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To,
The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Delhi
Raj Niwas, Raj Niwas Marg,
Delhi – 110054

Subject: Revamping of Swimming Pool Policy in Delhi and Introducing an Ease of Doing Business Framework

Hon'ble Sir,

Greetings from the Confederation of Sports and Recreation Industry (CSRI). We are writing to highlight the urgent need for reform in the current policies governing swimming pools in Delhi. Once a widely accessible activity, swimming has now become restrictive and is often regarded as a luxury. Burdensome regulations, coupled with high operational costs, have made swimming pools accessible only to a select few who can afford the steep fees or to government officials and their families. This situation leaves the broader public underserved and lacking access to this essential life skill.

Additionally, the current regulatory landscape creates numerous obstacles for businesses operating swimming pools. The persistence of "inspector raj" — marked by excessive inspections and bureaucratic controls — has led to frequent interference under the pretext of compliance, discouraging businesses from maintaining affordable and accessible facilities.

To address these issues, we propose the development of a separate Swimming Pool Policy that fosters ease of doing business while ensuring public access to safe swimming facilities. We also suggest that this policy be created in consultation with relevant swimming associations in Delhi, ensuring all stakeholders' concerns are addressed. Our key recommendations include:

1. Affordable and Accessible Swimming Pools:

Policies must be revised to ensure that swimming pools are made affordable and accessible to all citizens, not just a privileged few. Life skills like swimming should be available to the wider public.

2. Segregated Pools for Training and Professionals:

Swimming pools should be designed with distinct sections:

- One section dedicated to beginners and training.
- Another section with deeper water for advanced swimmers to ensure skill development.

3. Ease of Doing Business and Simplified Compliance:

A simplified regulatory framework is essential. Compliance requirements for businesses managing swimming pools should be streamlined, with digital systems to

minimize arbitrary inspections. This will encourage more businesses to invest in swimming pool operations without the fear of undue harassment.

4. **Mandatory Swimming and CPR Training in Schools:**

All government and private schools should have swimming pools, and life-saving skills such as swimming and CPR should be part of the compulsory curriculum for all students.

5. **Assessment and Audit by Independent Bodies:**

Existing and new swimming pools should undergo regular assessment and audit by independent bodies such as the Sports Assessment and Audit Board (SAAB). This ensures safety, accessibility, and compliance with international standards, while reducing unnecessary oversight.

6. **Support from Swimming Associations in Delhi:**

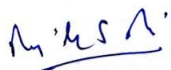
We recommend engaging with relevant swimming associations in Delhi to obtain their expertise and support in shaping the policy. Their insights will be invaluable in ensuring that the policy aligns with best practices and meets the needs of the community.

Call to Action:

We urge the Delhi Government to form a working group, in collaboration with swimming associations and industry experts, to create a separate Swimming Pool Policy. This policy should prioritize easing the business environment for operators, eliminating unnecessary bureaucratic obstacles, and ensuring affordable, accessible swimming facilities for the public.

Thank you for considering these critical reforms, which will enhance public safety, accessibility, and business efficiency.

Yours sincerely,



(Rajpal Singh)

Director General

Confederation of Sports and Recreation Industry (CSRI)