    - Served as Magistrate in the Juvenile Court prior to the coming into force of the JJ Act, 2000; the Court comprised a Principal Magistrate and a Magistrate and dealt with all cases in which boys below the age of 16 years and girls below the age of 18 years were alleged to have committed an offence under any penal law.
18. **Civil Judge, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi** (July 1998 – August 2000)
    - First court assigned upon conclusion of training; a new court in which cases were received by way of transfer — injunction matters, recovery suits, partition suits, and such civil matters.
    - Disposed of an injunction application within stipulated time and received a word of appreciation from the Delhi High Court.
19. **Additional Public Prosecutor, Directorate of Prosecution, Government of NCT of Delhi** (May 1995 – September 1997)
    - Initially appointed on an ad hoc basis from 15 May 1995 until May 1996; thereafter appointed as Regular Additional Public Prosecutor upon selection through the UPSC.
    - Gained foundational expertise in criminal prosecution, the Indian Penal Code, and the standards of evidence that became the hallmark of subsequent judicial work.
20. **Advocate** (July 1989 – May 1995
    - Practiced as an advocate before the District Courts and Hon’ble High Court of Delhi dealing with all kinds of civil disputes, landlord-tenant disputes and criminal matters.

CURRICULAM VITAE

Name	**::**	**RAKESH MUNJAL**
Designation	**::**	**Senior Advocate (since 20/01/2001)**
Date of Enrolment as Advocate		**September 04, 1979 With Bar Council of Delhi vide Enrolment No. D/1979/307**
Date of Birth	**::**	**December 06, 1955**
Residence cum Office	**::**	**C-6, East of Kailash,** **New Delhi – 110 065, India** **E-mail: rakeshmunjal@ymail.com** **Cellphone: +919810034359**
Positions being held	**::**	**1) President, SAARCLAW – India** **2) President, Campus Law Centre Alumni Association (Faculty of Law, University of Delhi)** **3) Life Member, Indian Council of Arbitration, New Delhi.** **4) Life Member, Bar Association of India.** **5) Life Member, Supreme Court Bar Association**
Positions held in past	**::**	**1) Vice President, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi – Deemed University, a premier legal research institute in India.(2010-2016)** **2) Former Managing Trustee, Delhi High Court Advocates Welfare Trust** **3) Former Member, Governing Council, Chanakya National Law University, Patna.** **4) 1982-83, 1985-87 – Joint Secretary, Delhi Tax Bar Association.** **5) 1992-2010 – Member, Governing Council, Academic and Executive Committee, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi.** **6) Senior Member, Executive Committee, Supreme Court Bar Association. (2002-03 & 2004-06)**

		7) 2014-16 Vice President- SAARCLAW 8) Formerly Member, General Council, Damodaran Sanjivayya National Law University, Vishakhapatnam.
Professional Assignments	::	1) Formerly Additional Senior Standing Counsel, Delhi Development Authority. 2) Formerly Senior Panel Counsel, Northern Railway at High Court of Delhi. 3) Formerly Legal Advisor, Delhi Agricultural Marketing Board, New Delhi. 4) Formerly, Panel Counsel, Municipal Corporation of Delhi. 5) Formerly, Counsel for NAFED. 6) Represented Banks like State Bank of India, NABARD. 7) Formerly Senior Panel Counsel Union of India.
Academic Activity	::	Member of delegation lead by Hon'ble Chief Justice of India to Harvard University at Boston, U.S.A. (2012) and University of Georgia, Atlanta, U.S.A. (2009) for vetting and signing the Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Law Institute and Harvard University as well as University of Georgia respectively.
Practice Areas	::	Handling Arbitration- International & National cases as an Arbitrator as well as Senior Advocate. Represented State Bank of India before Hon'ble High Court of Delhi and DRAT. Represented NABARD before Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and High Court of Delhi. I am also conducting Constitutional, Civil, Corporate, Taxation and Criminal cases before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, various High Courts, NCLAT, DRAT, TDSAT.

Rakesh Munjal

Date: 11.05.2026 Senior Advocate

ARGHYA SENGUPTA

Current Address: #384 D-Block, Defence Colony, Third Floor, New Delhi-110024; **E-Mail**: arghya.sengupta@vidhilegalpolicy.in; **Mobile:** +91-9999084375

CURRENT WORK

Founder and Research Director, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy

BOOKS

- "The Working of the Indian Constitution" (Routledge, 2024]- an inter-disciplinary edited volume on how the Indian Constitution has impacted the daily lives of Indian citizens with contributions from doctors, anthropologists, lawyers and photographers [co-edited with Omita Goyal]
- "The Colonial Constitution" (Juggernaut, 2023)- a bestseller on the origins of the Constitution of India
- "Hamin Ast: A Biography of Article 370" (Navi Books, 2022)- a historical account of the legal relationship between the Union of India and the state of Jammu and Kashmir [co-authored with Jinaly Dani, Kevin James and Pranay Modi]
- "Independence and Accountability of the Indian Higher Judiciary" (Cambridge University Press, 2019)- an academic work on appointments, transfers, impeachment and post-retirement employment of judges in the Indian higher judiciary
- "Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court of India: Transparency, Accountability and Independence" (Oxford University Press, 2018)- an edited volume of essays on the executive-judiciary conflict over who will appoint India's Supreme Court judges [co-edited with Ritwika Sharma]

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- "Law and Legislation" in Indrajit Roy and Manali Desai (eds.) *Cambridge Companion to Indian Politics and Society* (Cambridge University Press, 2026)[co-authored with Aditya Prasanna Bhattacharya]
- "Judicial Independence and Political Impunity" in Shimon Shetreet and Hiram Chodosh (eds.) *Judicial Independence: Cornerstone of Democracy* (Brill Nijhoff, 2024)
- "Judicial Appointments in India: From Pillar to Post" 10 *Constitutional Court Review* 44 (2020) [co-authored with Jay Vinayak Ojha]
- "The Basic Features of Article 370" in Arvind Datar (ed.), *Essays and Reminiscences: A Festschrift in Honour of Nani A. Palkhivala* (LexisNexis, 2020)
- "Legislating Human Rights: The Experience of the Right to Education Act in India" in Katharine G. Young (ed.) *The Future of Economic and Social Rights* (Cambridge University Press, 2019) [co-authored with Ajey Sangai, Shruti Ambast and Akriti Gaur]
- "I.C. Golak Nath and others case" in Rainer Grote, Frauke Lachenmann, Rüdiger Wolfrum (eds.) *Max Planck Encyclopedia of Comparative Constitutional Law* (2017).
- "Treaty-making and Implementation in India: A Constitutional Paradox" 57(1) *Indian Journal of International Law* 47 (2017) [co-authored with Akriti Gaur]
- "Appointment of Judges and the Basic Structure Doctrine in India" (2016) 132 *Law Quarterly Review* 201
- "Judicial Primacy and the Basic Structure: A Legal Analysis of the NJAC Judgment" Vol L No. 48 *Economic and Political Weekly* 27 (2015)
- "Judicial Accountability: A Taxonomy" April *Public Law* 245 (2014)

- "The Kesavananda Bharati Case" (2013) 129 *Law Quarterly Review* 451
- "A dangerous recourse? A critical relook at Section 17 of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010" 3(4) *International Journal of Nuclear Law* 292 (2012).
- "Judicial Independence and the Appointment of Judges to the Higher Judiciary in India: A Conceptual Enquiry" *5 Indian Journal of Constitutional Law* 99 (2011)
- "The Supreme Court of India" in Pratap Bhanu Mehta and Niraja Gopal Jayal eds., *The Oxford Companion to Politics in India* (Oxford University Press, 2010)[co-authored with Lavanya Rajamani]

SELECT ASSIGNMENTS AND RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Assignments:

- Assisted the Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India in drafting the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy (SHANTI) Act, 2025, which creates a modern and unified legal framework for India's nuclear power sector (2025).
- Assisted the Ministry of Housing, Government of India in drafting amendments to the Real Estate (Regulation & Development) Act, 2016. The amendment act establishes an efficient regulatory structure for real estate in India (2023-24).
- Assisted the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, in drafting 5 legislations to repeal and replace the Acts regulating the coffee, tea, spices, rubber, and tobacco industries (2021-22).
- Assisted the Ministry of Finance in drafting the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021, which abolished defunct tribunals and standardised service conditions to streamline the functioning of tribunals in India (2021).
- Assisted the Unique Identification Authority of India in drafting the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016. This Act put Aadhaar (a national identification card) on a statutory footing and for the first time provided privacy protection for collection and use of Aadhaar numbers (2015-19).
- Assisted the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) with drafting and research for the Prohibition of Discriminatory Tariffs for Data Services Regulations, 2016. These regulations laid down norms of net neutrality in India (2015-18).
- Advised the Max Planck Foundation and a delegation of the Sudanese Government, civil society and academia on drafting a new Constitution of Sudan (2017).

Overall count: 390+

Publications:

- "The Model Code on Indian Family Law" Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, May 2024
- "One Nation Many Paths: A Position Paper on the Indian Constitution" Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, September 2022
- "Responsible AI for the Indian Justice System – A Strategy Paper" Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, April 2021
- "A Blueprint of a National Health Insurance Law" Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, May 2019
- "A Proposal to reform the University Grants Commission: Reimagining a pan-India regulator for the higher education sector" Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, November 2018

Overall count: 300+

SELECT OPINION EDITORIALS

- "New Colonialists", *The Telegraph*, February 18, 2026 (On preserving sovereignty and autonomy in the AI age)
- "How Trump's 'spectacular assault' may have broken the world order", *The Economic Times*, January 9, 2026 (On the need for India to define its place in the changing global order)
- "Beyond optics", *The Telegraph*, May 28, 2025 (On diversity and inclusion in the judiciary)
- "Well Done, Quietly Done, CJI Sanjiv Khanna", *The Times of India*, May 13, 2025 (On Sanjiv Khanna's understated leadership and contributions to the judiciary)
- "Pragmatic justice", *The Telegraph*, January 23, 2025 (On the role of courts in ensuring both justice and state accountability)
- "The Nariman Points", *The Times of India*, February 22, 2024 (An obituary for Fali Nariman, contemporary India's greatest lawyer)
- "Wise Counsel", *The Telegraph*, February 21, 2024 (On lessons from Justice Radhabinod Pal on decolonisation)
- "A time to articulate new constitutional ideas for India", *The Hindu*, October 02, 2023 (On the need to reconsider original, novel visions of the Constitution as India seeks to shed its colonial legacy)
- "Shared Essence", *The Telegraph*, April 15, 2022 (On the need to preserve and promote multilingualism in India)
- "Can we please make our laws SARAL?", *The Times of India*, January 6, 2022 (On the need to write simple, accessible, rational, and actionable laws in India)
- "The Constitution must permeate Indian society" *Hindustan Times,* June 17, 2019 (On the need for scholars to take the Constitution to the people)

Overall count: 200+

LAW REFORM COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

- Member, High Level Committee for Harmonization of Regulatory Framework for DigiLocker, Government of India. This committee aims to strengthen DigiLocker's regulatory framework to improve ease of living and ease of doing business in India.
- Member, Sub-Committee, E-Committee, Supreme Court of India for formulating the Vision for Phase 3 of the E-Courts project.
- Member, Committee of Experts on Data Protection, Government of India. This committee drafted India's data protection law pursuant to the judgment of the Supreme Court declaring the right to privacy as a fundamental right.
- Member, Committee of Experts on Arbitration Law, Government of India. This committee recommended an overhaul of India's framework for resolution of bilateral investment disputes and international commercial arbitrations in India.
- Member, Expert Committee on Specific Relief Act, 1963, Government of India. This committee recommended amendments which were codified in the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018.
- Member, Sub-Committee, Law Commission of India, 248th- 251st Report on Repealing Laws in India. This committee recommended 288 antiquated laws for repeal.

LITIGATION

- Appeared and argued on behalf of the State of Haryana and Telecom Regulatory Authority of India before a 9-Judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in *Puttaswamy v. Union of India* (Right to Privacy case). Written submissions may be found here; arguments were reported here.
- Appeared and argued on behalf of the Union of India in the Supreme Court in *Binoy Viswam v. Union of India* (linking of Aadhaar number with the income tax database).
- Appeared and argued on behalf of the Union of India in the National Judicial Appointments Commission case before a 5-Judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court in *SCAORA v. Union of India* (NJAC case).

