

# India to play in 2012 Champions Trophy

Page - 12

## OLYMPIC SPECIAL EDITION



HOCKEY INDIA

# Newsletter



## Dr. Narinder Batra Message from Secretary General

The Olympic Games are round the corner and there is a great deal of anticipation about the Indian men's team that will compete in London. To me and to all of us in Hockey India, it was immensely gratifying that 26 Golden Greats, Indian players with Olympic Games gold medals, turned up at an emotional function on July 24 in Delhi to wish the Indian team well at the London Games.

In the time since we released our first newsletter in June 2012, we have taken significant strides. As many as 32 men and 32 women have been awarded annual central contracts from July. Similarly, 32 Junior Men and 32 Junior Women are being given monthly stipends of Rs 10,000 each for a year to facilitate them buy equipment and place less financial burden on their families.

There is enormous interest among sponsors and, at Hockey India, we are thankful to Sahara India and Aircel for being Team sponsors.

I am sure you will share my belief that these are exciting times for hockey in India.

## Indian team gets a unique send-off to Olympic Games



Indian Team and Golden Greats of Indian Hockey with Mr. Ajay Maken, Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports (Independent Charge), Mr. Arun Jaitely, Member Rajya Sabha, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Acting President IOA, Ms. Mariamma Koshy, President Hockey India & Dr. Narinder Batra, Secretary General Hockey India in a group photo

There was not a single throat that was not choked, not a single heart that didn't beat faster when Golden Greats, 24 India players with the distinction of winning Olympic Games gold medal, came together with the 2012 squad bound for London under one roof at a memorable function in New Delhi on July 24.

"Today is the biggest day of my tenure as Sports Minister -- and perhaps of my life," said Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Mr Ajay Maken,

summing up the emotions that prevailed in the Crystal Room at Hotel The Lalit. "There can't be a better way to wish the Olympic team than have all the greats present here."

Hockey India brought up the function, presenting 36 Golden Greats with cheques of Rs 2 lakh each. Leslie Claudius, who was part of Indian teams that won three gold and a silver medal in Olympic Games from 1948 to 1960, was among the biggest draws. The team of 1980 was also a sentimental favourite for many in the audience.

Indeed, the Bharat Chetri-led Indian team could not have had a warmer farewell than with blessings of those who have experienced the joy of winning the Olympic Games hockey gold medal in the past.

Coach Michael Nobbs was touched by the presence of the legends. "India has been the greatest hockey team for many, many years. We wish to continue on the same tradition you have left for us. We are totally committed to this challenge. It is a great responsibility and we hope to live up to it. It means a lot to the players to be representing India," he said.

Mr Arun Jaitely, Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha and Indian Olympic Association President Mr VK Malhotra were among the distinguished guests. The 1975 World Cup winning captain Ajit Pal Singh, chef de mission of the Indian contingent to the Olympic Games in London, was a stellar presence in the large audience.

Long after the formal function drew to a close, the rush to collect autographs did not cease. Old tales were resurrected as the Golden Greats were meeting their team-mates after many years. And the Class of 2012, having seen and felt the Olympic Gold medal that Gurbux Singh had brought along, renewed its resolve to do well for India in the coming Olympic Games.

### Contents

P-5 to 8  
Felicitation of Golden  
Greats

P-10  
Junior Women Team  
Bags Silver

P-11  
Technical Appointments

# Indian Team for Olympic Games 2012

## Participating Teams

Pool A	Pool B
Australia	Germany
Great Britain	Netherlands
Spain	Korea
Pakistan	New Zealand
Argentina	<b>India</b>
South Africa	Belgium

## Indian team's Olympic Games Schedule (all times IST)

July 30 (8-30 p.m.)  
vs the Netherlands

August 1 (6-15 p.m.)  
Vs New Zealand

August 3 (6-15 p.m.)  
vs Germany

August 5 (6-15 p.m.)  
vs Korea

August 7 (8-30 p.m.)  
vs Belgium

August 9 (playoffs)  
1-00 pm: For Ninth & Tenth  
4-00 pm: For seventh & Eighth  
8-00 pm: Semifinal I

