NEWSLETTER

COVER STORY PAGE NO. 26-29 MAY-JUNE 2021 | VOL. 55 Indian Men's & Women's Hockey Team announcement for the Olympics













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Message from Hockey India President



Mr. Gyanendro Ningombam

Namaskar,

The months of May and June were fantastic here at Hockey India. It was absolutely magnificent for Hockey India to be recognized with the Etienne Glichitch Award by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) during the virtual conference organised as part of the 47th FIH Congress in May. We are also delighted to note that the Chairman, Managing Director and CEO of Hero MotoCorp, Dr. Pawan Munjal and the Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri. V Karthikeyan Pandian, IAS were given the FIH President's Award during the 47th FIH Congress for their outstanding contributions to the sport of hockey.

Furthermore, it was also brilliant to see the Indian Men's Hockey Team Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh being re-elected to the FIH Athletes Committee for a second term. Sreejesh has made incredible contributions to the game of hockey, both on and off the field.

On behalf of Hockey India, I would like to congratulate Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra for becoming the first Indian to be re-elected as President of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) for the second consecutive term at the 47th FIH Congress. We are looking forward to working with Dr. Batra for the growth of world hockey in the upcoming years.

It was a great pleasure for us to announce the Indian Men's and Women's Hockey Teams for the Olympics in July. Both the teams have worked exceptionally hard in the last five years and we are confident that the teams will make us proud at the Tokyo Olympics.

It was also a great honour for us to announce the recommendations for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award and Dhyan Chand Award 2021. Indian Men's Hockey Team Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh and former Indian Women's Hockey Team player Deepika have played their hearts out for their country for several years and it was a great pleasure for us to nominate them for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.

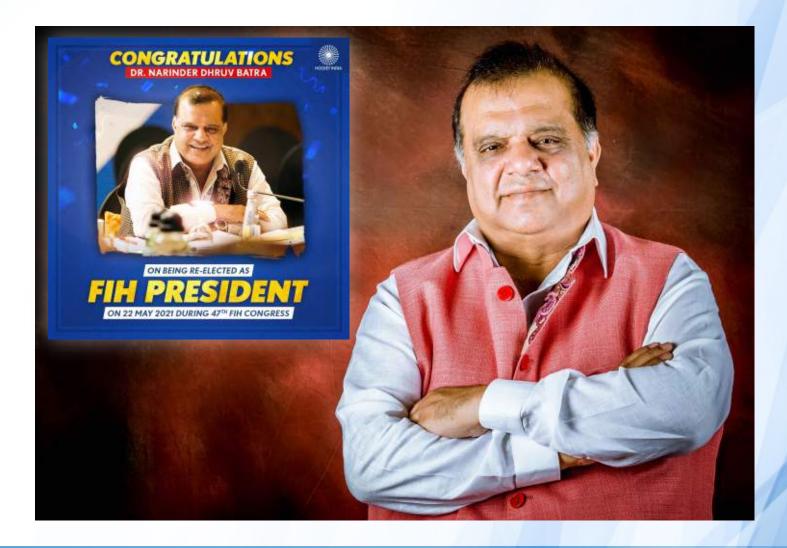
The last two months have been quite exciting for us here at Hockey India. We are eagerly looking forward to the Tokyo Olympics in July and are putting in all our focus to ensure that the teams have the best environment to practice for the quadrennial games. We will also continue putting in our efforts to grow the game of hockey in every part of India in the upcoming months.

TOP HICHLICHTS

Hockey India congratulates Dr. Narinder Dhruv Batra on being elected as President of FIH for a second consecutive term

Hockey India congratulated Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra who created yet another historic milestone for Indian sport. He became the first Indian to be re-elected as President of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) for the second consecutive term at the 47th FIH Congress on Saturday, 22nd May 2021. Dr Batra secured 63 votes out of 124 to edge past tough opponent in Belgium's Marc Coudron, the only other candidate for the FIH Presidency at the Congress.

In 2016, Dr Batra who was then an Executive Board Member of FIH as well as the Vice-President of the Asian Hockey Federation, became the first Indian to head a global sports governing body when he replaced outgoing FIH President Leandro Negre, for a four-year term. With him being re-elected for the top post, Dr Batra will continue to serve as President of FIH till 2024.



Hockey India congratulates Shri V Karthikeyan Pandian, IAS, Private Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha on being awarded with The FIH Presidents Award

The Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri. V Karthikeyan Pandian was recognized with the FIH President's Awards during the virtual conference organised as part of the 47th FIH Congress in May 2021, for his contributions to the sport of hockey.

Shri. V Karthikeyan Pandian has been rewarded for his years of hard work on the evolution of hockey. The state of Odisha has made tremendous contributions to the growth of Indian and global hockey in the last few years, Shri. V Karthikeyan Pandian has played an integral role in all the projects carried out in the state of Odisha.

The FIH Honorary Awards are given in recognition to numerous individuals, teams and organisations for their outstanding contributions to the sport of hockey.



Hockey India congratulates Dr. Pawan Munjal, Chairman, Managing Director and CEO of Hero MotoCorp on being awarded with The FIH Presidents Award

The Chairman, Managing Director and CEO of Hero MotoCorp, Dr. Pawan Munjal was recognized with the FIH President's Awards during the virtual conference organised as part of the 47th FIH Congress in May 2021, for his contributions to the sport of hockey.

Dr. Pawan Munjal has been rewarded for his years of hard work on the evolution of hockey. Hero MotoCorp has been an integral sponsor for many big world hockey tournaments and Dr. Pawan Munjal has put in tremendous efforts for the growth of the game of hockey globally.

The FIH Honorary Awards are given in recognition to numerous individuals, teams and organisations for their outstanding contributions to the sport of hockey.



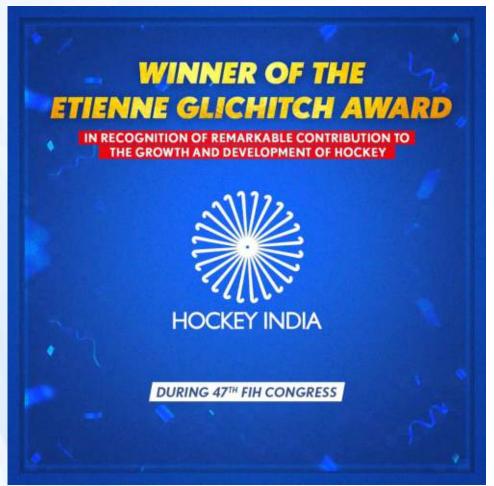
Hockey India recognized with the Etienne Glichitch FIH Honorary Award

Hockey India on 21 May 2021 was recognized with the Etienne Glichitch Award by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) during the virtual conference organised as part of the 47th FIH Congress. The FIH Honorary Awards were given in recognition to numerous individuals, teams and organisations for their outstanding contributions to the sport of hockey.

One among the three National Associations that were honoured with different awards for their outstanding efforts, Hockey India was awarded for their remarkable contribution to the growth and development of hockey through innovative ideas. The award is given once in two years by the EB on the recommendation of the awards panel.

The award is named after Etienne Glichitch who was the Hon. Secretary of the FIH from 1966 until 1984, when he became the President, a post which he held until 1996. His dynamic approach and dedicated commitment to the sport laid much of the groundwork for the FIH as it is known today.