ACADEMIC RECORD

YEAR	COURSE	INSTITUTION	STATUS/GRADE/RANK/CGPA
2010—2014	Doctor of Philosophy in Law (D.Phil.)	University of Oxford (St. Catherine's College);	Title of Thesis: "Independence and Accountability of the Indian Higher Judiciary"
2009-10	Master of Philosophy in Law (M.Phil.)	University of Oxford (Balliol College);	Title of Thesis: "Judicial Appointments to the Higher Judiciary in India: Is a New Beginning Needed?"
2008-09	Bachelor of Civil Laws (B.C.L.) specialising in International Treaty Arbitration and Transnational Commercial Law	University of Oxford (Balliol College)	**Distinction**
2008	BA LL.B. (Hons.)	National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India	CGPA -6.57 /7.00 **(Rank 1/80)**

RECOGNITION AND AWARDS

- India-UK Achievers Award, NISAU and British Council (January, 2023)
- Jury's Choice for Special Recognition, India Legal Award (November, 2017)
- St. Catherine's College, Great Eastern Scholarship (October, 2011)
- Rhodes scholarship (October, 2008)
- Indira Khaitan Medal for Securing First Rank, B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), August, 2008
- R. Keshava Iyengar Medal in Administrative Law, B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), August, 2008
- Shri A.R. Udayasankar Medal in Public Law, B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), August, 2008
- K.B. Jhunjhunwala Medal in Constitutional Law, B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), August, 2008
- Duttlal Jhunjhunwala Medal in International Law, B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), August, 2008
- Prof. P. Shivashankar Medal in Intellectual Property Law, B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), August, 2008

FORMER POSITIONS

- Lecturer in Administrative Law, Faculty of Law, University of Oxford (2011-2013)
- President, Oxford India Society, University of Oxford, 2012
- Chief Editor, National Law School of India Review, 2007-08

JWALIKA BALAJI

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linkedin.com/in/jwalika-balaji-0b8b66218

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Civil Law (LLM-equivalent), University of Oxford (St. Anne's College) 2023–24
Law Faculty Prize (Comparative Equality Law) — Highest marks in the comparative equality course taught by Prof. Sandra Fredman
Scholarships: J.N. Tata Scholarship · K.C. Mahindra Fellowship · Rhodes Scholarship Semi-Finalist (India, 2023)

B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), National Law School of India University, Bangalore 2018–23
CGPA 6.41/7 · Ranked Second in Cohort of 80
Recipient of 6 Gold Medals — Second Rank · Most Deserving Female Student · Clinical Courses · Criminal Law · Sports & Extracurricular Activities

RESEARCH & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi Aug 2024–Present
Research Director's Office: I provide legislative drafting assistance to Central and State Government Ministries, Departments, and Authorities, in the areas of constitutional and family law. I have specifically worked on gender-equal legislations, labour regulations, legislative competence, and civil protections for marital abandonment. I was a part of the team that submitted comments to the High Powered Committee constituted pursuant to the Supreme Court's directions in Supriyo v. Union of India, and on the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Amendment Bill, 2026 to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Guest Faculty, National Law University Odisha Jan–Mar 2026
Co-taught two double-credit certificate courses open to students across India: (1) Law, Power, and Privilege in Indian Constitutionalism and Beyond; (2) Gender and Law.

Researcher, Oxford Pro Bono Publico Sep 2024
Contributed to a report for the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief.

Consultant, Centre for Law and Policy Research, Bangalore Oct–Dec 2022
Assisted Adv. Jayna Kothari with an edited collection on transgender rights in India; organised a writers' workshop and the TransForm 2022 public panel on trans rights.

Research Assistant 2020–24
Dr. Barbara Havelkova (University of Oxford) — researched on gender equality legislations in Eastern Europe
Mr. Michael Kirby (Former Judge, High Court of Australia) — explored the concept of virtual courts and the implications for judicial accessibility
Dr. Ira Chadha-Sridhar (University of Cambridge) —analysed references to the feminist ethic of care in Indian law
Dr. Sumit Baudh (Jindal Global Law School) — traced judicial reasoning on intersectionality in India, with focus on the Vishakha and NALSA judgements

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles

'Deconstructing Parenthood: A Critical Queer Analysis of Gender, Law, and Bionormativity in India,' National Law School of India Review, 37(1) (*National Law School of India University Bangalore,* 2026).

'Does the Indian Constitution Care? Plugging in Constitutional Silences on the Ethics of Care through Fundamental Rights' (with Anshul Dalmia), Comparative Constitutional Law and Administrative Law Journal (*NLU Jodhpur*, Apr 2026).

'Rewriting Supriyo: Unpacking India's Marriage Equality Judgment' (with Mandar Prakhar), Amicus Curiae, 7(1): 288–314 (*University of London*, Nov 2025).

'Fashioning the Self: Arguing for a Right to Dress under the Freedom of Expression in International Human Rights Law' (with Venkatesan and Gupta), Journal of Human Rights, 24(5): 551–567 (*Taylor & Francis,* Oct 2025).

'Let's Talk About AIDS, Baby! Critiquing the HIV and AIDS Act, 2017 in India through a Reproductive Justice Framework' (with Apoorva Nangia), Medical Law Review, 33(3) (*Oxford University Press*, 2025).

'Regulating De Facto Relationships in Family Law,' St. Anne's Academic Review, 12 (*University of Oxford,* 2024).

Book Chapters & Policy Reports

'Evasive Equalities: A Closer Look at Personal Laws and Religious Discrimination' (with Lalit Panda), National Human Rights Commission Journal (Dec 2025).

'The Constitution Debate: Power, Rights and Democracy in India' (with Arghya Sengupta), The Hindu Group Publishing (Oct 2025).

The Constitution Catalogues (Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, 2025). Multilingual fieldwork project documenting constitutional engagement across six Indian languages (Kannada, Hindi, English, Bangla, Tamil, Marathi).

Queering the Law: Beyond Supriyo (Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy & Keshav Suri Foundation, Jul 2025). Four policy briefs on legislative and executive measures to recognise rights of queer persons across family, discrimination, healthcare, and violence; submitted to the Supreme Court-mandated High Powered Committee.

'A Study of Caste-sensitive Judicial Reasoning in Interpreting Article 17,' in Constitutional Ideals (Oakbridge Publishing, 2023).

Blogs & Public Writing (Selected)

'Clothes and Culture: Legal Status of Dressing Choices,' Hindustan Times (2026).

'Challenging the Marital-Consent Fiction: India's Fragmented Response to the Marital Rape Exception' (with Mandar Prakhar), NLSIR Online (2026).

'Can't Fathers Feed Their Babies? Critiquing the Indian Supreme Court's Order on Gendered Infant Care in Public,' Oxford Human Rights Hub (2025).

'Are India's Laws Ripe for Review?' Deccan Herald (2025).

'A Labour of Love: Making the Jurisprudential Case for Paternity Leave in India,' NLSIR Online (2023).

PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

'The Legislative Simplicity Score: An Objective Tool to Assess the Simplicity of Laws in India,' Biennial Conference of the Standing Group on Regulatory Governance, European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR), Hertie School, Berlin (Jun 2025).

'Lack of gender mainstreaming in Indian Equality Jurisprudence,' Panellist, Feminist Legal Studies Conference 2025, Queen's University, Canada (Mar 2025).

'Recognising Outing as a Violation of Privacy and Dignity in Human Rights Law,' Feminist Jurisprudence Discussion Group, University of Oxford (May 2024).

POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Director (Board), OutLawed India Foundation — Jan 2020–Present

I am a part of the Board of Directors of a not-for-profit organisation working on improving last-mile access to legal platforms for underserved communities. I previously led the Content Team delivering legal awareness modules at government schools, colleges, and anganwadi centres.

Mentor, Project EduAccess — 2025–Present

I am a mentor at Project EduAccess, a non-profit initiative to improve access to higher education for learners from marginalised communities in India, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. We aim to create opportunities for students' professional and personal development.

Deputy Chief Editor & Editor, Socio-Legal Review — 2019–22

Peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal of NLSIU published by Eastern Book Company; South Asia mandate. As the Deputy Chief Editor, I curated two issues of Volume 18 (child sexual abuse, housing discrimination, vaccine inequality during COVID-19).

CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME	:	**SHOBHANA TAKIAR**
MAILING ADDRESS	:	B-103, LAJPAT NAGAR-I, First Floor, New Delhi-110024
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS	:	Puri Aanandvilas, Tower-5, Flat 5B, Sector-81, Faridabad (Haryana) **Mobile-: 98109-62950**
E-mail address		shobhana_takiar@yahoo.co.in shobhana.lawyer@gmail.com
EDUCATION QUALIFICATIONS:		BA, Lady Brabourne College (Calcutta University, LLB (Calcutta University) QLTT (Solicitor of England & Wales)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

April, 1998:	Enrolled as an Advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi D-170/88
Sept. 1990 To Nov. 1994:	Worked as Law Officer in Delhi Financial Corporation, New Delhi. Supervised and conducted the Court cases from the Lower court to the Apex court. Drafted various documents pertained to loan finance inter alia Hypothecation Deed, Mortgage Deed, Agreement relating to deposit of title deeds, indemnity Bond, Guarantee Deed etc. and court pleadings also.
Dec, 1994 to June 2004 :	**Was an Associate counsel with Gita Mittal & Associates (Advocates) till her elevation as Judge of Delhi High Court, Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court and Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court**
June 2008:	Qualified transfer test and at present also Solicitor of England & Wales

Litigation: Have conducted extensive litigation on behalf of authorities, corporations, individuals, amongst others in the following areas:-

a) Arbitration cases before the Hon'ble High Court & Supreme Court and Arbitrators.

b) Commercial Law Cases.

c) Company cases before the Hon'ble High Court and Company Law Board, viz, petitions for winding up of Companies, amalgamation of Companies oppression and mismanagement of the Company.

d) Civil Suits both before the **Hon'ble High Court and District court** including suits for Recovery of Monies, Injunctions, Possession of Properties, Specific Performance of Contracts, Damages, Partition of Movable and Immovable Properties, Suits for Passing off, etc.

e) Matrimonial Litigation in the District Court, High Court and Supreme Court.

f) Writ Petitions before the Hon'ble High Court, under Articles 226 and 227 of the Constitution of India.

g) Appeals and Revisions before the Hon'ble Supreme Court, High Court and the District Court.

h) Criminal Complaints before Magistrates – for Dishonour of Cheques, Breach of Trust, etc.

i) Proceedings before the:

(I) National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission,

(II) State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission

(III) Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission

(IV) Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission. (Now Competition Commission)

(V) Debt Recovery Tribunal.

(VI) Debt Recovery Appellate Tribunal

(VII) Board Industrial Finance and Reconstruction.

(VIII) Appellate Authority of industrial Finance Reconstruction.

(IX) Central Administrative Tribunal.

(X) Company Law Board etc. now NCLT/NCLAT

(XI) Airport Authority Tribunal at Safdarjung Airport.

(XII) PMLA

(XIII) RERA

Non Litigation / Conveyancing :

1. Contracts and Interpretations.
2. Collaboration Agreements.
3. Wills and Codicils.
4. Hypothecation Deed.
5. Mortgage Deed.
6. Agreement relating to deposit deeds.
7. Indemnity Bond.
8. Guarantee Deed
9. Gift Deed
10. Settlement, etc.
11. Legal Opinions

Matter relating to Govt. / Statutory authorities / corporations: -

Doing the matters of-:

Delhi Development Authority, (Standing Counsel)

Government of NCT of Delhi (Earlier Additional Standing Counsel)

Delhi Tourism & Transportation Development Corporation,

National Housing Bank,

Priya Exhibitors Pvt. Ltd (PVR Ltd).

Foreign Trade Development Corporation,

Himalayan Heli Services Ltd.,

Neemrana Hotels

President House

Airport Authority of India

DCHFCL

Just Dial

State Trading Corporation

Empanelled Arbitrator with DIAC; and

Mediator, Delhi High Court Samadhan Centre

Important matters in areas of Land Acquisition, Land Rates, Plots size of schools, tenders, contractors, arbitration, family disputes, property disputes, have been conducted. Several judgments have been reported.

Shobhana Takiar

Shobhana Takiar
Advocate

SIDDHARTH JAIN

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Enrolment Number : D/7539/2017 (Bar Council of India) | 31936/2023 (Delhi High Court Bar Association)
E-Mail : siddharthjain@jslaw.in; admin@jslaw.in
Website : www.jslaw.in
LinkedIn URL : https://www.linkedin.com/in/siddharth-jain-343b4680/
Address : A-12, Basement, Jangpura Extension, New Delhi – 110014

EDUCATION

Courses/ Degree / Qualification	Institution/ University	Year
Advocate-on-Record (AOR)	Supreme Court of India	2025
LL.B.	Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi	2014 - 17
M. Com (Taxation & Finance)	Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi	2012 - 14
B. Com (Honours)	Hansraj College, University of Delhi	2008 - 11

WORK EXPERIENCE

Independent Counsel, Jain & Saigal Law Offices — **September 2020 – Present**

Chambers of Gaurav Pachnanda, Senior Advocate — **April 2020 – July 2023**

Luthra & Luthra Law Offices, New Delhi, India — **May 2019 – April 2020**

Y.P. Singh and Associates, Government Counsel — **December 2017 – April 2019**

I. Supreme Court
   a. Represented individuals and corporations in several criminal and civil SLPs, in matters of granting and cancellation of bail, interim orders/reliefs, etc.
   b. Represented J&K Housing Cooperative Limited before the Supreme Court in civil SLP against the order under Section 11 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.
   c. Represented Canara Bank before the Supreme Court of India in multiple civil SLPs, involving drafting and filing of replies and appearing and arguing before the court.
   d. Assisted the Senior Advocate in representing various individuals, corporations, public sector undertakings (PSUs), before the Supreme Court of India, in matters of service law, contractual disputes, property disputes, etc., involving preparation of list of dates and written submissions, undertaking legal research, and attending conferences.

