



Ref. No.: BCCI/HQ/02(S)2/3638/2017

8 November 2017

To,
The Secretary,
Department of Sports,
Shastri Bhavan,
Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,
New Delhi – 110 001.
Email: secy-sports@nic.in
Kind Attn.: Mr. Rahul Bhatnagar

Re: Letter dated 3 October 2017 bearing Ref. No. D. O. No. 2/26/2017/NADA addressed by the then Secretary, Department of Sports to Shri Vinod Rai (“Letter”).

Dear Sir,

1. This has reference to the captioned Letter which *inter alia* states that (i) the World Anti-Doping Agency (“WADA”) has observed that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (“BCCI”) does not recognise the authority of the National Anti-Doping Agency (“NADA”) in conducting dope test unlike all other National Sports Federations, which duly recognise the authority of NADA in this regard; (ii) in the absence of cooperation from the BCCI, NADA may run the risk of becoming non-compliant with the WADA Code; and (iii) cooperation of BCCI will help NADA become fully compliant with the WADA Code.
2. This response is being issued under the instructions of the Supreme Court appointed Committee of Administrators.
3. At the very outset, it is necessary to clarify that the BCCI is not a National Sports Federation but an autonomous sports organization affiliated to the International Cricket Council (“ICC”), which governs the game of cricket globally. Accordingly, whilst the BCCI acknowledges that NADA is the nodal agency responsible for implementation of anti-doping measures for all National Sports Federations in India, the BCCI is not subject to the jurisdiction of NADA and is required to operate within the rules and regulations set by the ICC.



4. Having said that, BCCI would like to assure you that it has a zero-tolerance policy to doping in the sport of cricket and is committed to fight against doping in cricket in all forms. The ICC is a signatory to the WADA Code since 2006 and the ICC Anti-Doping Code (“**ICC Code**”), which is based on the WADA Code, is required to be adopted and implemented by all its members. BCCI, being a full member of ICC, has adopted and implemented the ICC Code in the BCCI Anti-Doping Rules (“**BCCI Code**”) since 2011.
5. The following salient provisions of the BCCI Code will throw light on the robust mechanism adopted by the BCCI to ensure that Indian cricket is clean and free from doping in all its forms:
 - (a) BCCI has adopted the WADA list of prohibited substances and prohibited methods, as amended by WADA from time to time, as more particularly set out in Article 4.1 to 4.3 of the BCCI Code.
 - (b) The Therapeutic Use Exemptions granted by BCCI are governed by the International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions issued by WADA, as more particularly set out in Article 4.4 of the BCCI Code.
 - (c) For analysis and testing of samples, BCCI adheres to the WADA International Standards for Laboratories and the WADA International Standard for Testing and Investigations, as more particularly set out in Article 5.1 and Article 6 of the BCCI Code. It is relevant to mention here that in compliance with WADA:
 - (i) BCCI has engaged the services of the same expert sample collection agency that is also engaged by the ICC to provide sample collection services viz. International Doping Tests & Management (“**IDTM**”).
 - (ii) IDTM sends the collected samples for testing to a WADA accredited laboratory viz. National Dope Testing Laboratory (“**NDTL**”), as mandated by WADA. Since the Chief Executive Officer of NDTL is the Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the dopetesting for BCCI is conducted under aegis of Department of Sports.
 - (iii) Additionally, it is a matter of great pride that the anti-doping statistics released by WADA till date, as reported by WADA



accredited laboratories, reveal that from 2013, BCCI has consistently reported the highest number of sample testing in the world amongst all cricket boards.

- (d) The in-competition testing and out-of-competition testing implemented by the BCCI Code is in conformity with the ICC Code and incorporates the “*ICC Anti Doping Code: Whereabouts Requirements for Out-of-Competition Testing*”, as more particularly set out in Article 5.2 and 5.3 of the BCCI Code. It is relevant to mention here that pursuant to reservations and concerns (relating to privacy and security) raised by several cricketers in 2009 regarding giving information of their whereabouts (as required by the 2009 version of the WADA Code that had then been adopted by the ICC), the matter was discussed during a meeting between representatives of the ICC, WADA and BCCI following which ICC amended the whereabouts clause with effect from 1 August 2010 to ensure out-of-competition testing in a manner that addressed the genuine reservations and concerns of cricketers worldwide. Subsequently, in 2013 ICC further amended the clause and adopted The ICC Anti Doping Code: Whereabouts Requirements for Out-of-Competition Testing which was implemented with effect from 1 August 2013.
- (e) The result management system implemented by the BCCI to determine any anti-doping violations is implemented in conformity with the applicable rules and regulations of WADA. In fact, the ICC and WADA are kept informed at all times regarding the developments pertaining to any adverse analytical findings, atypical findings, or for whereabouts violations, as more particularly set out in Article 7 of the BCCI Code.
- (f) The procedures followed by the BCCI for investigations, identification of prior anti-doping rule violations, provisional suspension, responding to notice of charge, hearings, sanctions, consequences, appeals, public disclosure and confidentiality, recognition of decisions, statistical reporting, and the appendices to the BCCI Code are also in conformity with the ICC Code and WADA, as more particularly set out in the BCCI Code.
- (g) BCCI has a robust Anti-Doping Education Programme for cricketers of all age groups (both male and female). The said education program



comprises of audio-visual lecture(s) and question-answer session(s), supplemented by a pocket diary that lists additional information regarding the prohibited list of substances.

- (h) Additionally, BCCI is the only sporting body in India, which has created a 24 x 7 anti-doping helpline.

A copy of the BCCI Anti-Doping Code is enclosed herewith for ready reference. A copy of the same is also available on the website of BCCI and can be accessed at <http://www.bcci.tv/about/2017/anti-doping/62/introduction>.

6. In light of the aforesaid, you will appreciate that the BCCI is compliant with the ICC Code (which is based on the WADA Code and applicable to sport of cricket worldwide). Further, the BCCI is not subject to the jurisdiction of NADA and is only required to operate within the anti-doping rules and regulations set by the ICC.
7. BCCI would like to assure you that it will continue to support the international fight against doping in sports in all forms as well as maintain and follow the highest ethical and professional standards set by WADA to ensure that cricketers can compete in a doping-free environment in India.

Thanking You.

Yours faithfully,


The Chief Executive Officer,
The Board of Control for Cricket in India



Encl.: A copy of the BCCI Anti-Doping Rules

CC :

1. Director General, World Anti- Doping Agency
2. Director General, National Anti-Doping Agency
3. Chairman, International Cricket Council
4. Chief Executive Officer, International Cricket Council
5. Committee of Administrators, BCCI
6. Acting Honorary Secretary, BCCI
7. General Manager – Administration and Game Development, BCCI