

The President,
World Master Athletics

Sub: Regarding `Note' issued by the Athletic Federation of India(AFI) to master athletes in India.

Respected Sir,

Perhaps, you are aware of the purported `Note' issued by AFI to master athletes of India. Kindly note, the said purported `note' is not an administrative order or office memoranda. It is written to the master athletes who are the members of Master Athletic Federation of India (MAFI) which is not affiliated to AFI. It, therefore, seems that the `note' issued by AFI is ultra vires. In this connection, we would like to put forward the following for your information and to initiate remedial measures in appropriate international level as you deem fit.

2. The AFI which is itself bogged by internal administrative problems in the recent past, has done absolutely nothing tangible for the growth and development of master athletics in India. Since AFI has not funded a single penny to MAFI, it has no authority whatsoever to find fault on the latter.

3. The hegemony of AFI over MAFI is amply reflected in its present sinister move to curb the activities of MAFI. The move to register the master athletes in India under its fold with an exorbitant sum (Rs.1000.00) which is four times more than what MAFI takes to register an athlete, is clearly an ambitious fund raising drive to dupe the master athletes of India.

4. For the last more than four decades, the MAFI has been working tirelessly for the growth and expansion of master athletics in India where AFI did not play any role or interfere whatsoever. In the masters movement, what India achieves today is due to the endeavour made by MAFI singlehandedly without any financial support from AFI or any other agency.

5. Ably guided by the Secretary General Mr.D.David Premnath, MAFI is a well managed body with its constitution and properly elected General Body with office bearers from the affiliated units. It holds its AGM and submits its audited accounts regularly at the AGM. The irregularities mentioned by AFI in its note is, therefore, not only false but also baseless.

6. From the facts mentioned above, we firmly stand by with MAFI. We also affirm our solidarity and allegiance to MAFI headed by Mr. David Premnath in all its activities towards the growth and development of master athletics in India.

We fervently request you to do the needful in this regard so that MAFI as an affiliate of WMA would be able to retain its own identity in India without any hindrance and interference.

Thanking you,

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dr.R.P.Gohain

General Secretary,

Assam Masters Athletic Association

(Affiliated to Masters Athletic Federation of India)