

**MINUTES OF THE 7<sup>th</sup> APEX COUNCIL MEETING OF BOARD OF CONTROL FOR CRICKET IN INDIA (BCCI) HELD ON FRIDAY, 16<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2021 AT 7 P.M. VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING**

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**Present:**

1. Mr. Sourav Ganguly – Honorary President, Chairperson
2. Mr. Jay Shah – Honorary Secretary
3. Mr. Arun Singh Dhumal – Honorary Treasurer
4. Mr. Jayesh George – Honorary Joint Secretary
5. Mr. Rajeev Shukla – Honorary Vice President
6. Mr. Prabhtej Singh Bhatia– Councilor
7. Mr. C. M. Sane– CAG Nominee
8. Ms. Shantha Rangaswamy – ICA Representative (Female)
9. Mr. Aunshuman Gaekwad – ICA Representative (Male)

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

**1. CHAIRPERSON**

Mr. Sourav Ganguly, the Honorary President, BCCI (the “**Chairperson**”) presided over the meeting. He greeted all the members present in the Apex Council and welcomed them to the 7<sup>th</sup> Apex Council Meeting of the BCCI. He explained that owing to the prevailing Covid-19 situation, the meeting was required to be held via video conferencing.

**2. QUORUM**

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

Thereafter, Mr. Jay Shah, the Honorary Secretary, BCCI, welcomed all the members. He also specifically welcomed Mr. C M Sane, the new nominee from CAG to the Apex Council. All the other members also welcomed Mr. Sane to the Apex Council.

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 THE MINUTES OF THE 6TH APEX COUNCIL MEETING.**

The Chairperson took up the first item on the agenda which was confirmation of the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Apex Council Meeting.

After some deliberation, the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Apex Council Meetings were confirmed and approved.

**4. ITEM NO. 2: DISCUSSION ON REPRESENTATION MADE BY TELANGANA CRICKET ASSOCIATION.**

The Chairperson apprised the members about the representation that has been received by the BCCI, pursuant to a Bombay High Court Order, to decide on the representation made by the Telangana Cricket Association for Associate Membership of the BCCI. Honorary Secretary mentioned that he has gone through the written representation and suggested that it may be prudent to hear the perspective of both Telangana Cricket Association and Hyderabad Cricket Association before coming to a final decision considering that the region of Telangana is currently under the jurisdiction of Hyderabad Cricket Association. He proposed that a working group be formed to hear both the parties. He proposed the names of Mr. Rajeev Shukla and Mr. Arun Dhumal to be part of the working group and to look into the issue and after hearing both the parties, decide on the issue and inform the Apex Council. The members agreed with the suggestion of Hon. Secretary, and it was decided to form the aforementioned working group to look and decide on the issue.

**5. ITEM NO. 3: DISCUSSION ON JAMMU AND KASHMIR CRICKET ASSOCIATION (JKCA).**

The Chairperson updated the members regarding the order given by Jammu and Kashmir High Court wherein the court discontinued the administrators and CEO of JKCA and authorized BCCI to appoint a committee/sub-committee to run, administer, control and supervise the affairs of the JKCA till the elections are held and new administration is handed over to the newly elected office bearers of the JKCA.

After some deliberation on this issue, it was decided that the Office Bearers of the BCCI are hereby empowered to form the Committee and Sub- Committee and take all appropriate actions for the growth of cricket in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

S.G.

**6. ITEM NO. 4: DISCUSSION ON THE ORGANISATION OF BIHAR CRICKET LEAGUE BY BIHAR CRICKET ASSOCIATION (BCA).**

The Chairperson and the Hon. Secretary briefed the members about the organization of unauthorized tournament by BCA, without the prior permission of BCCI. The members noted the same and after some deliberation it was decided to send a strong letter to BCA instructing them to abide by the guidelines issued by BCCI. It was decided that BCA be instructed to undertake to not organize such tournaments without following the process put forth in the appropriate guideline issued by BCCI. Failure to adhere to such guidelines, may entail strict action against BCA, going forward.