August 10 (playoff)  
12-30 a.m.: Semifinal II

August 11  
1-00 p.m: Playoff for 11th & 12th  
4-00 p.m: Playoff for Fifth & Sixth  
8-00 p.m: Bronze medal match

August 12  
12-30 a.m: Final



### Bharat Chetri (Captain)

Position- Goalkeeper  
International Caps- 131  
Goals- NA  
Club- Canara Bank



### Sardar Singh (Vice- Captain)

Position- Half Back  
International Caps- 138  
Goals- 12  
Club- Haryana Police



### Ignace Tirkey

Position- Full Back  
International Caps- 249  
Goals- 07  
Club- Services



### Sandeep Singh

Position- Full Back  
International Caps- 170  
Goals- 140  
Club- Haryana Police



### Tushar Khandker

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 221  
Goals- 71  
Club- BPCL



### Shivendra Singh

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 151  
Goals- 71  
Club- Air India



### Gurbaj Singh

Position- Half Back  
International Caps- 149  
Goals- 05  
Club- Punjab Police



### V R Raghunath

Position- Full Back  
International Caps- 112  
Goals- 82  
Club- Indian Oil Corporation



### S V Sunil

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 95  
Goals- 44  
Club- Services



**Danish Mujtaba**

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 80  
Goals- 15  
Club- UP Power Corporation Ltd



**Gurwinder Singh Chandi**

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 79  
Goals- 17  
Club- ONGC



**P R Sreejesh**

Position- Goalkeeper  
International Caps- 52  
Goals- NA  
Club- Indian Overseas Bank



**Manpreet Singh**

Position- Half Back  
International Caps- 37  
Goals- 05  
Club- Indian Overseas Bank



**Birendra Lakra**

Position- Half Back  
International Caps- 26  
Goals- 04  
Club- BPCL



**S K Uthappa**

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 23  
Goals- 08  
Club- Air India



**Dharamvir Singh**

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 21  
Goals- 12  
Club- Indian Oil Corporation



**Sarvanjit Singh**

Position- Forward  
International Caps- 130  
Goals- 16  
Club- Punjab and Sind Bank



**Kothajit Singh**

Position- Half Back  
International Caps- 20  
Goals- 0  
Club- Indian Oil Corporation

**India's record at Olympic Games**

Year	Venue	Rank
1928	Amsterdam	Gold
1932	Los Angles	Gold
1936	Berlin	Gold
1948	London	Gold
1952	Helsinki	Gold
1956	Melbourne	Gold
1960	Rome	Silver
1964	Tokyo	Gold
1968	Mexico City	Bronze
1972	Munich	Bronze
1976	Montreal	7th
1980	Moscow	Gold
1984	Los Angeles	5th
1988	Seoul	6th
1992	Barcelona	7th
1996	Atlanta	8th
2000	Sydney	7th
2004	Athens	7th
2008	Beijing	Did not qualify

**Officials: London 2012**



Michael Jack Nobbs  
Chief Coach



Rajeev Mehta  
Observer



Dayal C. Stephen Lobo  
Manager



David Ian John  
Stand-in-Manager



Mohammad Riaz  
Coach



Shrikant Iyengar  
Physiotherapist



Harishankar Narayanan  
Video Analyst



Dr. B.K. Nayak  
Doctor

## Indian team spends month in Europe to prepare for the Olympic battle

The Indian men's team, which qualified for the Olympic Games hockey competition after eight years by winning the Olympic Qualifier in Delhi, completed its preparations with a series of matches in France and Spain. The team left Delhi a month ahead of the Olympic Games so that it could acclimatise itself to the colder climes of Europe and the blue turf.

The days spent in Lille, France, helped the team get used to the conditions while the time in Santander, Spain, was utilised to fine-tune the combination and get the substitutions right. Hockey India has left no stone unturned to help the team prepare for the Olympics and hopes it will perform to potential and stay on track to becoming part of hockey elite again.

Here is a look at how the matches panned out:

### 8-2

#### First Test vs France, June 28, 2012

India stepped up the intensity of its play in the second half, scoring five goals without reply, to achieve the comfortable margin of victory.

