

## REJOINDER TO COA's REPORT in WP ( C ) 1163/2017 IN SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

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The Committee of Administrators (COA)

Dated: 14/11/2018

Board of Control for Cricket in India

Mumbai - 400020

Subject: Continuing Colossal Fraud through Cricket

- Reference: 1. Report dated 22/10/2018 by committee of administrators in terms of Hon'ble Supreme Court's order dated 7/5/2018 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1163 of 2017
2. Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1163 of 2017 and I.A.'s no. 13606/2018 and 59570/2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with sense of an acute pain that I have to say the following in reference to above.

It can be well understood that it is next to impossible for COA / BCCI to publicly accept the concept of Cricket being a colossal institutional fraud, especially when one of the two members of the Committee herself is an ex-cricketer, but then Truth will have to be faced square in the face at some point of time. Then why not do it earlier than later? Can someone come along and just declare that gravitation didn't exist on earth? COA have done something like that in their report. As some recent developments suggest, time is fast approaching when it will become more and more difficult for the cricketing world to hide from the truth. One expected a much better, more objective, and meaningful report from the man of stature that the present Head of COA is, especially since no one else has shown much interest in curbing this nation damaging fraud. It may be appropriate to call it a continuing national disaster. But the COA, to use Churchill's words, have acted as men of straw, at best.

The peculiarity of cricket fixing is that those who are supposed to curb it and act as authority on the subject don't know or understand much about it since they don't know much about betting,

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session betting, and bracket betting; whereas scripting of matches and fixing is governed by all such betting – the same being the very purpose of it. Most of cricket journalists and sports editors would also fall in that category. It is for this reason that while those in authority remain ignorant or unconcerned, many among bettors are becoming aware of cricket being an institutionalized fraud slowly but surely through my books and Facebook page of Bettors Beware.

Apart from session betting, the matches are scripted with timing of wickets and partnerships to ensure movement of betting odds in matches in a way such as to trap the punters and maximize profits for the betting mafia. It is for this reason that we come across sudden flurry of wickets followed by long partnerships or vice versa, or totally one sided matches between two equally capable teams happening quite often. The wickets tumble and partnerships blossom against run of play for this very reason. This has been illustrated and explained for many matches in my books and the Facebook page of Bettors Beware earlier on. I don't do it much now because of its repetitive nature. No doubt, now and then a few matches are scripted to make punters win and feel happy to keep them going and trapped.

It is rather strange that most of the people, especially cricket journalists, don't realize a very elementary thing, that spot-fixing – as the session fixing is popularly called - does imply match-fixing also. Whole has to be a function of its parts.

I could have appreciated if COA had expressed helplessness in tackling the fraud given how monstrous it has become, as they did during the meeting with us, rather than foolishly, haughtily, and deceitfully denying its very existence in the report now without being able to counter a single piece of evidence out of all the evidence brought out in the petition. Why did Sh. Vinod Rai repeatedly tell us during the meeting that they shared our concerns if all along he had decided that the petition was bunkum? Would he please explain this? Is it not clear that COA have been under some compulsions now to give such a shabby, dreadful and deceitful report on such a grave matter?

This rejoinder to the subject report by COA will bring out how COA have gone back on their words (that is the trigger for my anger), how they have overlooked all the evidence that was before them, to suit themselves, and how they have been wilfully misleading. It will also bring out some recent international developments that further confirm the contents of the petition. This rejoinder is also being made with a hope that the COA will heed my request and will duly review their decision and report in the light of contents of this rejoinder.

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I am aware that this rejoinder would sound repetitive at many places. But there is no harm in being repetitive; rather it is required to be so, when those being addressed have shown themselves to be morons.

The above report by the COA is not only extremely disappointing, but also shocking.

It is shocking because I don't find anywhere in this report even mention of two specific things that the COA explicitly promised when they met with us, the petitioners, at New Delhi on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017. One, they promised investigation of the IPL-10 final by ACSU of BCCI, even though I wanted it to be done by outside agencies independent of BCCI. Two, on my request of getting the twitter handle @theDcricket duly questioned & investigated to ascertain what was going on behind the curtains, Sh. Vinod Rai, the Head of COA mentioned that they would do better than that. He assured that they would recommend to the Hon'ble Supreme Court to get him investigated. That gave me a ray of hope since this twitter handle is very clearly an insider who knows all about the script of matches across the world from T – 20 leagues to international matches, as his hundreds of tweets for over a year make abundantly clear. He must be knowing all about the scripting and fixing of matches, maybe many times more than the underground Aneel Munawar. He is available in the open. And yet while ICC is hunting for or feigning to be hunting for untraceable Aneel Munawar, they have been acting blind to the existence of @theDcricket and his tweets, in-spite of their and COA's attention having been drawn repeatedly by me to this fact. **I find this bizarre.** Turning a blind eye to the tweets of @theDcricket conspicuously shows the complicity of ICC, BCCI and now even COA / BCCI in the continuing fraud that the game of cricket has become. It is akin to the police when faced with a murder, turning a blind eye to existence of a key witness who had seen it all and knew all about it, and whose existence is well known to the world. The fact that this open ignorance comes after the COA having explicitly suggested the opposite in our meeting (as confirmed by the brief minutes of the meeting e-mailed by me to the COA on 17/7/2018) brings to question the earnestness and integrity of the committee. That email is reproduced below verbatim:

Atul Kumar  
Tue 17/07/2018, 15:32  
Committee of Administrators;  
Rahul Johri;  
Karina Kripalani;  
shantanunewshound@gmail.com

□

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This is to convey thanks for holding the meeting today and to put the outcome of the meeting in a perspective (in confidence).

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It was disappointing to learn that the purpose of this meeting was primarily only to hear us out and the meeting was not to be much interactive as COA was not to apprise us of their viewpoint. However, still the following transpired as a result of brief discussion that took place:

1. COA indicated that it would recommend to the Hon'ble Court to order thorough investigation into the tweets by @theDcricket for over a year now. Though it is extremely unfortunate that such an action has not yet been initiated by the concerned authorities, we applaud the indicated action by the COA. An honest and thorough interrogation/investigation of him/his affairs would definitely help spill many beans and many skeletons will come out of the cupboard. That alone will be a significant step in the right direction.
2. COA indicated that they were as concerned about the state of affairs as us, the petitioners. Though they felt that the solutions suggested by us were rather impractical. We maintain that the solutions suggested, though may appear to be extra-ordinary, were necessitated considering how bad things were and given the very grave and serious implications of how things are continuing.
3. Nevertheless we requested that COA might please go ahead with practical solutions such that the action taken should have some telling effect given how wrong things had gone, at least to make a significant start.
4. To that effect, it was suggested to get the IPL 10 final that was under shadow for fixing as detailed in the Writ Petition to be investigated in a transparent manner by the Police/concerned authorities, with public knowledge so that a message goes out to restore some of the public confidence. But BCCI officials wanted the investigation to be by ACU in a confidential manner. The COA appeared to be agreeing to that. We still feel that such an investigation may not serve much purpose and there was a stronger possibility of things being swept under the carpet in due course with an in house investigation by BCCI. The COA may kindly take final call in this regard.
5. The COA indicated their inclination to strengthen ACU and to put a strong ACU in place to instill fear in the minds of evil-doers. This was welcome, reiterating that implementation and putting the ACU to effective use were more necessary, mere making of regulations without implementation didn't mean much as the past results/present state of affairs showed.
6. The meeting ended on a rather positive note, giving us hope that something effective and good may eventually come out of it in the larger public and collective national interest.

It is requested that the COA while submitting their report to the Hon'ble Supreme Court in terms of their order dated 7/5/18 in WP ( C ) 1163/2017 may also please convey the

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inputs/suggestions given by me earlier in deference to the COA's desire, to the Hon'ble Supreme Court with/without COA's comments as deemed fit.

Page | 5    Regards  
Atul Kumar

This mail and its contents were not made public by me till date since I had felt that COA won't like it to be so, but I am compelled to do so now. This record goes a long way in calling the bluff of the subject report by COA.

