



अखिल भारतीय शतरंज महा संघ  
**All India Chess Federation**

T.N.Society - Reg. No. 125 / 1958  
(Affiliate of FIDE & Recognized by the Government of India)

**President**  
**P.R. VENKETRAMA RAJA**  
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**Hon. Secretary**  
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April 23, 2020

To  
All Print and Electronic Media

**PRESS RELEASE**

Greetings from All India Chess Federation

All India Chess Federation strongly objects to the reports published in certain section of media of the so called AICF online meeting and the resolutions taken in the said meeting. The purported meeting is not legal and the organizers of the said event do not have the authority to issue Press Release on behalf of All India Chess Federation.

Certain disgruntled elements within the Federation, who are terrified at the prospect of losing power in the upcoming election, are circulating a pack of lies in the media to sabotage the democratic process in the sports body. We request you to put on record the facts which have been deliberately misrepresented in the Press Release yesterday.

1. The meeting is unconstitutional as both the President and the Secretary of All India Chess Federation have not been informed nor did they receive any request from any association to conduct such meeting.

2. If such types of online meetings are allowed, then every day meetings will be called by states to fulfill personal agenda.

3. It has been falsely claimed that authorized representatives from many states attended the meeting. The rebel group enjoys the support of only a handful states who conducted the online chat show. We also understand that many unauthorized people attended the meeting.

4. The purported meeting was called by the supporters of ex secretary of All India Chess Federation, who tried to establish a parallel group within the Federation by creating a new website and causing confusion. Now they themselves are claiming that a meeting was called to clear the confusion regarding parallel website!

Page 2....



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( 2 )

5. Faced with the prospect of a rout in the elections, the ex-secretary through his close people with malafide intentions are trying to tarnish the image of Raja and his supporters before Ministry of sports and World chess Federation."

6. All India Chess Federation would like to put on record that the process of election is already underway and is supervised by the Madras High Court. Even as the voters list has been displayed and the nomination papers submitted the group who have the support of minority is attempting to sabotage the elections by disaffiliating the voters who are opposed to them through unconstitutional means.

7. In a clear contravention of the Court orders of Madras High Court and Supreme Court of India, the group of people refuse to recognize Mr. PRV Raja as the President of All India Chess Federation.

8. The statement issued in the media regarding the attempt to change the signatories of bank account is misleading. A letter was sent to the Bank authorities to inform them about the change in the post of Secretary of AICF and to enable them to operate the bank account.

9. None of the State Associations can be affiliated or disaffiliated overnight without notice or following any procedure. The manner in which the organizers of the purported meeting issued statement disaffiliating the state bodies of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bengal are clearly unconstitutional. It may be noted that these affiliated are bona fide members of AICF and voters in the upcoming elections of AICF.

10. The statement regarding Bengal Chess Association is another example of lie propagated by the followers of the ex Secretary. Unable to bear the consequence of the humiliating defeat in the hands of the outgoing Secretary of Bengal Chess Association, whom he tried to remove with the help of his agents in Bengal, Mr. Chauhan has decided to retaliate by asking his followers to " disaffiliate BCA" because it failed to clear the dues and the elections were not in accordance with law.

Page 3....



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Mr. Chauhan himself stands accused of forwarding improper documents to SAI for which AICF was penalized of Rs. 10 Lakhs. Regarding the elections of BCA, it was held under the direct supervision of Honorable Calcutta High Court and the voters list was prepared as per the directions of the Honorable Calcutta High Court.

11. The group of people who conducted the purported meeting have no authority to communicate to FIDE on behalf of AICF.

It is clear that facing an imminent defeat in the AICF elections 2020, the group owing allegiance to the ex Secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan has resorted to cheap publicity stunt and are seeking external intervention to cling on to power. They are openly defying the orders of Madras High Court and Supreme Court of India and trying to float a parallel body with AICF.

All India Chess Federation is committed to work for the welfare of the chess players and promotion of the sport in India. We are confident that the election process will be completed as soon as the lock down is lifted and all the confusion will be settled.

Legal action will be initiated against the conspirators.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully

Vijay Deshpande, Hon. Secretary  
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