BEFORE JUSTICE DEEPAK VERMA (RETD.) OMBUDSMAN DELHI & DISTRICT CRICKET ASSOCIATION

ORDER DEALING WITH DISPOSAL OF APPLICATION DATED 14.02.2020 FILED BY DDCA

- 1. On 14.02.2020, I had sent a mail to Mr. Vinod Tihara and Mr. Rakesh Bansal (DDCA Secretary and DDCA's Acting President respectively) wherein I had enquired about the measures and steps taken by Apex Council in conducting the elections for the post of President and Treasurer.
- 2. In the same mail mentioned above, I had also directed the Apex Council to hold the election by the end of March, 2020.
- 3. However, yesterday evening itself, I have received an Application which has been filed by DDCA, wherein it has requested and prayed for a change in the direction passed by me on 14.02.2020.
- 4. In the Application filed by DDCA, it has stated that, it would not be feasible for DDCA to hold the elections by end of March as the dates of Elections would coincide with the schedule of Indian Premier League (IPL) which is starting from 28.03.2020. DDCA has further stated that, under the IPL Protocol, Delhi Franchisee i.e. *Delhi Capitals* has to be given possession and handover of the Arun Jaitley Stadium, at least a month before the opening match.
- 5. In furtherance of the same, *Delhi Capitals* would enter into an Agreement with the DDCA. Moreover, Office Bearers of DDCA interact with the IPL Team Owners on a daily basis and the entire process is quite tedious & hectic. DDCA further stated that, IPL Franchisees will be using DDCA office premises and staff for the arrangement of matches. Logistics for national and international players (playing for *Delhi Capitals* along with their support staff etc.) has to be arranged by Franchisee in tandem and assistance from the DDCA staff and management. DDCA also stated that, the account staff, the administration and ground staff of DDCA get involved in the process to assist IPL Franchise.
- 6. It has also been informed to me that, DDCA gets financially compensated and earns remittance from the BCCI and the IPL Franchisee for holding IPL matches at Kotla Stadium. By citing the broad reasons mentioned above, DDCA had prayed that the date for holding elections for the post of President and Treasurer be postponed till 11th May, 2020. DDCA has further submitted that, any date be kept for holding the elections after 11.05.2020.
- 7. Looking at the facts and circumstances mentioned above, I am of the opinion that, it would be justified and proper, if the Elections are held after 11.05.2020. In terms of the same, prayer made by DDCA is hereby accepted and the elections for the post of President and Treasurer of DDCA be conducted only after 11.05.2020.

- 8. Mr. Navin Chawla (Former Chief Election Commissioner of India) who has been appointed as the Electoral Officer for conduct of the Elections has also been informed about the said application filed by DDCA. The exact date of AGM/EGM in which Election is to be conducted shall be communicated to everyone shortly, after consultation with Mr. Navin Chawla.
- 9. With respect to the remuneration, which is to be paid to the Electoral Officer, I request DDCA Officials to submit before me, details of the remuneration which was provided to the previous Electoral Officer (who had conducted the Elections in 2018).
- 10. In terms of the above, Application filed by DDCA on 14.05.2020 is disposed off.

Date: 15.02.2020 Place: New Delhi

> Justice Deepak Verma Ombudsman DDCA