The twitter handle @theDcricket (Cricket Insider) hasn't been someone who only makes predictions about outcome of a match that may come true or may go wrong. Anyone in the street can do that. COA didn't need to tell me /us that. @theDcricket has not only been making predictions but has been claiming a number of matches being fixed and his having confirmed information on the scripts of matches. He openly says he has to pay for getting information and it is money that makes all the merry go round in the world of cricket. He gives inside information not only about outcome of matches but also on session scores. And it is not for one or two matches but has been going on for hundreds of matches for over a year. It is a matter of record that even my specific complaints to the concerned authorities on this count have fetched nothing. There is nothing new in my mentioning this now since this all has been detailed in the writ petition 1163/ 2017 and additional documents submitted during course of that petition. It is rather unfortunate and a waste of my time and energies that I have to repeat it all here. Repetition has become necessary to bring home the point that it was in the background of these material facts that COA promised as they did to recommend to the Hon'ble Supreme Court to get @theDcricket thoroughly questioned and investigated. Though reasons for not mentioning of this in the above report now despite above background will be best known to COA, the fact does put a big question mark on the intentions and integrity of the COA themselves. The hundreds of tweets by @theDcricket for over a year have been so revealing and so clear an evidence for institutionalized fixing of cricket matches (if one had slightest mind and could apply it) that these render anything else said / work done or anything that will be said or done to tell that cricket was institutionally fixed redundant. One will understand the import of this if one went through hundreds of his tweets, some of which were

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also documented in the petition and additional documents. A very few recent ones are reproduced below for ready reference:

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**Cricket Insider** @theDcricket Nov 7

Now my PREMIUM LINE for complete two upcoming tournaments 1. [#WomensCricketTournament](#) 2. [#mzansisuperleague](#) 15000₹ For any single tournament PREMIUM LINE 10000₹ FOR any single Match 4000₹ Interested Whatsapp or TELEGRAM +91 9100544879

**Cricket Insider** @theDcricket 1h1 hour ago

You can't believe that I have 10K + WhatsApp contacts from around the globe. Now having 2000+



PREMIUM MEMBERS [#cricketinsider](#)

**Cricket Insider** @theDcricket Oct 26

[#PAKvsAUS](#) Pakistan vs Australia 2nd T20I I have this match GUARANTEED REPORT with one session. PREMIUM LINE 5000₹ Interested Whatsapp or TELEGRAM 9100544879.

**Cricket Insider** @theDcricket Oct 22

Fixing is in every sports nowadays. I'm agree with this there is no break point for this. Even [#APLFinal](#) Match has been fixed. [#spotfixing](#) [#cricketmatchfixers](#) [#cricketinsider](#)

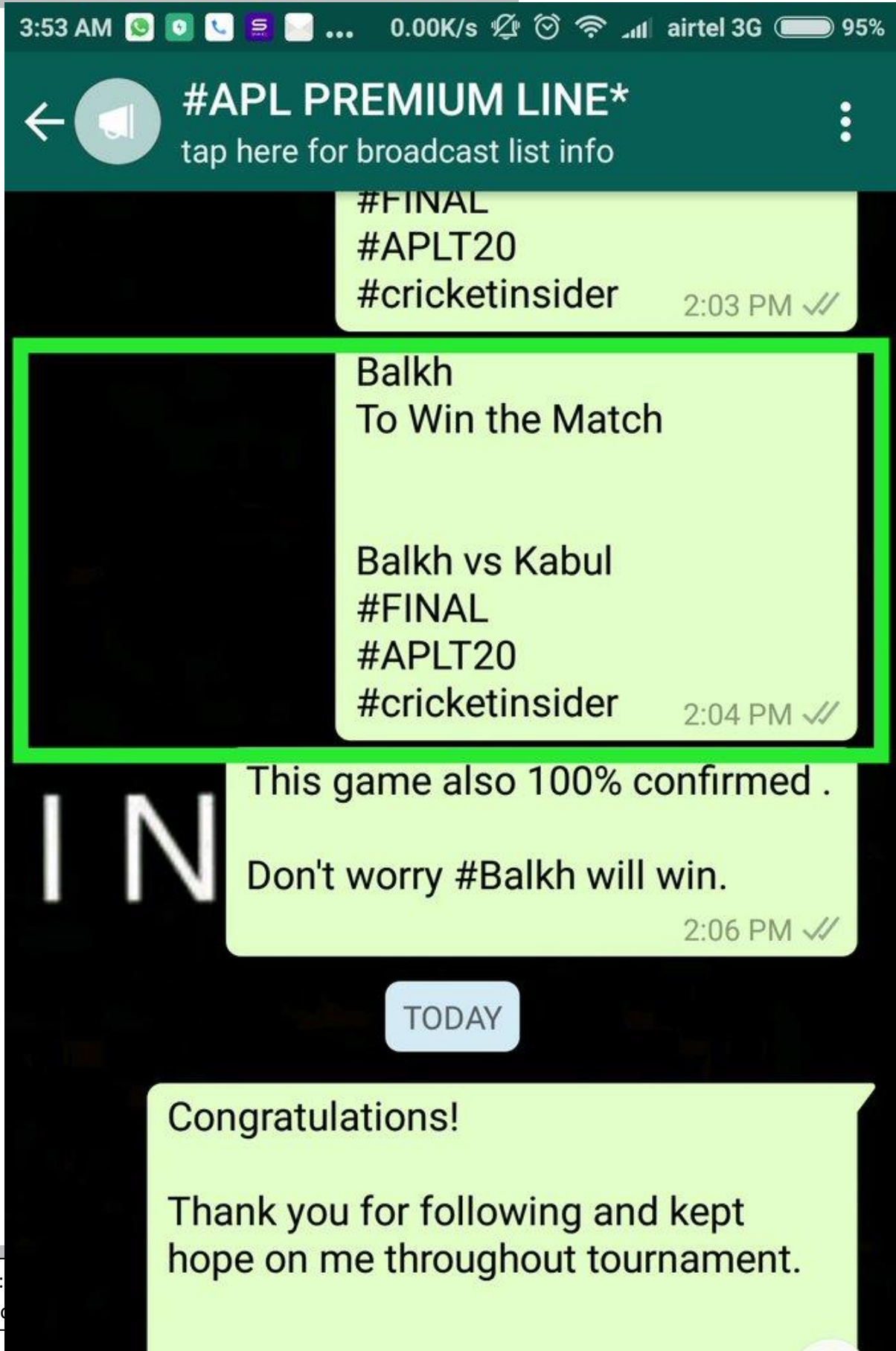
**Cricket Insider** @theDcricket Oct 21

Congratulations! [#Balkh](#) won !! Thank you for following and kept hope on me throughout tournament. Little mistakes and sorry for that. See you all on November for SOUTH AFRICA LEAGUE. [#APL20Final](#) [#cricketinsider](#)

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[Cricket Insider](#) @theDcricket Oct 20

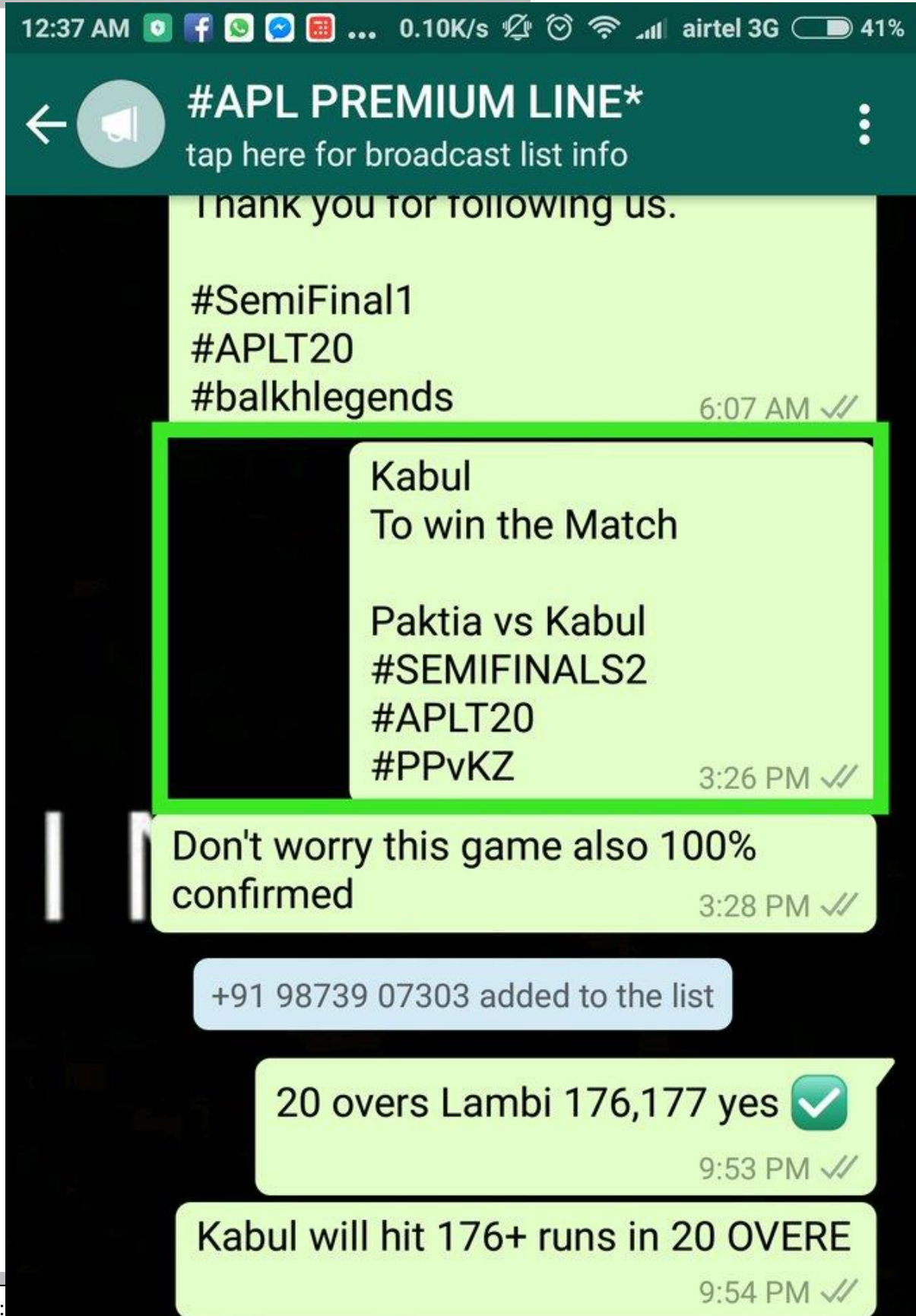
Congratulations !! Kabul won !!! See you tomorrow at 3:15PM [#BalkhVsKabul](#) [#Final](#) [#APLT20](#)