Etienne Glichitch award is given in recognition of an individual, Continental Federation or National Association having made significant contribution to the growth and development of hockey at the local, continental, national or international level, particularly but not limited to administration, governance, innovative ideas and selfless dedication to hockey.



Hockey India congratulates PR Sreejesh for his re-election to the FIH Athletes Committee

Hockey India congratulated Indian Men's Hockey Team Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh on being re-elected to the FIH Athletes Committee for a second term. The announcement of the appointment was made during a virtual meeting of the executive board on 20th May 2021.

Sreejesh, who has played over 200 matches for the Indian team and has been a part of numerous victories for the national side, first joined the FIH Athletes Committee in 2017. The FIH Athletes Committee consists of current and former players who make recommendations to the FIH Executive Board, FIH Committees, Advisory Panels and other bodies on behalf of all athletes for the development and promotion of various resources and initiatives required for the growth of players and the sport of hockey.



PR SREEJESH

Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) continue to organize Online Education Workshops exclusively for Hockey India Coaches and Umpires

After the successful completion of the AHF Online Education Workshops exclusively for the Hockey India Coaches, Umpires and Technical Officials from July 2020 to April 2021, the Asian Hockey Federation (AHF) conducted another set of Online Education Workshops during the period of May and June. A group of 12-30 Coaches and Technical Officials attended four AHF Online Education Workshops in May and three in June.



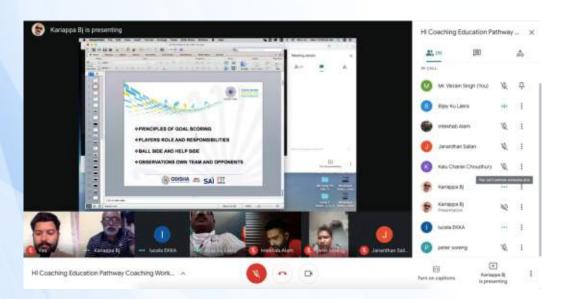
Aimed at providing technical expertise and knowledge on various aspects of game analysis for the Coaches and communication for Umpires, these online education workshops conducted free of cost, consisting of a three to four hours' sessions each.



Specialised Coaching Workshops for Hockey Coaches of DSYS, Odisha

Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway conducted Specialised Coaching Workshops for Coaches of Department of Sports & Youth Services, Odisha from 8 May to 24 May 2021.

FIH Level '2' Certified Coach and FIH Academy Educator, Mr. B J Kariappa conducted the workshops on various topics which included - Essential Skills Without Ball & With Ball, With Ball Attacking & Goal Scoring Skills, PC Attacking & Defensive Skills to name a few. Over 7 Hockey Coaches from the Department of Sports & Youth Services, Government of Odisha actively participated in all the workshops conducted over the course of 17 days.





Hockey India Announces Recommendations for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award And Dhyan Chand Award

Hockey India on 26 June 2021 announced the nomination of Indian Men's Hockey Team Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh and former Indian Women's Hockey Team player Deepika for the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award while Harmanpreet Singh, Vandana Katariya and Navjot Kaur have been nominated for the Arjuna Award.

For the Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement, Hockey India has recommended former India stalwarts Dr. RP Singh and Ms. M Ch. Sanggai Ibemhal. Coaches BJ Kariappa and CR Kumar have been nominated for the Dronacharya Award.

AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS BY HOCKEY INDIA



Hockey India celebrates Olympic Day 2021 by bringing the hockey community together through exciting activities

Hockey India celebrated the 73rd Olympic Day with its Member Units showcasing Olympic values among the young children, players, coaches and administrative staff, by taking part in various activities while respecting the social distancing and safety guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Hockey India Member Units conducted activities for Olympic Day through the week of 21st June 2021.

The theme for this year's Olympic Day celebrations is the Year of the Youth and keeping that in mind, Hockey India's Member Units marked this special Olympic Day in the year of Olympics with activities that spread the message of spirit of sportsmanship and unity

through hockey-focused activities including quizzes, drawing competitions and essay writing competitions on Olympic Day and Olympic values, along with spreading awareness on the importance of healthy living, staying indoors and staying fit. Through the activities conducted on Olympic Day, it was Hockey India's ambition to strengthen the link that children, young people and adults have with the sport, and through these activities it brought together people from different walks of life, different age groups, without any gender and physical biases, to provide an opportunity to reminisce their favourite Olympic moments and promote the Olympic values.





Hockey India conducts five more podcasts as part of the Hockey Te Charcha podcast series

Launched on 14th April 2021, exactly 100 days ahead of the Tokyo Olympic Games, Hockey Te Charcha is a special podcast series initiated by Hockey India - the governing body for Hockey in India - to provide the fans a unique experience of engaging with and getting inspired by the icons of Indian hockey by listening to their incredible journey. Hockey India conducted five podcasts in the months of May and June.

After a candid chat with hockey legends Harbinder Singh and V Baskaran in the first and second episode respectively, Hockey India spoke with Helen Mary Innocent, one of the most successful women's hockey goalkeepers in the history of Indian hockey, in the third episode of the podcast series.

Hockey Te Charcha in its fourth episode featured

one of India's most successful dragflickers VR Raghunath. With over 200 international caps for India, this two-time Olympian and former India defender was part of some of the most remarkable victories in Indian hockey including the Asian Games Gold in 2014, Asia Cup Gold in 2007 and Silver in 2013, Silver in 2014 Commonwealth Games and many more.

In the fifth episode of Hockey Te Charcha, Hockey India spoke with Olympian Tushar Khandker. While Tushar recalled his formative days in the sport, he spoke a great deal about the current Indian Men's Hockey Team with whom he had closely worked between 2014 to 2016 as their Assistant Coach ahead of the Rio Olympic Games.

In an insightful conversation in the sixth episode of Hockey Te Charcha, the veteran hockey Coach Roelant Oltmans delved on many factors that would prove crucial in a team's success in Tokyo, while, in the latest episode of Hockey Te Charcha, Hockey India caught up with International Umpires Javed Shaikh and Raghuprasad RV, who have been appointed by the FIH to officiate at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.











ALL THE EPISODES ARE AVAILABLE ON Spotify

Hockey India launched the Flashback Series in the lead up to the Tokyo Olympics

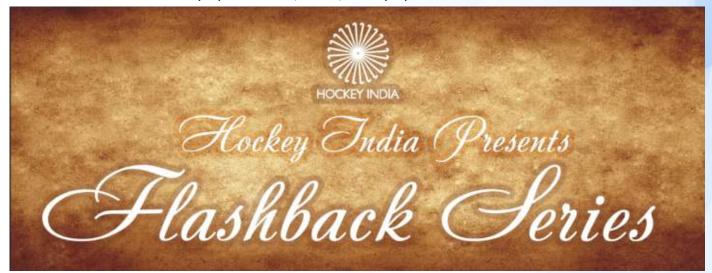
With less than a month to go for the Tokyo Olympic Games, the Olympic fever is slowly engulfing the entire sporting world. While the Indian athletes carry out their high-octane practice sessions, it's time for the hockey fans relive the memories from the triumphant Olympic campaigns in the past through Hockey India's Flashback Series.

In the days leading up to the Tokyo Olympics, Hockey India has started bringing thoughts, anecdotes and trivia from past Indian Hockey players who ruled the world with their sleek technique and panache.

Former Indian Hockey Forward Gurdev Singh kicked off the Hockey India's Flashback Series with memories from the 1956 Olympics in June, while,

in the second article of Hockey India's Flashback Series, legend and former Indian hockey team's Captain Charanjit Singh reminisced his two Olympic medal winning feats and the golden era of Indian Hockey at the quadrennial Games.

