

**ROLE OF JUDICIARY IN SPORTS: WAS THE PUGGLIST KNOCK DOWN BY
THE PLAYER OR THE OFFICIAL?**

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ABSTRACT

Recently, L.Sarita Devi boxer from India becomes targeted by the boxing officials of Asian Games (2014) to give advantage to host nation boxer in semi-final bout. Sarita reaches up to semi-final in light weight category. The semi final bout was with Park Ji-Na of South Korea's Boxer. It was clear to all that the Sarita was winner, but the final decision of the judges was against her. Their results were in the favour of host country South Korea. The judges declare Park Ji-Na (South Korea) was winner of that semi-final bout by 3-0. It was clearly controversy in that decision said by the Sarita's long time coach B I Fernandes. The Indian team lodged a protest against the decision, which was rejected by the International Boxing Association's (AIBA) technical committee. At the time of victory ceremony, Sarita was come to the podium with happily mood, but she started crying on the podium due to injustice. She refused to accept her bronze medal and she didn't wear it. After this she went to another side and handed her medal to the silver medallist, Park Ji-Na. When the presentation was done, ParkJi-Na had approached to Sarita but she again refuses it, than Park Ji-Na placed it on the podium. The whole report was given to the AIBA. There was also conducted a meeting between OCA and IOA regarding her behaviour and she was threatened by them for whole life ban. At last, Sarita to save her boxing carrier put her knocked down in front of sports administration even being targeted by them.

KEYWORDS:-Controversy, Knock out, Lodged.

INTRODUCTION

Sports competitions like Asian Games or Olympic Games level are also not being apart from officiating controversy. LaishramSarita Devi is an Indian boxer from Manipur. She is a national champion and a former world champion in the lightweight class. LaishramSarita Devi, a seven times gold medallist in various international women's boxing tourneys has been bestowed with the Arjuna Award, India's prime honour for sportspersons.

Asain Games (2014) Controversy

Recently, in Asian Games (2014) held at Incheon, South Korea; L.Sarita Devi boxer from India becomes targeted by the boxing officials to give advantage to host nation (South Korea) boxer in semi-final bout. Sarita reaches up to semi-final in light weight category. The semi final bout was with Park Ji-Na of South Korea's Boxer. After the match, she was handed a 0-3 defeat verdict by the judges of the match. After losing the first round convincingly, Sarita came back strongly in the next. Sarita Devi had knocked Park out in the third round and also a convincing fourth round. Sarita Devi was visibly distressed by the judges' decision and waited for a while before exiting the ring. It was clear to all that the Sarita was winner, but the final decision of the judges was against her. Their results were in the favour of host country South Korea. The judges declare Park Ji-Na (South Korea) was winner of that semi-final bout by 3-0. It was clearly controversy in that decision said by the Sarita's long time coach namely B I Fernandes. The Indian team lodged a protest against the decision, which was rejected by the International Boxing Association's (AIBA) technical committee. Sarita had to borrow money to lodge a protest after the semi final as no Indian official came forward to help her but the boxer said she does not want to dwell on it anymore. At the time of victory ceremony, Sarita was come to the podium with happily mood, but she started crying on the podium due to injustice. She refused to accept her bronze medal and she didn't wear it. After this she went to another side and handed her medal to the silver medallist, Park Ji-Na. When the presentation was done, Park Ji-Na had approached to Sarita but she again refuses it, than Park Ji-Na placed it on the podium. The whole report was given to the AIBA. There was also conducted a meeting between OCA (The Olympic Council of Asia) and Indian Olympic Association (IOA) regarding her behaviour and she was threatened by them for whole life ban. The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) said it was not impressed by her behaviour at the medal ceremony but decided to let her off with a warning after she issued an unconditional apology and the Indian delegation assured the OCA it had not planned the incident. Sarita later offered an "unconditional apology" to AIBA for her actions. "I apologised because I did not want any other Indian boxer to suffer. I fight for my country and by apologising I have tried to ensure that no other Indian gets affected. I feel I was wronged," she said. The Indian boxer L Sarita Devi has escaped with a warning after apologising for refusing to accept her bronze medal at the Asian Games. Indian boxer L. Sarita Devi lost her semi-final bout in controversial circumstances and had to be content with the bronze medal in the women's light weight (57-60kg) event of the 17th Asian Games.

Conclusion:-

At last, Sarita to save her boxing career put her knocked down in front of sports administration even being targeted by them. So, we can say that the judiciary at national as well as international level in sports is also controversial.

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