BEFORE
THE OMBUDSMAN
(HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.C.DAS, FORMER JUDGE,
GAUHATI HIGH COURT & HIGH COURT OF TRIPURA)
TRIPURA CRICKET ASSOCIATION), AGARTALA

COMPLAINT NO. 01 OF 2026

Sri Pranab Das (Tripura Cricketers Forum) - Complainant,

Vs.

Secretary, Tripura Cricket Association, - Opposite party,

FINAL ORDER DATED 28.10.2026

The Tripura Cricket Association (for short 'TCA') has received a complaint through email dated 14.08.2026 from one Tripura Cricketers Forum, signed by Sri Pranab Das and the contents of that complaint reads thus:

> *"To,*
> *The Ombudsman & Ethics Officer,*
> *Tripura Cricket Association,*
> *Post Office Chowmuhani, Agartala,*
> *West Tripura-799001.*
>
> *Subject : Complaint against induction of Sri Sani Saha as invitee Apex Member of TCA, with copy of complaint filed before the Ombudsman, BCCI.*
>
> *Respected Sir,*
> *I have filed a complaint before the Hon'ble Ombudsman, BCCI, against the illegal induction of Sri Sani Saha as an invitee Apex Member of TCA. A copy is enclosed for your kind reference.*
> *As per Rule 14 of the Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations of BCCI and TCA, there is no provision for any*

'invitee' Apex Member. Yet by a Special General Meeting dated 02.03.2024, Sri Sani Saha was inducted as such and has since taken part in Apex Council decisions, in disregard of the said Rules and the judgment in Board of Control for Cricket in India Vs. Cricket Association of Bihar, (2018) 9 SCC 624.

As this falls squarely within TCA's own Ombudsman jurisdiction, I request your Honour to independently take cognizance of the matter, declare the induction void, and direct the Apex Council to function strictly per the Memorandum of Association and Rules and Regulations.

Enclosure: Copy of complaint dated 04.08.2026 filed before the Ombudsman, BCCI.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,
Pranab Das"

2. The Secretary, TCA placed the complaint before me, the Ombudsman, since it is addressed to the Ombudsman and Ethics Officer for disposal. The complainant neither given any address nor even given his telephone number. "The Tripura Cricketers Forum", from which address the email has been sent, is neither a registered organization nor having any office address or details. Since a request has been made to take cognizance in the matter, the complaint was taken to record and registered as a complaint case. The complainant was directed to appear in person and submit their evidence/documents in support of their complaint and the TCA was also asked to submit their response in writing along with documents, if any, in support of their contention.

3. Neither the person named Sri Pranab Das, the name mentioned in the bottom of the complaint, nor anybody else on behalf of the Tripura Cricketers Forum, wherefrom the email was sent, appeared before me and neither any documents nor any evidence was produced.

4. The TCA has submitted its response in writing, which reads thus:

> *"Response submitted on behalf of TCA.*
> *Sani Saha is not a constituent councilor of Apex Council TCA.*
> *As on date, full body of Apex Council of TCA is as given below.*
> 1) *Shri Tapan Lodh, Hon. President, TCA*
> 2) *Shri Upananda Debbarma, Hon. Vice-President, TCA,*
> 3) *Shri Subrata Dey, Hon. Secretary, TCA*
> 4) *Shri Jayanta Dey, Joint Secretary, TCA*
> 5) *Shri Basudeb Chakraborty, Treasurer, TCA*
> 6) *Shri Saumitra Gope, Councilor, Apex Council, TCA*
> 7) *Shri Vigneshwaran K, IA & AS, Sr. DAG, Tripura*
> 8) *Shri Chiranjib Dey, Male ICA Representative Nominee to the Apex Council, TCA*
> 9) *Smt. Rima Chakraborty, Female ICA Representative Nominee to the Apex Council, TCA.*
>
> *Among the nine(9) apex councilors, seven(7) are from Agartala, who are well informed of activities and coordination of programs in central area of Tripura.*
>
> *One is from Kamalpur, who is from northern part of the State. There is none in the Apex Council, well informed of Southern area of Tripura and having well coordination with the Southern area full members and their programs. Southern members keep contact with Udaipur Cricket Association, having advantage of its location in the southern area. Keeping this aspect in mind, a proposal came up in Special General Meeting dated 2nd March 2024, to advise Apex Council for inviting the representative of the full member Udaipur Cricket Association as an invitee to the meetings of Apex Council for the interest of better informed and coordinated decision making. That way the name of Shri Sani Saha who is representative of*