II. High Courts and tribunals, including NCDRC, DRT, NCLT and NCLAT
   a. Represents individual and corporate entities before the Delhi High Court and Punjab & Haryana High Court in GST disputes, property litigation, commercial litigation, IPR disputes and other civil litigation.
   b. Represented Resolution Professional (RP) before the NCLT, Delhi, involving filing of application under Section 19(2) of IBC and PUFE application.
   c. Represented Canara Bank before the National Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission (NCDRC) in an appeal from an order of Uttar Pradesh SCDRC, involving attending conferences with bank representatives, drafting and filing of written submissions and arguing the case.
   d. Represented Essel Group company before the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), Delhi Bench, in an appeal arising out of a petition under Section 7, IBC, involving drafting and filing of applications and replies, briefing senior advocates, conferences with client, etc.
   e. Represented Resolution Professional (RP) before NCLAT, Delhi Bench, in an appeal arising from an order of NCLT, Jaipur Bench, allowing a petition under Section 7 of IBC; drafting and filing a reply to the appeal; and appearing and arguing before NCLAT, Delhi Bench.

f. Represented homebuyers before NCLT, New Delhi Bench, in a petition under Section 7 of IBC, against the defaulting builder; and appeared and argued before NCLT, New Delhi Bench.
g. SARFAESI Act – drafted and filed securitization applications under Section 17 for challenging orders under Section 13(4); drafted and filed borrowers' objections to secured creditors' notices under Section 13(2); etc.
h. RDB Act - represented private companies and financial institutions for recovery of debt; drafted and filed original applications under Section 19; etc.
i. Drafted and filed a writ petition (PIL) before the High Court of Delhi, seeking directions to block access for public use of a Chinese run e-commerce platform and mobile application, *Shopee*.
j. Represented Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) before the Competition Commission of India seeking directions against commerce platform and mobile application, *Shopee*.
k. Assisted the Senior Advocate in representing individuals and corporations in civil cases arising out of property disputes, contractual claims, intellectual property rights disputes, and other commercial transactions.
l. Assisted the Senior Advocate in representing clients before NCLT and NCLAT in insolvency proceedings.
m. Corporate Insolvency – Represented a multi-national company in a Section 10 application for voluntary insolvency by a corporate debtor; drafted compliance affidavits and applications; briefed senior advocate; regularly appeared and argued before the Chandigarh bench of NCLT; etc.
n. Petition under Section 482 CrPC – drafting and filing of petition for quashing of an FIR; regularly attending and appearing before the P&H High Court; etc.
o. Represented a former chief secretary to the Government of India before the High Court of Delhi in a petition filed under Section 482 of the CrPC, seeking quashing of a private complaint, alleging criminal defamation under Sections 499 and 500 of IPC.

III. <u>International arbitrations</u>
a. Representing a real estate company situated in Bangalore in a construction arbitration against a Singapore company and an Indian company in an international commercial arbitration seated in India under the rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC).
b. Assisted Senior Advocate in representing Schneider Electric South East Asia (HQ) Pte. Ltd., a company incorporated in Singapore, which is a part of the European Schneider Group, and its Indian subsidiary, Luminous Power Technologies Private Limited, in an international commercial arbitration seated in India, in claims of fraud, misrepresentation and breach of contract, made against former shareholders of the Indian group company.
c. Assisted the Senior Advocate in representing the Ebix group of companies in India and Singapore, in several contentious disputes, including an international commercial arbitration under the rules of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), involving disputes arising out of a shareholders agreement.
d. Represented an India-based international conglomerate against a global private equity firm in a dispute pertaining to breach of contract arising out of shareholders agreement and a share purchase agreement, in an LCIA arbitration, seated in Geneva and with a venue in Paris. Assisted in drafting of pleadings including statement of defence and counter-claim; drafting written opening and closing submissions; preparing a schedule for cross examination of witnesses; drafting Redfern Schedule during discovery phase, involving detailed perusal of voluminous documents; briefing senior advocates; assisting financial experts, etc.

IV. <u>Domestic arbitrations</u>
a. Represented Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC), a public sector undertaking and the project-implementing agency, in a construction arbitration against the project concessionaire, seated in New Delhi, India. The dispute involved the development of a mega infrastructure project on "Built Operate Transfer" (BOT) basis and claims arise out of change of scope of work, loss due to delay, extension of time, loss of profits due to illegal termination of the concessionaire agreement, and other consequential and incidental losses.
b. Assisted the Senior Advocate in representing HCLI, a private company, in a high-end technology arbitration against a statutory authority and a government department, in two domestic arbitrations seated in India, in a case of recovery of money and breach of contract.

c. Worked as a Tribunal Secretary of Mr Gaurav Pachnanda, the Sole Arbitrator, in a domestic Delhi-seated arbitration between two private companies, in relation to a dispute arising out breach of lock-in clause in a lease agreement.
d. Represented a Singaporean tech company (investor) against an Indian company in a dispute involving breach of contract and misrepresentation under a share purchase agreement before an India-seated arbitral tribunal. Assisted in drafting of written closing submissions, application seeking costs of arbitration, etc.
e. Represented a medical technology company against an Indian landlord in a landlord-tenant dispute, before a domestic tribunal, seated in Gurugram, India. Drafted and filed applications under sections 34 and 36 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, before the Gurugram commercial court; drafted an application for impounding of an arbitral award for inadequate stamp duty under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (as applicable to the state of Haryana); and regularly appeared and argued before the Gurugram commercial court.

V. District Courts
a. IPR disputes – drafted and filed commercial suit for infringement of a registered trademark, along with application seeking prohibitory and mandatory injunctions.
b. Recovery suits – drafted and filed civil and commercial suits under Order IV and Order XXXVII of CPC for recovery of monies; attending pre-institution mediation proceedings initiated under Section 12A of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015; undertaking legal research on complex questions of law; attending client meetings; regularly appearing and arguing before various district courts in Delhi NCR; etc.
c. Complaints under Section 138 of NI Act - drafted notices, complaints, and affidavits; attending mediation proceedings; etc.
d. Property disputes – represented various clients in district courts across Delhi NCR; drafted and filed suits, including suits for mandatory injunction, declaration, possession, etc., drafting miscellaneous applications; regularly appearing and arguing before courts; etc.
e. Application under Section 156 CrPC – represented the client before the metropolitan magistrate, Karkardooma court, in a criminal miscellaneous application seeking directions for filing of FIR in a police station outside of the court's jurisdiction.
f. Matrimonial disputes – represented various individuals before family courts in cases involving divorce, maintenance, guardianship, domestic violence, etc.

VI. Legal Opinions
a. Prepared legal opinions for Canara Bank, involving complex issues of personal insolvency regime under the IBC and reverse mortgage under the SARFAESI Act.
b. Prepared legal opinions for various individuals and corporations, involving questions arising under the property laws, commercial transactions, IBC, SARFAESI Act, RDB Act, recovery disputes, etc.
c. Assisted the Senior Advocate in preparing legal opinions involving complex issues of Indian commercial laws, such as Indian law on interpretation of contract, implying a term in a contract, mistaken payment under a contract, and piercing of corporate veil.
d. Assisted a USA-based organisation in its internal investigation to identify the possible involvement of its employees in lobbying activities in India, in contravention of USA's lobbying laws and the provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010. Involved in perusal of voluminous documents spanning over a decade; drafting a memo of opinion; attending meetings with client and USA-based attorneys; etc.
e. Assisted a technology company in conducting an internal investigation into a high-value fraud and prepared a memo of opinion explaining the *modus operandi* of the fraud and preventive steps for the company.

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date of Birth : 15th December 1991
Languages Known : English & Hindi

TANUSHRI ROY

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Public policy professional with 7+ years of experience spanning programme design and implementation, institutional reform, regulatory policy and social sector advisory. Trained at Cambridge in evidence-based policy; practised at India's apex policy institution (NITI Aayog), the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, and the Government of the United Kingdom. Deep expertise in design and appraisal of multilateral and government-funded development projects/schemes; governance reform; M&E frameworks; and Centre-State coordination across 10+ sectors. Brings an interdisciplinary foundation in law (including international negotiations), public policy, sociology and grass-root level development work, with a consistent focus on translating institutional intent into measurable governance and development outcomes.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- Social Sector Policy Design & Development Advisory
- Public Finance Management & Multicriteria Programme Appraisal
- Institutional Systems Reform & Service Delivery Improvement
- Governance & Centre-State Coordination
- Stakeholder Engagement, Negotiation & Strategic Communication
- Institutional Capacity Building & Training – Design & Delivery
- Policy Research, Analysis & Analytical Writing
- Legal, Regulatory Analysis
- Monitoring, Evaluation & Results Frameworks (OECD-DAC, Theory of Change, OOMF/DGQI)

EDUCATION

M.Phil in Public Policy | **University of Cambridge, United Kingdom** 2021-2022
100% Scholarship - Commonwealth & Cambridge Trust Scholar • First Division

- **Curriculum:** Evidence-based policy design & implementation, policy analysis, monitoring & evaluation, governance, economics, quantitative methods & data analysis, politics & international relations
- Thesis on critical thinking and human capital development (evidence-based policy design, Rapid Evidence Assessment, quasi-experimental methods, pilot framework for public schools); Runner-up, International Policy Case Competition (client: United Nations, context: Africa)

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) | **Faculty of Law, University of Delhi** 2016-2019 • First Division
- Constitutional, administrative, environmental, labour, commercial, international law etc. with advocacy training

B.A. (Hons.) Sociology | **Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi** 2013–2016 • First Division
- Quantitative and qualitative social research methods; development sociology; empirical thesis on child labour

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Public Policy Specialist - Public Finance & Policy Analysis | NITI Aayog, Government of India, New Delhi
July 2024 – Present

Programme Appraisal & Public Finance:

- Conducted **end-to-end techno-economic appraisals** of 100+ Central Sector (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), and multilateral (World Bank, ADB, JICA, NDB) co-financed projects ($60M-$10Bn+) across 10+ sectors including Law & Social Justice, Rural Development, Environment, Agriculture, Tourism, Culture, Sports etc.

- Applied a **multi-criteria appraisal framework** covering legal/regulatory compliance, financial sustainability, economic rationale, distributional and equity impact, institutional capacity, socio-environmental considerations, and M&E design (REESI+C+E approach)- providing targeted recommendations to inform funding decisions, scheme restructuring, and mid-course corrections
- Represented the Ministry at the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), & Committee for Establishment Expenditure (CEE), Public Investment Board (PIB) meetings at the Ministry of Finance; represented the division in Output-Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF) meetings.

Governance, Regulatory Reform & Institutional Design:

- Facilitator for national-level **Governing Council Meetings chaired by the Prime Minister** and attended by all Chief Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, and Chief Secretaries- preparing briefs, synthesising deliberations, and documenting cross-sectoral policy directions for Ministry-wise disbursal.
- Member, Working Group for the '**Investment Friendly Charter for Indian States'** (sub-group: Governance, Public Finance and Policy): designed a composite framework of governance and institutional effectiveness indicators for state-level performance assessment.
- **Member, High-Level Committee on Non-Financial Regulatory Reforms:** contributed to cross-sector reform across environmental regulation and tourism, including compliance simplification, approval rationalisation, decriminalisation, trust-based regulation and ease-of-doing-business reforms.
- Contributed to **pan-government decriminalisation exercise**; recommendations fed into the Jan Vishwas (Amendment of Provisions) Bill.

Strategy & Analytical Research:

- Conducted a **methodological review of Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) evaluation reports:** assessed rigor of evaluation design, indicator quality, and evidence standards against OECD-DAC principles; identified gaps and provided recommendations.
- **Lead author, Tourism chapter of the Purvodaya States Road Map (**Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal)- integrating sectoral gap analysis, infrastructure prioritisation, economic opportunity mapping, human resource development, and institutional recommendations with cost estimates and timelines; key recommendations reflected in **Union Budget 2026**
- Led and contributed to **policy and discussion papers** on social impact investing, climate finance, creative economy, tourism development- submitted to relevant Ministries

Capacity Building & Federal Coordination:

- Conducted benchmarking analysis of existing government capacity-building programmes against syllabi of leading public policy institutions globally, identified gaps and provided recommendations informing **redesign of training curriculum.**
- **Designed and delivered in-person Governance & Policy Design training** modules for state officials, covering governance indicators, and evidence-based policy making and implementation
- Represented NITI Aayog in **inter-ministerial consultations** on scheme design, development of guidelines and implementation roadmaps and governance reform initiatives.

Consultant - Justice Sector Reform | Supreme Court-Constituted Committee on Vulnerable Witness Deposition Complexes (VWDCs), Pan-India | December 2022 – Present | Part-time

- Worked with a Supreme Court-constituted committee to **design, standardise, and operationalise Vulnerable Witness Deposition Complexes** (VWDCs) nationwide, focused on women and child survivors of sexual and gender-based violence
- Contributed to the **model framework, prototype, operational protocols, monitoring systems, and compliance frameworks** for national rollout.
- Facilitated large-scale **capacity-building programmes** for 12,000+ judicial officers, prosecutors, police, legal aid professionals, and medico-legal stakeholders on survivor-centric procedures, vulnerable witness protection, and gender-sensitive adjudication
- **Key outcomes:** VWDC framework adopted in 15+ states; model guidelines, national training resources developed.

Legal & Policy Consultant | Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, New Delhi | December 2022 – June 2024

- Served as a **legal-policy member of India's official negotiating teams** for multiple bilateral and plurilateral agreements; responsible for treaty negotiation and drafting, and ensuring consistency with WTO obligations, domestic law, and constitutional principles
- Supported **institutional design of negotiation processes:** developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) governing mandate formulation, inter-ministerial consensus-building, documentation standards, legal scrub processes, and post-signature implementation- institutionalising previously ad hoc government practice
- Contributed to the **Foreign Trade Policy 2023**; assisted in drafting **Cabinet Notes**.
- Facilitated **inter-ministerial consultations and multi-stakeholder roundtables**; supervised research TOR development and translated policy research into negotiation-ready inputs
- **Represented the Ministry** at COP28 (Dubai); participated in G20 and B20 working groups; prepared briefing notes, talking points, and rapporteur records for Minister-level bilateral engagements

Policy Associate - International Education & Labour Market Reform | Department for Education & Department for International Trade, Government of the United Kingdom, London | July 2022 – November 2022

- Authored the policy report *Improving Employability of International Students in the UK*, supporting implementation of the UK International Education Strategy 2019 governing a £20Bn+ sector
- Conducted **evidence-based policy research and cross-country benchmarking** on graduate labour market outcomes, higher education competitiveness, and regulatory barriers; led **multi-stakeholder consultations**
- Developed practical reform recommendations and outcome measurement indicators.

