

**BEFORE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK GUPTA  
FORMER JUDGE, SUPREME COURT OF INDIA  
OMBUDSMAN, BIHAR CRICKET ASSOCIATION**

**Mr. Sanjay Kumar & Anr. ....Applicant No.2/ Complainant  
No. 2**

**Versus**

**BCA & ORS ..... Respondent**

**With**

**Mr. Md. Aftab Alam..... Applicant No.5/ Complainant  
No. 5** **Versus**

**BCA & ORS ..... Respondent**

**With**

**Mr. Rohit Kumar.....Applicant No.7/ Complainant No. 7**

**Versus**

**BCA & ORS ..... Respondent**

**Appearance**

**For Complainant No. 3:**

Ms. Akansha Mehra, Adv.

**For Complainant No.5**

Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim, Adv,

Mr. Karthik Kumar, Adv.

**For Complainant No.7**

Mr. Rohit Kumar

**For DCA**

Mr. Aakarshan Aditya, Adv.

**For Respondent**

Mr. Neeraj Gupta, Senior Adv.

Mr. Navjot Yesu, Adv.

Mr. Manish Raj, CEO, BCA

Mr. Ziaul Arefin, Secretary, BCA

**ORDER DATED 07 JULY 2026**

1. Application No. 2 has been filed by Mr. Sanjay Kumar praying for the following reliefs:

*“a) Appoint a Three-Member Committee to conduct verification of member-clubs to prepare valid voter list for the Gaya District Cricket Association;*

*b) Direct that elections for constitution of the Committee of Management of the Gaya District Cricket Association be conducted on the basis of a duly verified electoral college/ list of eligible affiliated clubs in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the BCA within a fixed time-frame of one month; and/or*

*c) Pass such further order(s) as this Hon’ble Ombudsman may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.”*

2. We are in these proceedings dealing with the Gaya District Cricket Association. It would be pertinent to mention that Mr. Naval Kishore Singh, the then Ombudsman of the Bihar Cricket Association, by order dated 01.08.2025, removed the President, Secretary & Treasurer of the Gaya District Cricket Association from their respective posts. The relevant portion of the said order is reproduced below:

*“In view of the above-mentioned facts and materials, this Forum constrain to hold that the President Mr. Master Pulaskar (Respondent No. 3) and Asad Sahin (Respondent No. 4) were acting hand in glove to the utter violation of the Rules and Regulation of Gaya District Cricket Association, The conduct of the Secretary is highly deprecated as at no point of time he reported to the Bihar Cricket Association that President is still acting as signatory of the Bank Account of Gaya District Cricket Association. The action of the President of the Gaya District Cricket Association, Mr Master Pulaskar and the Treasurer, Arvind Kumar Tiwary and Secretary, Asad Sahin was fraudulent and amounts to criminal misappropriation of funds. The Bihar Cricket Association is directed to take proper legal action against these three office bearers of Gaya District Cricket Association. The action of President, Secretary and Treasurer is highly*

*deprecated by this Forum and found it fit to remove them forthwith from their posts.*

*It is, therefore directed to President, Secretary and Treasurer of Gaya District Cricket Association to stop the functioning forthwith. Since, three out of four office bearers are removed by this order so rest two office bearers cannot constitute the required quorum for running the affairs of Gaya District Cricket Association.*

*Moreover, the other two office bearers have also failed to bring to the knowledge of Bihar Cricket Association about the illegal activities of President, Secretary and Treasurer of Gaya District Cricket Association so their act of omission is equally responsible.”*

3. The aforesaid order has not been challenged in any proceedings till date. Pursuant thereto, the Bihar Cricket Association constituted an Ad-hoc Committee for the Gaya District Cricket Association, which commenced functioning in terms of the said order.

4. Thereafter, Mr. Sanjay Kumar filed the present application praying that the Ad-hoc Committee constituted pursuant to the order of the then Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer cannot be permitted to continue beyond the period of 45 days and elections should be held. The said application is presently under consideration.

