PCB Files Counter-Complaint Over Suryakumar Yadav's "Political" Remark After BCCI's Case Against Rauf & Farhan; ICC Hearing Scheduled

Tensions between cricket's big South Asian rivals have spilled off the pitch, with boards clashing over alleged misconduct and remarks. The latest development: the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has formally lodged a counter-complaint against India captain **Suryakumar Yadav**, accusing him of making a "political" statement — and now an ICC hearing is in the works.



From On-Field Gestures to Off-Field Battles

It began when the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) filed a complaint with the International Cricket Council (ICC) against Pakistan players **Haris Rauf** and **Sahibzada Farhan**. During the Asia Cup Super 4s match, Rauf is alleged to have made provocative gestures, including a "6-0" hand sign, possibly alluding to Pakistan's claims of having downed Indian jets. Meanwhile, Farhan celebrated a half-century with a "gun-firing" style bat gesture, which drew sharp criticism.

In response, the PCB moved swiftly. Their complaint targets Suryakumar Yadav's post-match comments after India's earlier match in the tournament (on September 14th), when he dedicated India's victory to the victims of the **Pahalgam terror attack** and to the bravery of India's armed forces under "Operation Sindoor." The PCB contends this amounted to a political pronouncement, inappropriate for cricket's international stage.

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ICC Hearing & Possible Outcomes

The ICC has set in motion hearings for both complaints. In Suryakumar's case, match referee **Richie Richardson** is presiding. The hearing for the PCB's protest has already occurred (on September 25), and a decision is expected soon.

If found in breach of ICC rules regarding "personal messages" or "political messages," consequences could include fines or warnings. However, much will hinge on procedural minutiae — especially whether PCB filed its complaint within the mandated **seven-day window** following the remark.

Bigger Picture

This clash underscores how deeply intertwined cricket and geopolitics can become, especially in the India–Pakistan rivalry. While cricket authorities aim to keep the sport neutral and above politics, emotions run strong in matches between these nations. The ICC's handling of both complaints will likely set a precedent for how far players and boards can go in crossing those lines.

As fans await the rulings, one thing is clear: the battle is no longer confined to the field — it has moved into the boardrooms and hearing rooms, where decisions could reshape how expressions and gestures are regulated in international cricket.

Know More: - PCB Complaints Against Suryakumar Yadav