**7. ITEM NO. 5: DISCUSSION ON ORGANISATION T20 LEAGUES TOURNAMENTS BY TAMIL NADU CA, MUMBAI CA, KARNATAKA CA AND SAURASHTRA CA. DISCUSSION OF FORMATION OF A WORKING GROUP W.R.T STATE T20 LEAGUES.**

The Chairperson apprised the members that various State Cricket Associations like Tamil Nadu Cricket Association, Mumbai Cricket Association, Karnataka State Cricket Association and Saurashtra Cricket Association have requested approval to organise their domestic T20 tournaments.

The members noted that some of the requests fell within the 15-day period of completion of IPL, which is usually not permitted. The issue was discussed in detail, and it was decided that owing to the prevailing COVID-19 situation a one-time exception maybe given to associations requesting to organize T20 League tournaments this year. Further, it was discussed and decided that the advisory be modified to include any franchisee-based cricket leagues within its purview and not the regular tournaments organized by state cricket associations.

**8. ITEM NO. 6: UPDATE ON NCA RFP.**

Mr. Dhiraj Malhotra, GM-Game Development briefed the members about the current status of the ongoing tender process for the new NCA being built at Bengaluru. Mr. Sane briefed the members about his prior experience with one of the prospective bidders and gave few pointers to check before deciding the contractor. The members noted the same.

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**9. ITEM NO. 7: UPDATE ON BCCI AND IPL DIGITAL RFP.**

Mr. Hemang Amin, CEO (Interim) briefed the members about the current status of the ongoing tender process for the BCCI and IPL digital properties. He explained that currently the eligibility of the various parties who have applied is being checked by legal and finance departments and once that is done, then technical submissions will be called for and eligible parties will finally be told to provide financial bids. The members noted the same.

**10. ITEM NO. 8: UPDATE ON WT20 WORLD CUP.**

Hon. Secretary briefed the members about the current status of the WT20 to be held in India. He mentioned that it will be held in two phases, the qualifier round and then the main tournament. He mentioned the tentative venues for the event. He explained that the tax exemption and visa issues (players and fans) are currently being addressed with the Government of India and the BCCI is hopeful of a favorable response. Mr. Dhiraj Malhotra briefed the members about the steps being envisaged regarding the bio-bubbles which will be formed for the event considering the Covid-19 situation prevalent in the country. The members noted the same.

**11. ITEM NO. 9: DISCUSSION ON DOMESTIC SEASON 2021-22.**

The Chairperson took the members through the document which was provided along with the agenda papers. Hon. Secretary also mentioned that it will be the endeavor of BCCI to hold all the domestic tournaments in the upcoming season, however, BCCI cannot ignore the threat of COVID- 19 and will have to take steps looking at the condition prevailing at that time. The members noted the same and agreed with the Chairperson and the Hon. Secretary.

**12. ITEM NO. 10: APPOINTMENT OF SUPPORT STAFF FOR WOMEN'S TEAM.**

The Chairperson apprised the members that the appointment of support staff, including the Head Coach, is under process and the job descriptions has been advertised and once the applications are received, steps will be taken in accordance with the BCCI Rules and Regulations for appointment of the support staff, including the Head Coach. The members noted the same.

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**13. ITEM NO. 11 - DISCUSSION ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FTP.**

The Chairperson took the members through the document which was provided along with the agenda papers detailing the proposed International women's FTP. The members noted the same. Ms. Rangaswamy requested that more test matches for the women cricketers may be included in the schedule. The Chairperson and the Hon. Secretary agreed with suggestion of Ms. Rangaswamy. After some deliberation the members approved the FTP.

**14. ITEM NO. 12: DISCUSSION ON SUPPORT TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED CRICKET COUNCIL OF INDIA (DCCI).**

The Hon. Treasurer briefed the members about the discussions he has had with DCCI. He apprised the members that DCCI has representation from four forms of the differently abled cricket bodies (Blind Cricket, Deaf Cricket, Physical Disability Cricket, Wheelchair Cricket) requesting BCCI for support to their newly formed organization. He mentioned that the various independent differently abled associations have come together to form DCCI. Hon. Secretary further added that he had met the representatives of DCCI and had fruitful discussions with them. He proposed that BCCI should have provide support to DCCI and requested that the Office Bearers be authorized to prepare a roadmap and support DCCI. The members appreciated this noble cause and authorized the Office Bearers of BCCI to support DCCI without giving them affiliation with BCCI.