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TODAY

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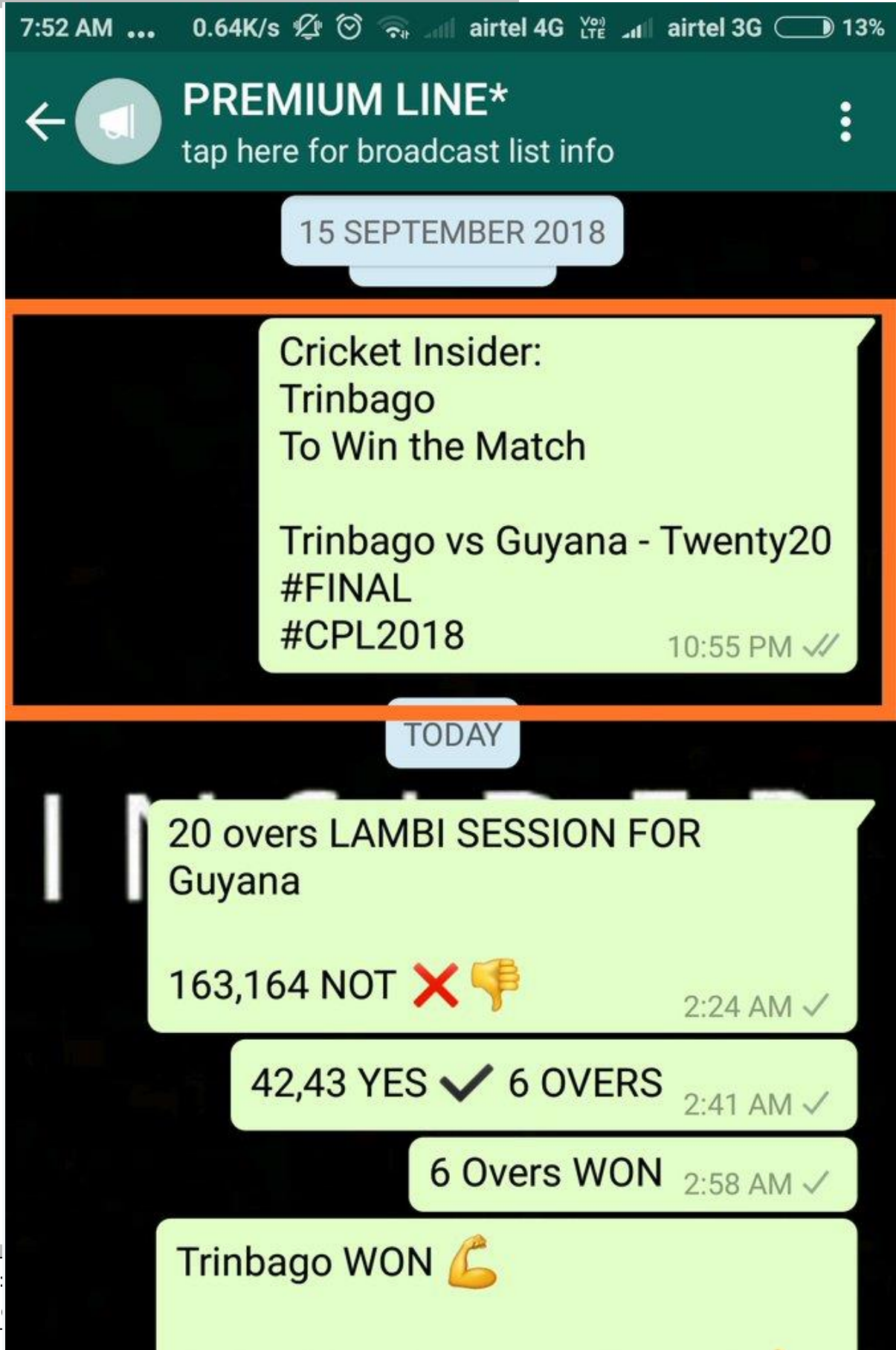
[Cricket Insider](#) @theDcricket Sep 16

Trinbago WON BACK TO BACK #CPL WINNERS . THANK YOU AND BYE-BYE !

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**Cricket Insider** @theDcricket Sep 16

#Guyana #Trinbago #GAWvsTKR #Final Final #CPL2018 PREMIUM 2000₹ Will share guaranteed 3 Sessions 20 Overs lambi 15 Overs Powerplay (6Overs) Interested Whatsapp or TELEGRAM 9100544879

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These are only some sample random tweets out of hundreds of such or even more telling tweets. He has been tweeting and charging money for giving prior information about scripts of almost all T 20 leagues across the world including Indian TNPL, KPL, and IPL. By his own account more than 2000 people are paying him to get prior information about matches from him. The information given by him is often astonishingly right. After having promised in the meeting that they would recommend to Supreme Court to get him investigated, COA now suddenly summarily dismissed in passing that all this meant nothing and concluded that it was only a case of some predictions coming true by chance.

Acting complete blind to these explosive tweets for over a year, the world has been moving on continuing to celebrate an open and blatant fraud as a competitive sport. Didn't these tweets call for a high level thorough investigation long ago?

It is true that Sh. Vinod Rai, ex- CAG of India and now Head of COA is a retired seasoned bureaucrat of great stature and repute who himself had exposed a massive public scam. It is precisely for this reason that the subject report becomes more disappointing and shocking. And these are the times when even top officials of CBI have been repeatedly coming under cloud and none other than ex-CJI was publicly charged of corruption and misdeeds. Questions were publicly raised on his working by none other than a few Supreme Court Judges – the current CJI being one of them. Therefore it would be prudent to concentrate on the facts rather than statures and reputations. And hundreds of those involved in the colossal fraud that cricket is, are celebrities and men/women of great stature and repute. The media personalities perpetrating this fraud and keeping the truth under wraps for years have no less stature. All this lies well substantiated through the petition and documents annexed therewith.

The subject report does betray lack of sense of truth, sense of responsibility, and application of mind on the part of COA. Not only that, wilful distortion of facts and mentioning those out of context with clever manipulation to run-down the petition is glaring at places (as explained in following paras). I wonder why COA had to resort to it. Why could they not deal with the momentous issue at hand honestly? Through their report, COA have not only insulted the petitioners, the hard work put in by them for years in order to expose and deal with a going-on massive public fraud with very grave national and international implications, and the

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momentous sense of the petition that goes much beyond cricket, have not only betrayed millions of honest cricket lovers, but to my mind have also insulted the intelligence and professional acumen of the bench of the Hon'ble Supreme Court that dealt with this petition.

The COA have charged now in this report for the first time that broad, sweeping, and unsubstantiated allegations to the effect that all cricket matches are scripted have been made in the petition. I do wonder if that were the case, would the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the bench of three judges comprising of CJI have had entertained such a frivolous petition and not fined or punished the petitioners? Not only did the Hon'ble Court entertain the petition, passed a meaningful order, but they also invited the petitioners to assist the Court in the main case concerning BCCI. Would any Court, and above all, the Supreme Court of India, do so if the petition contained unsubstantiated sweeping allegations, that too involving who's who of the country?

I am sure the Hon'ble Court would have expected the COA to apply mind in depth, and labour intensively to address the contents of the petition considering the gravity of what had been put forth, before they submitted their report. But as their report suggests and as would become abundantly clear from what follows they chose to be superficial and casual at best. I do understand that it would not have been easy for them to comprehend the harsh reality (if they were not in the know already), if so they could interact freely with me to understand what was what as far as our grievances and contents of the petition were concerned, but they chose to be formal and bureaucratic rather than being governed by a sense and desire to deliver in the larger public interest. They failed to appreciate that a PIL was more a matter of public interest than being something legal. To me, it is either COA's incomprehension of reality or wilful attempt to mislead the Court and the world that manifests itself in the subject report of the COA as we have seen and would see further. The latter appears to be the more likely case since COA have conspicuously acted dishonestly.