In the third article of Hockey India's Flashback Series, legend and former India Captain Gurbux Singh reminisced India's historic campaign at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games where India beat arch nemesis Pakistan 1-0 in the Final and in the fourth article of Hockey India's Flashback Series, Indian hockey stalwart and former Captain Ajit Pal Singh got nostalgic as he recalled his dream Olympic debut and India's back-to-back Bronze medalwinning feat at the 1968 Mexico and 1972 Munich Olympic Games.











Hockey India condoles death of Ravinder Pal Singh

Hockey India mourns the death of 62-year-old Ravinder Pal Singh, who was part of the Gold Medal-winning side at the 1980 Moscow Olympics. He passed away on Saturday, 08 May 2021 in Lucknow due to covid-related complications.

The former centre-half of the Indian Men's Hockey Team represented the national side in a number of tournaments which included the Champions Trophy in Karachi (1980, 1983), World Cup in Mumbai in 1982, Asia Cup in Karachi in 1982 and the Los Angeles Olympics in 1984.



Hockey India mourns the death of MK Kaushik

Hockey India mourns the death of 66-year-old MK Kaushik, who was a part of the Gold Medal-winning side at the 1980 Moscow Olympics. He passed away on Saturday evening, 08 May 2021 in Delhi due to covid-related complications.

Arjuna Awardee MK Kaushik had coached both Men's and Women's teams during the 1990s and 2000s. Under his coaching, the Indian Men's Hockey Team won the Gold medal in the 1998 Bangkok Asian Games and the Indian Women's Hockey Team won Bronze Medal at the Doha Asian Games in 2006. He was also the Assistant Coach of the Indian Men's Hockey Team, who won the Asian Games Gold in 2014. For his contribution to Indian Hockey, he was also bestowed with the Dronacharya Award in 2002.



Hockey India mourns the sad demise of former Indian Junior Men's Player George Fernandez

Hockey India mourns the death of 67-year-old George Fernandez, former Indian Junior Men's player. He passed away on Sunday, 09 May 2021 in Bengaluru due to covid-related complications.



The Retd. Assistant Customs Commissioner (Karnataka) represented the Indian Junior team in 1975 playing at the forward position. He also played for his home state Karnataka at the junior level in the year 1975-76.

Hockey India mourns the death of former Indian Junior Men's camper Sanjib Barla

Hockey India mourns the death of 34-year-old Sanjib Barla, former Indian Junior Men Camper. He passed

away on Sunday, 02 May 2021 in Rourkela due to covid-related complications.

Barla, who was part of the Indian Junior Men's Camp in 2009, played for Odisha in various domestic hockey competitions. The 34-year-old also worked for Western Railways in Mumbai.





Hockey India mourns the sad demise of Ex-India player Usman Khan

Hockey India mourns the demise of 76-year-old Ex-India International Usman Khan. He passed away in



Madanapalle, Andhra Pradesh due to prolonged battle against cancer. Khan is survived by three sons and a daughter. Khan, a retired Assistant Commissioner of Customs, Chennai, was a stylish left winger. He played hockey at the Madrasi Azam Ground before he shifted to Kolkata and joined the Customs.

Hockey India mourns the sad demise of Hockey India's Technical Official Rabbi Roshan

Hockey India mourns the death of 44-year-old National Technical Official Rabbi Roshan. He passed away on Thursday, 03 June 2021 in Bihar due to prolonged illness caused by covid-19.





Rabbi began officiating in 2010 and had last officiated in the recently concluded 1st Hockey India Sub Junior Women Academy National C h a m p i o n s h i p 2 0 2 1 i n Bhubaneswar, Odisha from 17 - 25 March 2021.

Hockey India condoles the sad demise of Former National Hockey Umpire Ravinder Singh Sodhi

Hockey India on mourned the sad demise of 66-year-old National Hockey Umpire Ravinder Singh Sodhi. He passed away in New Delhi on Wednesday, 12 May 2021 following covid-related complications.

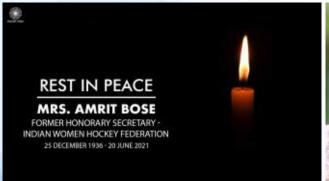
The former National Hockey Umpire and the Technical Official, Ravinder had officiated in several top domestic hockey events. He had also officiated at the Indira Gandhi International Hockey Gold Cup Lucknow in 1988.





Hockey India condoles death of former Indian Women's Hockey Federation Secretary Amrit Bose

Hockey India mourns the death of 84-year-old Amrit Bose, who held many important positions in the hockey





circuit in India. She passed away on Sunday, 20 June 2021. Along with being the Indian Women's Hockey Federation Secretary, Amrit Bose also carried out tenures as an International Technical Official and President of the Delhi Women Hockey Association.

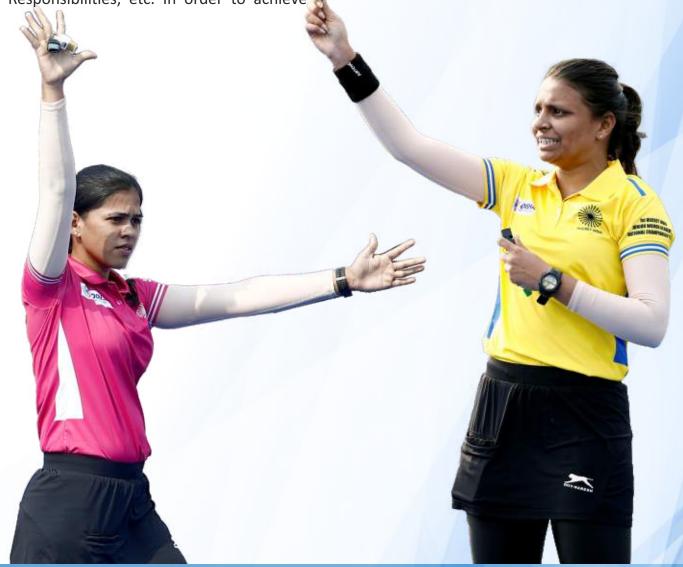
Hockey India adds 126 candidates to Hockey India's Potential List of Umpires & Judges

Hockey India has successfully added 126 candidates to Hockey India's Potential List of Umpires & Judges after conducting two sets of online workshops from September 2020 to March 2021 as a part of the induction program for the new Umpires and Technical Officials in the HI officiating system.

The Induction program for both Umpires and Technical Officials are divided into 3 different levels. Level 1 sessions are designed to provide the candidates basic knowledge of the latest FIH Rules and Regulations of Hockey, Officials' Roles and Responsibilities, etc. In order to achieve

Level 2, a candidate has to pass an Online Test based on the Level 1 sessions attended earlier.

Level 3 sessions are based on FIH General Tournament Regulations, FIH guidelines for fitness of Umpires, information on match reports and statistics for technical officials (Judges), HI Grading Guidelines, importance of performance feedback reports and knowledge of various operational tools. After the completion of the Level 3 workshops, the final assessment of the eligible candidates were made through an Online Viva.



FEATURE STORY

"Being named as a Vice-Captain for Tokyo Olympics is a matter of pride for me," says Indian Men's Hockey defender Birendra Lakra

The Indian Men's Hockey Team Defender Birendra Lakra, who has been appointed as a Vice-Captain along with Harmanpreet Singh for the Tokyo Olympics 2020, expressed that this Olympics is special for him and being named a Vice-Captain of the team has only made this all the more special.

