

**MINUTES OF THE 27<sup>th</sup> APEX COUNCIL MEETING (EMERGENT) OF BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN INDIA (BCCI) HELD ON SATURDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2025 AT 10.30 A.M. (IST)**

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**Present:**

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| 1. Mr. Roger Binny            | Honorary President, Chairperson                  |
| 2. Mr. Rajeev Shukla          | Honorary Vice President                          |
| 3. Mr. Devajit Saikia         | Honorary Secretary                               |
| 4. Mr. Prabhtej Singh Bhatia  | Honorary Treasurer                               |
| 5. Mr. Rohan Gauns Dessai     | Honorary Joint Secretary                         |
| 6. Mr. Khairul Jamal Majumdar | Councillor                                       |
| 7. Ms. Shubhangi Kulkarni     | ICA Representative (Female)                      |
| 8. Mr. Dilip Vengsarkar       | ICA Representative (Male) (Via Video-Conference) |
| 9. Mr. C.M. Sane              | CAG Nominee (Via Video-Conference)               |

BCCI staff members were invited to speak on specific Agenda items, as and when required.

**1. CHAIRPERSON**

Mr. Roger Binny, the Honorary President, BCCI (the “Chairperson”) presided over the meeting. He greeted all the members present in the Apex Council and welcomed Mr. Rohan Gauns Dessai to the BCCI Apex Council.

**2. QUORUM**

After ascertaining that the requisite quorum for the meeting was present, the meeting was called to order.

Thereafter, Mr. Devajit Saikia, the Honorary Secretary, BCCI, welcomed all the members.

With the permission of all the members present, the notice convening the meeting, having already been circulated, was taken on record.

**3. ITEM 1: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 26<sup>TH</sup> APEX COUNCIL MEETING.**

Mr. Saikia took up the first item on the agenda which was confirmation of the minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Apex Council Meeting held on December 19, 2024. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

The minutes of the meeting held on December 19, 2024, were confirmed by all the members.

**4. ITEM 2: RATIFICATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY CIRCULATION.**



Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding ratifying the following resolutions that were passed by circulation. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

- (a) Appointment of Electoral Officer: The following resolution was passed by circulation by the Apex Council of BCCI:

**RESOLVED THAT** in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved to appoint Mr. Achal Kumar Joti, former Chief Election Commissioner of India, as the BCCI Electoral Officer for the upcoming Special General Meeting in February 2025.

The members unanimously ratified the abovementioned resolution that was previously passed by circulation.

- (b) Appointment To Board of ACC: The following resolution was passed by circulation by the Apex Council of BCCI:

**RESOLVED THAT** in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved to appoint Mr. Rajeev Shukla as the voting member and Mr. Ashish Shelar as the ex-officio member to the Board of ACC.

Furthermore, the members unanimously ratified the abovementioned resolution that was previously passed by circulation.

- (c) Approval of Fees and extension of term: The following resolution was passed by circulation by the Apex Council of BCCI:

**RESOLVED THAT** in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved to approve the following with respect to Center of Excellence, Bengaluru and North-East indoor facilities:

1. Additional cost of INR 9.11 crores, exclusive of GST, to Larsen & Toubro Ltd. for Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru, which includes costs towards changes and addition to scope, cost of escalation in materials (as per the services agreement) and labour cess.
2. Extension of completion timeline to Nipani Infra & Industries Pvt. Ltd. towards construction of indoor facilities at the North-East states in the following manner: (a) Nagaland & Arunachal Pradesh – till March 31, 2025, (b) Meghalaya – till May 15, 2025, (c) Sikkim – till May 31, 2025, and (d) Mizoram & Manipur till June 30, 2025.
3. Extension of project management consultation services of PwC till May 31, 2025 for Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru, at remuneration of INR 6 lakhs per month, exclusive of GST and out of pocket expenses.
4. Fees of INR 45 lakh, exclusive of GST and out of pocket expenses, to PwC for additional services such as preparation of fixed asset register, fixed asset tagging, defect liability period support for Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru.