Is not it outright dishonest and cowardly for the COA and BCCI to say so in their report now behind the back of the petitioners that broad, sweeping, and unsubstantiated allegations to the effect that all cricket matches are scripted have been made in the petition? If it were so, why did COA hold a meeting with us? Why did they not mention so in their first email to me? On the contrary in their communication with me they categorically stated that extremely important issues had been raised by me/us. Why did they not tell us so in the meeting that the petition contained sweeping and unsubstantiated allegations? Had they given such an indication as to

what they thought, we could have tried to explain or requested for another meeting to explain in detail. On the contrary, Mr Vinod Rai repeatedly told that they shared our concerns. Our concerns had clearly been nothing but institutionalized fixing of cricket and its implications. I got the indication of their helplessness in dealing with the problem as it was. What was the need or sense to ask for suggestions from and discuss with those who had irresponsibly made some sweeping allegations? Why did COA not ask us how did we mean that cricket was such a colossal fraud as had been brought out in the petition, rather than asking for our suggestions? Do not the earlier actions of COA themselves contradict what they have said now in the subject report? Could sweeping and unsubstantiated allegations on one hand, and raising of extremely important issues on the other hand, go together? Is not it clear that COA have given the subject report under some duress / compulsions rather than a sense of truth and honest responsibility?

BCCI became a party to the petition by filing a caveat and were duly served copies of the petition and additional documents submitted subsequently. It had renowned senior advocates and a top law firm of the country at its disposal to represent it versus a common man - petitioner no. 1. If the petition contained sweeping unsubstantiated allegations as has been mentioned by the COA now, why did BCCI not bring it out before the Court when the petition was under its consideration and before the Court passed the subject order? Surely BCCI couldn't know what order the Hon'ble Court would pass in the absence of any counter from them. What fear did BCCI have? What did it have to hide from public glare? Why were petitioners not taken to task before the Court for having made unsubstantiated sweeping allegations? Won't it have been correct to resolve the issue in the open Court rather than COA passing unilateral cowardly judgement now sitting in office? **Do COA not understand that their saying now that the petition contained broad and sweeping unsubstantiated allegations has no sanctity whatsoever and it only shows COA and BCCI in poor light?** If the petition contained sweeping unsubstantiated allegations, BCCI must have told this to the Hon'ble Supreme Court when the petition was being heard by them duly substantiating their claim and countering the averments that had been made in the petition. Countering of those averments does require and did require tearing to pieces all the evidence and arguments that had been submitted in the petition, one by one. **Even in the subject report, made after months with all the cricket experts and legal luminaries at their disposal, COA have not been able to counter a single piece of evidence.** Leave alone countering, they didn't have courage enough even to mention and list the evidence furthered in the petition in their report.

The bottom line is that the petition didn't contain sweeping and unsubstantiated allegations. Whatever was brought out in the petition was painstakingly substantiated by facts, documents, and application of mind. Two books bringing out a lot of facts in support were submitted with the original petition and further two books were submitted with the additional documents. **In fact, the statement of COA that the petition contained sweeping and unsubstantiated allegations itself is a highly irresponsible and sweeping statement totally unsubstantiated.** While concluding so, COA have very conveniently picked just a few facts and mentions by me / us out of context and distorted those to state what suited them and BCCI. They have miserably failed to apply mind and go to the depth of the matter as was expected of them.

COA have stated that no reliable material was placed before them which would lead to the rather drastic conclusion that all cricket is a massive fraud on the public. As stated above, a lot of material including 2+2 books had been placed detailing how and why this not only drastic but unimaginable and almost incomprehensible conclusion became essential. To arrive at this conclusion didn't give any pleasure to the petitioners. Rather they would have been delighted if they were wrong. It is regard for Truth and application of common sense that makes this conclusion essential as has been amply brought out in our submissions and as we would see again in subsequent paras.

Here I would like the COA also to understand and appreciate that whether all matches are fixed, almost all matches are fixed, most of the matches are fixed, a majority of matches are fixed, or a large number of matches are fixed, or a few matches are fixed here or there, it has implications regarding institutionalized fixing of cricket as long as no one is or has been taken to task for fixing in such matches on the initiative of the cricket administration. And that precisely is the case. **A number of matches reported to have been fixed remain unexplained with no action having been taken against players who played in those fixed matches.** On the contrary, whenever the issue has been raised by those outside cricket administration, the cricket administration has been swift to rubbish it and brush it under the carpet. Latest Aljazeera report as would be brought out in subsequent paras is a burning example in case. Even when M S Dhoni was reported to have lied under oath in Gurunath Meyappan Case, he continued to be Indian captain even thereafter. Didn't that mean mockery of the establishment?

It was for BCCI to counter the material placed before the Court to show that the material was not reliable and all bunkum which was never done. If it were argued out in the open Court, the petitioners could bring out the reality more clearly and forcefully in full public glare. BCCI are

now trying to have the cake and eat it too. They have let the opportunity, to counter the contents of the petition and averments made, in the Court go for some pertinent reasons and now COA are trying to crush truth passing dictatorial judgements. Even now COA have made a sweeping statement betraying authoritarianism with no attempt to logically counter the material placed before the Court and available to them. This sweeping statement contradicts even what COA themselves have stated elsewhere in the report. In para 2 at numbered page 2 COA have stated that petitioners believe (the use of word 'believe' is inappropriate and mischievous) such a conclusion stands mathematically and scientifically proved in the book 'Bettors Beware'. They have conveniently forgot and overlooked to mention that the scientific proof had been got examined and found credible by a sports editor of a very prestigious English daily, and was now time tested. Without bothering to tell the world/ the Court why and how that mathematical proof was not relevant and amounted only to someone's belief, they have dictatorially stated that no reliable material was placed before them. It is just one such instance.

COA would have done well to understand that the scientific and mathematical proof mentioned by them and as mentioned by them is not something brought out anew in the petition. It has been in existence publicly duly reported in media courtesy PTI for years and has also directly been conveyed to BCCI and ICC years ago. It was for the ICC, cricketers or cricket administration, or even for someone from public to counter and challenge it there and then. The continued silence of the world over this for years has already vindicated same. Even now without countering it, COA had the temerity to say that no reliable material was there in the petition?

The COA have very shabbily, superficially, insufficiently and misleadingly summarised the contents of the petition in a small para 2 mentioned above to suit themselves. While the platform for detailed discussions and arguments on the contents of the petition was the Court and that never happened since the content was never countered in the least by BCCI or UOI in the Court, I would briefly list a few pertinent and important things already well documented in the petition and additional documents submitted (in addition to the continuing tweets by @theDcricket as already brought out above), off-hand from memory here which COA have conveniently overlooked or not mentioned or not bothered to explain before making highly irresponsible sweeping unsubstantiated statements and passing unilateral judgements:



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1. If all is so well and above board with cricket administration – BCCI and ICC – how is it that same Shashank Manohar, presently chairman of ICC, who publicly demanded CBI inquiry into all matches of IPL – 2013 forgot all about it when he himself became President of BCCI thereafter and even ICC chairman subsequently? Was he irresponsible in demanding the CBI enquiry or was he irresponsible afterwards? If he was irresponsible in demanding the inquiry, how come such a person became President BCCI thereafter and has been chairman, ICC for two terms? How come no one else from the cricketing world or media has ever questioned such a funny behaviour of the top most official for cricket administration in the world, leaving the same to poor commoners like Atul Kumar? In the absence of any plausible explanation to such behaviour, doesn't it show that there is something grossly wrong with the top cricket administrators?
2. The Cricket Insider @theDcricket tweeted a number of very peculiar predictions (detailed in the petition) before IPL–10 final in 2017 as to who would score how many runs, or hit how many sixes, or how teams will score and win/lose which proved true to the hilt except for one regarding some run-rate. Could there be any other explanation for that under the sun other than that the IPL – 10 final was fixed and scripted beforehand? The only other explanation could be that the tweets were made after the match and doctored / engineered to look as if those had been made beforehand, but nothing of the sort ever came out or was explained by the authorities. No one was ever taken up for making such doctored tweets and misguide and mislead the public. All have only maintained a deafening silence on it till date. Was it not imperative for BCCI / IPL Governing Council to respond when these prophetic tweets were reported in and by responsible media? Doesn't the silence of all concerned - the Shastris, the Gavaskars, the Pontings, the Laras, the Sehwags – the cricket world - alone amply show that cricket is an institutionalized fraud with complicity of all concerned? And now even COA have apparently backtracked on their promise/inclination to get this match investigated even in-house.
3. It was none other than an ex- Pakistani captain Amir Sohail who during Champions Trophy last year (that was eventually won by Pakistan defeating India in the final) publicly asked Sarfraz Nawaz, the Pakistani captain, in a sudden spontaneous outburst, that he should not let his team winning go to his head since the match results were governed by outside forces – something to that effect. None of that was doing of a commoner like Atul Kumar. Why has the cricket world remained silent on that? Why has no one been able to explain what that outburst meant?

