

PRESS RELEASE

Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association approved by the Supreme Court of India: Brig Anil Gupta

The Hon'ble High Court of Jammu and Kashmir in a historic judgment in March 2021 had handed over the affairs of Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) with a mandate to run the management, control and administration of JKCA till a new body of the JKCA is elected under its supervision. The Court also ordained to draft a Constitution of the JKCA in conformity with the recommendations made by the Lodha Committee as approved by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Court also authorized BCCI to appoint a Committee/Sub-Committee to run, administer, control and supervise affairs of the JKCA. Pursuant to the Court order the Apex Council of the BCCI appointed a Committee which in turn appointed a Sub-Committee on 16 June 2021.

"The Sub Committee members worked diligently and with full responsibility to honour the mandate of the Court and took various measures to streamline the functioning, administration and the selection process to bring in accountability and transparency. The Sub Committee members studied in detail the Lodha Committee recommendations, Constitutions of BCCI and other sister State Associations and thereafter consulted the members of the affiliated clubs and other stakeholders. After eliciting their views a draft constitution of the JKCA was prepared and sent for the Committee and BCCI. Number of interactions took place between the BCCI legal team and the Sub-Committee to finalise the Constitution. The same was finally approved by the BCCI and go ahead was conveyed to the Sub-Committee to prepare for holding democratic elections to elect the office bearers of JKCA," stated Brig Anil Gupta, Member Administration of the Sub Committee which also include international cricketer Mithun Manhas and Senior Advocate Sunil Sethi.

"The Sub Committee handed over the BCCI approved Constitution to the Registrar of Societies Jammu for registering the new Constitution in July 2024 so that the electoral process could be set in motion. For reasons unknown and interference of certain Cricketing clubs, affiliated to JKCA, with vested interests the registration process was stalled and till intervention of the Honorable Court could not be registered", informed Brig Gupta. He further informed that the present Constitution of JKCA was formulated in 1957.

The Honorable Supreme Court of India while hearing the matter today has ruled that the Constitution approved by the BCCI for JKCA which was placed before the Court shall be the final and the elections to be conducted in conformity with this approved Constitution soon. Certain clubs had once again tried to stall the process and filed a supplementary affidavit submitting their objections to the BCCI approved Constitution for JKCA. But the Supreme Court upheld the BCCI approved Constitution and dismissed their claims viz a viz objections to the approved Constitution for JKCA were concerned. Mr Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General of India appeared for the BCCI and was assisted by Advocate Achyut Dubey on behalf of the JKCA. Brig Anil Gupta and Mr Mithun Manhas represented the Sub Committee during the crucial court hearing today.

Brig Anil Gupta (retd)
Member Administration