### 4-0

#### Second Test vs France, June 30, 2012

The Indian team overcame a defensive France, including three goals from penalty corners, on blue turf at Le Touquet to complete a 2-0 victory in the series. With France opting to play all 11 men

behind its own 25-yard line for much of the time, it was a different experience for the Indian team than usual. It coped well with the challenge, creating more circle penetrations than the home side.

### 3-3

#### First Test vs Spain, July 5, 2012

India and host Spain played out a vibrant draw at the new facility at La Albericia in the capital city of the Cantabria province. India trailed twice but bounced back well in a match that, with a bit more luck and pluck, it could have won against the team that is ranked fifth. Spanish goalkeeper Francisco Cortes made many brilliant saves in the final 10 minutes when India's improved fitness came into play as the visiting side laid siege on the rival circle.

### 1-2

#### Second Test vs Spain, July 7, 2012

Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh had a good outing and kept India in the hunt till the very end when Spain scored the winning goal through a penalty corner at La Albericia.

### 6-5

#### First Friendly vs South Africa, July 9, 2012

India beat back a late surge by South Africa to emerge victor in the game that was played at La Albericia. The heartening thing was that India scored five field goals and converted a penalty stroke.

### 3-4

#### Second Friendly vs South Africa, July 11, 2012

India was gallant in fighting back after South Africa took the lead at La Albericia but the Proteas ran out winner with a penalty corner goal in the final 10 minutes of the match.

### 1-3

#### vs Great Britain, First match in Tri-Nation tournament, July 14, 2012

Great Britain, host of the 2012 Olympic Games, turned in a good show by scoring three goals after India took the early lead. A couple of days later, Great Britain beat Spain 2-1 to win the league tournament.

### 1-2

#### vs Spain, second match in Tri-Nation tournament, July 18, 2012

Spain won the final league game in the triangular tournament to finish second behind Great Britain. The match was noteworthy for the fact that all goals were scored off penalty corners.



Kothajit Singh in action during first test against France



S.V. Sunil in action during second test against France



Sardar Singh in action during first test against Spain

## List of Golden Greats felicitated by Hockey India

Leslie Claudius (Gold-1948 London; 1952 Helsinki; 1956 Melbourne), Balbir Singh Senior (Gold-1948 London; 1952 Helsinki; 1956 Melbourne), Keshav Dutt (Gold-1948 London; 1952 Helsinki), Jaswant Rajput (Gold-1948 London; 1952 Helsinki), G Nandy Singh (Gold-1948 London; 1952 Helsinki)

Raghubir Lal (Gold-1952 Helsinki; 1956 Melbourne), A.S Bakshi (Gold-1956 Melbourne), Harpal Kaushik (Gold-1956 Melbourne; 1964 Tokyo; Silver-1960 Rome), Hardayal Singh (Gold-1956 Melbourne), R S Bhola (Gold-1956 Melbourne; Silver- 1960 Rome)

Harbinder Singh (Gold-1964 Tokyo; Bronze-1968 Mexico; 1972 Munich), Gurbux Singh (Gold-1964 Tokyo; Bronze-1968 Mexico), S M Ali Syed (Gold-1964 Tokyo), Charanjit Singh (Gold-1964 Tokyo; Silver-1960 Rome), Balbir Singh (Gold-1964 Tokyo; Bronze-1968 Mexico), Dharam Singh Mann (Gold-1964 Tokyo; Bronze-1968 Mexico), Darshan Singh (Gold-1964 Tokyo)



Golden Greats Jaswant Rajput, Keshav Datt (centre) and Leslie Claudius during a felicitation function.

V Baskaran (Gold-1980 Moscow), Rajinder Singh (Gold-1980 Moscow), BB Chetri (Gold-1980 Moscow), Sylvanus Dung Dung (Gold-1980 Moscow), Davinder Singh Garcha (Gold-1980 Moscow), Gurmail Singh (Gold-1980 Moscow), Ravinder Pal (Gold-1980 Moscow), M M Somaya (Gold-1980 Moscow), MK Kaushik (Gold-1980 Moscow), Charanjit Kumar (Gold-1980 Moscow), Surinder Singh Sodhi (Gold-1980 Moscow), Mervyn Fernandes (Gold-1980 Moscow), Zafar Iqbal (Gold-1980 Moscow), Mohd Shahid (Gold-1980 Moscow), A S Rana (Gold-1980 Moscow), Allan Sheofield (Gold-1980 Moscow), Gurdev Singh (Gold-1980 Moscow).