5. *Extension of proof consultant services of STUP till May 31, 2025, at the fees of INR 3,02,083 (Indian Rupees Three Lakh Two Thousand Eighty-Three) per month, exclusive of GST for Centre of Excellence, Bengaluru.*
6. *Extension of project management consultant services of Grant Thornton ("GT") for indoor facilities in North-East till July 31, 2025, subject to specific site completion dates in the following manner: (a) Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh – till April 30, 2025, (b) Meghalaya – till June 15, 2025, (c) Sikkim – till June 30, 2025, and (d) Mizoram & Manipur till July 31, 2025. Fees for the extended period shall be INR 1.19 Lakh per month per site.*

The members unanimously ratified the abovementioned resolution that was previously passed by circulation.

- (d) **JKCA Constitution**: The following resolution was passed by circulation by the Apex Council of BCCI:

***RESOLVED THAT***, in compliance with the directions of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court and pursuant to the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, the Apex Council, in its meeting held on April 16, 2021, constituted a Committee comprising Mr. Sourav Ganguly, Mr. Jay Shah, Mr. Arun Dhumal, and Mr. Rajeev Shukla to oversee matters related to the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA). The Committee also formed a Sub-Committee to handle matters concerning the JKCA.

***RESOLVED FURTHER THAT*** the Sub-Committee submitted the draft Constitution of the JKCA to the Committee for approval. The Committee granted its approval to the JKCA Constitution, and this approval was communicated to the Sub-Committee members through an email dated July 12, 2024.

***RESOLVED FURTHER THAT*** the Apex Council hereby confirms and ratifies the approval granted by the Committee to the Constitution of the JKCA (after perusing the Constitution), as communicated to the Sub-Committee members through the email dated July 12, 2024.

Upon due deliberation, the members unanimously ratified the abovementioned resolution that was previously passed by circulation.

- (e) **Nomination and Introduction in WPL Committee**: The following resolutions were passed by circulation by the Apex Council of BCCI:

***RESOLVED THAT*** in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council by the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved that Mr. Dilsher Khanna is nominated as a member in the WPL Committee.

***RESOLVED FURTHER THAT*** Mr. Rohan Gauns Dessai is inducted to the WPL Committee upon his election as the Honorary Joint Secretary, BCCI.

The members unanimously ratified the abovementioned resolutions that were previously passed by circulation.

- (f) Tech Mahindra: The following resolution was passed by circulation by the Apex Council of BCCI:

**RESOLVED THAT** in pursuance of the powers granted to the Apex Council under the Rules and Regulations of the BCCI, it has been resolved that the term of Tech Mahindra to provide services for the digital properties of BCCI (which includes, inter alia, its websites and apps) be extended for 12 months, concluding on 31 December 2025.

The members unanimously ratified the abovementioned resolution that was previously passed by circulation.

**5. ITEM 3: APPROVAL FOR CHANGE IN SIGNATORIES TO THE BANK ACCOUNTS OPERATED BY BCCI.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the approval for change in signatories to the bank accounts operated by BCCI. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Hemang Amin apprised the members that there are 3 (three) signatories to the bank accounts operated by BCCI, and pursuant to an approval from the BCCI's Office Bearers to make any payments, any 2 (two) signatories can sign for effecting a payment. Currently, as 1 (one) of the 3 (three) signatories has left BCCI, a new signatory to the bank accounts operated by BCCI required to be appointed.

The members deliberated on the issue and the members unanimously agreed to have Mr. Nikhil Khanna as the new signatory to the bank accounts operated by BCCI.

Accordingly, the following resolutions were passed by the Apex Council of BCCI

**RESOLVED THAT**, Mr. Gaurav Saxena (General Manager – Operations) shall be deleted as signatory from all bank accounts and fixed deposits of BCCI, BCCI IPL, BCCI WPL, BCCI ICC WORLD CUP & BCCI Centre of Excellence (formerly known as NCA) and the following individual to be added as signatory for all the accounts in addition to the existing signatories:

*Addition:*

1. Mr. Nikhil Khanna (General Manager – Finance and Commercial)

*Existing Signatories:*

1. Mr. Hemang Amin (Chief Executive Officer (Interim) & Chief Operating Officer – IPL)
2. Mr. Vijaykumar Shivpratap Tiwari (Assistant General Manager – Finance & Accounts)