5. By order dated 27.05.2026, I had observed as follows:

*“4. As regards Application No. 2, I find from the application that, pursuant to the directions of then Ombudsman-cum-Ethics Officer of the Bihar Cricket Association, Shri Nawal Kishore Singh, Retired District Judge, by order dated 01.08.2025, the BCA was directed to constitute an Ad-hoc committee. The said committee was constituted and is stated to have commenced functioning from August, 2025*

*5. Notice of the present application, along with copies thereof, shall also be issued to the three members of the said committee to explain the work undertaken by them since August, 2025.*

*6. The Applicant in Application No. 2 is also directed to furnish a copy of the application to the Bihar Cricket Association and the Gaya District Cricket Association today itself.*

*7. It is also made clear that I am prima facie of the view that an Ad-hoc committee cannot continue indefinitely and must eventually be replaced by a duly elected committee.*

*8. At the same time, I am conscious of the fact that my predecessor, Hon’ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao, in his report dated 26 February, 2026, made certain recommendations with regard to verification of the electoral rolls, which are presently pending consideration before the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India.*

*9. Accordingly, I am taking up the present applications and shall pass appropriate orders only after taking into consideration all the aforesaid aspects, on which the parties may address submissions on the next date of hearing.”*

6. Subsequently, the Bihar Cricket Association announced the election programme for conducting elections to the Gaya District Cricket Association.
7. Insofar as the present application filed by Mr. Sanjay Kumar is concerned, Ms. Akanksha Mehra, learned counsel, submitted that her only prayer is that the election should be conducted in a free and fair manner and strictly in accordance with the directions issued by Justice L. Nageswara Rao in his report.
8. In this regard, it would be appropriate to refer to paragraph 38 of the Report of Justice L. Nageswara Rao and the recommendations contained in paragraphs 90, 91, 92 and 93 thereof, which read as follows:

*“38. Given the discrepancies in the electoral rolls and COMs presented by the Complainants and BCA, it is apparent that multiple elections to the same DCA did take place. To establish the validity of the elections, it is necessary to ascertain the manner in which they were conducted. Without delving into the details of each complaint, it may be appropriate to rely upon the membership lists prepared by the 3-member committee for conducting verification of member-clubs, pursuant to Ombudsman’s Order dated 13.04.2022 in Complaint Nos. 12, 13, and 14 of 2022. The validity of the voter-lists prepared for each DCA pursuant to the Ombudsman’s order are valid. Therefore, it is my view that elections conducted based on the voter lists prepared pursuant to Ombudsman’s Order dated 13.04.2022 have to be preferred over any elections based on voter lists prepared by a BCA-appointed ad hoc committee.”*

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**90. Administrator:** *Upon examination of the allegations pertaining to DCA elections, I have sufficient reason to believe that the electoral college requires a thorough reassessment. I recommend that an Administrator be appointed by this Hon’ble Court, who shall be tasked with conducting a verification exercise across all DCAs, similar to the exercise undertaken in 2022 by the Ombudsman-appointed committee. It is imperative to ensure that the electoral college only consists of valid member-clubs and does not become a tool for proxy voting through invalid clubs. Furthermore, any changes to the electoral college in the future must be done strictly in accordance with the constitution of the DCAs. In the event any club of a DCA is sought to be removed from the electoral college, a proper notice to such a club must be given, they must be given an opportunity*

*of being heard, and the decision should be subject to a mechanism of challenge before the Ombudsman. Similarly, any new affiliation to a club in a district should also follow due legal process stipulated in the articles of association/rules and regulation of the concerned entity.*

**91. Fresh elections:** *Several discrepancies pertaining to the electoral college have been enumerated above. In light thereof, the elections of BCA conducted in 2025 cannot be deemed to having been conducted freely and fairly. It is therefore recommended that after the Administrator has completed his task of verification of DCA clubs, the BCA's electoral college should be recalibrated and elections to the DCAs and BCA should be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations governing the BCA and the various DCAs.*

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**93. Verification of member-clubs:** *It is the sole prerogative of the DCAs to maintain their membership records and grant membership to prospective applicants in accordance with their byelaws. BCA cannot be allowed to conduct a 'verification' of electoral rolls of any DCA as the same would be a violation of Rule 46(b), BCA R&R. Any such alteration of membership lists of DCAs must be under the sole authority of the relevant DCA and the BCA cannot take upon itself the power to recognise or de-recognise a member-club."*