**15. ITEM NO. 13 - DISCUSSION ON BCCI'S STAND ON INCLUDING CRICKET IN LOS ANGELES OLYMPICS IN 2028.**

The Chairperson took the members through the document which was provided along with the agenda papers about BCCI's stand on including cricket in Los Angeles Olympics in 2028 for both the men's and women's team. The members deliberated on the issue and came to the conclusion that while it will be great honor for BCCI to send a team to the Olympics, the modalities will have to be worked out with the Indian Olympic Association.

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**16. ITEM NO. 14: TO CONSIDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRPERSON MAY CONSIDER NECESSARY TO BE INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA.**

(a) **Legal Entity Identifier:** Mr. Nikhil Khanna, AGM- Finance and Accounts, explained to the members that as per RBI Circular it is mandatory to get registered with LEI (Legal Entity Identifier India Ltd) for processing/receiving RTGS/ NEFT for amounts above Rs. 50 Crores. He requested members to authorize the signatories for fulling the necessary documentation. The Members deliberated the issue and resolved :-

**“RESOLVED THAT** approval of the Apex Council be and is hereby accorded to the BCCI bank signatories to apply for Legal Entity Identifier on behalf of the legal entity (i.e., BCCI).”

**“RESOLVED FURTHER THAT** any one of the BCCI bank signatories, be and is hereby authorized to sign all documents, applications/online applications, indemnities, undertakings, correspondence and such other documents, as may be required from time to time, for the purpose of obtaining Legal Entity Identifier and to do and perform all such acts, deeds and things and deal with all such matters and take all such steps as may be necessary for the purpose of updating, modifying, renewing, porting or availing any other services with respect to the Legal Entity Identifier”.

(b) **Fantasy Gaming:** Hon. Vice President raised the issue of fantasy gaming and the effect it may have on illegal betting and whether the BCCI can take any steps to prevent such illegal activities. He mentioned that BCCI may look at taking steps to prevent players and BCCI from getting associated with the fantasy gaming companies which are not approved or recognized by the fantasy gaming association. After some deliberation it was decided to look into the matter before taking any decision on the matter.

(c) **Issues concerning certain ex- employees of BCCI.** The Apex Council was briefed regarding payment issues concerning an ex-employee of BCCI. The members heard the matter in detail, and it was decided that further action be taken keeping in mind the principles of natural justice and fairness.

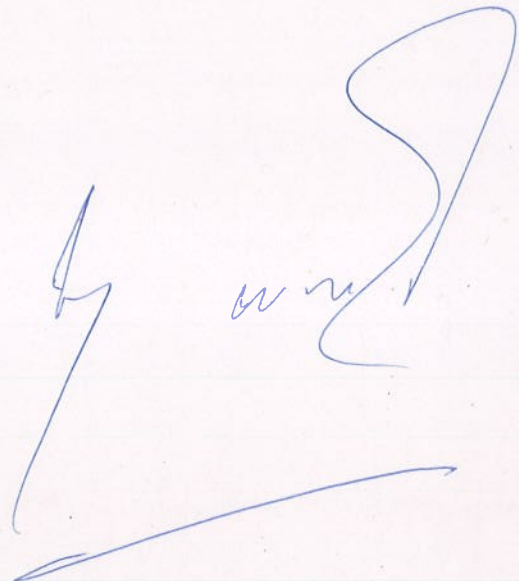
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(d) **Reimbursement of medical expenses for ex cricketers:** Mr. Gaekwad raised an issue that some elderly cricketers are facing logistical issues in getting their medical expenses reimbursed. Mr. Nikhil Khanna, AGM- Finance and Accounts, explained to the members the process of reimbursement and he mentioned that there is a policy in place for reimbursement and the bills are routed through the respective state cricket associations. The members deliberated the issue instructed that efforts should be made to give the reimbursement, after due checks, as early as possible.

#### **17. VOTE OF THANKS**

The Chairperson thanked the Apex Council members and there being no other business, the meeting was terminated.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Gaekwad', is written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.