<u>DIRECTIONS ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE OF ADMINISTRATORS ON</u> APPOINTMENT OF ELECTORAL OFFICER

A. The order dated 2nd January 2017 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court *inter alia* ordered and directed that:

"A Committee of administrators shall supervise the administration of BCCI through its Chief Executive Officer.

. . .

... the Committee of Administrators shall also ensure that the directions contained in the judgment of this Court dated 18 July 2016 (which accepted the report of the Committee with modifications) are fulfilled and to adopt all necessary and consequential steps for that purpose.

. .

...Upon the Committee of administrators as nominated by this Court assuming charge, the existing office bearers shall function subject to the supervision and control of the Committee of administrators. The Committee of administrators would have the power to issue all appropriate directions to facilitate due supervision and control"

B. In relation to the electoral process, the report submitted by the Justice R.M. Lodha Committee provides as follows:

"The electoral process will have to be transparent and independent, for which an Electoral Officer (a retired Central or respective State Election Commissioner) will have to be appointed. In the event that no such person is available, any other former State Election Commissioner, preferably from a neighbouring State may be appointed. This officer would conduct and supervise the entire process of elections from the filing of nominations to the declaration of results and the resolution of any disputes and objections during the election."

- C. The Committee of Administrators have noted that certain State Associations have faced difficulties in appointing an Electoral Officer in terms of the aforesaid, specifically, as all States have not set up a State Election Commissions.
- D. The Committee of Administrators is of the view that the Justice R.M. Lodha Committee contemplated the appointment of an Electoral Officer for the State who had requisite experience and expertise in the election process and the conduct of elections.

Accordingly, with a view to ensure that the Member Associations do not face difficulties in the appointment of electoral officers for the conduct of the elections and are in a position

to comply with the Orders passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the Committee of Administrators considers it is necessary to issue the following directions:

- 1. The Member Association shall appoint an Electoral Officer from any of the following categories of persons **only**:
 - (a) A former Chief Election Commissioner of India or former member of the Election Commission of India; or
 - (b) A former Election Commissioner of the State.

<u>Note:</u> In case, such person is not available, then former Election Commissioner of a neighbouring State(s) may be appointed; or

(c) A former Chief Electoral Officer of the State.

<u>Note:</u> In case such person is not available, then the former Chief Electoral Officer of a neighbouring State(s) may be appointed.

2. It is clarified that former Joint or Additional Chief Election Commissioner and Joint or Additional Chief Electoral Officers of States are not eligible for being appointed as the Electoral Officer of the Member Association.

Issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court Appointed Committee of Administrators

Dated this 25th day of July, 2019.