International Mediator, Negotiator & Faculty | Multiple Institutions - India, South Asia, Africa, Middle East | December 2020 – August 2021

- Designed and delivered **capacity-building programmes** and Training-of-Trainers (ToTs) on mediation, negotiation, ethics, and conflict-sensitive engagement for legal professionals and institutional stakeholders across South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, aligned with UNCITRAL, IMI, and CEDR standards
- Undertook project-based work on **dispute resolution system design and ADR policy**; served as judge and evaluator at international mediation forums; three International Gold Medals in mediation and business negotiation

Legal Research Assistant | Office of the Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir | June 2019 – November 2020

- Provided **legal research and drafting** support to the Chief Justice across constitutional, environmental, commercial, international, and human rights law; contributed to judgments, legislative notes, and reform literature
- Supported **landmark legislative reform** criminalising 'sextortion' under the J&K Criminal Laws (Sexual Offences) Amendment Act, 2018, through comparative analysis of anti-corruption and human rights frameworks
- Contributed to **justice sector modernisation** in a conflict-affected context: establishment of e-Courts, VWDCs, mediation and arbitration centres, and the doorstep justice delivery programme (Insaf Ki Dastak)
- Facilitated **training and sensitisation programmes** for judges, lawyers, police, and medico-legal professionals on ADR, gender-sensitive adjudication, vulnerable witness safeguards.

Founder & Director - Arts, Culture & Development | Shrinkhala Centre for Arts & Development | October 2017 – Present | Part-time

- **Founded and leads a multidisciplinary cultural institution** recognised in the 'Outstanding' category by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India; practitioner in Kathak (M.A., First Division, Distinction)
- Designed and delivered 500+ cultural and educational programmes on social development, gender equality, sustainability, and intercultural dialogue across India and 15+ countries; represents India in government cultural delegations and Festival of India missions
- Engaged in **cultural policy advisory** for Ministry of External Affairs; served on Ministry of Defence cultural committees; research on institutional reform in the creative economy and regulatory frameworks for intangible cultural heritage

Development Practitioner & Para-legal | NALSA, MC Mehta Environmental Foundation, TERI, and grassroots organisations across rural, tribal and conflict-affected regions 2011–2019 | Voluntary

- Legal literacy, juvenile justice & prison reform, community legal aid (NALSA); environmental law research for PILs, awareness programs and eco-audits of corporate entities (MC Mehta Foundation, TERI); community development (rights, gender, health, education, skills); grassroots scheme impact assessments, microfinance for local businesses, renewable energy implementation and heritage conservation across Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Odisha etc. Assessed multi-pronged outcomes of interventions.

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING

- **Evaluating Social Programs:** MIT / J-PAL - impact evaluation, causal inference, RCTs, experimental and quasi-experimental methods
- **Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies:** Harvard Business School - institutional voids, market failures, BOP strategies, social enterprise scaling, policy-private sector interfaces
- **Public Policy, Programme Appraisal & GovTech:** Cambridge/IIT/Harvard-affiliated platforms - evidence-based policy, project appraisal, PFM and M&E frameworks, digital governance, public administration
- **ADR, Mediation & Negotiation:** Certified mediator & negotiator - IIAM (India), SIMI (Singapore), ADR-ODR International (Dubai), European Institute for Conflict Resolution
- **Leadership, Climate & Sustainability:** UNFCCC, TERI - fellowships and certifications in climate governance, sustainability, institutional leadership
- **Comparative Law & International Governance:** East China University of Political Science & Law, Shanghai - full scholarship; Top 5 Delegate (2017)
- **International Leadership Programme:** UN Office on Sport for Development & Peace (UNOSDP), Tokyo (2014)

SELECTED RECOGNITIONS

- Gold Award - Duke of Edinburgh International Award (excellence across multiple fields and social work)
- Distinguished Alumni Award - University of Delhi, for academic distinction and public service
- Dr. Sarojini Naidu International Award, for contributions to Culture and Public Policy
- ‘Being Fearless’ Award - National Institute for Gender Justice
- Achievers Award - Ministry of Culture, Government of India
- Three International Gold Medals in mediation and negotiation at global ADR competitions
- National level basketball player, Delhi Team captain – 2 national silver medals.
- Senior Secondary: top 1% nationally (96%, The Mother’s International School, New Delhi)

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Professional Profile

B. Venkatesh Kumar, Ph.D., is Professor and Chairperson at the Center for Governance and Public Policy at TISS, and a Visiting Professor at the Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania. He served as the Director of the National Corporate Social Responsibility Hub established by the Government of India's Department of Public Enterprises at TISS. He was a pioneer in the formulation of the first-ever guidelines for Public Sector Enterprises on CSR and developed the revised guidelines, which have been implemented since April 2013. Kumar and the team he supervised at TISS worked with several of the state-owned enterprises in the development of CSR strategy with a focus on inclusive, sustainable development and growth for under-served districts. Kumar is involved in the policy design and its implementation strategies of a number of the Federal Government's key social sector initiatives.

Dr. Kumar is the Coordinator and Expert to help the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, an apex training institution in India for the senior civil service (IAS officers) for developing case studies.

Dr. Kumar was the Course Director of the One-Week In-service Training for senior and midcareer policy leaders and civil servants and has trained over 450 since 2011. This initiative is supported by the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India.

Dr. Kumar's most significant contribution in policy design, formulation and implementation (2012-19) has been in advising and providing support to the Ministry of Human Resource Development's major policy initiative, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) - a countrywide reform initiative aimed to revive and resurrect the state higher education systems especially the public universities and their affiliated college structures. Till date the Rs.15,000 crore Pan India scheme has supported over 3,000 public funded Universities and Colleges. He is a member of the Project Approval Board of the National Mission on Higher Education, appointed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Kumar is also a member of the Sectoral Committee on Education, appointed by the Kerala State Planning Board for the 12th Plan period. He served as a World Bank consultant in the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Bihar, on a committee that reviewed the Public Universities Act in Bihar. Kumar has undertaken the task of developing a strategic framework for the leadership development program for Higher Education Administrators. This framework forms the basis of the National Higher Education Leadership Academy and the LEAP program, which was chaired by him. Kumar was the Chair of the Higher Education Leadership Academy and the Center for Academic Leadership and Education Management, both federally funded initiatives to strengthen research, policy advocacy, and professional development for Higher Education and School Education in India.

Kumar works in multiple capacities to guide reforms in the field of higher education in India. He was invited as a sector expert to interact with the Group of Secretaries (GoS) on Education and Social Sector set by the Prime Minister of India in December, 2016.

Kumar was invited in March, 2017 as a special invitee to the Committee constituted by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) under the Chairmanship of Vice-Chairperson NITI Aayog on Short, Medium- and Long-Term Reforms in Higher Education. These includes undertaking curriculum reforms in select state universities, setting up a national center for leadership development for academic administrators, accreditation reforms, improving quality through increasing the number of autonomous colleges and reforms in regulatory bodies, reforms in online and open and distance learning programs.

During the same period Kumar was requested to provide expert advice to the Ministry of Human Resource Development in implementing key decisions taken by the Prime Minister's Office on Higher Education Reforms.

In February, 2019 Kumar, was appointed as an Academic Coordinator to review and help put together policy interventions proposed under a potentially new initiative called the Education Quality Improved Program (EQUIP) - Central Government's endeavor towards ushering transformations in India's higher education system by implementing strategic interventions in the sector over a period of

five years (2019-2024). Further at the request of the ministry, he was involved in the conceptualization and drafting of the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) Bill which seeks to reform India's higher education regulatory framework.

Dr. Kumar continues to support the NITI Ayaog's initiative of developing a Strategic Higher Education Vision Document for 2035.

In the past, Kumar served as a Consultant to the World Bank's India Higher Education Program from 2011-2015, guiding key higher education reform initiatives in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and has helped support the Govt. of Bihar in key reform initiatives. At the request of the then Governor of Maharashtra in (2008-2010), Kumar helped initiate and bring to fruition a number of key reforms in higher education in Maharashtra. This resulted in the formulation of the new set of guidelines for Governance Reforms in State Universities in Maharashtra.

Kumar was a Visiting Professor at Penn State University (2011-2012), a member of the India Advisory Group of the International Institute of Education (2012-2013). He was a Visiting Professor at the School of Management and Labor Relations at Rutgers University (2012- 2013), and a Visiting Scholar at the Center for Advanced Study of India at the University of Pennsylvania in 2015. He was also a Visiting Scholar at the School of Social Welfare Policy, University of California, Berkeley for academic year 2016- 2017.

Kumar earned a master's and doctoral degree in Political Science from the University of Mumbai. He is a recipient of a number of awards including: The Performance-based Award at the University of Mumbai in 2007, a Hubert Humphrey Fellowship of the U.S.- India Education Foundation for Higher Education Administrators (2010-2011), and the co-recipient of the 1st Obama-Singh Knowledge Initiative Grant on Higher Education for the project: Capitalizing Demographic Dividend: Talent Development in India and U.S. Kumar has authored books, a number of papers in journals of national and international repute and articles in national newspapers. He taught Political Science at the University of Mumbai from 1997-2009 and currently is a full professor at TISS for over 9 years. His research interests include political process and institutions in India, party and party systems in India, governance and public policy making specifically related to higher education reform in India.

For more details on Dr. Kumar's academic career ad policy initiatives, please refer to his website: http://bvenkateshkumar.com/

Curriculum Vitae
Tata Institute of Social Sciences
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www.bvenkateshkumar.com

EDUCATION

Mumbai University, Mumbai, India
Ph.D. Politics – 2000
Awarded the Department Research Fellowship (1994-1996), UGC Junior Research Fellowship in Political Science (1995)
Doctoral thesis: The Role of the Election Commission of India (1975-1998)

Mumbai University, Mumbai, India
M.A. Political Science – 1993

University of North Bengal
B.Sc 1991

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Current/Past Positions

Professor and Chair March 2012 – Present
Centre for Public Policy and Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India
Successfully guided 7 doctoral students pursuing Ph.D. under my guidance.

Director January 2011 – December 2018
National Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Hub, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India
Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) Govt. of India in 2010 initiated the process of setting up National CSR Hub at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) during which I was actively involved in the creation of an independent, arms-length of a body to provide evidence-based research support to DPE and Public Sector Enterprises. The Hub was finally launched and established at TISS in March, 2011. This is a very significant project since it involves working with the CSR units of over 200 Public Sectors Undertakings significantly transforming India's social and economic milieu.
As Director, National CSR Hub I have fulfilled following different roles:
A. FORMULATION OF CSR GUIDELINES
I have closely worked with the DPE in formulation of the CSR guidelines for Public Sector Enterprises which were released in March 2010. Several rounds of consultations with the Public Sector Enterprises through regional conclaves across India were under-taken by DPE and NCSR Hub to obtain feedback on challenges and opportunities based on their experiences of following the CSR guidelines. Based on these consultations and feedback of National CSR Hub, DPE revised the existing CSR guidelines in April 2013. I was closely involved with DPE in drafting the revised guidelines for CSR. The revised guidelines look deeper into the matter of Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility. Under these guidelines, the CSR interventions are required to be thoroughly and scientifically researched and on this basis the intervention programmes have to be formulated and implemented.
B. ESTABLISHMENT OF CSR KNOWLEDGE CENTRE-PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT
The recently passed Companies Act 2013 is set to transform the CSR landscape in India in terms of the length and breadth of financial commitment directed in this area by Private Sector Enterprises
The CSR knowledge center, an extension of the National CSR Hub advises and engages with multiple private sector companies, in

the strategic and technical areas, enabling companies to make socially relevant choices.
In addition, TISS recently signed an MOU with the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, the Ministry of Corporate Affair, to work together in the CSR space for private sector companies.
Under my leadership NCSR Hub has effectively fulfilled its responsibilities towards:

a. Nationwide compilation, documentation and setting up of a national database by creating a Management Information System (MIS)
b. Advocacy on concepts through 6 regional conclaves; over 40 training programmes for over 15 CPSEs. National CSR Hub is involved on a regular basis in orienting the CSR policies for companies and ensuring that their CSR activities are structured in a programmatic mode as outlined in the DPE guidelines and the Companies Act; proposal evaluation and management training on statutory requirements and planning of CSR interventions are a critical part of its objectives.
c. Acting as a think-tank and conducting research. In its endeavor to facilitate the CSR initiatives of both Public and Private Sector companies, National CSR Hub has undertaken over 50 research studies for 27 public and private sector companies which include Needs Assessment, Social audit, Impact Assessment and Proposal Evaluation. The objective of these studies is to fine tune the existing policies and structures in place and also recommend possible areas of intervention with regards to CSR. In last 7 years of its establishment, National CSR Hub has facilitated over 50 public and private sector companies in their CSR initiatives and has directed over 30 research projects. The research work has covered more than 759 villages from over 68 districts and more than 22 states across India.
   National CSR Hub has developed expertise in evaluation, social audit and assessment of impacts of various developmental projects across diverse sectors. These include- education, sustainable livelihoods, skills development, industrial training, health, sanitation, sports development, girl child education, elder care, disability, affirmative action, child nutrition, computer literacy, support to juveniles/child care & protection through in shelter homes, HIV/AIDs awareness among truckers, nutrition, drinking water, infrastructure, agriculture cooperative, dairy cooperative, watershed management, community development, village development, solar lights, environment etc.
   Our research team which consists of over 60 Young Professionals has expertise in con-ducting both qualitative and quantitative research studies. The need assessment and baseline studies have majorly a quantitative approach with a mixed application of qualitative research methods and tools; while our impact assessment, social audit and evaluation studies have largely applied qualitative methods with a mix of quantitative methods to obtain relevant data.
d. Preparation of Panels of implementation organization/monitoring and valuation agencies. The Hub has been proactively engaged in empanelling implementing partners and has so far created a database of over 750 organizations. To conduct several activities related to capacity building, mind-set changing, empowerment of women and children, health awareness and preventive measures, the Hub recommends credible civil society organizations to the CPSEs to engage with. This helps the PSUs to collaborate with credible partners and undertake CSR activities in needs-based areas found as per the respective study.