"This will be a very special Olympic Games as we have prepared really well and are poised to win a medal in Tokyo. Being named as a Vice-Captain along with Harmanpreet Singh is a matter of pride for me and over these past years with India we have seen players show great mental toughness during our preparations despite these trying times. We just hope to make the hard work and sacrifices count by winning big," stated Lakra.



The experienced defender missed out on the Rio Olympics due to a knee injury and therefore he was very keen on making it to the final team list for the Tokyo Olympics. Having made the cut for his career's second Olympics, the 31-year-old player said, "It was really hard time for me in 2016 when I missed out on the chance of representing India in the Rio Olympics. After my recovery, my sole goal had been

to ensure that I am fit and absolutely ready for the Tokyo Olympics. I had worked very hard on my game in the last five years, and I was very determined to make it to the Indian squad for the Tokyo Olympics. I played at my absolute best during practice and gave my 100 percent in every training session to make the cut for the final list. I am really happy that all my hard work has paid off, and I am looking forward to giving my everything to win a medal for the country."

The veteran defender, who has played 197 matches for the Indian team, also said that the team has gained a lot of confidence after playing well in the tour of Argentina in April.

"The tour of Argentina has given us a lot of confidence in our abilities. We played very well as a unit, and we took away a lot of positives from that tour. We noted down a few things that we need to work on post the tour and we are currently working on each of them at SAI Centre, Bengaluru. By the time the Olympics start, I think we will be fully prepared to play at our best," said Lakra.



FEATURE

Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway benefits over 1000 candidates in India

In pursuit of developing Coaches from the grassroots and enabling them to meet the requirements and the ever-growing demands of international hockey, the sports' governing body in India launched the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway in March 2019.

The meticulously-designed program, which has aimed to provide certification to those candidates who are already Coaches or wish to pursue Coaching as a career option, has benefitted over 1000 candidates since 2019. This simplified education structure has provided certification to develop Coaches from grassroots through to a high performance/ International level. The program has consisted of a combination of web-based modules and face-to-face interactive courses, underpinned by a competency-based assessment process.

A host of former India Hockey players and coaches from every region of the country have attended various Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway courses since its launch in 2019.

Speaking on participating in the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway 2021, Arjuna Awardee & Olympian Dr AB Subbaiah said, "The Coaching Education Pathway started by Hockey India is a very good program. I recommend all the young aspiring coaches of India, who want to pick up coaching seriously, to undergo the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway. This is where one can learn all the modern techniques from the very experienced national coaches as well as former players, who have undergone FIH level coaching courses."





Former India Captain & Olympian Bharat Chetri also lauded the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway, "I feel having a systematic coaching structure is a massive aspect when it comes to development of players and the sport in the country. The improvement that we have seen in the last decade where both our teams have risen in FIH World Rankings is down to Hockey India's efforts of improving both the domestic structure, as well as providing upcoming coaches with the right insights through the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway."

Olympian and Arjuna Awardee Deepika said that she has learned how to utilize her experience as a player to coach young players at the grassroots level.

"I have learned a lot through the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway. I have learned how to utilize my experience and passion to coach players at the grassroots level. I would like to thank Hockey India for starting the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway for experienced players like us," said Deepika.

Former International Dipika Murty who represented India at two Senior World Cups feels about Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway that "Experience has been extremely good, important thing which has been learnt during the Hockey India Coaching Education Pathway Coaching Courses and which she would like inculcate in coaching is to get down to the level of the players, focus on the basics and while Coaching the players, also take feedback from players."



Indian Men's Hockey Team Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh also shared his thoughts on the Hockey India Coaches Education Pathway, "Earlier, coaches had to travel abroad to attend & get certified by FIH. It was cost-heavy as they would have to spend from their own pocket for travel and accommodation etc. But with Hockey India launching this program and subsequently organizing FIH Level 1, FIH Level 2 and higher levels here in India and FIH Educators coming to impart their knowledge, it has become so much easier to get certified. I have also spoken to some of the former players who have attended these courses to understand better and they have all given me positive responses."

Long list of former India Players who attended Hockey India Coaches Education Pathway includes Indian Men's & Women's Hockey Team, Indian Women's Hockey Team Captain Rani, Asunta Lakra, Helen Mary, Sanggai Chanu, Soundarya Yendala, Poonam Rani, Pritam Siwach, Yogita Bali, Joydeep Kaur, Vickram Kanth, Bharat Chikara, Deepak Thakur, Shivendra Singh, Prabhjot Singh, Devesh Chauhan, Rajnish Mishra, Sameer Dad, Vikram Pillay, Devinder Walmiki, Yuvraj Walmiki, Didar Singh, Tushar Khandker, Sabu Varkey, Davinder Kumar, Lajrus Barla, Adrian D'souza, Gavin Ferreira to name a few.

The Hockey India Coaches Education Pathway hasn't only catered to the major states of the country but has encouraged candidates to join the course from all parts of India – Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Puducherry, Goa, Jharkhand and Odisha, among others.

The Hockey India Level 'Basic' Coaching course (Online) saw the highest number of participants from the North-Eastern State Member Units which include Hockey Arunachal, Hockey Nagaland, Hockey Mizoram, Tripura Hockey and Assam Hockey.

Ramthrnghaka Israela from Hockey Mizoram said that the Hockey India Level 'Basic' Coaching course (Online) has encouraged him to go further.

"I have learned so many things through the Hockey India Level 'Basic' Coaching course (Online) such as the qualities required to become a good coach, how to communicate with team members and the kind of relationship needed between the players and coach. This course has given me ideas, knowledge and confidence. It has encouraged me to go further. I am very grateful to Hockey India for giving me this opportunity to take part in this course," said Israela.



COVERSTORY

Indian Men's & Women's Hockey Teams Announced for Tokyo Olympics 2020

As the world eagerly counts down to the 2020 Summer Olympics, to be held in Tokyo, Hockey India announced the final men and women's teams which will take part in the summer showdown in Japan. As India hopes to break the hockey medal drought at the Olympic Games, both squads feature an ideal combination of steady experience and new blood.

The 16-member strong women's team has eight experienced veterans, along with eight new faces who will get a chance to make their Olympic debut for India. These debutants include drag-flicker Gurjit Kaur, Udita, Nisha, Neha, Navneet Kaur, Sharmila Devi, Lalremsiami - who is the first player hailing

from Mizoram in the team, and Salima Tete who led the Indian team at the 2018 Youth Olympic Games at Buenos Aires to a silver medal performance. They will be joined by eight stalwarts in Rani - who continues as Captain, Savita & Deep Grace Ekka - as a Vice-Captain, Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam, Monika, Nikki Pradhan, Navjot Kaur and Vandana Katariya; who have had the experience of representing India at the historic appearance of the Indian women's team at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games after a gap of 36 years. These eight players have amassed a mammoth total of 1,492 caps between them for Team India and will be tasked with leading the charge for Indian eves in their quest for Olympic glory.



This will be the Indian Women's Hockey team's third appearance at the Olympic Games and their second consecutive outing, with previous appearances coming in 1980 and 2016. The Indian Women's Hockey team have seen a steady rise over the past few years, clinching Olympic qualification for a historic second consecutive occasion on the back of their consistent performances in qualifying events. Since Rio 2016, the team has experienced the highs of winning the 2016 Asian Champions Trophy, 2017 Asia Cup, the Silver medal at the 2018 Asian Games and making it to the Quarter

Finals of the 2018 Women's World Cup for the first time in history.