4. An ex-international Australian cricketer, and one who had participated in Bangladesh Premier League (BPL), Dirk Nannes, came on record recently to tell the world that fixing and fishy things happened in BPL matches, team managements also being involved. Why has ICC and cricketing world been silent about it if cricket was not an institutionalized fraud?
5. It was not someone from the street but another ex-Pakistani cricketer and captain, Rashid Latif, who years ago explained through an article titled 'How Cricket Matches are Scripted' how session scoring showed scripting of the matches and how matches were scripted to manipulate session scoring. What is the explanation of COA to the contents of that article (copy of which lies annexed with the petition)? Why has the cricketing world been silent on it all these years?
6. Have COA fully understood the mechanics of session betting and bracket betting before concluding that session scoring meant and indicated nothing? What is the explanation of COA to tens of specific instances from all sorts of matches over the years illustrated in the documents submitted with or referred in the petition to show how correlation between session betting and plays in the field showed institutionalized fixing of matches? These have not been vague or theoretical narrations but specific instances from real-time matches.
7. Why have COA overlooked the fact of confirmation by an internationally acclaimed betting expert, Edward Hawkins, that the patterns of session scoring as occurred were not possible without scripting and fixing of matches? He understood when things were explained to him briefly.
8. Earth revolves round Sun and Sun rises in the East are scientific facts. These facts stand out not because some Court decided these to be so. These are facts that no human being in senses can deny. Similarly theory of probability also doesn't have any subjectivity and is a science. It doesn't depend on whims or judgements of any individuals. Petitioners would have welcomed if COA had been able to find loopholes in the claim of scientific proof in the book 'Bettors Beware' which they have mentioned. Even while acknowledging existence of a scientific proof, they have concluded that no reliable material was available. How bizarre and what a contradiction! That too when the proof of this scientific evidence having been got examined and found credible by a veteran sports editor was readily submitted in the petition. The same got corroborated again and again by a lot other evidence also, some of which has been listed above and some will follow.

9. COA have miserably failed to apply and address themselves to the contents of the chapter 'Large Scale Fixing Gets Established but All look the Other Way' in the book 'Bettors Beware'. This relates with the fixing episode during IPL-6 in 2013 involving Sreesanth and others. It was clear as explained in this chapter that a good number of batsmen, and some very big international names like Adam Gilchrist as a batsman, and Rahul Dravid as a captain of the bowling team had to be involved in those incidences of fixing termed as spot-fixing and widely reported in the media. Why has cricketing world been silent on this fact? Why has media been silent? Why have many of those cricketers continued to play or act as coaches, and were never questioned? Does the fact of everyone continuing to look the other way even today not announce existence and continuation of an institutionalized fraud? How come without even any attempt to counter that irrefutable logic, COA arrived at a conclusion that no material evidence was available? Have COA not been conspicuously despotic?
10. It has been reported that Mudgal report brought out the fact of one Javed Chutani, a Dawood aide, routinely opening rates for betting in cricket matches to key bookies in some south-east Asian countries. Nothing else but Mudgal report contains that '**Chutani was sure what would happen in a match and rates were opened accordingly.**' What is the explanation of COA to this if it didn't establish institutionalized fixing of cricket?
11. The book '**Fixed! Cash and Corruption in Cricket**' is a book of non-fiction written by an eminent awarded journalist Shantanu Guha Ray and published by a reputed publisher Harper Collins in early 2016. It brings out a lot which still awaits explanation from the cricketing world, and the authorities. But all have been silent as if this book and its contents didn't exist. There is more than enough in this book that tells one of continuing large scale fixing and corruption in cricket. What is the explanation of COA to the contents of this book when they claimed not to have found any reliable material placed before them? If cricket was not an institutionalized fraud why had all been keeping quiet on this book? Why were investigations not taking place based on the contents of this book?

I can go on and on if I started mentioning how specific matches over the years were nothing but fixed and scripted cricket, as has already been brought out in my books and posts on the Facebook page of Bettors Beware. All that forms content of the petition. Here I have listed only a few points off-hand ( that are already detailed in the petition with necessary documentary

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evidence) without having gone through the petition that should make sense to any intelligent mind that the COA had at best acted irresponsibly in making and submitting the subject report. To my mind, each and every one of the above points is independently sufficient to establish that cricket today is an institutionalized fraud or at least to raise a genuine question to that effect.

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COA have not bothered to address or explain any of these and considered it prudent to say that petition was all bunkum and nonsense. I do hope that the COA will realize their foolishness and foolhardiness at least now. The complete petition and additional documents submitted contain a lot more material not only to substantiate the averments made but also to make one understand what is what. It is really strange and most unfortunate that the COA preferred to go with the common pre-conceived notion and decided that they couldn't accept that all cricket was part of a massive on-going fraud without applying mind to the contents of the petition.

The COA have not only been foolish and foolhardy, but they have also been mischievous and misleading in their report by wilfully concealing a lot and distorting some other content of the petition. In para 9 b) at numbered page 9 of their report the COA have attempted to totally trivialize a laboriously detailed petition - totally substantiated as above glimpses would have conveyed to any intelligent mind - by conveying to the world as if the petition was mainly based on nothing but a foolish logic that if someone made some off-hand correct prediction then that meant the match was fixed. I do wonder what made COA to try to mislead the world through such blatant falsehood and misrepresentation of the contents of the petition. Similarly in para 9 a) they have tried to convey as if stray underperformance by world-class players or unexpected scoring in some sessions were the main reasons furthered by the petitioners to jump at conclusion of cricket matches being fixed. There could be nothing farther from the truth and COA must be knowing how misleading they have been. COA have summarised the content of the petition their own way out of context and distorting its sense and essence, excluding everything which conveyed the essence of what was said. The above were never mentioned as proof but were stated differently and in more detail with scores of supporting examples in the documents submitted or referred, only to bring home how an alert viewer could also see fixing taking place straight away without having to go into details of mathematical evidence.

I do repeat that wilful underperformance by cricketers in all departments of the game i.e. bowling, batting or fielding, especially highly trained and experienced bowlers (since batting outcome and underperformance may be explained away to have been a function of the ball received, but a bowler can bowl how he likes independent of anything else) is too conspicuous

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at times in all matches day and night – once one understood it. Fielding lapses also may be explained as momentary lapse of concentration, and that may definitely happen so naturally at times, but very often such lapses are too blatant to get explained. Many times performances are termed as ‘inexplicable’ by commentators also. And yet we know that everything man-made does have an explanation. The plays in the field are very often so inexplicable, unnatural, and absurd that even house-wives can and do see through the scripted cricket. For example, wilful crawl by set batsmen in slog overs of limited overs matches has no explanation other than that it was done for non-cricketing reasons. This is what was meant to be explained in the petition and to the COA while conveying my suggestions to them, in this regard.

It is repeated that these narrations have never been meant to be the evidence and were necessary to make one understand and appreciate the overall scenario. It could not be that cricket was institutionally fixed and yet there was no manifestation of same in the field. The bad and wrong intentions of COA become too obvious by the fact that while they have quoted out of context and distorted such narrations, painting such distortions to be the essence of petition, they have conveniently skipped to even mention many irrefutable pieces of evidence in the petition before declaring to the world that the petition was nothing but bunkum non-sense. **And the million dollar question remains, why did every one remain silent in the Court if petition was all bunkum?**

While COA have discovered that there was no reliable material before them to conclude that all cricket was part of a massive ongoing fraud on the public; I reproduce below excerpts from a very recent article in The Statesman dated 11/11/2018 titled ‘**When you have a lot of money, you needn’t be a stickler for probity**’ by Mr Pulakesh Mukhopadhyay. The article was in the aftermath of the recent tweet by Gautam Gambhir against inviting Mohammad Azharuddin to ring the bell to get the India-West Indies T 20 international at the Eden Gardens on 4/11/2018 going and response to that by a CAB heavyweight saying that Gambhir had better shut up given that he had long been in the Indian Premier League with its make-believe cricket.

“..... Well might Gambhir too have his own riposte to the IPL jibe but, when you come to think of it, global sport, rich and powerful, had got, long before this Indian barb-trading, to a point where it could be seen and felt to have out-grown both probity and even the illusion of it. **A conveyor-belt supply of evidence will fill up encyclopaedias galore, if attempted.....**”. Mr Pulakesh Mukhopadhyay is veteran sports editor of the Statesman. He is no relative of mine.

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Since BCCI have posted this unilateral dictatorial report of COA on their website without posting the contents of the referred petition, it becomes crystal clear that COA have acted so mischievously to mislead not only the Hon'ble Supreme Court but also the public and the world, and thus to sub serve the interests of the fraudsters and the mafia.

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Fate acts beyond the wildest imaginations of man and Truth has its own way of seizing up with Falsehood. As luck would have it, the biggest ever expose yet by some journalists on fixing in cricket ( <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/exclusive-spot-fixes-15-international-cricket-matches-181020142431726.html> ) was probably just waiting for the COA to finalize the subject report that was to summarily dismiss much wrong-doing in cricket and show the petitioners in poor light despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary before them, so that they would subsequently stand ashamed for having pursued the path of falsehood.

