

Top ECB Official visits Nehru Stadium



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The England and the Wales Cricket Board (ECB) is not happy with the itinerary of its November-December tour to India, released by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) despite that top cricket officials today visited the Guwahati venue. Reg Dickason and John Carr; Director of Cricket Operations (DCO) England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) inspected the outfield, pitch and security scenario and the workout gym of Nehru Stadium the venue of 6th Indo-England One Day International(ODI) Cricket match scheduled on 29th November 2008 in Guwahati. They however didnt disclose the result of the findings this evening.

The ECB said it was disappointed that, despite its representations, the itinerary doesn't offer the thousands of supporters who follow the England team abroad, the opportunity to experience the great cricket grounds of India. The ECB is obviously not happy with the fact that major venues like Kolkata, Bangalore and Chennai did not feature in the series, which comprises seven one-day internationals and two Test matches.

The series starts with the first one-day match in Rajkot, Nov 14 and will conclude with the second Test to be held at the Cricket Cricket Club of India, Mumbai from Dec 19. Meanwhile Guwahati city is hosting the 6th ODI on 29th November 2008. Some of the smaller centres like Rajkot, Jamshedpur and Indore will be hosting the one-day matches as the per the BCCI's rotation policy.

The ECB also said that the acceptance of the itinerary remains subject to acceptable logistical arrangements and an acceptable security environment and arrangements being in place at each venue.

The itinerary: Nov 6: England team arrives Nov 9-11: Warm-up match at Mumbai, Nov 14: 1st ODI, Rajkot, Nov 17: 2nd ODI, Indore, Nov 20: 3rd ODI, Kanpur, Nov 23: 4th ODI, Jamshedpur, Nov 26: 5th ODI, Cuttack, Nov 29: 6th ODI, Guwahati, Dec 2-7th ODI, Delhi Dec 5-7: Warm-up match, Baroda Dec 11-15: 1st Test, Ahmedabad Dec 19-23: 2nd Test, Mumbai.

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