Speaking on the team selection, Chief Coach Sjoerd Marijne said, "This team has worked very hard over the last few years and has made progress consistently. There's a good mix of experienced players and new talent, which is excellent. We look forward to taking on the best in the world in Tokyo. This is a team with a lot of potential and drive which we hope to channelise to our best performance yet."

GOALKEEPER



Savita (VC)



Deep Grace Ekka (VC)



Nikki Pradhan





Gurjit Kaur



Udita



Reena Khokhar

Nisha



Neha



Sushila Chanu **Pukhrambam**



Monika



Navjot Kaur





Namita Toppo



Rani (C)



Navneet Kaur



Lalremsiami



Vandana Katariya



Sharmila Devi

Meanwhile, the men's team, features as many as eleven Olympic debutants including Amit Rohidas, Hardik Singh, Vivek Sagar Prasad, Nilakanta Sharma, Sumit and forwards, Shamsher Singh, Mandeep Singh, Dilpreet Singh, Gurjant Singh and Lalit Kumar Upadhyay. Birendra Lakra will also make his awaited debut appearance at the Games

after missing out in 2016 due to a major knee surgery. The fresh squad will find ample guidance and experience in Captain Manpreet Singh and goalkeeper PR Sreejesh, both of whom are set to play in their third Olympics, along with veterans Harmanpreet Singh, Rupinder Pal Singh, and Surender Kumar.



#HaiTayyar

Indian hockey has an illustrious history in the Olympics, with the men's team having won a whopping 11 Olympic Medals which includes 8 Gold, 1 Silver and 2 Bronze Medals. However, it has been 41 years since an Indian hockey team last won an Olympic Medal and both the squads are determined to change the course of history in Tokyo. With their eyes on the goal, the players, coaches, and

the federation have worked relentlessly over the last few years to realise this dream. The preparations have included numerous international tours, successful showing at international tournaments such as the Asian Champions Trophy and the Asia Cup, and strenuous national training camps which helped the players remain focussed despite the repercussions of the pandemic. Speaking on the team selection, Chief Coach Graham Reid said, "It has not been an easy process to make the final selection of 16 players as there is a lot of quality and ambition in this group of players. The performance levels of all the athletes are at an optimum level and more importantly they work well together. They know what it means to represent the country at the Olympics. We

are now focussed on training with the same intensity and our goal is to put forward our best performance as a collective unit in Tokyo."

As the 2020 Tokyo Olympics inches closer, we proudly cheer on these 32 men and women as they pour their heart and soul into making the country proud.

GOALKEEPER



Sreejesh P.R

DEFENDERS



Harmanpreet Singh (VC)



Rupinder Pal Singh



Surender Kumar



Amit Rohidas



Birendra Lakra (VC)



Varun Kumar (Ap Athlete)



Hardik Singh



Manpreet Singh (C)



Vivek Sagar Prasad

FORWARDS



Nilakanta Sharma



Sumit



Shamsher Singh



Dilpreet Singh



Gurjant Singh



Lalit Kumar Upadhyay



Mandeep Singh



Simranjeet Singh (Ap Athlete)

FEATURESTORY

"If we win in Tokyo, our medal will be dedicated to the Covid warriors and frontline workers of India," vows Indian Men's Hockey team Captain Manpreet Singh



With the COVID-19 pandemic disrupting human life around the world, countless frontline workers risked their lives for the sake of others and spared no effort in fighting the deadly virus. Hence, in a bid to pay tribute and show respect to all the COVID warriors, the Indian men's Hockey team, who will be taking part in the upcoming Tokyo Olympics, have vowed to dedicate their performances to the true heroes of our country.

As a token of gratitude, Indian Men's Hockey team Captain Manpreet Singh vowed to fight all the odds to win a medal for India at the Olympics and dedicate it to the frontline workers of the country.

"As we work hard towards the upcoming Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, we promise to fight all odds to win a medal for India. And if we do get a medal, we would like to dedicate it to the true heroes of our country – the doctors and frontline workers who have worked tirelessly to heal our country through these tough times and saved millions of lives. Thank you, Jai Hind," stated Manpreet in a video message released by Hockey India earlier in June.

With less than one month remaining for the Tokyo Olympic Games, the World No. 4 side continues to give their best and are leaving no stone unturned in their training at SAI Centre, Bengaluru.

Skipper Manpreet stated that he is proud of his team and has full confidence in the final squad which has been selected for the Tokyo Olympics.

"I am really proud to witness the kind of dedication each player is showing in the ongoing National Camp. Representing India at the Olympics is a huge honour and a dream for every athlete. Everyone is pushing each other to give their best shot," said Manpreet.

He added, "The final squad for the Tokyo Olympics has been selected after an intense procedure with international tours in Argentina and Europe, followed by selection trials at the National

Camp in SAI Centre, Bengaluru. I have faith that the selected players have all the qualities required to help India mount the challenge for the Gold medal in Tokyo."



ODISHA

FEATURE STORY

Rani & Co. to dedicate their Olympic performance to Covid Warriors and frontline workers of India

In 2020 when India was grappling with a series of nationwide lockdowns due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Indian Women's Hockey Team took up a unique challenge of raising funds in order to help feed more than 1000 families from economically under privileged backgrounds. They raised over Rs 20.00 lakh through a 21-day online fitness challenge.

In 2021, ahead of the Tokyo Olympic Games 2020, the Women's Hockey Team has yet again taken up a challenge and this time they have vowed to dedicate their performance in Tokyo to the Covid Warriors and frontline workers of India. In a video message released by Hockey India on June 15, Skipper Rani said, "This Olympics is unlike any other in the past. Our country has been through a lot, and we are proud of our doctors and frontline workers who have selflessly worked to save lives. As we work hard towards securing a medal at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, we pledge to dedicate our efforts and hopefully our victory to these Covid Warriors. We are all here and safe thanks to them. Thank you, Jai Hind."

Rani further stated that this unanimous decision will further fuel the team's aspiration to finish on the podium in Tokyo. She said, "When we take up a vow like this, there is an added onus on us to do exceedingly well. Winning for India is always a goal but winning for our countrymen and women who have made many sacrifices in order to save lives during this pandemic will make it a truly special outing in Tokyo for the team."

Rani further stated that the team feels inspired by the duty-bound doctors, nurses and several other paramedics who have tirelessly worked without a break since the pandemic first broke out in India last year. "We draw a lot of inspiration from these great people who have risked their own lives to save others. We have come across numerous such stories of sacrifice and humanity. As players, the only thing we can give in return for their great efforts is by achieving something historic and dedicate it to them and that's what we have decided to do," Rani added.

With less than one month remaining for the Summer Games, the 16-member Tokyo Olympic bound squad is leaving no stone unturned in their training at SAI Centre, Bengaluru.

Rani stated that she and her teammates are making each and every training session count. "Everyone is pumped up to give their best shot in the Olympics. We have all worked very hard to be here, and all of us share the privilege of being selected for team India at the Olympics. Our focus now is on making each and every training session count at the camp," said Rani.



