

PO Box 2278
Ilford
Essex
IG1 9XT

Press Complaints Commission
Halton House
20/23 Holborn
London EC1N 2JD

T: 020 7330 8796
E: info@iengage.org.uk
W: www.iengage.org.uk

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Dear Sir,

I am writing concerning the article 'Terror funded by cricket fixes', which appeared in the Daily Star on Monday 6th September, 2010 (print version attached and URL: <http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/view/152542/Cricket-match-fixing-funds-al-Qaida-terror-rings/>)

The article begins with the sentence:

'Shady Asian cricket betting rings are directly funding al-Qaida terrorism'

The article continues with details of the scandal involving Pakistani cricketers and allegations of match-fixing and returns to the subject of terrorist financing citing a security source who tells the paper:

"The case involving the three Pakistani players has initially been traced back to an Indian betting ring, but the tentacles of this operation extend into Pakistan and beyond.

"Where there are huge sums of money to be made terror groups like al-Qaida are always keen to get in on the act."

I fail to see how the conjecture of a security source on the possible criminal sources of terrorist financing could justify either the headline of the article or the opening paragraph which boldly states that the cricket betting rings are '*directly funding al-Qaida terrorism*'.

I would argue that the headline and opening sentence breach the PCC Editors' Code of Practice on accuracy, distortion and misleading information and would welcome your clarification on the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Mohammed Asif
CEO