First I reproduce below the latest report dated 29/10/2018 on this expose from the link: [http://www.espnricinfo.com/story/\\_/id/25115953/al-jazeera-criticises-icc-ca-ecb-responses-spot-fixing-allegations](http://www.espnricinfo.com/story/_/id/25115953/al-jazeera-criticises-icc-ca-ecb-responses-spot-fixing-allegations)

“Television news channel *Al Jazeera* has hit out at the manner in which the ECB and CA dismissed allegations of spot-fixing involving their teams in its documentary, *The Munawar Files*, adding that the ICC had failed to answer questions about the alleged "match-fixer at the centre of our investigation" Aneel Munawar.

The documentary, the second on corruption in cricket by Al Jazeera, claimed that [up to 15 international matches](#) - several of them Tests - in the 2011-12 period had been subject to spot-fixing. Munawar was also at the centre of [their first documentary](#), which alleged that the Chennai Test in December 2016 and the Ranchi Test in March 2017 had been subject to spot-fixing by England and Australia players.

The ICC, CA and ECB said Al Jazeera had [refused to share information](#) regarding the various corruption allegations despite repeated requests, and the two national boards said there was no credible evidence to support claims of spot-fixing.

In a statement, a spokesperson for Al Jazeera's Investigative Unit said it had been five weeks since the channel put certain questions to the ICC, and now urged them to answer the following:

- "When did the ICC first became aware of Munawar and his activities and what action was taken?"

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- "What action has it taken to track down Munawar since our first documentary was broadcast on May 27, 2018?"
- "Is Munawar on the ICC's list of known match-fixers?"
- "Is it the ICC's view that some formats of international cricket, including Test matches, are not vulnerable to spot-fixing?"
- "Is the ICC confident that match-fixers cannot get close to international players?"
- "How many players, international and others, has the ICC found guilty of match-fixing or spot-fixing in the past five years?"
- "Who are those players and what were the punishments handed out in each case?"
- "Given the ICC's limited investigatory powers, what should be done to tackle the organised criminals behind match-fixing?"

In the documentary, Al Jazeera claimed that the ICC's ACU had been aware of Munawar being linked to corruption in cricket as early as 2010, when the Oval ODI between England and Pakistan was under scrutiny and subsequently cleared of suspicion. The documentary also showed photographs - supposedly taken in Colombo around the 2012 World T20 - in which Munawar appeared in the same frame as several top international cricketers.

Al Jazeera, in its statement, said the denial of the allegations from the boards "simply failed to engage with the specific and compelling evidence".

"We are particularly struck by what appears to be a refusal in some quarters even to accept the possibility that players from Anglo-Saxon countries could have engaged in the activities exposed by our programme and that the evidence we have uncovered even merits appropriate investigation," Al Jazeera said. "Rather than merely dismissing our findings, we would urge our critics to engage with their detail and, if they remain determined to argue that the spot-fixes suggested by the evidence never took place, to explain how it was that Munawar was able to predict what would happen in 25 out of 26 cases before the sessions in question had even begun, notwithstanding that the odds of this happening were many millions to one."

Al Jazeera claimed that Munawar was associated with South Asian mafia organisation D-Company, and that they had recovered a cache of recorded phone conversations

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between him and clients, in which Munawar detailed the specifics of pre-arranged spot-fixes during matches.

Al Jazeera has claimed and continues to do so that it does not have confidence in the ICC to be able to police the game.

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"The ICC has repeatedly 'demanded' that we hand over our evidence to them," Al Jazeera said in its statement. "We have always said that we will hand over our material to the relevant authorities. However, no reputable broadcaster does this before broadcast and, furthermore, as our inquiries have progressed, we have become increasingly concerned at the ICC's ability and resolve to police the game; its failure to respond to our simple, factual questions shows a disturbing lack of transparency and only aggravates those concerns.

"It is for this reason that we are in discussions with Interpol about handing over the evidence to them. We are not ruling out handing over material to the ICC - but feel that it must first accept some accountability and answer the legitimate questions raised by our investigation."

The ICC is not expected to issue a response for the moment. Further, it is believed that Munawar does not feature as a top corrupting threat in the 20-plus live investigations the ICC's anti-corruption unit is currently undertaking, other than through the Al Jazeera investigations."

Now let us try to examine and analyse above report of [espnricinfo.com](http://espnricinfo.com). If one applied a little mind to it, it confirms everything brought out in the petition. This is something that has happened thousands of miles away from us and independent of our petition. I am sure Aljazeera would even not be knowing about existence of such a petition. And yet it corroborates not only the fact of cricket being nothing but an institutionalized fraud but also grave implications of this fraud as brought out in the petition. Very briefly we shall understand that.

We shall consider here that the expose by Aljazeera is very unlikely to be bogus and they won't have claimed what they have without having supporting evidence. A channel just won't come out with some explosive claims out of thin air and telling white lies. And of course, they won't have been contemplating going to Interpol if they were not having necessary evidence.

So what did Aljazeera people tell us? They told us this vide their report dated 21/10/2018:



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“[Al Jazeera Investigative Unit](#)'s latest documentary, [Cricket's Match-Fixers: The Munawar Files](#), contains recordings of an Indian match-fixer phoning in details of spot-fixes in 15 international matches to a notorious bookmaker.

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The match-fixer gave a total of 26 predictions, of which all but one turned out to be accurate.

The [spot-fixes](#) were all session fixes, predicting what would happen in a specific session of six, eight or 10 overs.

Many of the matches involved multiple spot-fixes. In some cases, fixes were delivered by both teams.

Due to the gravity of the accusations and the prospect of criminal investigations, we are not, at present, naming the fixed sessions nor the teams perpetrating the fix because that would identify the batsmen suspected of fixing.

The 15 matches in question are:

1. Australia v England, ODI, 21.01.2011
2. Australia v Zimbabwe, ODI World Cup, 21.02.2011
3. England v Netherlands, ODI World Cup, 22.02.2011
4. Australia v Kenya, ODI World Cup, 13.03.2011
5. England v South Africa, ODI World Cup, 06.03.2011
6. England v Bangladesh, ODI World Cup, 11.03.2011
7. England v India, Test, 21-25.07.2011

8. South Africa v Australia, Test, 09-11.11.2011
9. Australia v New Zealand, Test, 09-12.12.2011
10. England v Pakistan, Test, 17-19.01.2012
11. England v Pakistan, Test, 25-28.01.2012
12. England v Pakistan, Test, 03-06.02.2012
13. Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe, T20I World Cup, 18.09.2012
14. England v Afghanistan, T20I World Cup, 21.09.2012
15. South Africa v Pakistan, T20I World Cup, 28.09.2012 ”

Sessions of 6, 8, or 10 overs are thus known to have been fixed in 15 international matches in 2011 and 2012 that included matches of ODI World Cup, T-20 World Cup, and Test matches involving teams that are considered most prestigious in international cricket. The matches mentioned are also considered most prestigious in the game. Undoubtedly top international cricketers from many countries mentioned must have been playing in the matches mentioned.

Let us now see very briefly what fixing of sessions means. Session fixing means it is fixed how many runs will be scored in the session spanning a number of continuous overs. No one or two players can ensure that. A lot many players on both sides including fielders have to be involved. All the batsmen on the crease and bowlers who bowled during those overs have to be necessarily involved. (It all lies explained in the book 'Bettors Beware' mentioned by the COA). And it is not only the final session score that is fixed or can be fixed. How the scoring continues in that session ball by ball is also to be fixed since session betting continues ball by ball throughout the session. It can also be understood this way that desired final score can't be attained suddenly until the scoring is controlled throughout the session. For example, suppose it has been fixed to score 47 runs in a session of 10 overs. That can't be achieved if 48 or more runs are already scored in first, say, 8 overs of that session.

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Then, will this fixed session not necessarily have a bearing on the final result of the match? It certainly will have. Whatever happens during a part of a match is bound to affect the match as a whole. So, we can clearly see that the term spot-fixing implies fixing of the match as a whole also. It should be rather simple to understand it.

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It is only today, after 6-7 years, that we are being told that these prestigious international matches were fixed. But commentators must have commented on these matches that time as if competitive matches were being played. Many expert comments must have been made all along and columns written analysing these matches as competitive ones for the world. Won't coaches and captains of the team have known when fixed cricket was being played in the open continuously for many overs? This is how colossal and mind boggling a fraud fixed cricket is.

Is it difficult to understand that we know today about above matches having been fixed in all probability only because someone or some people in Aljazeera toiled hard and did some extraordinary work? That it doesn't mean that only these matches were fixed and others were not? It is like a thief or murderer is caught for one crime but could have committed many crimes in the past. In this case, the crimes continue to be committed, since the fixers and actors in crime happily continue to be at large, courtesy those in authority like the current COA of BCCI who when called upon by Providence to deliver, chose to protect the crime and therefore the criminals through reports such as the subject report.