FEATURESTORY

"We have developed the right temperament to play top teams," says Indian Women's Hockey Vice Captain Savita

Over the past couple of years, the Indian Women's Team has established themselves as strong contenders in Asia having won Silver at the Asian Champions Trophy 2018, Asian Games in 2018 and Gold at the 2017 Asia Cup. Now the team is ready for bigger feats, feels India's Vice Captain and ace goalkeeper Savita. She said, "We have achieved good results at the Asian-level tournaments. Playing well in these events has given the team, particularly youngsters, a sense of what it really takes to do well at big tournaments. Now, I feel we are ready for bigger feats."

It has been three years since the Indian Women's team won Silver at the Asian Champions Trophy in 2018. Commemorating the success, Savita said there is a lot of difference in how the team plays now. "In these three years we have grown a lot as a team and many of our young players have stepped up in their roles. There are a lot of positive changes within the group. We have improved our attack and we play with good speed. In fact, our fitness levels have majorly improved over the years which has in turn helped us improve our overall performances," she said.

Shedding light on the mental toughness of the team, Savita feels they have developed the right temperament required to face top teams of the world. "With the exposure we have got in this Olympic cycle, I feel we have developed the right temperament to play top-class teams. If you have seen our recent performances, we have tried to come back into the game after initial setbacks or after conceding early goals. We don't give up until the last whistle," she emphasized.

Speaking about the group's focus in the final stages of the team's Olympic preparation, Savita said, "Our focus right now is on adding the finishing touches to our preparation for the Tokyo Olympics 2020. We are working on our fitness and playing high intensity sessions to achieve peak physical conditioning. It will be important to adjust our body clock to the time we will be playing in Japan, and that is another aspect we are focussed on. We are so close to the Olympics now that the excitement in the group is rising each day. All 16 of us are in very good spirits and we have a positive mindset. Our eyes are set on our goal and we are approaching each day with an aim to succeed at the Games."



FEATURE STORY

Indian Umpires Raghuprasad RV and Javed Shaikh gear up for the Tokyo Olympics 2020

The two Indians in the Olympic Games Umpire panel of 14 umpires from around the world - Raghuprasad RV and Javed Shaikh, who will be officiating at the all important Tokyo Olympic Games 2020, stated that they are carrying out extensive fitness training and ensuring that they are prepared in all the possible ways for the Tokyo Games.

Speaking about his preparations for the Olympics, Raghuprasad RV, who has Umpired at major tournaments such as Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and World Cups, said "I am

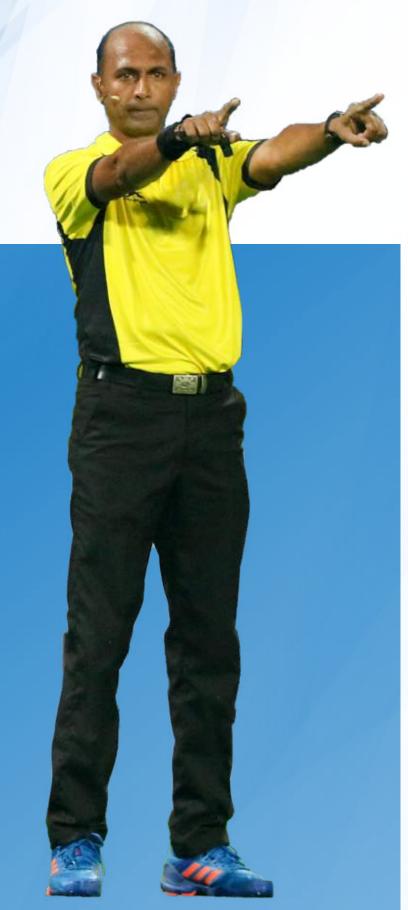
currently doing my fitness training at home in Bengaluru. I attend online fitness classes every morning. I

basically carry out strength and conditioning exercises, which strengthens my mobility and agility skills.

We are doing briefing sessions with the FIH for the Tokyo Olympics as well. We are shown clips from

previous matches, and we discuss an Umpire's decision making for certain scenarios such as Penalty Corners, Video Umpiring and so on."

He further added, "It's a great honour to represent India. Javed and I started our national career together back in 2001 and now we will be going for the Olympics. I had first officiated at the 2012 London Olympics, so I will be officiating in my second Olympics in Tokyo now."

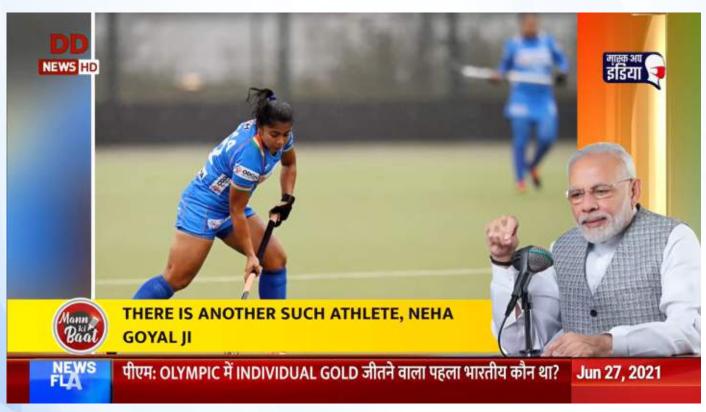


Javed Shaikh, who has also officiated at the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and the World Cup said that the FIH has been carrying out fitness tests for all the Olympicbound Umpires.

"We have been giving FIH fitness tests every two-three month in the last one and a half years. Fitness tests include a Yo-Yo test and Repeated Sprint Ability (RS) Test. We have to record our tests on video and send it to the FIH Umpires Managers, who grade us according to our performance," said Shaikh.

Speaking about being among only two Indians in the Olympic Games Umpire panel, Shaikh expressed, "It's a really proud moment for me. I have already officiated in an Olympics, at the Rio Olympics. It's a huge responsibility for me as I have got the chance of officiating in an Olympics again. There are only two umpires representing India, so we need to do our best. There will be pressure, but that's what we like about our job."

Indian Women's Hockey Team Midfielder, Neha featured in PMO India's Mann Ki Baat







MEMBER UNIT ACTIVITIES

Assam Hockey

Mr Tapan Das, Treasurer, Hockey India on 27 May 2021 met the newly elected Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and presented him a Hockey India memento to commemorate the occasion.



Hockey Jharkhand

On 21 june 2021, Shri Bholanath Singh, President Hockey Jharkhand, visited the villages of Indian Women's Hockey Team players Salima Tete and Nikki Pradhan, who would be representing India at Tokyo 2020, alongside Shri Sushant Gauray, DC Simdega, and presented bouquet and shawl to parents of both the players.









Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu

On 7 June 2021, Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu took efforts to hand over thermometers and masks to Hon'ble Shri. Udhayanidhi Stalin, MLA, towards Chief Ministers Corona Relief Fund at CM Residence.

Shri. Sekar J. Manoharan, President, Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu along with Treasurer Shri. Rajarajan, Joint Secretary Shri. Clement and Olympian Shri. Thirumal Valavan along with the Police Team Coach, Shri. Subramanian were present.



Manipur Hockey

Under the initiative of Brigadier Deepak Joshi, Commander, 9 Sector Assam Rifles, Manipur Hockey received 30 wooden sticks, 30 composite hockey, 2 goalkeeper kits, 30 cones, 30 stockings, 30 shin guards, 1 pair of goal net and 50 balls on 27 May 2021 at HQ Mantripukhri. Hockey India President, Mr. Gyanendro Ningombam also presented the memento and shawl to IGAR South Major Sandeep













Manipur Hockey

Manipur Hockey on 29 May 2021 donated a generous sum of ₹1.27 lakhs to Manipur CM's COVID relief fund. The amount was handed over by Mr. Gyanendro Ningombam, President, Hockey India and other board members of Manipur Hockey to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur Mr. N. Biren Singh



On 16 June 2021, Hockey India President, Mr. Gyanendro Ningombam met Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur, Mr. N. Biren Singh at Secretariat office, Manipur to discussed the setting up a 5-a-side turf as per the budget provision of state.

