

**We heartily Congratulate Dr. Subhasis Ray**, Assistant Professor, MBA on the publication of his book in the Springer *Sports Economics, Management and Policy* series, titled *Management of the Cricketing Ecosystem - An Analytic Approach* as its Volume 20 (Reference Print ISBN 978-981-19-6481-7; Electronic ISBN 978-981-19-6482-4; DOI 10.1007/978-981-19-6482-4).

This book is a culmination of sustained research work on the evolution of cricket and its management to imbibe a balance between its various formats (for example, Test, ODI, T20I) by using data and analytics. The book has identified three primary stakeholders—administrators, players and spectators—each having their own ambitions which have been decoded. In order for convergence of these ambitions, it has prescribed the networked governance in lieu of hierarchic governance for the International Cricket Council (ICC), the cricket’s apex body.

There is as much dearth of academic research on this topic, as there is abundance of individual opinions from professionals related to the game. Hence at the outset, the book has created a baseline by analyzing these viewpoints against the action points taken by ICC and has underlined the lack of convergence with present way of governance. This book has created a meta-metric framework for formative assessment of influence across cricket formats. In order to assess the influence of T20 on test matches and on India’s performance, a comparison between pre-IPL period (1998–2007) and post-IPL period (2008–2017) by using this framework has been done.

Finally, this book has endeavoured to create a balance between formats that each test playing nation should play keeping in mind above-mentioned stakeholder’s aspirations.