What this Aljazeera report brings out is confirmation of what the petition contains and conveys, and what stands mathematically and scientifically proven years ago from the application of principles of probability to the score sheets of cricket matches. The difference is that this Aljazeera report is comparatively given better cognizance by media and therefore people are more likely to become aware as a result of this report. This report also tells us that the match-fixer was connected with D-company. That confirms the serious implications of the fraud that Cricket is as brought out in the petition.

The beauty of that scientific proof given years ago is that it not only applied to matches in the past that time but also to the matches of the future. **It is compulsion arising out of session betting and bracket betting that session scoring and hence the cricket matches have to be scripted.** Since session betting has been continuing, the match-fixing has also been continuing.

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I feel really glad that apart from exposing fixing in international cricket, Aljazeera have also exposed inaction all these years and cover given to fixing by cricket boards and ICC through their questionnaire as reported in above espncricinfo report. That is another confirmation of the contents of the petition. **And I stick my neck out to say that like many exposes in the past this all telling expose will also lie buried or brushed under the carpet, howsoever easy or difficult it may be, and unsuspecting masses will continue to cheer when their opponents get bundled out for 104 (like in 5<sup>th</sup> ODI Ind vs WI at Thiruvananthapuram on 1/11/2018) in an ODI for betting syndicates to make a killing on the bets of that innings score as well as bets on outcome of the match.** The COA's of the world would not feel ashamed of continuing to act as total morons.

I do hope that at least after going through above, COA would realize they have been incorrect, if not outright foolish, in dismissing the petition as bunkum through the subject report. I marvel at their audacity to do so even when the Hon'ble Supreme Court had given due respect to the petition. And now they stand slapped in the face by the Aljazeera expose. Rightly so.

The COA have been mischievous also in reporting on suggestions made by me in para 6 at numbered pages 6-7 of the report. They have quoted only a part of the suggestions made out of context. The suggestions were made on being asked and with a view of same to be a matter of inter-active discussion with the COA. The COA never adopted much inter-active approach in discussion as accepted by them in the report. The alternative suggestions to ones brought out in the report have not been mentioned and discussed. Why? Many other suggestions have not been touched upon, why? COA have used words like 'insisted upon' 'would have us do' for the suggestions made by me. The suggestions are and were suggestions and the use of phrases as above for same is inappropriate. That is wilful misrepresentation in their attempt to show me in poor light, as someone obstinate and impractical. It was during limited discussion on suggestions in the meeting that two specific, not practically difficult, actions were promised by Sh. Vinod Rai, and now there is no mention of same in the report. I could never imagine that someone like Mr Vinod Rai could stoop so low. In reference of this, I have already reproduced above the minutes of the meeting with COA that I had e-mailed to protect me against such potential misdemeanour by COA.

I am not saying much about the various measures suggested by COA because that is nothing but a futile bureaucratic exercise and an eye-wash. The suggested measures aim at dealing with

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stray cases of fixing by some stray players. The reality is much different. Institutionalized fixing and fraud are things at a totally different pedestal. **The measures suggested / recommended by COA are like a doctor suggesting a patient to take *dispirin* for curing terminal cancer since without proper check-up or without applying mind he had diagnosed cancer as headache.**

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This report by COA in totality could also be termed as an exercise in taking bath while wearing a raincoat. If there was nothing drastically wrong in cricket as concluded by COA, and nothing serious involving reputed players has ever been detected by BCCI and ICC either, then what for high powered Mudgal and Lodha Commissions formed and why did they make recommendations for some stringent rules? And now COA makes some recommendations to send strong message against fixing; Why? Clear that not only COA but the authorities at large are victims of self-contradictions and self-deception. Icing on the cake is that while Commissions are being formed and they are submitting their reports, the fixed fraudulent cricket is not only continuing unabated, but prospering with mushrooming leagues like KPL and TNPL. Even as I draft this rejoinder, fixed matches in the interest of betting syndicates and mafia are being played all around.

Another recent eye-opener coming to light as I draft this rejoinder is the case of a lead investigator in 2013 IPL probe, Mr BB Misra, now retired IPS officer. About only a couple of months earlier he is reported to have told Indian Express that he couldn't investigate a certain link between an Indian player from 2011 World Cup winning squad and a bookie to a logical conclusion because of paucity of time and because it was not in his brief. Suddenly he has taken a U-turn as he was reported by PTI on 2/11/18 having said that time was never an issue and he couldn't complete his investigation because he didn't have enough evidence. This is the level of integrity/credibility of our chosen lead investigators in the past! Or is it not a matter of integrity of individuals but strength of the fraudulent forces that they can succeed in pressurizing or tempting almost any mortal to say or do anything? Whatever it is, it is another confirmation of the contents of the petition. And it puts one at loss as to what to make out of the investigations done by such investigators.

And an investigator who was really succeeding with investigations against Gurusath Meyappan, had got evidence against M S Dhoni, the IPS officer Mr G Sampath Kumar was implicated,

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suspended, and shunted out of the probe. Today he stands vindicated but the damage was done as the probe got tempered with and scuttled. M S Dhoni continued to captain India.

Apart from suggesting cosmetic changes to organization and functioning of ACU/ACSU that has been good for nothing all these years as above clearly reveals, COA have also made some farcical recommendations of some iconic players having indisputable integrity educating the players. Are there any such players in existence? Gilchrist and Dravids clearly stand implicated. Tendulkar was coach/mentor of Mumbai Indians when they played and won fixed final of IPL-10. At least they all are under cloud. All legendary players get connected one way or another with the institutionalized fraud that cricket is.

I have had first-hand experience of how good for nothing ACSU / ICC and ACU / BCCI have been. Years ago, before publication of the book Bettors Beware, when I met Sh. Y. P. Singh, the then Head of ACSU / ICC at New Delhi in order to explain to him how session betting meant institutionalized fixing in cricket, he washed off his hands saying there was no proof for session betting. My experience of that interaction has been chronicled in the book Bettors Beware mentioned by the COA. Today session betting is openly taking place on-line. Why is ACSU silent now? Now ACSU don't even respond to my mails. When fixing is so rampant, they have found it convenient to become deaf. They become blind to existence of Cricket Insider (@theDcricket) and hunt for untraceable Aneel Munawar. ACU / BCCI are no better as my recent interaction with them has told me. Only a couple of days back, someone contacted me over phone for the first time and went on to tell me that he had contacted ACSU of ICC and when he told them that he would like to demonstrate and explain to them that cricket was institutionally fixed, he was disconnected. Probably these anti-corruption units are well aware that they are redundant in the face of institutionalized fixing of cricket. Their only role appears to be to keep a watch on players so that they don't go astray and do something other than the roles prescribed for them from match to match as per pre-written scripts or don't divulge scripts to bookies or others unauthorised.

Almost every IPL season matches are reported to be fixed and under investigation. But then no one hears further or of any logical conclusion. ED had told that 5 matches of IPL were under scanner for fixing in 2015. No one knows what happened thereafter. A lot many IPL matches were widely reported to have been fixed in 2013. At least a couple of matches including final

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were publicly known to have been fixed last year in 2017. No one was ever found guilty for these numerous reportedly fixed matches. Cricket continued to be reported upon as a competitive sport in the same breath by the media.

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I have mentioned a lot in the petition and now that I could know from my limited sources of information. There may be a lot more reports on fixing I am not aware of. It is only a couple of days ago that I came across a report that Shoaib Akhtar, the Pakistani internationally famous fast bowler, had told in 2011 that match fixing was taking place all the time. That reminds me that around the time he retired, Adam Gilchrist was reported to have said that it would be naïve to think that matches were not fixed or that no fixing was taking place. Then has all fixing been taking place in some vacuum or at some another planet, since no match in last decade or more has been accepted or mentioned to have been fixed by cricket administration anywhere in the world?

COA need to ask themselves some simple questions. Is it possible that when fixed cricket was taking place in an open ground, the players in the ground, the team managers and coaches, the cricket experts would fail to notice it and won't know anything about it? If fixing were taking place only sometimes involving only some players at the behest of some bookies – as is popularly believed – how come that other players and coaches have always remained silent spectator to that? How is it that when so many matches are reported to have been fixed, no player has ever been hauled over the coals apart from some fringe action once a while ( to misleadingly show that anti-corruption bodies were at work ) and same players who had played in those matches reported to have been fixed continue to play for years thereafter?