Mr. Basudev Singh, President, Manipur Hockey, Mr. Seran Neken, General Secretary, Manipur Hockey and Mr. L. Bashanta CEO, Manipur Hockey were present.



Manipur Hockey

On 23 June 2021, Hockey India President, Mr Gyanendro Ningombam, President Manipur Hockey, Mr Basudev Singh and General Secretary Manipur Hockey, Mr. Seran Neken visited the parents of Nilakanta Sharma and Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam & shared their best wishes with the families. Both of these players would be representing India at Tokyo 2020.







In view of India's theme for Tokyo Olympics 'Cheer4India', Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur, Shri N. Biren Singh held an event to promote the campaign state-wide on 28 June 2021 at the CM Secretariat. He also spoke about the five athletes from the state for their selfless efforts on the occasion.

He further announced incentives of Rs 1.20 Crore to Gold Medal winners, Rs 1.00 Crore to Silver Medal winner, Rs 75.00 lakh to Bronze Medal winners and Rs 25.00 lakh to all participants.



Infrastructure Development

Hockey Andhra Pradesh

Hockey Andhra Pradesh organised the inauguration of Floodlights for a Hockey Field in Visakhapatnam Steel Plant on 26 June 2021 in the presence of various State dignitaries.







Hockey Punjab

The Government of Punjab on 14 June 2021 inaugurated the laying of a new Hockey turf at Olympian Surjit Hockey Stadium Jalandhar.





Hockey Jammu & Kashmir

For the development & promotion of hockey in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, UT Administration has been carrying out drainage and fencing work at Polo Ground, Srinagar.





For the development & promotion of hockey in the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, UT Administration is carrying out levelling and drainage work at the Pulwama Stadium.







Hockey Jharkhand

We're happy to announce that work has commenced for a new Hockey stadium at Khunti, Jharkhand.







MEDIA COVERAGE

Deccan Herald - Bangalore



Indian hockey team strong contender for podium finish in Tokyo: Khandekar

Now beld (1904)

Transpine Trainers (1904)

Trainers

Dainik Bhaskar - Chandigarh

पिता ने ही मेरे खेल को निखारा है और वे ही मेरे पहले कोच हैं: जसकरण



चंडीणड़ भारतीय हॉमी टीम कहा कि मेरी तरह ये भी पंजाब के के मिडकोटडर जसकरन स्थित चारतीय के रहने वाले हैं, हमारे पर वयपन होंकी खेलते बीता का वापान वीची जीवन जीन पी-वीन निवानीमंदर के प्रार्थ में हैं। है। उनके पूर्व में में फ्रीन पान, के ग्रेस में पी कामी पहल काई में मार्थ मार्गीय कोचा पार्थिकर निक्त अनावी एकल होना मार्थान्य की पार्थ पूर्व भारतीय कोचा पार्थिकर निक्त अनावी एकल होना मार्थान्य में दिन्मा से कोड हैं। 27 मार्थ के हैं और मुझे एकल हैं कि एक्से इस होंची विकासी में अपने दिना चीची चार्या है क्योंकि का गार्थ कामान में से ही देश को चार्थिकर सीची चार्या है क्योंकि का गार्थ कामान से इसो में अन्ते किला होंची प्रार्थ मार्थ का मार्थ काम होंचे कामान से है और से अन्ते निवा को ही एक साम बेला रहे हैं अपनी सबसे बाही प्रार्थ मार्था आर्थिता के खिलाक खीलना अपनी सम्भी मही प्रेरण पानते हैं। अप्रवादन ने कहा कि पैने पिता की काल से हीकी खेलने गुरू किया था, जीका खुद एक अफ़िनिकान को हैं। मैं 1984 उपनी समारे नहीं पेरण पानते हैं। उपनासन प्रेसना प्रेसना है। उपनासन न कहा कि पैन जानवार रहा अंतरावर्धिक राग प्रिया को पानता है कि त्रिक्त के प्राप्त पर रहा अंतरावर्धिक राग हिमा पान जोकि त्रुव एक स्मान्यक्रिय के प्राप्त के कि त्रुव एक अंतरावर्धिक में भारतीय होती है कि 1984 के जोनिक्त में भारतीय होती उनमें आत करता है। उपनास प्राप्त के जोनिक्त में भारतीय होती उसने आत करता है। उपनास प्राप्त होता है कि पान अंतरावर्धिक में भारतीय होती है कि वा स्वार्थिक के प्राप्त के निक्त होता है कि पान के प्राप्त होता है कि पान के प्राप्त होता है कि पान के प्राप्त होता है कि पान होता प्राप्त है। पित कि पान होता प्राप्त के प्राप्त है कि पान होता प्राप्त है। पित कि पान होता प्राप्त के प्राप्त है कि पान होता प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त है कि पान होता प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त है कि पान होता प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त है कि प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त हों पित के प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त हों प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त है। पित के प्राप्त हों पित के प्राप्त हों हों पित के प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों है। प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों है। प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों है। प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों हों है। प्राप्त हों हों है है है के प्राप्त हों हों प्राप्त हों है। प्राप्त हों है प्राप्त हों है। प्राप्त हों प्राप्त हों है। प्राप्त हों है

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Rami says she's lucky.

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AHF's online workshops

► The Asian Hockey Federation will organise three virtual education workshops exclusively for Hockey India coaches, umpires and technical officials this month, reports PTI from New Delhi, All the participating candidates will receive a participation certificate that will help them in the future FIH and AHF Course Selection. The workshops for HI will be held on June 19, 20 and 27.

The Times of India - Bhubaneswar

Young strike force to spearhead Indian hockey team for Tokyo

Akashdeep, Sunii **And Ramandeep** Overlooked For **Olympic Games**



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Central Chronicle - Bhopal

We need to focus on creating more goal scoring opportunities: women's hockey forward Lalremsiami



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Central Chronicle - Bhopal



Fitness has been one of the key elements for the team, says defender Surender Kumar

Agencies, Bengaluru: Indian men's hockey team defender Surender Kumar, who has played 135 matches for the national side, feels fitness played a pivotal role in helping the team put up a solid show on their recent successful tours to Europe and Argentina. I feel fitness played a pivotal role in helping the team put up a solid performance on both the tours.

Dainik Bhaskar - Chandigarh

'ओलिंपिक में सीनियर डेब्यू करने से बेहतर कुछ नहीं'



Ahmedabad Mirror - Ahmedabad

Hockey forward Navneet Kaur confident of India's good show



The Political And Business Daily - Bhubaneswar

Hockey India inducts 126 new umpires and technical officials

NEW DELHI, MAY 24

HOCKEY India HOCKEY India has inducted 126 new umpires and technical officials into its panel, making them eligible to officiate in domestic tournaments in the sub-junior and junior cate-rooties.

junior and junior categorles.

The umpires, and sechnical officials, including judges, were selected after two sets of online workshops conducted between September 2020 to March this year.