## HI decision to reward Golden Greats draws all-round appreciation

Hockey India's decision to present cheques of Rs 2 lakh each to the 34 Golden Greats, hockey players with Olympic Games gold medals, drew all-round praise.

"I am thrilled. I am on the top of the world. I am grateful for this," Leslie Claudius, three time gold medal winner, said with a youthful exuberance defying his old and frail frame. His teammates in the 1948 and 1952 Olympics sides, Jaswant Rajput and Keshav Dutt, were also touched by HI's gesture.

"It looks as if we have suddenly woken up to Indian hockey. We are overwhelmed to see these young players and wish them all the luck for the London Olympics. I am positive that they will come up with good results. The country is looking up to them," said Rajput.

HI presented cheques to each of the 34 legendary players. As many as 26 of them were present at the grand function at Hotel The Lalit. Four, including Balbir Singh Sr., could not make it due to health reasons while four others have settled overseas and were unable to attend the function. But for the 26 players, it was a memorable occasion.

On behalf of the Golden Greats, former centre forward Harbinder Singh said, "It is a great pleasure and proud privilege. It is a milestone to bring former and present players together. This will motivate the present players to do well in the Olympics."

Mervyn Fernandis, outstanding forward of the 1980 Moscow Olympic Games gold medal winning team, hailed Hockey India's decision to felicitate the Golden Greats. "It was a great occasion to meet up with teammates like (Sylvanus) Dung Dung and also offer our best wishes to the current squad," he said.

MM Somaya, one of the 14 members of the Moscow Olympics squad was moved by the care and warmth shown by Hockey India. "I had not met many of my friends for nearly two decades. It's a good way of linking up," he said.

Zafar Iqbal and Mohammad Shahid, who foxed the oppositions with their combination on the left flank during the 1980s, exchanged warm hugs while reminiscing their days of glory.

Sylvanus Dung Dung, one of the heroes of the 1980 Olympics, was overwhelmed after meeting his team-mates and Golden Greats from an earlier era. "It is a lifetime opportunity for me. I never thought I will be able to meet and interact with the legends of 1948".

# Felicitation of Golden Greats



Mr. Anupam Vasudev, Head of Marketing - Aircel presenting cheque to Mr. Rajindra Singh Gold Medalist 1980 - Moscow Olympics



Members of Executive Board, Hockey India in a group photo with Indian Team & Golden Greats



Mr. Michael Nobbs Chief Coach of Indian Team, Bharat Chetri (Captain) & Sardar Singh (Vice Captain) presenting Jersey & a Hockey stick signed by London Bound Indian Team



Golden Greats of Indian Hockey attending their felicitation ceremony organized by Hockey India in New Delhi



Indian Team and Golden Greats of Indian Hockey with Mr. Ajay Maken, Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports (Independent Charge) Mr. Arun Jaitley, Member Rajya Sabha, Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Acting President IOA, Ms. Mariamma Koshy, President Hockey India, & Dr. Narinder Batra, Secretary General Hockey India in a group photo



Mr. Ajay Maken, Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports (Independent Charge) Mr. Arun Jaitley, Member Rajya Sabha & Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Acting President IOA, felicitating three times gold medalist Mr. Leslie Claudius



Ms. Mariamma Koshy President, Hockey India, Mr. Anupam Vasudev, Head of Marketing - Aircel, Mr. K. Armugham (Journalist), Mr. Arun Jaitley, Member Rajya Sabha, Mr. Ajay Maken, Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports (Independent Charge), Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Acting President IOA, Mr. Michael Nobbs & Bharat Chetri releasing Coffee Table Book of Olympic Qualifier & a book on Hockey Olympians



Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Acting President IOA & Mr. T.P. Sinha, Senior Vice President Hockey India Presenting a cheque to Gold Medalist Olympian Mr. Zafar Iqbal



