

## Devajit Saikia elected as BCCI Chief, replacing Jay Shah



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The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has elected Devajit Saikia as its new Secretary, succeeding Jay Shah, who recently assumed the role of International Cricket Council (ICC) Chairman. Saikia, 55, was the sole nominee for the position, and his election was officially confirmed by the BCCI in a statement on Sunday.

A former player and legal advocate, Saikia's administrative journey began in Assam, where he

served as general secretary of a local cricket club under the leadership of Himanta Biswa Sarma, now Assam's Chief Minister. Saikia later became the state's advocate general before joining the BCCI board as interim secretary.

Saikia's modest cricket career included four first-class matches for Assam, scoring just 53 runs as a wicketkeeper-batsman. Despite limited on-field success, his close ties with India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) have bolstered his rise in cricket administration.

In addition to Saikia's appointment, businessman and state cricket administrator Prabhtej Singh Bhatia was named BCCI treasurer.

Saikia's leadership marks a new chapter for the BCCI as it continues to wield significant influence in global cricket.