To,
Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma
President,
Badminton Association of India.

<u>Guwahati</u> 25-03-2022

Sub: Report of the Returning Officer for the Election of the Office Bearers and Members of Executive Committee of BAI-2022-2026.

Sir,

In terms of letter dated 25.02.2022 issued by Mr. Ajay Kumar Singhania, Hony. General Secretary, Badminton Association of India, New Delhi, I vide my letter dated 01.03.2022 gave my consent and accepted the appointment as the Returning Officer for the Election of the Office Bearers and Members of Executive Committee of Badminton Association of India (2022-2026) to be held as per the constitution of the Badminton Association of India (BAI) and Model Election Guidelines of National Sports Code 2011. On the basis of the said appointment, exercising my authority and jurisdiction as the Returning Officer keeping in view the Model Election Guidelines referred above, I issued and published the Election Notification dated 04.03.2022 notifying that the Elections of the Office Bearers and Members of Executive Committee BAI, 2022 shall be done by secret ballot during the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Council of BAI on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at Hotel Radisson Blu, Guwahati, Assam. By the said notification the process and schedule for the conduct of elections of the office bearers and members of Executive Committee, BAI-2022 were also notified and published. On the basis of the Schedule notified following process were carried out for smooth conduct of the Election:-

The General Secretary of BAI, Mr. Ajay Kumar Singhania furnished to me a duly authorized copy of the Electoral Collage on 08.03.2022 after it was duly published and circulated amongst the affiliated units of BAI to me in my office C/o BAI, D-6/10, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057. The Electoral Collage was in Form 1 enclosed to my notification dated 04.03.2022. II. Nomination papers were delivered to me personally by the respective candidates in person at my office C/o BAI, D-6/10, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057 starting from 09.03.2022 to 11.03.2022 for various posts. In all there were 36 (thirty six) nominations filed for various posts, the break-up of which is given below:-

Name of Post	Number of Posts	<b>Nomination filed</b>
(A) President	01	01 (One)
(B) Vice President	12	13 (Thirteen)
(C) Hony. Secretary General	01	01 (One)
(D) Hony. Treasurer	01	01 (One)
(E) Joint Secretary	08	. 09 (Nine)
(F) Executive Members	12	11 (Eleven)

The list of nominated candidates was published on 15.03.2022 after 1:00 P.M. in Form 3 enclosed in the Notification dated 04.03.2022. The same was published in the notice board of BAI Office and in the website of BAI.

- III. On 16.03.2022 I with the assistance of the Asst. Returning Officers scrutinized each nomination paper, one by one which were received by me and all the 36 (thirty six) number of nominations were found valid. It would be pertinent to mention here that during the process of scrutinisation not even a single representative of the candidates were present nor the candidates appeared in person. Accordingly Form-4, i.e. the list of validly nominated candidates was prepared on 16.03.2022. None of the validly nominated candidates sought for any authenticated copy of Form 4.
- IV. As per the Notification dated 04.03.2022, from 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 upto 1:00 P.M. of 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 was the period specified for withdrawal of candidatures from amongst the validly nominated candidates. During the said stipulated period 4 (four) candidates withdrew their nominations. The break-up is shown below:-



SI. No.	Name of Post	Name of Candidate	<u>Date of</u> withdrawal
1 2	Vice President Vice President	Shri Omar Rashid Shri Konda Prabhakar Rao	17.03.2022 19.03.2022
3	Joint Secretary Executive Member	Shri Ajay Kumar Shri Sanjay Mishra	19.03.2022 19.03.2022

The said withdrawal notices were accepted by me as I was satisfied with regard to the genuineness of the notice. While drawing my satisfaction, the candidates who appeared in person issued necessary declaration before me which forms part of the records. The notices of withdrawal were in Form 5 annexed to the notification dated 04.03.2022.

- V. On 20.03.2022 the final list of contesting candidates in Form 6 annexed to the Notification dated 04.03.2022 was displayed in the conspicuous place of my office C/o BAI, D-6/10, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057 and also uploaded in the BAI website. None of the candidates whose names were shown in Form 6 demanded for furnishing a copy of the same. As per the Form 6 final standing vis-a-vis the number of post/posts and candidates remained after withdrawal was as follows:-
  - (a) President 1 (One) Post- 1 (One) Candidate.
  - (b) Vice President- 12 (Twelve) Posts 11 (Eleven) Candidates.
  - (c) Hony. General Secretary 1 (One) Post 1 (One) Candidate.
  - (d) Hony. Treasurer 1 (One) Post 1 (One) Candidate.
  - (e) Joint Secretary 8 (Eight) Posts 8 (Eight) Candidates.
  - (f) EXCO Member 12 (Twelve) Posts 10 (Ten) Candidates.
- VI. With the aforesaid number of candidates vis-a-vis number of posts it would be relevant to take note of Clause 5 of the Notification dated 04.03.2022 which is reproduced herein below:-
  - "5. Uncontested Returns; and Contested Elections:
  - (i) Where the number of contesting candidates for any post, in Form 6, 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.

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- (ii) Where the number of contesting candidates for any post or category of post, in Form 6 is more than the number of posts to be filled, a poll shall be taken by secret ballot as per post wise at the venue of BAI- AGM at Hotel Radisson Blu, Guwahati, Assam.
- VII. Requirement for poll as prescribed in Clause 5(ii) referred hereinabove is only when the number of contesting candidates for any post or category of post in Form 6 is more than the number of posts to be filled. But in the present situation the said condition was not fulfilled necessitating to go for poll. In view of the same polling for any post or category of post was not required. Accordingly as per Clause 5(i) the contesting candidates whose names appeared in Form 6 are deemed to be duly elected unopposed to those posts shown against their respective names.
- VIII. From the aforesaid discussion and reasons, I accordingly declare the result of the elections of Office Bearers and of Executive Committee Members of BAI for the period of 2022-2026 in the Form 15 annexed to the Notification dated 04.03.2022 which is handed over to the President, BAI today duly signed by me along with the Assistant Returning Officers.

Finally with the declaration of the result, the force of the Notification dated 04.03.2022 ceases with effect from  $1.7...\Omega$ . Hrs. of this 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

Mr. Justice Prasanta Kr. Deka

Judge (Retd.) Gauhati High Court
Returning Officer, Elections of the Office
Elections for the post of Office Bearge and resulting Members of Executive Committee, BAI-2022-2026.
Office of the Returning Officer, BAI,

C/o Badminton Association of India, D-6/10, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057.