Sardar Singh Vice Captain of Indian Team, Sandeep Singh & Tushar Khandker having feel of Gold Medal won by Indian Hockey Team in 1964 during Tokyo Olympics



Mr. Leslie Claudius Three Olympic Gold Medalist wishing good luck to Michael Nobbs Chief Coach & Bharat Chetri Captain of Indian Team



Mr. Arun Jaitley Member Rajya Sabha & Mr. Ajay Maken, Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports (Independent Charge) presenting memento to Mr. Jaswant Rajput Gold Medalist (1948 - London, 1952 - Helsinki)



India claimed the bronze medal in the 21st Sultan Azlan Shah Cup at Ipoh in Malaysia on June 3, defeating Great Britain 3-1. The victory over the team ranked World No. 4 was not only sweet revenge for the 2-3 loss in the league stage but also served as a morale-booster ahead of the Olympic Games in London.

India came from a goal down to win the bronze medal play off against Great Britain. An Indian team had last secured a podium finish in the tournament back in 2007. It was the second tournament that the Indian men's team played on blue turf with yellow Kookaburra hockey balls. The players had shown great resolve in also defeating Pakistan 2-1 in its final league match.

### Results:

Date	Result	Score
May 24	Lost to New Zealand	1-5
May 25	Beat Korea	2-1
May 27	Lost to Great Britain	2-3
May 28	Beat Malaysia	3-2
May 30	Lost to Argentina	2-3
May 31	Beat Pakistan	2-1
June 3	Beat Great Britain in play-off	3-1

## India claims bronze medal in Sultan Azlan Shah Cup



Drag Flicker Sandeep Singh battles for the ball during the India & New Zealand Match in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup

### HI awards central contracts to 64 players

Hockey India has awarded central contracts to 32 men and 32 women players for the 2012-2013 season, payments being made at the end of each quarter beginning July-September this year. It marked the delivery of a promise made to the players as well as the start of an exciting new phase in Indian hockey.

"It is a wonderful step, a huge milestone in Indian hockey," said Indian men's team captain Bharat Chetri. "I know that the players are all delighted that they have been given central contracts by Hockey India. We know that we are being cared for and looked after. It will allow us to focus on what we can do – give our best at training and on the pitch."

National selectors Col Balbir Singh and BP Govinda as well as Chief Coach Michael Nobbs, Exercise Physiologist David John and Government Observer Harbinder Singh shortlisted 32 men players to be awarded the central contracts.

Also Hockey India selectors Col Balbir Singh, Thoiba Singh and Ms. Savitri Purti and Government Observer Harbinder Singh, Coach C.R. Kumar shortlisted 32 women players to be awarded the contracts.

The 64 centrally contracted players are given below-

#### Men:

**Goalkeepers:** Bharat Chetri, PR Sreejesh and P T Rao.

**Defenders:** VR Raghunath, Ignace Turkey, Sandeep Singh, Rupinder Pal Singh and Harbir Singh.

**Midfielders:** Sardar Singh, Kothajit Singh, Gurbaj Singh, Birendra Lakra, Manpreet Singh, MB Aiyappa, Bipin Karketta, Pardeep Mor and Gurmail Singh.

**Forwards:** SV Sunil, Gurvinder Singh Chandi, Sarvanjit Singh, Chinglensana Singh, Shivendra Singh, Danish Mujtaba, Tushar Khandker, SK Uthappa, Pradhanna Somanna, Nithin Thimmaiah, Yuvraj Walmiki, Dharamvir Singh, Akashdeep Singh, MG Poonacha and Prabhdeep Singh.

### Sardar declared player of the tournament



Sardar Singh receiving his award after being declared player of the tournament in 21st Sultan Azlan Shah Cup

Midfielder Sardar Singh was declared player of the tournament in the 21<sup>st</sup> Sultan Azlan Shah Cup at Ipoh Malaysia for his outstanding performance throughout the tournament. Sardar Singh was declared player of the tournament during Olympic Qualifying Tournament held at New Delhi earlier this year. He was also selected in the star XI team of FIH from the past two years.