National Coordinator March 2013 – July 2019
Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), New Delhi, India
Worked in multiple capacities to guide reforms in the field of higher education in India. He has chiefly been the architect of conceptualizing, designing, and anchoring the Ministry of Human Resource Development's major policy higher education policy initiative, Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), which is touted to be a major countrywide reform initiative aimed to revive and resurrect state public university systems. The scheme covers close to 359 Public Universities, 10,000 colleges across 29 states and 6 UTs. He is also member of the Project Approval Board, National Mission on Higher Education appointed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The project supports State Universities and Colleges to the tune of over Rs. 15,000 crores. www.rusa.nic.in

Chairperson September 2015 – July 2019
Centre for Academic Leadership and Education Management, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India
Supported by the Government of India's Ministry of Human Resource Development, under the National Mission on Teacher and Teacher Education. For more details view www.calem.tiss.edu

Chairperson November 2015 – July 2019
Higher Education Leadership Academy, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India

Supported by the Leadership Development of National Mission of Higher Education component of RUSA. For more details view www.hela.tiss.edu

Chair March 2018 – July 2019
National Higher Education Resource Centre,
Supported by the Government of India's Ministry of Human Resource Development's RUSA Initiative. NHERC is a policy think tank to provide data driven policy support to Central and State Governments on Higher Education. It also serves as an important research repository for academic institutions, think tanks, scholars, practioners etc., interested in the study of higher education policy and practice. For more details view www.nherc.tiss.edu

Visiting Scholar/Professor March 2018 – Present
Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, USA

Research and Teaching
Visiting Fellow October 2015 – November 2015
Centre for Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania, USA

Visiting Faculty 2013 – 2014
Academic Leadership Academy, College of Education, Pennsylvania State University, USA

Visiting Professor Summer 2012
School of Labor and Management Studies, Rutgers University, USA

Visiting Scholar Spring 2011 - Summer 2012
College of Education, Pennsylvania State University, USA

Professor September 2009 – till date
School of Management and Labour Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India

Honorable Director (Professorial Grade) October 2007 – June 2011
Western Regional Centre – Indian Council for Social Sciences Research (WRC-ICSSR), Mumbai, India

Associate Professor and Director March 2006 – September 2009
Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies, University of Mumbai, India

Assistant Professor February 2002 – March 2006
Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai, India

Project Fellow August 2000 – February 2002
Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi

Junior/Senior Research and Teaching Fellow 1995 – 2000
Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai, India

Public Policy

Special Invitee March 2017- till date
Committee on Short, Medium and Long-Term Reforms in Higher Education
Constituted by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) under the Chairmanship of Vice-Chairperson NITI Aayog.

Special Invitee -NITI Aayog 2017- till date

Committee for Reforms in Higher Education

On the direction of the Prime Minister's Office, a Committee for Reforms in Higher Education was constituted The mandate of the Committee was to examine short-term measures for reforms in higher education and submit a report in a period of one month. Accordingly, the report was submitted on 31st August, 2017 and an action taken on the recommendations are as follows:

1. Reform existing accreditation framework – Recommended Multiple Accreditation Bodies
2. Selection of institutions for grant of graded autonomy to Universities – Implemented and Regulations issued
3. Improve effectiveness of UGC's scheme for grant of Autonomous college status - Implemented and Regulations issued
4. Improve quality of candidates entering PhD programs – Work in progress
5. Check quality of journals being used for evaluating faculty on API – Work in progress
6. Academic collaborations for foreign educational institutions – Implemented and University and College Autonomy Regulations issued
7. Effectively tap the potential of Online education and Open and Distance Learning (ODL) programs – Work in progress

The NITI Committee further proposed in its report that the Committee may subsequently recommend long-term measures for reforms, including amendments in the UGC and AICTE Acts or promulgation of a new Act. It is proposed to submit the roadmap for long-term reform, necessary to give impetus to the reforms. Accordingly, the following are the medium to long terms measures that are suggested:

1. Regulatory reforms by disbanding UGC, AICTE and NCT by creating an single entity called Higher Education Regulatory Council/Higher Education Empowerment Regulatory Agency
2. Moving away from year-based programs to credit based programs for undergraduate and post-graduate courses.
3. Creation and operationalization on multiple accreditation agencies under Assessment and Accreditation Council
4. Reforming Central Universities through a reform driven norm-based transparent approach like RUSA.
5. Creating a mechanism for high performing autonomous colleges to move to a University status and give them degree awarding powers.
6. A single overarching National Research Foundation (like the National Science Foundation) to support research funding in Social Sciences, Humanities, Science, Engineering and Technology
7. Allowing Foreign Universities to open campuses in India
8. Challenge level funding to IITs/IIMs/NITs/IISERs and other such centrally funded institutions.
9. Developing Higher Education Strategic Framework and Action Plan, 2022
10. Develop a policy framework on Internationalisation of Higher Education
11. Attracting Talent in HEIs: Strategies for Faculty Recruitment
12. Grievance monitoring and redressal portal for HEIs
13. Special Scheme to support underperforming institutions in NE and Himalayan Region
14. Policy framework for seamless mobility of students between HEIs on the basis of credits considering merit-based framework of institution where a student seeks admission.
15. Evaluation of faculty by students
16. Framework to track performance of students/progression of alumni in HEIs

Academic Coordinator June 2017-July2019

Tasked with providing expert advice to the Ministry of Human Resource Development in implementing key decisions taken by the Prime Minister on Higher Education Reforms. These includes undertaking curriculum reforms in select state universities, setting up a national center for leadership development for academic administrators, accreditation reforms, improving quality through increasing the number of autonomous colleges and reforms in regulatory bodies and development of the five year strategic plan document (2020-2025) called the Education Quality Improvement Program (EQUIP).

Expert November 2016

Group of Secretaries (GoS) on Education and Social Development

Constituted by the Office of the Prime Minister of India

Consultant 2011 – 2015
World Bank's India Higher Education Program
Guided key reforms of higher education reform initiatives in Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and helped support the Govt. of Bihar in key reform initiatives (2011-2015). At the request of the then Governor of Maharashtra, helped initiate and bring to fruition a number of key reforms in higher education in Maharashtra (2008-10). This resulted in the formulation of the new set of guidelines for Governance Reforms in State Universities in Maharashtra.

Consultant 2013 – 2014
World Bank
Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Bihar to a committee to review the Public Universities Act in Bihar

Member 2012 – 2014
Sectoral Committee of Education
Appointed by the Kerala State Planning Board for the XIIth plan period

Professional Development
Course Director
Indian Civil Service training program (mid-career) December 2010- December 2018
We offer a week-long training program on "Social Policy and Governance "to All India Service Officers from both Government of India and State Government. This program is now an annual feature and is held every year December/January at TISS. I have coordinated this program for over 7 years with over 450 as total number of officers who have participated/attended in this course. www.ais.tiss.edu

Course Director 2015-2019
Higher and School Education Leadership program
Developed the course content, pedagogy and imparted professional development programs to over 1500 school. Higher education and policy leaders under the aegis of Higher Education Leadership (HELA), Centre for Academic Leadership and Education Management (CALEM) and Leadership for Academicians Professionals (LEAP) (www.leap.tiss.edu)

Course Director 2012-2017
Applied Researcher
Developed content framework and imparted professional development programs to over 200 mid to senior level CSR professional across State Owned Enterprises on community development practices and sustainable development

Rutgers'-TISS Initiative 2011 – 2014
Initiative for Sustainable Growth and Talent Development
Talent has been the key to India's emergence as a rapidly developing economic power since it liberalized its economy in 1991. India's large supply of well-educated, English speaking graduates helped attract investment from corporations around the world in its IT and business services. However, only a small fraction the over 550 million young Indians under the age of 25are currently gaining access to higher-level skills. If it is to capture the benefits of this "demographic dividend, "the largest single workforce for the global economy of the 21st Century, India must urgently reform all stages of its education and training system. Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) are proud to announce the creation of a new joint Centre for Sustainable Growth and Talent Development that will provide expert support for India's National Skill Development Strategy and the cooperative 21st Century Knowledge Initiative launched in 2011 by President Obama and Prime Minister Singh. The Centre is seeking strategic partners to help support the three core parts of its mission:

1. Applied research through the India Talent Observatory, including the influential annual survey of Indian graduates studying abroad that was jointly developed by Prof. B. Venkatesh Kumar and Prof. David Finegold (See links for report and selected coverage: http://smlr.rutgers.edu/research-and-centers/smlr-research-http://www.expressindia.com/latest-news/most-indian-students-in-us-want-to- return-teach/759375/;

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/14/world/europe/ 14iht-educBriefs14.html
http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/nri/news/Indian-talent-pool-in-US-waiting-to-be-tapped/articleshow/7692627.cmse)

2. Cooperative education and training (ET) programs, including student exchange, development of dual degree programs, and short courses for continuing and executive education;
3. Capacity building to enhance the governance and capabilities of India's ET institutions through Research Fellowships for new and prospective Indian faculty, administrators, and HE policymakers.

Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellows 2012-2014
Member Core- Committee Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellow (PMRDF), involved in the process of selecting training and mentoring the Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellows, Initiative of Ministry of Rural Development to Young professionals in Integrated Action Plan (IAP) districts

Consulting

Consultant February 2011 – February 2015
South Asia's Human Development Department, World Bank, Washington DC

Consultant May 2010 – June 2010
World Wildlife Fund

Consultant March 2007
Ford Foundation
Higher Education Programme

Senior Fellow April 2004 – March 2007
Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi

Consultant 2005
UNDP on Human Development Curriculum, New Delhi

HONOURS
Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative Grants (Project on Higher Education Reforms), 2012-2016
U.S. State Department's Hubert Humphrey Fellowship (Governance, Public Policy and Higher Education Reforms), 2010-2011
Vice Chancellor's Performance-Based Young Faculty Incentive Award (University of Mumbai), 2008

RESEARCH INTEREST AND AREAS
Political Systems, Process and Institutions and State Politics in India Governance and Public Policy Issues, Corporate Social Responsibility and Development Studies and Practice

Management of Higher Education - Reforming State University Systems, Governance Reforms, educational politics, practice and policy studies

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Forthcoming - Participatory CSR in India: Inclusive Growth & Development, Routledge (Co-authored with Sharon M.

Ravitch (accepted for publication)

2009 - The Electoral Reforms in India: Current Discourses, Rawat, Jaipur

2005 - Madhya Pradesh: Economy and Development, Manas Publications, New Delhi (Edited)

Articles in Books and Journals

'The Demographic Dividend: Enhancing Youth Skills, Knowledge, Capital, and Networks towards Sustainable Possibility Development in India.' (with Sharon M. Ravitch) In Nakkula, M.J. & Schneider-Munoz, A. (2017). Adolescent psychology worldwide: Global perspectives on risks, relationships, and development. Connecticut: Praeger, (, 2018).

'Participatory evaluation', (co-authored with Sharon M. Ravitch), in Frey, B. (Ed.) (2017). The SAGE encyclopedia of educational research, measurement, and evaluation. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, (2018).

'State Councils for Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges', World Bank, 2014 (Co-authored with Toby Liden, Kurt Larsen et al.)

Governance Reforms in Higher Education in Madhya Pradesh, in Madhya Pradesh Higher Education Reforms, World Bank, 2012 (Co-Author with Soumya Mishra)

'Will They Return: The willingness of potential faculty to return to India and key factors affecting their decision' (with David Finegold and Anne –Laure Winkler), a collaborative study by Tata Institute of Social Science, Penn State University and Rutgers University, 2012

'Scoping Study on Decent Work in Cotton Cultivators in Marathwada (Aurangabad and Jalna)', supported by World Wild Life (WWF), New Delhi, 2011

Governance, Autonomy and Social Science Research, Economic and Political Weekly, 13 – 19 August 2011, Vol. 46 No. 33.

'Will Indian Students Return? Indian Students in the United States' (Co-authored with David Finegold, Anne-Laure Winkler and Vikas Argod), Economic and Political Weekly, 21 May- May 27, 2011, Vol. 46.