**As things stand, isn't a very high powered SIT including sufficiently intelligent individuals of impeccable and unimpeachable integrity the minimum necessity to go to the bottom of the matter and bare all regarding cricket? It is a many-faceted, multi-dimensional fraud, with mind boggling implications. Today it becomes imperative in the larger public interest that people should know the truth from the authorities. Almost everyone is aware of existence of fixing and corruption in cricket, but they are aware only in a vague way. Not many are aware of its extent and depth. At least, people deserve to know what is what.**

**SIT is also necessary to unearth detailed modus-operandi of this mind-boggling fraud. While we know that cricket is fixed and fraudulent, we don't know the details of modus-operandi.**

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Presently it is under consideration of the authorities in India whether cricket / sports betting should be legalized or not. Necessary call in this regard must be taken considering all pros and cons with full awareness that cricket was a massive fraud taking place with the main purpose of looting bettors and punters. To my mind, the poor bettors may have better opportunities for redress of their grievances if betting were legal. This may be just one point, the authorities will have to consider other pros and cons but they must be fully aware as to what is what before taking decisions.

I have used up 10 precious years of my life (since I started writing my first book 'Inside the Boundary Line' on the subject) and a significant part of hard earned money in pursuing efforts to bring an end to this colossal fraud that is continuing to great detriment of the nation and its people. It has not been for fun and it has not been fun. To successfully file such a detailed PIL has been very laborious and not a child's play. It took months, almost a year or more since I first decided to go ahead with PIL. In fact I have been quite miserable for most of last few years. I have been trying to tell a serious truth to the world but all have been happy in their collective degradation, mainly because media in self-interest has been happy in continuing to be the preacher of falsehood selling a massive fraud as a competitive sport. It is not a joke for one man to take on combined might of all the institutions that join hands in self-interest for continuation of a public fraud. **I doubt if there is any such precedent in human history.** The real possibility of being harmed by the betting mafia was also always there. Still I took this up since I could see that there was no one else to take this up, and since I have felt concerned about far reaching and very serious national, political, and international implications of this colossal fraud all along. In the process I have not only become a target for the establishment, but have also become a pariah not only in the society but also among family and friends. Still I have continued in the hope that Truth will prevail one day and a blow to this massive fraud that goes on with the active and passive complicity of mighty institutions and hundreds of mighty celebrities and political leaders whenever that happens shall give rise to a sort of revolution that will bring an end to the culture of crony capitalism that is today ruining all institutions slowly but surely. But probably that was not to be.

I have no one else but myself to blame for my miseries since I went ahead though aware of the warning by the bard: '*sachchi baat kahi thi maine, logon ne sooli pe chadaya.....*'



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**Those who are today supervising and looking over the continuation of colossal fraud through cricket are probably unaware or unconcerned that they are sounding the death knell of the very institutions they are part of today.**

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Nothing exposes the present Modi government in India on its claims of zero tolerance against corruption more than its wilful protection to this continuing massive public fraud through institutionalized fixing in cricket despite matter having been brought to notice of PM and the government repeatedly. It goes without saying that the present finance minister of India, Arun Jaitley, has been one of the kingpins of this fraud through his long association with cricket administration and IPL. Unfortunately, through this report even COA have acted as stooge of the fraudulent and rogue Establishment.

I am already 61 and my time may be up anytime, or my faculties may cease to be what they were or are. Also life has its own uncertainties. Even otherwise, I don't know how longer I can go on like this or what else I can do. Question also arises why I should go on when whole world is happy with this manifestation of human degradation. But then is the world of intellectuals the whole world? Masses are not even aware since they are not told the truth. As Providence would have it, the COA failed to understand and appreciate the contents and spirit of the petition knowingly or unknowingly and failed to rise to the occasion. They rather chose to be ordinary mortals looking after only self-interest and self-preservation.

It is incidental that I am alive today and drafting this rejoinder. Life has no guarantee. It was not for me but for the world to act after publication of the book 'Bettors Beware,' rather after publication of my first book on the subject 'Inside the Boundary Line' and my first Press Conference thereafter in January, 2013, to take on this massive fraud. Alas! The world has miserably failed itself.

I appeal to the good sense of the COA to kindly excuse me for my anger that has been natural and well placed. In the final analysis individuals and their egos don't matter. What matters is what we could get out of life and what we could do for the humanity, especially from position

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of authority or knowledge that we got blessed with. We all have same destination. Burial ground / crematorium remains the last destination for us.

Today COA may feel intoxicated with power, but tomorrow history may rightly judge them as villains.

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And if I had been making false noise publicly knowingly or unknowingly about cricket being institutionally fixed for last 7 years through my books, published interviews, and press conferences, I deserved to be publicly hanged for harming the great game of cricket by bringing it into disrepute and for falsely poisoning people's minds all these years.

**Those who die - almost on daily basis in J&K - as a result of terror activities, substantially funded by dirty money (lakhs of crores of rupees per year) earned by betting syndicates and mafia like D-company, may not be our nears and dears; but they are and had been men and women of flesh and blood, nears and dears of some. Only very recently on 1/11/2018 even a BJP leader and his brother were killed in Kishtwar.**

**And like drug addicts, there are millions of betting-addicts who get trapped jointly by betting mafia and cricketing world to lose their wealth almost on daily basis through out and out scripted and fixed cricket. Most of them remain unaware of how they are trapped and looted, and those aware don't know what to do. While the society is concerned for the drug addicts, it remains unconcerned for the millions of victims of cricket betting. To continue to suffer becomes their fate. Those millions are also our brethren, men of flesh and blood.**

Any scope for me to doubt that cricket was a colossal fraud totally vanished when I was told by a responsible friend on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, later in the day after the meeting with the COA, that in a chance meeting a ward of a Cricket Test player who played for India in the 90's had told him (the friend) that contents of my books and petition were all correct since that player had told that ward that the players just played as per some orders and no competitive cricket on their own. I was also surprised a bit to know how old the continuing fraud was. It could well be older than the 90's also. Unbelievable, but true! Hope that COA or anyone won't quote me saying that I considered it as evidence. I am fully aware that it is no evidence till people

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deposed officially, but it did further confirm and corroborate for me what was already so clear otherwise.

God alone knows how much longer this institutionalized fraud – a very sizeable manifestation of human degradation – will continue. Though same is not necessary, my challenge as mentioned in the petition stands, from recordings of any match (whether a league match or an international match) over last decade or so, I can show any panel of cricket experts or jury how scripted cricket and not competitive cricket was taking place all along.

**To bring home the import of how big a scam the continuous institutionalized fixing of cricket for decades is, it would suffice to say that it is a scam hundreds times bigger than the currently much publicized alleged Rafale scam in India both in magnitude and reach, and many times bigger than all the scams known to man till date put together including 2G scam which Mr. Vinod Rai himself was instrumental in exposing.**

**Cricket being said to be second religion to Indians, the fact of cricket being a fraud also has a tremendous emotional bearing for the masses across all religions.**

**Through this rejoinder I urge the COA to come out of slumber, go through the petition once again and this rejoinder word by word with an open intelligent truthful mind and review their decision and revise the report in the larger public interest. In case they still have any genuine doubts about what has been stated or in understanding and appreciating what is what, I offer to come and explain across the table.**

That Cricket is a colossal institutionalized fraud is as sure as Sun rises in the East or  $2+2 = 4$ . No autocratic statements can keep the truth under wraps for eternity, even though it may not be easy for one to comprehend the harsh truth since it shatters what one has been made to believe all his life and believing what one has grown up, more so without knowing at least a bit about betting, especially session betting, which is the cause behind this fraud.

Aljazeera may go to sleep over their own reports (media and the cricketing world are already sleeping), the crusaders may take U turns like BB Misra did or may go into oblivion; there may not be any further reports about matches being fixed; viewers may continue to bite nails while regarding absurd wilful performances by teams to lose as competitive cricket; media and cricket experts may continue to sell a colossal fraud as a great sport filling columns and air-time with

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reports, analyses, and statistics and creating fake heroes; there may not be any more outbursts like Amir Sohail's or Dirk Nannes'; twitter handles like @theDcricket may stop tweeting, delete their tweets, their twitter handles may be suspended, abandoned, or manipulated; Cricket administrators of the world may continue to act blind or go back on their words; the whole world may join to echo COA's decision that cricket was not an institutionalized fraud and contents of writ petition (Civil) 1163 / 2017 were nothing but unsubstantiated sweeping allegations; everyone including me may go dead quiet; **but score books of cricket matches will continue to speak to those who wish to listen and objective application of basic principles of probability to these ( as detailed in the book 'Bettors Beware' ) shall continue to illuminate the world with the truth of cricket being a massive institutionalized fraud as long as it continues to be so.**

Since the subject report of COA has been uploaded on BCCI's website, the fair play would require this rejoinder also be uploaded alongside. In fact, they must have uploaded the petition in reference to which this report has been made, before uploading the report. Had they done o, many intelligent minds could straight away see COA's bluff. There has not been any response from COA even to my specific request to them to do so after they had uploaded the subject report on BCCI's website.

Let people judge for themselves after this rejoinder is uploaded.

Thank you.

(Atul Kumar)

CC: Registrar, Supreme Court of India in reference to references above and CA no.

4235/ 2014. He may please connect it and put it up to the appropriate bench that is considering the report of COA under reference.