



2026:KER:22346

WP(PIL) NO. 52 OF 2026

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA AT ERNAKULAM

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE MR. SOUMEN SEN

&

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE SYAM KUMAR V.M.

THURSDAY, THE 12TH DAY OF MARCH 2026 / 21ST PHALGUNA, 1947

WP(PIL) NO. 52 OF 2026

PETITIONER:

ASHIQUE KAROTH
AGED 28 YEARS
S/O HAMSA K.M, KAROTHUKUDY HOUSE MOULOODPURA,
MUDICKAL P.O, ERNAKULAM DISTRICT, PIN - 683547

BY ADVS.
SMT.P.V.REMA
SHRI.M.V. RATHISH

RESPONDENTS:

- 1 UNION OF INDIA
REPRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS GOVT. OF
INDIA. ROOM NO.3, C-WING SHASTHRI BHAVAN, NEW
DELHI, PIN - 110001
- 2 THE BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN INDIA(BCCI)
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY 4TH FLOOR, CRICKET
CENTER WANKHEDE STADIUM, D ROAD MUMBAI, PIN -
400020

BY ADVS.SRI.V. TEKCHAND- SR.GP
SRI.ARJUN VENUGOPAL, CGC

THIS WRIT PETITION (PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION)
HAVING COME UP FOR ADMISSION ON 12.03.2026, THE COURT ON
THE SAME DAY DELIVERED THE FOLLOWING:

**JUDGMENT****Soumen Sen, C.J.**

The petitioner states to be a social worker and a public spirited person and has now challenged that the various cricket tournaments including the Indian Premier League (IPL) which is a franchise based twenty-20 cricket tournament organised by the 2nd respondent is not permitted to use the said name. The said tournament is continuing for several years and it is now stated that the petitioner recently realised that the IPL is not an official Cricket tournament of the Country and as such the use of the name Indian Premier League is illegal as used by the Board of Control for Cricket.

We find no merit in the substance of the said argument and hence we do not feel that it would be proper to keep this writ petition as a Public Interest Litigation.

**Sd/-
Soumen Sen
Chief Justice**

**Sd/-
Syam Kumar V.M.
Judge**



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APPENDIX OF WP(PIL) NO. 52 OF 2026

PETITIONER EXHIBITS

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| Exhibit P1 | A TRUE COPY OF THE RELEVANT PAGE OF THE DOCUMENT DOWNLOADED FROM THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE FIRST RESPONDENT, WWW.YAS.GOV.IN DATED NIL EVIDENCING THAT THE SECOND RESPONDENT IS NOT A NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATION DATED NIL |
| Exhibit P2 | A TRUE COPY OF THE PAGE PAGE NO.12 OF THE MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION AND RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BCCI DATED NIL, EVIDENCING THAT THE BCCI IS CONDUCTING TWENTY/20 CRICKET TOURNAMENT BY USING THE NAME 'INDIAN PREMIER LEAGUE' DATED NIL |
| Exhibit P3 | A TRUE COPY OF THE LETTER SENT BY THE PETITIONER ON 16/02/2026 TO THE FIRST RESPONDENT |