The bank accounts and fixed deposits shall be operated by any 2 (two) out of the 3 (three) signatories, authorised by the Apex Council (as mentioned above) and shall be entitled to open bank accounts, operate bank accounts, provide instructions for operation, finalise and sign documents, cheques, Issuance of Credit cards from any bank for cards to Team managers & BCCI

*Staff & Officials upto a limit of Rs. 15.00 (fifteen) crores or availing credit facility from banks for official purpose etc.*

*The CEO shall get all necessary paperwork and formalities completed with the banks for this purpose.*

*Resolved further, that a certified true copy of the resolution be made available to each bank under the signature of the Chairperson of the Apex Council.*

**6. ITEM 4: DISCUSSION ON REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY ORGANISATIONS FROM DAMAN AND DIU AND DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the representations made by organisations from Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Saikia informed the members that this issue had come up earlier and the BCCI had set up a committee to look into this matter. The BCCI has now received renewed representations from the organizations, and Bombay High Court has directed BCCI to hear the parties again within six months from date February 6, 2025.

The members deliberated on the issue the members unanimously decided to constitute a new committee to adjudicate the issue. Further, the members unanimously agreed on the following members to be part of the committee: (a) Mr. Rajeev Shukla; (b) Mr. Rohan Gauns Dessai; and (c) Mr. Khairul Jamal Majumdar.

**7. ITEM 5: DISCUSSION ON FORMATION OF LOC FOR WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP 2025.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the formation of local organization committee (LOC) for Women's Cricket World Cup 2025. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Upon due deliberation the members unanimously agreed that the BCCI Office Bearers shall take the responsibility for constituting the LOC.

**8. ITEM 6: DISCUSSION REGARDING VENUES FOR WOMEN'S CRICKET WORLD CUP 2025.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the selection of venues for Women's Cricket World Cup, 2025. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Amin informed the members that the Women's Cricket World Cup, 2025 will tentatively have 31(thirty-one) matches. He also added that, in the event, the Pakistan national team qualifies for the tournament, a neutral venue will also need to be identified.



Mr. Saikia proposed that Colombo may be considered as the neutral venue. The members concurred with the proposition.

Upon due deliberation, the members agreed that Indore, Trivandrum / Bangalore, New Chandigarh (Mullanpur), Vizag and Guwahati will be the venues for the the Women's Cricket World Cup, 2025. In case matches have to be played at the neutral venue, then the matches will be played across 4 venues in India and Colombo will be the neutral venue.

**9. ITEM 7: REPLACEMENT OF 1 (ONE) MEMBER OF THE INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE UNDER THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the replacement of 1 (one) member of the Internal Complaints Committee under the Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Amin apprised the members that 1 (one) member of the BCCI's Internal Complaints Committee had left BCCI and a new member is required to be appointed as a replacement.

The members unanimously agreed to appoint Mr. Nikhil Khanna as a member of the BCCI's Internal Complaints Committee, constituted under BCCI's Prevention of Sexual Harassment Policy.

**10. ITEM 8: UPDATE ON SETTLEMENT OF TDS LITIGATION (TDS SURVEY) PERTAINING TO AY 2011-12 TO AY 2017-18 UNDER VIVAD SE VISHWAS ACT, 2020.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding an update on settlement of TDS litigation (TDS survey) pertaining to AY 2011-12 to AY 2017-18 under Vivad se Vishwas Act, 2020. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. A. Shankar from Karnataka State Cricket Association was invited to the meeting to put forth his views on this agenda point. He outlined the past issues with TDS filings and challenges due to technical difficulties in uploading the TDS statement to the relevant tax portal despite BCCI having paid the requisite amount to the tax authorities. He suggested that the TDS statement must be filed to trigger credit to the State Associations in line with the Indian tax laws framework. He further stated that filing of TDS statement will waive the interest amount and enable administrative clarity with the Income Tax Department.

Mr. Saikia and Mr. Shukla sought certain clarifications regarding the matter, which were duly addressed by Mr. Shankar and Mr. Nikhil Khanna. The members further deliberated on the agenda point and in principle agreed that BCCI should aid to facilitate the process.

Mr. Sane took note of the suggestions and acknowledged that given that BCCI has already made the payment to the concerned tax authorities the proposed suggestion by Mr. Shankar only provides a tax credit to the State Cricket Associations. He further stated that the proposed

suggestions appear to be procedural in nature and thus he has no comments and agreed that the BCCI may proceed in line with the proposed suggestions.