Udaipur Cricket Association full member of TCA has been advised by the General Body as the invitee member who would attend the meetings of Apex Council, TCA without having voting rights and power of council member. Apex council has accordingly made Shri Sani Saha an invitee member within the meaning and function as said above for attending the meeting of the Apex Council of TCA, who has been functioning accordingly. The General Body is competent to take such decision for smooth functioning for the interest of development of Cricket.

Therefore, the complaint that Shri Sani Saha is an Apex Councilor is not true and as such the complaint is not lawful and is baseless. The complaint, therefore, may be dismissed. Further, the complainant being a fictitious person, there is no locus standi of the complaint and therefore, may be rejected ab-initio.

The rest will be represented in the course of hearing as may be necessary.

Enclo: 1) Copy of the General Body Resolution,
2) Copy of the Apex Council decision,
3) Copy of the up-to-date Full body Apex Council of TCA with constitution councilors.

Sd/-
03.09.2026
(Subrata Dey)
Hon. Secretary
Tripura Cricket Association"

5. Along with the response the Secretary, TCA has submitted a copy of the General Body Resolution dated 02.03.2024, a Memorandum of TCA dated 24.08.2026 and Apex Council Resolution dated 29.04.2024 in support of their contention.

6. Copies of orders of the Ombudsman were sent to the complainant to only email address from where the email was sent, but no response received. The Secretary, TCA submitted that there is no

recognized organization, namely, Tripura Cricketers Forum, to the knowledge of TCA having any record in the office of the TCA. It is also verbally submitted that there is/was no recognized cricketer in Tripura by name Pranab Das.

7. It is quite clear to me that it is an anonymous/ pseudonymous complaint, sent in the name of a fictious organization and in a false name. In the complaint addressed to me, Pranab Das also mentioned that a copy of the similar complaint submitted before the Ombudsman, BCCI, has also been enclosed and that is also placed before me. In the very first line of that complaint address to the Ombudsman, BCCI, it is mentioned by the alleged anonymous complainant that previously also he made complaint before the Ombudsman, BCCI. Be that as it may, it is not my lookout as to what complaint he had made earlier and what was the consequence of any such complaint.

8. Since the complainant did not turn up and did not submit any evidence/documents in support of his complaint, the hearing of the matter was taken up *ex parte* in terms of Rules 39 and 40 of the R.R. of TCA. In the last line of Rule 40(c) it is clearly mentioned "In the

event any party refuses and/or fails to appear despite notice, the Ombudsman shall be at liberty to proceed *ex parte* on the basis of the available record and evidence".

9. The record makes it abundantly clear that it is an anonymous/pseudonymous complaint. Such complaint should not be entertained and no cognizance should be taken on such anonymous/pseudonymous complaint because it is against the rule of transparency, fairness and openness. The complainant seems to be a backdoor player, does not like to come to light and trying to play from behind the screen, which should not be encouraged. Disgruntled and unscrupulous people normally do not like to come forward, but try to achieve their goal playing hide and sick and doing acts or omissions in a hush hush manner surreptitiously.

10. The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) issued definite guideline that no cognizance should be taken on anonymous/ pseudonymous complaint and that no action is supposed to be taken on such complaint. The CVC has also observed that disgruntled elements try to blackmail the institution/officials and disturb them by way of making complaints this way or that way so that they cannot

smoothly function. Such complaints demoralize honest and devoted functionary/public servant. So, no inquiry should be initiated on the basis of anonymous/pseudonymous complaints. If credibility is given to such complaints, nobody can function honestly, independently and boldly.

11. There are catena of judicial pronouncements on the issue that anonymous/pseudonymous complaints encourage the backdoor players to endeavor imaginary complaint to keep the honest and dedicated functionaries frustrated and thereby tries to catch fish in troubled water.