#### Women:

**Goalkeepers:** Yogita Bali, Savita, Rajani Etimarpu, Sanarik Chanu and Sukhmani Virk.

**Defenders:** Pinki Devi, Deep Grace Ekka, Joydeep Kaur and Kirandeep Kaur.

**Midfielders:** Deepika, Sushila Chanu, Asunta Lakra, Kiran Dhaiya, Namita Toppo, MN Ponnamma and Monika Malik.

**Forwards:** Ritu Rani, Rani, Poonam Rani, Soundarya Yendala, Vandana Kateria, Roselin Dung Dung, Chanchan Devi, Anuradha Devi, Mukta Prava Barl, Lily Chanu, Rashmi Singh, Lilima Minz, Anupa Barla, Navneet Kaur, Navjot Kaur (Senior) and Neha Goel.



## Monthly stipends for junior players to reduce financial burden on their families

Hockey India has named 32 junior men and 32 junior women players who will get a monthly stipend of Rs 10,000 each, starting July 2012. The stipend would be paid to the players at the end of every quarter, beginning the quarter of July-September this year. It is an unprecedented step in the annals of Indian hockey.

Hockey India believes this amount will be of support to the players in purchasing equipment and it will further help reduce the financial burden on their families. Hockey India will also provide best quality goalkeeping kits to all the goalkeepers shortlisted in the list of junior men and junior women.

### Junior men:

**Goalkeepers:** Keshav Dutt, Sushant Tirkey and Naveen Kumar.

**Defenders:** Chandan Singh, Gaganpreet Singh, Sukhmanjit Singh, Hans Raj, Gagandeep Singh, Amit Rohidas and Sampath Kumar Maylaram.

**Midfielders:** Jatinder Singh, Manish Bishnoi, Jarmanpreet Singh, Baljit Singh, Surender Kumar, Harjit Singh, Rocky Lohchab and Suresh Toppo.

### Forwards:

Naveen Antil, Talwinder Singh, Tarandeep Singh, Amon Mirash Tirkey, Parvinder Singh, Vinit Kamble, Vikas Choudhary, Stanli Minz, Anup Valmiki, PL Thimmanna, Sukhdev Singh, Mandeep Singh, Malak Singh and Satbir Singh.

### Junior women:

**Goalkeepers:** Shweta, Bigan Soy, Jaspreet Kaur (Junior) and Sonal Minz.

**Defenders:** Apoorva Vishwakarma, Sandeep Kaur (Haryana), Jaspreet Kaur (Senior),

Sushila Lakra, Manjeet Kaur and Diksha Tiwari.

**Midfielders:** Rukmani Dodari, Anju Dhiman, Nikki Pradhan, Manmeet Kaur, Teena, Reena Devi, Renuka Yadav, Reena Rani and Shabnam Lakra.

**Forwards:** Reena Rathore, Poonam Madhuri Tete, Ritusha, Surabhi Pradhan, Julie MS Tluangi, Anima Minz, Shrishti Singh, Pratibha Chaudhary, Priyanka Wankhede, Jaswinder Kaur, Ramngaihzuali, Malkeet Kaur and Pooja Kundu.

## Junior Women bag Silver in Asia Cup

India finished the 6th Junior Women's Asia Cup championship with a silver medal – its best showing till date – as the girls lost 2-5 to China in the final in Bangkok, Thailand. Earlier Indian teams had won four bronze medals, including one in the last edition in 2008.

India led 2-0 after 25 minutes but rain made it tough for the Indian girls and the stronger Chinese had a distinct advantage after that. India's podium finish ensured the girls of a place in the FIH Junior Women's World Cup to be held next year.

The girls lived up to the expectations of the coaching staff and the countrymen, playing with confidence through the tournament, including what was deemed as an upset of Japan in the semifinals.

"There are some talented players who will grow in their career," said coach NS Saini. "Captain Ritu Rani, Poonam Rani, Sushila Chanu and Nikki Pradhan performed well in the tournament.