9. Two intervention applications have also been filed, one by Mr. Aftab Alam and the other by Mr. Rohit Kumar.
10. Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim and Mr. Karthik Kumar, learned counsel appearing on behalf of Mr. Aftab Alam, submitted that since the previous Ombudsman had recommended appointment of an Administrator to take over the affairs of the Bihar Cricket Association, there is no urgency in conducting elections only for the Gaya District Cricket Association. It was further contended that there exists a conflict of interest, as certain members of the Ad-hoc Committee are related to members of affiliated clubs and members of the Bihar Cricket Association.
11. Mr. Rohit Kumar also made certain allegations against Mr. Yuvraj Singh, Mr. Rampravesh Sharma, Ms. Surbhi Sejal, Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh and Mr. Mukesh Prasad Sinha. His principal grievance is that Mr. Yuvraj Singh and Mr. Rampravesh Sharma, being son and father, are associated with Yuvraj Cricket Club. It is further alleged that Ms. Surbhi Sejal and Mr. Rampravesh Sharma, being daughter-in-law and father-in-law, are associated with Yuvraj Cricket Academy.

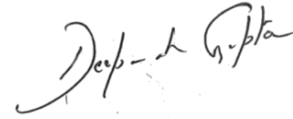
12. Mr. Rohit Kumar further contended that the name of Mr. Sanjay Kumar Singh did not originally appear in the voter list but was subsequently included as Treasurer of Yuvraj Cricket Club.
13. In reply, learned counsel appearing for the Bihar Cricket Association and the District Cricket Association submitted that only clubs are members of the Bihar Cricket Association and that the management of the clubs is liable to change from time to time. The members of the clubs are entitled to appoint different persons for managing their respective clubs. It was also pointed out that only those managing committees of the clubs which were found valid pursuant to the order dated 13.04.2022 continue to be recognised as voting members.
14. I have considered the rival submissions. Paragraph 38 of the Report of my predecessor clearly upholds the validity of the voters' list of the District Cricket Association prepared pursuant to the Ombudsman's order dated 13.04.2022. It has further been observed that an election conducted on the basis of the said voters' list deserves preference over any list prepared by the Ad-hoc Committee appointed by the Bihar Cricket Association. Paragraph 38 of the Report read as follows:
15. As noticed earlier, the voters' list comprises only eleven clubs. The grievance sought to be raised by Mr. Rohit Kumar and Mr. Ahmad Ibrahim essentially relates to allegations that certain persons who are not duly authorised have been inducted into the management of some clubs for extraneous purposes.
16. In my considered opinion, such disputes cannot be adjudicated in the present intervention applications, particularly when there is no substantive challenge to the constitution of the management committees of the concerned clubs. Such grievances may be raised before the appropriate forum, if so advised.

17. The next contention is that since the matter is listed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 22.07.2026 and the report of Justice L. Nageswara Rao may be accepted, resulting in appointment of an Administrator and verification of the voters' lists of all districts, the present election should be deferred. This Court cannot speculate as to what orders may ultimately be passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
18. The previous Ombudsman had categorically directed that the Ad-hoc Committee would continue only for a period of forty-five days. The same position was reiterated in my order dated 27.05.2026. Once the election process has commenced the elections cannot ordinarily be stalled.
19. It is a settled principle of law that once the election process has commenced, the same should not ordinarily be interfered with except on very strong and exceptional grounds. I do not find that the intervenors have made out any such case warranting interference.
20. However, the Bihar Cricket Association is directed to ensure strict compliance with paragraph 38 of the Report of Justice L. Nageswara Rao and to permit only those clubs to cast their votes which are valid voters in terms of the Ombudsman's order dated 13.04.2022.
21. It is also clarified that this order shall not be construed as expressing any opinion on the validity of the rival claims regarding the management of any club, particularly since the persons concerned are not parties before me. The intervenors shall be at liberty to raise all such issues before the appropriate forum in accordance with law.
22. Needless to state, the result of the election shall remain subject to any order that may be passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court while considering the Report of Justice L. Nageswara Rao.
23. Before parting, it is noticed that Mr. Abhishek Goel has forwarded an e-mail during the course of hearing, enclosing letters received from all the

eleven clubs expressing their consent for holding the election of the Gaya District Cricket Association on 12.07.2026.

24. The Bihar Cricket Association (BCA) is directed to pay a sum of ₹25,000/- towards the hearing fees. The concerned Gaya District Cricket Association is also directed to pay a sum of ₹25,000/- towards the hearing fee. The applicants share of ₹50,000/- shall be divided equally among Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Mr. Rohit Kumar, and Mr. Aftab Alam. For the sake of convenience, each shall be paid a sum of ₹16,600/-.

25. The BCA is directed to upload a copy of this order on its website.



**Justice Deepak Gupta (Retd.)  
Ombudsman**