## Kashi int'l stadium to be developed as solar-powered sports venue Construction Likely To Be Completed By Yr-end

Fazal Khan TNN

Lucknow: The international cricket stadium being constructed in Varanasi will be developed as a solar-powered sports venue, officials said.

The stadium, which is being developed with modern amenities, will also focus on comprehensive waste management facilities.

Officials said that the construction work is in full swing and will be completed by the end of this year.

Talking to TOI, BCCI vicepresident Rajeev Shukla said, "Special focus is being given to the waste management plan and integration of solar energy into the working of the stadium. It will provide an opportunity to people of east UP to watch international level matches."

Officials said that an STP was being planned at the stadium to ensure smooth disposal of waste without increasing pollution,



The underconstruction international cricket stadium in Varanasi

especially in the Ganga.

The waste generated from the stadium which will draw huge crowds (approximately 30,000 at a time) would not be the liability of either the environment or the local municipal body.

"BCCI will ensure construction of an advanced rapid water drainage system. Two grounds will be set up comprising at least nine pitches on the main ground and five pitches on 'B' ground, alongside multiple practice nets for training sessions," an official said. Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association (UPCA) CEO Ankit Chatterjee said, "We plan to utilise two varieties of soil, black and red, for pitch construction. Black soil will be sourced from Odisha while red soil will be procured from Maharashtra."

He added that 40% of the stadium's work had been completed.

UPCA secretary Arvind Srivastavasaid, "As the stadium will be ready by year-end, Varanasi will witness big ticket games in 2026."