Maharashtra Universities Act, 1994, Economic and Political Weekly, 23rd October 2010, Vol. XLV No 43

The Draft Higher Education Bill, 2010: A Critical Review, Economic and Political Weekly, 2010, March 20th, Volume 45 No.12.

Governance Issues in State Universities in Maharashtra, Economic and Political Weekly, 2009, December 12, Volume XLIV No 50.

Whither State Universities? Economic and Political Weekly, 2009, 18th April.

'Sixth Pay Review Committee (PRC) for Colleges and University and Higher Education Reforms: Some Critical Observations 2008'. www.esocialsciences.com/data/articles/Document1992008170.8506433.doc

'Decentralisation, Social Capital and Development: The Madhya Pradesh Experience', in Madhya Pradesh: Economy and Development (Ed), New Delhi, Manas Publications, New Delhi, 2005.

'Political Economy of Free Power to Farmers in Maharashtra' (jointly with Ajit Karnik) in Free Power to Farmers in Maharashtra, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi, 2004.

'Anti-Defection Law: Welcome Reforms', Economic and Political Weekly, 10 – 16 May 2003, pp. 3105-3107.

'Electoral Reforms: Too little, too late', Economic and Political Weekly, 27 July - 02 August 2002, pp. 3105-3107.

'Whither Electoral Reforms', Indian Journal of Political Science, March 2002, Volume 63, No. 1.

'Election to Rajya Sabha: Proposed Reform', Economic and Political Weekly, Volume XXXVII, Number 4, January 26, 2002, pp. 292-93.

'Role of Money Power and the People's Right to Know', in Nawaz B. Mody and Louis DeSilva (eds.), Revitalizing Indian Democracy, Bombay, Allied Publishers, 2001.

'Madhya Pradesh: Panchayat and Water Scarcity', Economic and Political Weekly, Volume XXXVI, No. 29, July 21-27, 2001, pp. 2752-53.

'Criminalization of Politics and the Election Commission', Economic and Political Weekly, Volume XXXVI, Number 24, June 16-22, 2001, pp. 2119-21.

'Autonomy Debate', Radical Humanist, Volume 64, Number 7, October 2000, pp. 29-30.

'Election Commission and the Power to Allot Symbol', Economic and Political Weekly, Volume XXXV, No. 38, September 16-22, 2000, pp. 3387-91.

'Funding of Elections (Case for Institutionalized Financing)', Economic and Political Weekly, Volume XXXIV, Number 28, July 10-16, 1999, pp. 1884-1888

'Sir Pherozeshah Mehta and Central Bank of India' in Nawaz Mody (ed.), Pherozeshah Mehta Maker of Modern India, Bombay, Allied Publishers, 1997.

'Report on India and the future of United Nation's Peace Keeping' in Dr. (Smt.) Nawaz B. Mody and Dr. B.N. Meherish, India's Role in the United Nations, Bombay, Allied Publishers, 1995.

'Sustainable Development in Urban Context' in Proceedings of Seminar on Public-Private Co-operation and Participation in Sustainable Development, Bombay, Regional Centre for Urban and Environment Studies, 1994.

Selected Reports, Working Papers, and Discussion Papers

July 2011- Governance and Financing of State Universities: A working paper for the Planning Commission, Govt. of India (with S. Parasuraman)

2015- "Improving Collegiate Education in India- the way forward" submitted to the Ministry of Human Resources Development, New Delhi

2014- Status report on Mapping Technical Education in India, All India Council of Technical Education, New Delhi

2014- Report on Access, Equity and Excellence in higher education in Bihar, World Bank, New Delhi (co-authored)

2014- Governance of State Universities: A study across three States, Nehru Memorial Library, Teen Murti, New Delhi.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

International Education Development Program, Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania USA

(December, 2018)
Invited speaker - Monitoring and Evaluation of Social Sector Projects: Some reflections from practice

Launch of U.S. India knowledge Exchange, Georgetown University, USA (June, 2018)
Invited speaker - Higher Education Reforms in India: Way Forward

School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), Columbia University (March, 2018)
Invited talk to Graduate program on Policy Reforms in Higher Education: Lessons learnt from Implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme- Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)

South Asia Centre, Yale University, USA (March, 2018)
Invited talk at the Current Discourses in Higher Education in India

3ie What Works Global Summit, London, England (September 2016)
Co-presenter of session "Policy Changes in India's Higher Education Sector: Using evidence to build, guide, and assess reforms" with Sharon M. Ravitch

University of Edinburgh, Scotland (September 2016)
Keynote Speaker: Invited to give talk and engage with faculty (from education, business, and management/leadership strategy) on India's school and higher education reforms and their related leadership development dimensions and models with Sharon M. Ravitch

Centre for Advance Study of India (CASI), University of Pennsylvania, (November, 2015)
Invited Visiting Fellow talk "Reforming Indian Higher Education: How are India states Responding to Federal Higher Education Initiatives?

National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore (December 2014)
Reflections on "Vocationalisation of Higher Education" in a session titled Skill development and employment: policy perspectives at a National Level Consultation on Skill Development, Employment and Mobility in India

Decline in the Middle Class around the World? International Conference, Segovia, Spain (September 2014)
Keynote Address on "Aspirational middle class, neoliberalism, and democratic politics in India," at an International Conference organized by the University of Maryland and Association of Public Policy and Management

World Bank, Washington DC, USA (July 2014)
Governance Reforms in India- What Role for the State Councils for Higher Education?

College of Education, Penn State University, USA (June 2014)
Invited speaker at the Academic Leadership Academy

Higher Education Leadership Development Programme, New Delhi (November 2013)
'Developing the Leadership and Higher Education Leadership frame-work in India', UKIERI MHRD consultation workshop

Indian Consulate, New York, USA (June 2013)
'Improving Employability and Talent Development through Higher Education Reforms in India'

College of Education, Penn State University, USA (October 2011)
'Higher Education Reforms in India'

World Bank- Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi (June 2011)
Invited to a brainstorming session on "Reforming Higher Education in Jharkhand", and presented a paper on "Governance of State Universities"

World Bank Institute, Indonesia (June 2011)
'India's Tertiary Education Reforms', workshop on Transforming Tertiary Education

International Centre for Decent Work, University of Kassel, Germany (April 2010)
'Governance and Work: A case Study of National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme'

Indo-French International Conference on Higher Education Reforms, Delhi (December 2009)
'Governance and Higher Education Reforms: A case study of Maharashtra'

Better Sugar Initiative International Conference, Mahabalipuram (November 2009)
'Rural Employment and Sugar Industry'

Indian Council for Social Science Research, Hyderabad (January 2009)
Roundtable discussion on 'Issues Pertaining to Social Science Research in India'

Indo-Thailand Bilateral Summit, ICSSR-NCT, Patna (December 2008)
'Governance and Constitutionalism'

IBSA Summit, ICSSR, New Delhi (September 2008)
Roundtable Discussion on Governance and Democratization

International Seminar on Social Protection, Institute of Human Development, New Delhi (February 2008)
Discussant on Governance and Social Protection

UGC-DSA Seminar, Faculty of Social Work, M.S. University, Baroda (February 2008)
Session Chair, Special Economic Zone and Marginalized communities

UNDP Seminar on Human Development, Assam University, Silchar (September 2007)
New Paradigms on Human Development

Workshop on Governance and Work in India, ICSSR, Mumbai (August 2007)
Changing Paradigm of Governance and Work: A case Study of Special Economic Zone

Jagran Group, New Delhi (December 2005)
Democracy, Development and Inclusion

UNDP & Institute for Human Development, New Delhi (September 2005)
Issues in Human Development

UNDP & Assam University, Silchar (May 2005)
Introducing Human Development-Political Science Curriculum in Universities

Western Naval Command, Mumbai (February 2005)
Admiral Jog Memorial Lecture on Whither Electoral Reforms

Centre for Study of Regional Development, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi (January 2005)
Functioning of Ward Committees: A case study of Mumbai

Observer Research Foundation, Western India Chapter, Mumbai (September 2004)
Political Economy of Free Power to Farmers in Maharashtra (with Ajit Karnik)

Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi (June 2004)
Employment Generation and Agriculture Growth (Focus on the Plantation Sector in South India)

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation, Kolkata (October 2003)
Development of Human Resources through Education in the Tea Plantation Industry

Observer Research Foundation Institute of Economy and Development, Bhopal (August 2003)
Decentralization, Social Capital and Development: The Madhya Pradesh Experience at a two-day National seminar on Madhya Pradesh: Economy and Development

Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), New Delhi (February 2003)
International Conference on Citizenship and Governance: Issues of Identities, Inclusion and Voice

University of Mumbai (July 2002)
Resource Person for a two-day workshop titled Comparative Electoral System: A case Study of India, United States and United Kingdom, on Comparative Politics for undergraduate teachers teaching Political Science at various colleges affiliated to University of Mumbai, organized jointly by Board of Studies in Politics and Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai

Centre De Sciences and Humanities, New Delhi (December 2001)
Education Guarantee Scheme in Madhya Pradesh at an International Seminar on "Decentralized Policies and Elementary Education"

UGC Academic Staff College & Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai (July 2002)
Resource Person for a Refresher Course on Recent Discourses on Indian Politics

Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai (February 2001)
Recent Discourses on the Politics of Electoral Reforms (jointly with Professor Nawaz B. Mody) at the National seminar on the "Review of Indian Constitution"

Department of Culture, Government of India, Calcutta (November 2000)
Electoral Reforms at the National seminar on the 'Electoral Reforms in India'

Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi (May 2000)
Crisis of Governance at a South Asia conference entitled 'Legacy of Mahbub ul Haq - Human Development'

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta 150th Birth Anniversary Celebrations Committee, University of Mumbai (February 1997)
Sir Pherozeshah Mehta and Central Bank of India at a National seminar on 'The Contribution of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta towards Nation Building and His Relevance to Our Times'

RESEARCH PROJECTS
Member of a research team in two major research projects viz., "Ten-year Perspective Plan for Nadiad town, State of Gujarat, India" & "Institutional Financing for Municipal programme in the State of Maharashtra, India", Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies, Ministry of Urban Development, Government of India, 1993-94.

Associated with research team on a consultancy research project entitled "Devolution of Funds from state Government to Urban Local Bodies: A Case of Maharashtra" for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlement, UNCHS, New Delhi, 2001.

Independent research project on "Political Elites, Governance and Development: A Case Study of Select Indian States" for the Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies, Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, RGF, New Delhi, 2003.

Minor Research Project on "The Role of the Election Commission of India in the Assembly Elections in Gujarat in 2003" supported by the University of Mumbai under Minor Research Project Scheme, 2003.

Consultant (jointly with Prof. Abhay Pethe) on "Decentralization and Devolution the Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme: A study of Financial Management Systems of District Tuberculosis Control Societies in Pune, Maharashtra," commissioned by the Macro Economic Commission, Govt. of India, 2004.

Research Project on "Political Economy of Reforms: A case study of POSCO, Orissa," Observer Research Foundation, 2005.

Research Project on "Documenting Best Practices in Governance" coordinated by Centre for Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University supported by Department of Administrative Reforms, Govt. of India, 2008-09.

Undertaking a Pilot Study on "Assessing Social Science Research in Western India" supported by Indian Council for Social Science Research, New Delhi, 2010.

Undertaking a "Scoping Study on Decent Work in Cotton Cultivators in Marathwada (Aurangabad and Jalna)", supported by World Wild Life (WWF), New Delhi, 2010

Madhya Pradesh: Higher Education Policy Reforms Options, World Bank, 2012

State Council for Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges, World Bank, 2014

"Will they Return: Mapping attitudes and behavior of Indian Students studying in the US", (with David Finegold), Rutgers University and Penn State University, 2010-11.

Collaborative Research Project with Rutgers University on "Capitalizing Demographic Dividend and Talent Enhancement between India and USA" a three-year research project under the aegis of the Obama Singh Knowledge Initiative, 2012-15

Baseline and Needs Assessment survey for CSR interventions for Goa shipyard Limited, 2012

Baseline survey, need assessment and developing interventionist strategies for Mahanadi Coal Fields Limited, 2013

Baseline studies of 80 select villages for CSR interventions in Vidharbha region, Western Coal Fields, 2013

Baseline survey and Needs Assessment studies on potential CSR interventions in backward districts of Gondia and Bhandara, supported by BHEL, GAIL, NTPC, IOCL etc, 2013-14

Mid term Social Audit and Evaluation studies of CSR Projects, Rail Vikas Nigam Limited, 2013-15

Impact Assessment of Mid-day meal and Mobile Medical Vans in two districts in Mumbai by Rashtriya Chemical Fertilizer, 2013-14

Vigilance Structures, Processes and Mechanisms: A case for National Building Construction Company (NBCC), 2015

Provisioning of safe drinking water and the scope to set up Small Water Enterprises: A case study of for select locations in Hyderabad, Safe Water Network, 2015.