## Results

Date	Match	Result
Wednesday 27 June, 2012	Beat Sri Lanka	16-0
Thursday 28 Jun 2012	Beat Singapore	9-0
Monday 2 July 2012	Lost to China	2-5
Tuesday 3 July 2012	Beat Malaysia	2-1
Thursday 5 July 2012	Beat Japan (Semifinal)	2-1
Saturday 7 July 2012	Lost to China (Final)	2-5

## SAI felicitates Junior Silver Medalist Team

The Sports Authority of India felicitated members of the Indian Junior Women's Hockey team on July 9 2012, who bagged a silver in the 6th Junior Women's Asia Cup at Bangkok, Thailand, from June 27 to July 7, 2012.

SAI Director General-in-charge and Secretary Gopal Krishna along with Hockey India Secretary General Dr Narinder Batra felicitated the girls and the support staff.

Gopal Krishna lauded the girls' effort for winning a silver medal for the first time. Government Observer (Hockey) Harbinder Singh, Dr. P.C Kashyap and other SAI officials were also present at the felicitation function.



Members of Silver medalist team of 6th Junior Women Asia Cup, Bangkok in a group photo with Mr. Gopal Krishna (Director General-in-charge and Secretary, SAI), Dr. Narinder Batra (Secretary General, Hockey India), Mr. Harbinder Singh (Government Observer) and other officials

# Appointments

## Muneer appointed World League Round-1 Tournament Director



Mohamed Muneer Moghul has been appointed as Tournament Director of Hockey World League Round-1 by International Hockey Federation (FIH). The tournament will be played in Singapore from August 31 to 2 September 2, 2012.

Mr Muneer has officiated in my FIH tournaments including World Cup New Delhi 2010, Commonwealth Games 2010 Delhi 2010, Asia Games Guangzhou 2010 and many other FIH events.



Pankaj Kumar Tyagi has been promoted by the FIH to the rank of International Outdoor Umpire. Tyagi secured this promotion based on his performance umpiring the league matches between Pakistan and Malaysia, Korea and New Zealand and Korea and Malaysia at the recently concluded 21st Sultan Azlan Shah Cup tournament at Ipoh in Malaysia. He is currently working with Railways and played for the country for almost 15 years.



Suman Chumbak has been promoted by the FIH to the rank of 'International Outdoor Umpire'. Suman achieved this promotion based on her performance umpiring the league matches between Thailand and Korea, Sri Lanka and Malaysia and China and Singapore at the recently concluded 6th Junior Women Asia Cup at Bangkok in Thailand. She is currently working with Railways and played for the country for close to a decade.

## FIH selects Claudius, Prasad to officiate in Olympic Games

It is a matter of great pride for Hockey India that the International Hockey Federation has appointed RV Raghu Prasad as Umpire and Claudius de Sales as Judge for the competition at the Olympic Games in London. Hockey India wishes both success in their assignment.



After 12 years as umpire in A grade Indian tournaments, 47-year-old Mumbaikar de Sales has been officiating in FIH tournaments for the past six years. He has been appointed by FIH in

some major events in the recent past, including as a Judge on the 2010 FIH World Cup in New Delhi. He was also appointed Technical Officer for the Commonwealth Games 2010 Delhi and Asian Games in Guangzhou, China.

Claudius maiden appearance as FIH Technical Officer was in the 2006 Asia Cup, after which he was regularly posted to important tournaments like AHF Cup, Junior Asia Cup etc. "It's a proud moment for Indian hockey that Raghu and I have been appointed in the most prestigious sporting event, 2012 Olympic Games," Claudius said.



The 33-year-old Raghu Prasad, who lives in Bengaluru, has been picked as one of the 17 elite umpires. He has risen steadily from 2003 when he first officiated in international event.

Having officiated twice in the men's Champions Trophies (2005 and 2009) and two Junior World Cup Championship (2005 and 2009), he saw the first phase of his dream come true when he made his first appearance in the 2010 FIH World Cup in New Delhi.

The call-up to officiate in the Asian Games in Guangzhou came the same year. And he will make his Olympic Games debut this year. "As a World development panel umpire, it has always been my dream to officiate in the hockey's elite tournaments. Now, my Olympic dream is coming true," he said.

