

BCCI & UN Environment Agreement to Promote Green Cricket - GK Notes

The **BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India)** has signed a Letter of Intent with **United Nations Environment** to promote 'Green Cricket' in India. The BCCI & UN Agreement was signed at the BCCI's headquarters on 27th May 2018. The corporation's goal is to spread greater awareness about the crucial environmental challenges that India is facing and bring attention to the alternate and additional sustainable solutions.

What is UN Environment?

United Nations Environment is an agency under the United Nations. It is a worldwide environmental authority that forms environmental agendas and assists as commanding advocate for worldwide environment. It was recognized in June 1972. The UN Environment is Head Quartered in Nairobi, Kenya.

BCCI & UN Environment Agreement

Mr. Amitabh Choudhary, Acting Hon. Secretary of the BCCI and Mr. Erik Solheim, Executive Director of UN Environment signed a letter of intent at the BCCI headquarters, Cricket Centre in Mumbai before the **VIVO IPL 2018** final between Chennai Super Kings and Sunrisers Hyderabad. This sealed the BCCI & UN Environment Agreement.

- Through this Letter of Intent, the BCCI will encourage to decrease its environmental influence by greening its operations and appealing cricketers and followers to take up green initiatives.
- Partnering with United Nations Environment will help in making cricket more environment friendly and sensitizing audiences towards diminishing waste production during matches.
- It will also aim on pushing out single-utilized plastic around stadiums in the nation.
- This is a major step in spreading awareness about safeguarding the environment.
- This is a great strategy as it will use the power of cricket to inspire action for a cleaner environment.

- Films with messages from captains of various franchises will be aired in stadiums highlighting hazards of plastic pollution during the course of Indian Premier League.

Green Cricket Initiatives by BCCI

As global host of **World Environment Day in 2018**, India is leading the global charge to **#BeatPlasticPollution** around the world. It is estimated that the world uses **10 million plastic bags** every minute, and much of ends up in our oceans and landfills and is consumed by marine animals and wildlife. Cricket teams are already taking steps towards a greener future.

- Movies with messages from skippers of numerous franchises will be telecasted in stadiums lime-lighting threats of plastic pollution during the game of IPL.
- Similarly, a Green Protocol based on the 3Rs concept of 'reduce, reuse and recycle' was adopted by Indore's Holkar Stadium for the four IPL matches this season they hosted, as home to Kings XI Punjab
- M Chinnaswamy stadium in Bangluru, Karnataka substituted plastic cups and bottles with environment-welcoming replacements for more than 32,000 followers.
- A plastic audit is being undertaken to assess the types and volumes of single-use plastic generated and chart a course to implement waste management system
- During the course of the VIVO IPL, a film with messages from captains of various franchises was created and aired in stadiums highlighting hazards of plastic pollution.

Did You Know?

Cricket is one of the most widely played and watched sports in the country, reaching millions of homes across the country and world. In the time it takes Hardik Pandya to bowl an over in cricket, four garbage trucks of plastic are dumped into the ocean. So, Power of cricket can inspire action. The environment and sports are more closely connected than people think. If we don't have a healthy environment, then sports will not thrive.

In signing agreement, the Board of Control for Cricket in India joins a growing league of sporting events looking to reduce its environmental footprint. Although, this is the first agreement of its nature at a national scale, there have been independent environment-friendly initiatives implemented across the country

Other Initiatives by the UN

- In the United States, Adidas and Major League Soccer released special kits, made out of Parley Ocean Plastic, for matches played during the weekend of Earth Day. All 23 clubs wore shirts made from technical yarns created from plastic waste found on beaches and in coastal communities.
- Notably, Royal Challengers Bangalore has started a tradition of dedicating one Indian Premier League game each season towards environmental awareness. In that match, they swap their red kits for green ones.
- The Karnataka State Cricket Association-owned M Chinnaswamy Stadium, which incidentally plays host to Bangalore in the IPL, has phased out plastic cups and bottles with environment-friendly alternatives.

Since the uses of plastic items have increased it has become harmful to many things. We all know that plastic cannot be destroyed. Therefore the more we use plastic, the more harm to the environment. However, there are some ways to stop this. The BCCI & UN Environment Agreement is a great decision taken by BCCI to spread awareness towards the environment.

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