12. The present complaint being an anonymous/ pseudonymous complaint was liable to be dismissed in limine, but since the TCA has submitted response in writing, I would like to touch it on merit also.

13. The allegation made in the complaint is that one Sani Saha has been inducted as an invitee to the Apex Council of TCA as an Invitee member in violation of Rule 14.

14. The respondent contended that Rule 14 only contemplates 9 numbers of the Apex Council and Sani Saha is not a

member of the Apex Council. It is also stated that southern part of the State has not been represented by any member and that for the interest of cricket in the southern area of the State for better information and coordination Mr. Sani Saha has been made as an invitee of the full member of Udaipur Cricket Association having no voting right or any other sort of right of a councilor of the Apex Council. There is no violation of Rule 14.

15. Rule 14 prescribes that there shall be an Apex Council for the TCA which shall be primarily responsible for the governance of the affairs of the TCA. The Apex Council shall comprise of 9 Councilors of whom 5 shall be elected Office Bearers as per Rule 6 and remaining 4 shall be; one to be elected by the Full Members of the TCA from amongst their representatives; one male and one female (two numbers) to be nominated by the Cricket Players' Association and one to be nominated by the Accountant General of the State. The TCA in their written response has clearly stated the names of 9 Members of the Apex Council in terms of Rule 14, wherein Sani Saha's name does not appear. The complaint, therefore, has no leg at all to demonstrate.

16. The 'General Body of TCA' is defined in Rule 1(A)(m) in the line that it is the supreme body of the TCA constituted by its members. The formation of General Body has been prescribed in Rule 5.

The 'Apex Council' is defined in Rule 1(A)(c) stating that it is the principal body of the TCA tasked with its governance as set out in Rule 14. So, one has to read Rules 5, Rule 6 and Rule 14 of the Memorandum of Association(MOA) and RR of the TCA to understand the function and constitution of the General Body and Apex Council. It is categorically held in the Rule that General Body is the supreme body of the TCA, which is constituted by its Members.

17. The objectives of TCA have been stated in the MOA. Para 2(a) and 2(b) are very relevant, which are, therefore, quoted below:

> *"2. ....*
>
> *(a) To control and improve quality and standards of the game of Cricket in Tripura, lay down policies, roadmaps, guidelines and make rules and regulations (and amend or alter them) in all matters relating to the game of cricket, recognizing that the primary stakeholders are the players and cricket fans in Tripura, and that accountability, transparency and integrity of the Game are the core values;*
>
> *(b) To provide for measures necessary for promotion and development of the game of Cricket, welfare and interest of Cricketers and elimination of unethical and unfair practices in the Game of cricket; and for that purpose, organize coaching schemes, establish coaching academies, hold tournaments, exhibition matches and any other matches and take all other required steps;"*

18. The above objectives of the TCA demonstrate that it shall function for promotion and development of the game of cricket and interest of cricketers in the State. So, if someone is invited as an invitee to a meeting of the Apex Council to get informed of the development of cricket in a particular part of the State, which is not otherwise represented, it seems to be for the interest of cricket and nothing wrong can be culled out from it. The disgruntled complainant has to show how he is affected. He is shying away from coming to the light and to place his complaint as to how he or anybody else is disturbed or affected and how the game of cricket is spoiled or disturbed.

19. The Secretary, TCA placed his arguments in details stating that a special meeting of the General Body of the TCA was held on 02.03.2024, a copy of the resolution is enclosed along with the written response, which shows that 23 members were present in the General Body meeting and in that meeting it was decided by the General Body, which is the supreme body of the TCA, to call Sani Saha as an invitee in the Apex Council meeting having no right to vote or to participate in any other matter, but only to get the Apex Council informed about the progress of cricket in the southern part of the State. I find no illegality

or impropriety in such action of TCA (General Body), rather such action is applaudable being in the interest of cricket in the State and is consistent with its objectives. There is no violation of any Rule and nobodies right is infringed.

20. Hence, the complaint has also no merit. There is no violation of Rule 14 of the MOA and RR of the TCA and the complaint stands dismissed. The order may be placed in the website of the TCA.

28/10/26

(Justice S.C.Das)
Ombudsman,
Tripura Cricket Association,
Agartala.