Upon due deliberation the members unanimously agreed that the BCCI will file the TDS statement with the relevant tax portal and / or take other appropriate / possible measures to help the State Cricket Associations in receive applicable tax credit.

#### **11. ITEM 9: DISCUSSION REGARDING SPONSORSHIP FROM TOBACCO AND CRYPTO BRANDS.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding sponsorship from tobacco and crypto brands. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Amin apprised the members that the BCCI was in receipt of an advisory from the Government of India regarding a ban on sponsorships from tobacco companies for BCCI bi-lateral internationals. Accordingly, BCCI had informed the concerned vendors/agencies to ensure that no advertisements from tobacco based companies is not displayed in the stadiums.

Mr. Saikia highlighted the need for the need of an in-depth deliberation on this issue and recommended to defer the matter for discussions on a later date.

Mr. Sane also agreed that an in-depth deliberation is required on the said matter. He further added if the contract between BCCI and the broadcaster prohibits onboarding crypto brands as sponsors, then the current resolution would alter BCCI's contractual position, and thus the issue must be deliberated before a final decision is taken.

Upon due deliberation the members agreed to do an in depth deliberation on this agenda point.

#### **12. ITEM 10: DOMESTIC STRUCTURE FOR SEASON 2025-26.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item on the agenda which was regarding the Indian domestic structure for Season 2025-26. The papers regarding the agenda were already circulated to members.

Mr. Abey Kuruvilla apprised the members regarding certain proposed changes to the Indian domestic structure, which included a proposal: (a) to revert to the zonal system for Duleep Trophy and Women's Challenger Trophy; (b) to introduce a 2-tier (elite and plate) promotion and relegation system for all ODI's and T20's (both Men and Women); (c) to provide medals for winners for all BCCI tournaments; and (d) to introduce uniformity in match fees for all scorers in international matches.

Mr. Dilip Vengsarkar agreed to Mr. Abey's proposal to revert to the zonal system for Duleep Trophy.

Mr. Saikia inquired if the proposed format could be held within the designated window. Mr. Kuruvilla replied that it could be held within the designated window.

The members discussed various issues concerning the Indian domestic structure, particularly the umpiring ecosystem in India, selection committees for domestic tournaments, etc.

Upon due deliberation the members unanimously agreed to the following: (a) to revert to the old zonal system for Duleep Trophy and the Women's Challenger Trophy going forward; (b) for a period of 3 years to introduce a 2-tier (elite and plate) promotion and relegation system for all ODI's and T20's (both Men and Women), wherein 1 (one) team will be promoted and relegated within the divisions, with the exception of Season 2025-26 wherein 2 (two) teams will be promoted and relegated; (c) to provide medals for winners for all BCCI tournaments; and (iv) to introduce uniformity in pay for all scorers across all stadiums in India for international matches, and such payment to the scorers to be paid by BCCI going forward. It was decided that scorers will be given Rs. 25000 per match day for an ODI and Test. For a T20I, they will be given Rs. 12,500 per match day.

**13. ITEM 11: DISCUSSION REGARDING VENUES FOR THE UPCOMING TEST SERIES AGAINST WEST INDIES AND SOUTH AFRICA.**

Mr. Saikia took up the next item which was regarding the selection of venues for the upcoming test series against West Indies and South Africa. The papers relating to the agenda point were already circulated to the members of the Apex Council.

Mr. Amin informed the members that in the current calendar year Team India (Senior Men) will play 12 matches. He proposed Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Delhi and Guwahati as the potential venues for the upcoming test series against West Indies and South Africa based on the rotation policy.

Upon due deliberation the members approved for: (i) Ahmedabad and Kolkata to be the venues for the test series against West Indies; and (ii) Delhi and Guwahati to be the venues for the test series against South Africa, subject to any changes as may be required.

**14. ITEM 12: TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRPERSON MAY CONSIDER NECESSARY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA.**

The Chairperson informed that there were no other matters for consideration.

**15. VOTE OF THANKS**

The Chairperson thanked the Apex Council members and there being no other business, the meeting came to an end.

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**CHAIRPERSON**  
**(HON. PRESIDENT, BCCI)**