## Anjali declared Outstanding Performer during AHF Course



HRH Sultan Azlan Shah, President, AHF, giving outstanding performer award to Ms. Anjali Sharma

Technical official from India Ms Anjali Sharma was given The Raja Ashman Shah award after being declared outstanding performer of the Asian Hockey Federation's Technical Official Course conducted by the Asian Hockey Federation at Ipoh in Malaysia from May 28 to June 2.

Mr. Moghul Mohammed Muneer and Mr. Claudius de Sales instructed trainee officials during the course.

Among the topics covered in these courses were tournament regulations, venue and equipment inspections and hosting guidelines. Practical sessions

were also conducted during the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup tournament that was being played at the same time.

Certificates were presented to participants of both courses by President FIH, Leandro Negre.

## India to play in 2012 Champions Trophy

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) Executive Board has nominated India to play in the 34th Men's Championship Trophy in Melbourne, Australia from December 1 to 9 this year.

The nomination ends a long spell in which Indian teams have not figured in the tournament, the team finishing sixth in the 2005 edition that was played in Chennai. According to information made available by Hockey Australia, four-time defending champion and host Australia, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands and New Zealand are the other teams that will compete.

These six teams will be joined by two other nations in the tournament that will see a total of eight teams taking part for the first time. The event will be held at the State Netball and Hockey Centre which was the venue for the 2009 edition.

## Neil Hawgood takes over as coach of Women's team

Former Australian Olympian Neil Hawgood, 50, has taken over as coach of the Indian Senior Women's team at the preparatory camp that's started at SAI centre in Bhopal. "I want to make the National team a consistent performer at the international level and qualify for the 2014 World Cup and be a threat on the international stage, not just a number at a tournament," he said, spelling out his goal.



Neil Hawgood

"After watching the Junior Women's team compete in the Junior Women's Asia Cup in Bangkok, I can say without hesitation I am looking forward to the challenge," he said. "One of the first challenges I see is combining the planning of the Junior team along with the senior team's goals. With a good number of junior athletes in the senior squad, this balance will be vital to the progression of the senior team as well as allowing the Junior team to prepare for the 2013 Junior Women's World Cup."

Hawgood said his vision is to enhance an already attractive style of hockey that will balance out the attacking ability and to have a defensive side of the game that is as well respected as our attacking side. "This accountability at both ends of the field is one area that is of high importance," he said.

His coaching career spans across both men and women's hockey at the international level, being Assistant Coach at the 2006, 2010 World Cups and at the 2008 Olympics. Over the last eight years, he has been coach at the West Australian Institute of Sport, developing athletes to play for Australia.

### The list of 32 probables is as under:

#### Goalkeepers:

Yogita Bali, Savita, Rajani Etimarpu, Sanarik Chanu, Sukhmani Virk

#### Defenders:

Pinki Devi, Deep Grace Ekka, Joydeep Kaur, Kirandeep Kaur

#### Midfielders:

Deepika, Sushila Chanu, Asunta Lakra, Kiran Dhaiya, Namita Toppo, MN Poonamma, Monika Malik,

#### Forwards:

Ritu Rani, Rani, Poonam Rani, Soundarya Yendala, Vandana Katariya, Roselin Dung Dung, Chanchan Devi, Anuradha Devi Mukta Barla, Lily Chanu, Rashmi Singh, Lilima Minz, Anupa Barla, Navneet Kaur, Navjot Kaur (Senior), Neha Goel.

## Player's Milestone



India's most promising forward Shivendra Singh completed 150 international caps during inaugural match of Tri-Nation tournament against Great Britain at Santander, Spain on 14th July 2012.



India's promising youngster in the forward line Pradhan Somanna, 19 year old boy from Karnataka made his international debut against Spain at La Albericia in capital city of the Cantabria on 5th July 2012.



Karnataka boy playing at forward position Nithin Thimmiah also made his international debut against Spain at La Albericia in capital city of the Cantabria on 5th July 2012.

## Player's Birthday

### Men

Dharamvir Singh - 5 August  
Gurbaj Singh - 9 August  
Vikas Chaudhary - 16 August  
Kothajit Singh - 17 August

### Women

Balvinder Kaur - 4 August  
Renuka Rajput - 12 August  
Sonal Minj - 24 August