Impact Assessment survey and evaluation of CSR interventions by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, 2016

Impact Assessment study in Telangana, Punjab and Rajasthan of CSR projects for Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd., 2016

Mid-course evaluation of the implementation of diary and agriculture cooperative projects for Goa Shipyard Limited, 2015-16

Mid-term evaluation of CSR project Protsaahan scholarship scheme, Maruti Suzuki Limited, 2016-17

A mixed method pilot study on skill needs (skill mapping) of students in select education institutions in Jammu and Kashmir, 2019

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE, ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

Member 2013 – Present
Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyaan
Project Approval Board,
(nominated by Ministry of Human Resource Department, Government of India)

Coordinator 2013 – 2019
RUSA Resource Centre
MHRD-TISS initiative

Member 2019- till date
University of Mumbai
Advisory Committee
UGC, Human Resource Development Centre (HRDC)

Member 2018- till date
Sri Venkateshwara University College of Engineering (TEQUIP III)
Board of Governor

Member 2018- till date
University of Pune
Academic Council, National Resource Centre, HRDC

Member 2013 – 2015
Kerala State Planning Board
Sectoral Committee on Education (12th Plan)

Course Director 2011 – 2019
Tata Institute of Social Sciences
Govt. of India sponsored Training Program for Civil Servant on "Social Policy and Governance", week long Department of Personnel and Training

Member 2014 – 2015
Ministry of Human Resource Department, Government Of India
Committee to relook at the Educationally Backward Districts in India

Member 2014 – 2016
Allahabad University
Court

Member 2013 – 2015
Central University, Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh
School Board of Studies in Social Sciences

Member 2013 – 2015
Department of Education, Government of Bihar
Committee to amend the Bihar State Public University Act

Member 2012 – 2014
Academic Council of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Member 2012 – 2014
Governing Board on the International Institute of Education (India Chapter), New Delhi

Member 2012 -2013
Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India
Working Group on formulation of revised CSR guidelines

Chair 2011-2014
All India Council for Technical Education in India (AICTE)
Committee on Report to the Nation: State of Professional Education in India

Member 2011-2012
Planning Commission, New Delhi
Sub-Committee on Internationalization in Higher Education
(context of the formulation of the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17)

Member/Convener 2010 – 2011
Government of Maharashtra
Committee to formulate Youth Policy in Maharashtra, and
Sub-Committee on Science and Technology and Higher Education

Member 2010 -2012
Manipal University
Board of Studies, School of Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences

Member 2010 -11
Central University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat
Committee to formulate the First Master's Degree Programme in Politics and Governance

Member-Secretary 2006-2008
University of Mumbai
University with Potential for Excellence Programme

Member May 2009 – September 2009
University of Mumbai
Research Group on Higher Education Reforms Project (Chaired by Vice-Chancellor), under the University with Potential for Excellence Programme

Convenor 2007 – 2009
University of Mumbai
Special Cell on Administrative and Finance Facilitation

Member August 2008
Indian Council for Social Science Research, New Delhi
Research Methodology and Training Programme

Member July 2008
Indian Council for Social Science Research, New Delhi
Research Institute Committee (RIC)

Member-Secretary February 2006 – July 2007
University of Mumbai
150th Anniversary Celebrations Committee

SELECT NEWSPAPER PUBLICATION

Contributed op-ed articles on Popular Contemporary Themes in Times of India, The Economic Times, The Hindu, Telegraph, and The Hindustan Times.

1) Panagariya, A and B.Venkatesh Kumar (2018, April 17). It is time to replace the UGC act. *The Hindu*. Retrieved from https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/its-time-to-replace-the-ugc-act/article23565106.ece

2) Panagariya, A & B.Venkatesh Kumar. (2017, July 27). Excel, Don't Spreadsheet. *The Economic Times*. Retrieved from https://www.pressreader.com/india/the-economic-times/20180727/282140702176069

3) Panagariya, A.& B.Venkatesh Kumar (2018, July 5). A path breaking legislation: HECI Bill can uplift Indian higher education, but requires some correctives before enactment. *The Times of India*. Retried from https://blogs.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/toi-edit-page/a-path-breaking-legislation-heci-bill-can-uplift-indian-higher-education-but-requires-some-correctives-before-enactment/

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Resource Mobilization and Consultancy

Over the last 14 years (2006-2020), I have been able to mobilize and secure funding over 400 cores from various consultancies projects from Government of India, Public Sector Undertakings and Private and Philanthropists for as research projects as well as institution building initiatives both at the University of Mumbai and at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

Specialized Skills

- Establishing and nurturing institutions
- Facilitating capacity-building for development/policy practioners and applied researchers
- Contributing to team building, risk mitigation, professional and personal development of team members served and
- Policy entrepreneur
- Managing complex programmes at scale.
- Policy conceptualisation, design and implementation

References

1. Prof. Arvind Panagariya
   Former Vice-Chairperson
   NITI Aayog &
   Professor, Columbia University
   USA

2. Prof. Rajen Harshe
   Professor of Political Science
   Central University of Hyderabad
   And Former Vice-Chancellor
   Central University of Allahabad

3. Prof. Sudha Mohan
   Professor and Head (Retd.)
   Department of Political Science
   University of Mumbai
   Mumbai

4. Dr. Anil Kakodkar
   Former Chairman
   Atomic Energy Commission
   Mumbai

5. Prof. TCA Anant
   Member, UPSC and
   Former Professor, Delhi School of Economics

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Vasanth Bharadwaj

Former Indian Table Tennis Champion | Co-Founder of TENVIC

Passionate about sports, people management, and grassroots development.

Summary: Vasanth Bharadwaj, a former Indian Table Tennis champion, stands as a co-founder of TENVIC. With an illustrious sports background and a strategic mindset, he plays a pivotal role in cultivating talent, shaping strategies, and nurturing a love for sports among the younger generation.

Professional Accomplishments:

- **Co-Founder, TENVIC:** Instrumental in defining and cultivating effective people management practices. Drives the journey of development from strategic conception to successful execution.
- **Sports Expertise:** Offers profound insights into sports-related elements and possesses a profound understanding of structuring and implementing grassroots sport learning in India.

Sports Achievements:

- Represented India in international tournaments, including the World Table Tennis Championships, Commonwealth Games, and Asian Championships.
- Notably defeated a Chinese table tennis player in 1987, a remarkable feat for an Indian player.
- Achieved a remarkable three-time National Champion title.
- Voted as the 'Best Player in Asia' in 1987.
- Recognized with the prestigious 'Sportsman of the Year Award' by the Kailashpat Singhania Foundation in 1987.
- Honored with the 'Dasara Award' for exceptional contributions to sports.

Professional Transition:

- **Educational Background:** Holds an MBA in Finance & HR from Symbiosis, Pune.
- Successfully transitioned from an illustrious career in international Table Tennis to a dynamic role in Corporate HR.
- Associated with prominent companies such as Sasken Communications and the Indian Railways.

Contributions Beyond the Corporate Arena:

- Devotes time to nurturing the next generation through sports, collaborating with kids, young adults, and NGOs.
- Empowers underprivileged youth to pursue sports, leveraging the belief that skillful youngsters can have a bright future in sports if given the opportunity.

Raj Liberhan's Biography

Raj Liberhan has been a member of the Financial Services in the Government of India and left the service to be the Director, India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi, India, a unique institution which has built platforms for many conversations on issues of contemporary societal concerns and a premier cultural space for citizenship in the city. He worked in the Government of India in various assignments for thirty years, before moving to the non-governmental sector to head the India Habitat Centre.

He has varied experience with a significant range of responsibilities at the senior level in government, public sector and NGO environments, building and sustaining organisations, programmes and missions with sector specific objectives and services. He writes regularly for magazines and newspapers on urban issues and governance frameworks for delivery of quality living in the cities.

His profile includes creating and sustaining Economic and Financial systems for large organizations, financial evaluation and negotiation of contracts, budget formulation and management, resource mobilisation and fund management; processing of project approvals vis-à-vis their feasibility, economic viability and funding patterns, monitoring their implementation, and identification and finalisation of organisations' investments. His forte is to build institutions and help build growth graphs for mission accomplishments.

He was the Chief Executive of the India Habitat Centre, for nearly twenty years, and he has helped create a unique institutional mechanism where various professions and institutions dealing with different facets of habitat function, interact, and attempt to resolve habitat related problems in a coordinated manner; and cooperate and collaborate with other national or international institutions.

He helped to build a Coalition for Food and Nutrition Security in India and the Freedom from Hunger's India Trust. He is a Master's graduate in Political Science and a Bachelor of laws. He was also associated with the Community of Democracies, a world wide anchor for civil society organisations working to promote democratic governance. He was also Secretary of IC of Lawn Tennis players for about four years.

NUZHAT GUL

Secretary, J&K Sports Council

Contact Details

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Lane I, H.No 15 Fair Bank Colony Rawalpora, J&K 190005 (India)

gnuzhat@gmail.com

Education

- Bachelors Degree
  Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana (Punjab)
- Diploma in Turf Management
  University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, USA

Skills

Leadership - Expert

Management - Expert

Communication - Expert

Organizational - Expert

Planning - Export

Problem Solving - Expert

Professional Profile

Astute and highly dedicated professional with 22 years of experience in human resource management, infrastructure development, and youth engagement, specializing in sports programs. Adept at budgeting, strategy development, and implementing large-scale initiatives, with a proven track record in transforming sports infrastructure and policies in Jammu & Kashmir.

Key Expertise

- Golf Course Development & Management – 10 years of experience managing and renovating five golf courses in J&K in collaboration with international designers.
- Strategic Planning & Infrastructure Development – Planned, budgeted, and implemented 950+ sports infrastructure projects across all 20 districts of J&K, including indoor stadiums, synthetic turfs, and cricket fields.
- Youth Engagement & Sports Initiatives – Designed and implemented Khelo India, FIT India, Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan, and Sudhbhavana Schemes with the Indian Army, engaging youth in sports and national integration efforts.
- Event Management & High-Profile Engagements – Successfully organized 600+ major sports events, including Khelo India National Winter Games, and facilitated visits of the Hon'ble Prime Minister and Home Minister of India.
- Policy Development & Administration – Drafted J&K's first-ever Sports Policy, introducing cash awards, sponsorships, and admissions in professional colleges for athletes.

Work Experience

Golf & Sports Infrastructure Development

- Managed, renovated, and operated five golf courses in J&K with renowned architects such as Robert Traut Jories II, Phil Ryan, and David Brinkal.
- Technical Head, Golf Course Superintendent and Managers

Association of India, providing scientific and strategic support for golf facilities nationwide.

- Led design, budgeting, and high-scale maintenance of tourism and sports assets in J&K.Sports Programs & Youth Engagement
- Successfully implemented Khelo India Schemes, establishing 100 Khelo India Centres in J&K across 22 disciplines, including two Centres of Excellence in water sports and fencing.
- Spearheaded the "My Youth My Pride" initiative, expanding youth engagement from 500,000 to 8 million+ post-abrogation.
- Implemented sports programs in rural, border, and sensitive areas, fostering national integration through sports.High-Profile Event Management & Administration
- Contributed to 300+ high-profile professional and amateur golf events in J&K.
- Successfully conducted four editions of Khelo India National Winter Games in Gulmarg, drawing thousands of athletes and dignitaries.
- Oversaw 53 Sports Associations, ensuring transparency and compliance with the National Sports Code.
- Facilitated corporate sponsorships for sports development in J&K with Reliance, Puneet Balan Group, Radisson, Power Grid Corporation, and NHAI.Key Achievements
- Pioneered sports infrastructure growth, overseeing the construction of 950+ projects that transformed J&K's sporting landscape.
- Implemented J&K's first-ever Sports Policy, introducing structured athlete benefits.
- Successfully managed high-profile sports events, placing J&K on the map under "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Abhiyan".
- Represented J&K's Sports Vertical at the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, negotiating and securing key approvals for the region.
- Instrumental in strategizing and executing post-abrogation youth engagement initiatives, ensuring sports became integral to "Badalta Jammu & Kashmir".

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Meenakshi Pahuja

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From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Meenakshi Pahuja (born 1978) is an Indian lecturer and marathon swimmer. After a successful career as a competitive swimmer, she became a teacher at Lady Shri Ram College, and later entered open water swimming. She received a 2018 Nari Shakti Puraskar award.

