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Vijaysinh Parmar, TNN | Nov 5, 2016, 04.00AM IST

Rajkot: If everything goes as per plan, first class cricket matches will soon be played in almost all districts of Saurashtra region.

The Saurashtra Cricket Association (SCA) has proposed to develop cricket grounds in Saurashtra region that are currently managed by the local civic bodies or the state government. The cricket body plans to hold first class cricket matches on these grounds.

"We have requested the state government to allow us manage cricket grounds in Jamnagar, Junagadh and Gandhidham (Kutch). For this we may enter into an agreement," said Niranjana Shah, honorary secretary, SCA.

"The cricket grounds in Jamnagar and Gandhidham is owned by state government and one in Junagadh is owned by local civic body. SCA is ready to develop these grounds with standard infrastructure and facilities necessary to host first class cricket matches. We have already made positive development in Porbandar where we will be given possession within a fortnight," he added.

Currently, first class cricket match is only played at Rajkot Municipal Corporation (RMC)'s stadium at Race Course and SCA's stadium in Rajkot.

"Our aim is to develop a cricket stadium in every district headquarters that can host first class matches and domestic tournaments," explained Shah, who is also chairman of National Cricket Academy (NCA) in Bengaluru.

Talking about National Cricket Academy, Shah said that the only cricket academy in the country has been allotted 25 acre of land in Bengaluru to set up world class cricket academy.

"NCA has got land to develop the cricket academy with all required infrastructure and facilities to groom budding cricketers. This is a huge success. Himachal Pradesh government has also offered land for training academy. Bengaluru and Himachal Pradesh will be most suitable place for cricket academy," said Shah