Meenakshi Pahuja

Meenakshi Pahuja receiving a 2018 Nari Shakti Puraskar award

Personal information	
Born	1978 (age 47–48) Delhi, India
Sport	
Sport	Swimming

Early life [edit]

Meenakshi Pahuja was born in 1978[1] and grew up in Delhi, the oldest of three children. Her father V. K. Pahuja taught swimming at the Modern School.[2] She first entered swimming competitions at the age of five and became a junior age group national champion in the 50 metres breaststroke before she turned nine.[2]

Career [edit]

Representing India, Pahuja won a medal in the 400 metres Individual Medley at the 1996 Asia Pacific Age Group swimming championships in Pusan, South Korea.[2] She was a three-time champion at the national games.[3] In 2001, she retired from swimming[2] and became a lecturer in Physical Training at the Lady Shri Ram College, part of the University of Delhi.[1]

In August 2006, Pahuja started marathon swimming. She participated in a 19-km event over the Bhagirathi-Hooghly river in Murshidabad, West Bengal.[2] She then travelled to Switzerland to compete in the 2007 Lake Zürich Swim (26.4 km from Rapperswil to Zürich proper), where she was the fifth-place female finisher.[2][4] She was financially supported by her father and the Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University, Deepak Pental.[2]

Pahuja has tried twice to swim the English Channel. Her first attempt was in 2008. One week before arriving in Dover, she competed in an 81-km championship over the Bhagirathi-Hooghly River; although she dealt with "muddy water and river snakes", she finished in 12 hours and 27 minutes.[2] However, as she was not experienced with ocean swimming, she struggled with the current in the channel and withdrew after 11 km due to seasickness.[4] Pahuja made her second attempt in 2014, again starting from the English side. After she had swum 40 km in 14 hours and 19 minutes, she was forced to return due to changing tides. She was 3 km away from completion.[5][6]

Pahuja was the first Indian to swim around Key West in Florida and to complete the Lake Travis Solo in Texas.[4] She also was the first Indian to complete the Tex Robertson Highland Lakes Challenge, where she swam five lakes in five days: Lake Buchanan, Inks Lake, Lake LBJ, Lake Marble Falls, and Lake Travis.[3] She is the second-fastest female finisher among the Indian participants in the Robben Island-Bloubergstrand course (7.4 km).[7] She won a bronze medal in the 2012 Labuan Sea Cross race in Malaysia[4] and finished third in the 2014 Manhattan Island Marathon Swim in New York City.[8] She is entered in the *Limca Book of Records* as the first Indian swimmer to cross Lake Constance in the Alps.[1]

In an interview, Pahuja has listed four major challenges that open-water swimmers should be prepared to face: weather conditions, sea life, endurance, and mental tenacity.[3] She encountered a corpse in one of her river races at Murshidabad, which she mistook for a competitor until it collided with a scout boat.[9]

Pahuja has spoken of the need to increase public and government support for Indian athletes,[10] especially female athletes.[11] She was a co-producer of the short film "Break The Taboo. Period".[12] She has also promoted improved school facilities for disabled children.[13]

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, many Indian swimmers faced restricted access to practice facilities. Pahuja increased her advocacy of the Indian swim community, writing news articles about athletes planning to participate in the upcoming Summer Olympics and arguing for increased access to facilities (maintaining distancing and sanitary guidelines).[14][15]

Awards [edit]

Pahuja received a 2018 Nari Shakti Puraskar award (India's highest civilian award for women) from President Ram Nath Kovind.[12]

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v • t • e Nari Shakti Puraskar recipients [show]

Categories: Indian female swimmers | Female long-distance swimmers | Academic staff of Delhi University | Educators from Delhi | 1978 births | Living people | Manhattan Island swimmers | English Channel swimmers | Nari Shakti Puraskar 2018 winners

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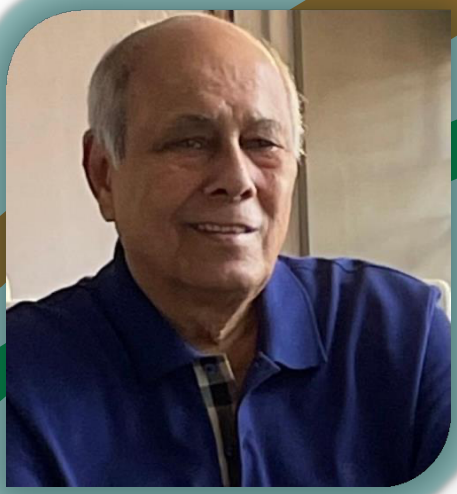

JAIDIP MUKERJEA

PROFILE:

- Currently Member of Advisory Board **Govt. of West Bengal.**
- Life Vice president of the **All-India Tennis Association**
- Former Chairman of the development committee of **All India Tennis Association**
- Former Member of the governing body of Sports Authority of India
- Former Secretary of **Bengal State Tennis Association** for 4 years
- Former President of **Calcutta South Club, Kolkata**
- Chairman of development committee (tennis) and head coach for the **Indian Tennis Team for the Commonwealth Games 2010** held at Delhi.
- Director of **Jaidip Mukerjea Tennis Academy** since its inception in 1999

AS A PLAYER:

- Played on the Indian team that reached the final of **Davis Cup** for the first time in **1966**
- Played **97 Davis Cup** matches for **India**
- Reached the last **16 (4th round)** in Men's Singles at **Wimbledon in 1963, 1964, 1966, 1973**
- Reached the last **16 (4th round)** in Men's Singles **French Open 1965, 1966**
- Reached the last **16 (4th round)** in Men's Singles **U.S Open 1962**
- Reached the last **16 (4th round)** in Men's Singles **Australian Open 1962**
- Reached the Quarterfinals in Men's Doubles at **Wimbledon in 1973**

AS A COACH:

- Davis Cup Captain **1994-1999**
- Coached the **Dutch and Malaysian Davis Cup** teams
- Coaching assignments around the world for the **International Tennis Federation**
- Coach of the Indian tennis team at the **Atlanta Olympic Games 1996**
  -**Leander Paes** won the bronze medal in the singles for India; it was the only medal won by India at the games
- Coach of the **Common Wealth Games 2010** tennis team (Men and Women)

AWARDS:

- **Arjuna Award - 1967**
- First Indian to receive the lifetime services award from **International Tennis Federation - 2003**
- Davis Cup Achievement Award from **International Tennis Federation - 2013**
- **Mother Teresa Lifetime Achievement Award – 2010**
- **Khel Guru Award** from **Govt. of West Bengal - 2015**
- **Lifetime achievement Award for sports from Govt of West Bengal – 2019**

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Kiran Bedi

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Personal life [edit]

Kiran Bedi was born Kiran Peshawaria, daughter of Prakash Lal Peshawaria and his wife Prem Lata Peshawaria. She is one of four sisters. Indian-American lawyer Anu Peshawaria is Bedi's younger sister.

Kiran met her future husband Brij Bedi on the tennis courts of Amritsar. Brij, who was nine years older than her, played university-level tennis at the time. On 9 March 1972, the two were married at a simple ceremony at the local Shiva temple.[1] The couple had a happy marriage initially, and Brij Bedi was extremely supportive of his wife's aspirations. In an interview given after she became the first woman to be accepted into the ultra-elite IPS, Kiran Bedi described her husband as "my personal God" and attributed her success to him. However, once she had become the first-ever IPS officer, Kiran Bedi's parents moved into the government house allotted to her and also brought along their two youngest (unmarried) daughters. Brij and Kiran had a daughter three years after the wedding, but after her birth, Brij Bedi's parents and siblings were hardly able to see the baby due to the total domination of Kiran's family in the household. Brij Bedi felt suffocated and relations with his live-in in-laws deteriorated. He moved out not long after the birth of his daughter and thereafter, the two lived separately for the rest of their lives.[citation needed] However, they never got divorced, and Brij Bedi has attributed that decision to the fact that they have a child together.[44][45]

The couple had a daughter in 1972, originally named Sukriti, she later changed her name to Saina.[46] Brij Bedi died on 31 January 2016.[citation needed]

Awards and recognitions [edit]

Year	Award	By	For	Source
1968	Cadet Officer Award	National Cadet Corps	Performance as an NCC cadet	[16]
1979	President's Police Medal for Gallantry	President of India	Conspicuous courage in preventing violence during Akali-Nirankari clashes	[20]
1991	Asia Region Award	International Organization of Good Templars, Norway	Drug prevention and control	[97]
1994	Ramon Magsaysay Award	Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation, Philippines	Government service	[16]
1995	Fr Maschio Humanitarian Award	Fr Maschio Platinum Jubilee Celebration Committee, Don Bosco Matunga	Social reforms and community services	[98]
1995	Lion of the Year	Lions Club, KK Nagar	Community service	[99]
1997	Joseph Beuys Prize	Joseph Beuys Foundation, Germany	Holistic and Innovative Management (Prison reform)	[20]
1999	Pride of India	American Federation of Muslims of Indian Origin (AFMI)	Commitment towards human welfare	[98]
1999–2000	IIT Delhi Alumni Award	Indian Institute of Technology – Delhi Alumni Association	Outstanding Contribution to National Development	[98]
2001	Morrison Tom Gilchoff Award	Western Society of Criminology, United States	Actions that have significantly improved the quality of justice in India	[100]
2004	United Nations Medal	United Nations	Outstanding service	[101]
2005	Mother Teresa Memorial National Award for Social Justice	All India Christian Council	Reforms in prison and penal systems	[98]
2006	Most Admired Woman in the Country	*The Week*		[98]
2008	FICCI Award of Excellence	FICCI Ladies Organisation	Being an outstanding woman achiever	[102]
2008	Kumarappa-Reckless Award	Indian Society of Criminology	Outstanding contribution in the areas of criminal justice administration	[103]
2013	Nomura Award	Nomura Group	Humanitarian work	[104]
2014	L'Oréal Paris Femina Women Award	L'Oréal and Femina	Social impact	[105]

In 2005, CUNY School of Law awarded her an honorary Doctor of Law degree in recognition of her "humanitarian approach to prison reforms and policing".[106]

The Nasgoti Delhi Police Foundation received the 1999 Serge Sotloff Memorial Award for outstanding contributions to international drug control efforts.[107]

She was conferred with Acharya Tulsi Kartritva Puraskar in 2005 by Akhil Bhartiya Terapanth Mahila Mandal.[citation needed]

In popular culture [edit]

The following films, documentaries and TV programmes are based on Bedi's life:

- *Karthavyam* (1990), is a Telugu film based on Bedi. It was dubbed into Tamil as *Vijayanthi IPS*. The movie was remade in Hindi as *Tejaswini*.[108]
- *Doing time, Doing Vipassana* (1997), documents Bedi's initiatives for the practice of Vipassana meditation at Tihar.
- *I Gandhis Interpret / In Gandhi's Footsteps: Kiran Bedi's Humanitarian Revolution* (2004), a documentary by the Norwegian filmmaker Oystein Rakkenes. Awarded Best Documentary at the Indo-American Film Festival in Atlanta in 2006.[109]
- *Kiran Bedi: Yes Madam, Sir* (2008), a documentary produced by Australian filmmaker Megan Doneman.[110] Narrated by Helen Mirren. It was filmed over a six-year period and premiered in 2009.[111] It was adjudged the "Best Documentary" at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival.
- *Kannadada Kiran Bedi* (2008) is a Kannada film, starring Malashri as a fictionalized interpretation of Bedi.
- *Koi Jo Na Andhvishwahar*, a television series aired from 2010 on DD National. It was an adaptation of a novel by Vishnu Prabhakar, the novel in turn took its inspiration from Bedi's life.[112]
- *Carve Your Destiny*, a 2014 film directed by Anubhav Srivastava, features Bedi.

Biographies of Bedi include:

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Kiran Bedi was featured in National Geographic's Series "Mega Icons" (2018), which revolves around her life.

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Preceded by A. K. Singh	28th Lieutenant Governor of Puducherry 2016–2021	Succeeded by Tamilisai Soundararajan Additional Charge
Police appointments		
Preceded by	Director General of Bureau of Police Research and Development 2000–2007	Succeeded by
Preceded by	Director General of Civil Defence & Fire Services 2000–2005	Succeeded by
Preceded by	Special Commissioner (Intelligence) of Delhi Police	Succeeded by
Diplomatic posts		
Preceded by	Police Adviser and Director of United Nations Police 2003–2005	Succeeded by

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Anu Peshawaria

4 languages

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Anu Peshawaria (born 5 September 1961) is an Indian-American US Immigration lawyer, author, activist, and philanthropist having founded several non profits and a former Wimbledon tennis player from the United States. Her legal work focuses on immigrant rights, domestic violence, women's rights, and children's rights, and she has practiced immigration law before the Supreme Court of the United States, Supreme Court of Washington, and Supreme Court of India. She was the first legal advisor appointed by the Govt of India to the US Embassy in Washington DC. [*clarification needed*] She was also Former India's No 1 Women's tennis Champion. She founded "Seva Legal Aid" to help victims of hate crimes & domestic abuse.[1] She also won major International tennis tournaments around the world including playing for India at Wimbledon in 1979.[2] She has assisted survivors from all around the world, varying from India, South America, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Africa, Somalia & Burma.

Anu Peshawaria

Born	5 September 1961 (age 64) Amritsar, Punjab, India
Citizenship	American
Alma mater	University of Delhi Stanford University, California Santa Clara University, California
Occupation	Attorney
Known for	U.S. immigration law
Parents	Prakash Lal Peshawaria Prem Lata
Relatives	Kiran Bedi (Sister)
Website	anupeshawaria.com

Early life and education [edit]

Peshawaria was born in Amritsar, and graduated from University of Delhi with a Political Science & Economics Degree in 1980 and earner her LLB degree in law from the University of Delhi, Law Center in 1983.[*citation needed*] She is the youngest of four daughters. Her elder sister is Kiran Bedi.[3]

Career [edit]

Anu Peshawaria is currently practicing International law in the US and India[4] and strongly advocates for Immigration,[5] legal and human rights law, with over 25 years of adept experience. Being the first female Legal Adviser for the Indian Embassy in Washington DC,[6] she has won multiple awards for her exemplary legal achievements, some of which reflect extensively in books authored by her. She also functions as the legal adviser for consulates across New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Houston, alongside being a regular speaker, an author, and a proficient activist.[*citation needed*]

Writing [edit]

Peshawaria is the author of three self-published books, *Immigrants Dream* (2009),[7] *Lives on the Brink* (2012),[8] and *Never Again* (2019). She is also a columnist for the *Indian Express*,[9] and has written articles on topics like crime, domestic abuse, and immigration.[10]

Awards and recognition [edit]

She was granted Alien of Extraordinary Ability status in the year (2000) presented by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the U.S.[11] for exemplary athletic, human rights, and legal/social achievements. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA). She was awarded an **Award of Excellence** by California's Secretary for upholding immigration rights, in particular those of women and spreading social awareness.[12] She was awarded the **Take Action against domestic violence Award** by the King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence in King County of Washington for her efforts to end domestic violence,[13] and the **Bharat Nirman Award – 1990**, Awarded by the President of India.[14] She was awarded the **Mahatma Award** [15] for social impact on 1 October 2021 in Delhi, India.[*citation needed*]

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