A sotal of 60 Judges (21 female and 39 male) have been added to the list besides 66 umpires (16 female and 30 male).

The selected candidates in the Potential List have become eligible to

have become eligible to be appointed for the upcoming Hockey India sanctioned Sub-Junior and Junior category tour-



They will also be opportunities to attend the ongoing Asian Hockey Federation Online Education Workshops.

The 126 candidates have been shortlisted from a list of 227 who were a part of the industrion program (124 candidates in 2020 and 100 candidates in 2020 and 100 candidates in 2020 and the induction program as

the induction program as per HI's eligibility crite-ria after they were nomi-

nated by their respective state member unit.

The induction program for both umpires and technical afficials are dissided into three levels.

According to a HI statement, level I sessions are designed to provide the randificate basis knowledge of the latest FIH Rules and Regulations of the game. In order to achieve Level 2, a candidate has to pass an online test based on the Level I sessions are based on FIH General Tournament Regulations, FIH guidelines for filmes of umpires, information on match reports and statistics for technical officials judges), HI grading matchile recovers and statistics for technical officials inudges), HI grading matchile recovers. instics for fecturacial offi-cials (judges), HI grading guidelines. Importance of performance Seedback reports and various other operational knowledge," the statement read. -FTI

Central Chronicle - Bhopal

AHF to organise another set of workshops for



Outlook - National

"Everyone contributed to my

Ahmedabad Mirro Ahmedabad

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Amar Ujala - New Delhi

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Dainik Bhaskar - Chandigarh

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Deshbandhu - New Delhi

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Orrisa Post - Bhubaneswar

HI bags Etienne Glichitch Award





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Dainik Bhaskar - Chandigarh

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Central Chronicle - Bhopal

Hackey India congrutulates PR Sneejesk for his re-election to FIH Athletes Committee

Telangana Today - HYD

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The Political And Business **Daily - Bhubaneswar**

Creating more goal-scoring opportunities important: Lalremsiami



BENGALURU, MAY 13

ERICALURE, MAY 13

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The Hindu - New Delhi

'Time to replicate Asia success in big events'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Women's hockey team vice-captain Savita Punia believes it is time India replicates its success at the pucates is success at the Asian-level in big-ticket events including the up-coming Tokyo Olympics. "We have achieved good results at Asian-level tour-

results at Asian-level tour-naments. Playing well in these events has given the team, particularly young-sters, a sense of what it really takes to do well at big tournaments. Now, I feel we are ready for bigger feats," said Savita. The goalkeeper said the team has improved immensely in the last three years. in the last three years.



Deshbandhu - New Delhi

भारतीय महिला हॉकी महासंघ की प्रशासक अमत बोस का निधन

नई दिल्ली, 20 जून (एजेंसयां)। स्तीय महिला हॉकी महासंघ (आईडब्ल्यूएचएफ) की सचिव अमृत बोस का रविवार को निधन हो गया। वह 84 वर्ष

थीं। आईडब्ल्यूएचएफ के सचिव होने के साथ ही अमृत ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय



तकनीकी अधिकारी और दिली महिला होंकी संघ के अध्यक्ष के रूप में काम किया था। हाँकी इंडिया के अध्यक्ष जानेंद्रो निगोम्बाम ने कहा, यह हमारे लिए काफो दुखद दिन है। अमृत ने देश में हाँकी को बढ़ाबा देने के लिए बड़ी भूमिका निभाई और हम सभी उनकी याद करेंगे। हम तनके परिवार के प्रति संवेदना व्यक्त करते हैं। भगवान शोकाकल परिवार को इस कठिन समय में दुख सहन करने की शक्ति दे।

Free Press - Bhopal

Women's hockey team living in

the moment, not taking stress

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The Hindu - Mumbai

Manpreet to lead men's team

Deshbandhu - New Delhi टोवाची औराधिक में हम अपने सर्वश्रेष्ठ होता के लिए तैयार होंगे

ओलंपिक टीम में जगह बनाने के लिए कृतसंकल्प हूं : बीरेन्द्र लाकरा

मार्थ किराति, १ जुल क्षेत्र किराति, १ जुल क्षेत्र किरात प्रकार के अधुकती कुमिक किरात प्रकार के अधिक किरात प्रकार के अधिक के अधिकारी अधिक की अधिक के किरात के अधिकार के अध्याद उठके के अधिकार के अध्याद उठके के किरात के अध्याद उठके के किरात का अध्याद के किरात के उठकार के किरात अधिकारी उठकार के अध्याद के उठकार के अध्याद के उठकार के अध्याद के का अध्याद के अध्याद की का अध्याद की अध

भाग में जिए एक वेंच बेंग तुने उ पार में बींगा नामा बाते हैं, "है तैयां वींगा के जिए भागीन पुत्र होते हैं, मार पार्श के हिए भागीन पुत्र होते हैं, है असे होता है जिए मार्ग जीवार प्रदे हो। असे होता है जिए मार्ग जीवार के नाम है स्क्रिक्त केंद्राच्या करती हैं हुआ

विदर्शन पर भी पूर्व कराजी



देश में अभी अवस्थित नक्षित्र करने के तिए और कई पेड़ना करने हैं है। लिजिय



The Political And Business Daily **Bhubaneswar**

India can better goal conversion rate: Hockey striker Upadhyay

NEW DELHI, MAY 4

THE Indian men's bockey team can improve on its goal conversion rate, says striker Lalit says striker Upadhyay.



On their recent tour to Argentina, India scored 12 goals in four practice ratches and five goals in the double header FIH Hockey Pro League matches against the Olympic champions. Out of the total 17 goals from six matches, nine goals came via penalty corners. "The matches against

Argentina were high-scoring games and it's never easy to convert never easy to convert field goals against a team like Argentina who are quite strong in their defence," said Upadhyay who scored in India's 3-0 win against Australia in the FIH Hockey Pro League tie.

"Over these last few months, we have really worked a lot on converting goals as well as creating penalty corners. We have also focused on how we must work our

how we must work our way into the circle from the 25m mark. I feel we can become sharper in the way we take those chances inside the circle, and this is something we are focusing on during our on-going camp," he

Upadhyay said that they have a good chance at winning a medal at this year's Tokyo Olympics in July-

August.
"Our focus will be on maintaining our fitness level, avoiding any injuries and we will be creating match scenarios in our practice sessions where we will work on different tactics," he said. – IANS

Deshbandhu - New Delhi

मनप्रीत के साथ खेलना मेरा सौभाग्य : नीलकांत



not man form option V. Isakean form option and hold-ey team cannot afford to be consert with only playing in the Ghuppics if a to nelve the glory days and finish on the pordern in Yolyo. Backaran, who had led In-dia to its last Olympic gold medal in hockey in the \$800

The Hindu - Bangalore

Team should aim for a medal: Baskaran

Moscow sulfitue, said: "The mer's team has been playing really well," Benkaran said on a Bit pedicase "Backey Te Charcha:

"It would perhaps be the fine Olympies for salous se-ven-eight players, and if feel they shouldn't just be length with the 'Olympien' fitle but they should aim far armeda!. This is possible mily when everybody is the team be-lieves that they can be a me-dish standard to the con-lines and they can be a me-dish standard to the con-



Orrisa Post - Bhubaneswar

'Good coordination is one of key factors for India's success'

Beight of 1992. By Billio School and the School and



with the second second

The Hindu - Mumbai

We believe we can win a medal at the Olympics, says Krishan Pathak

production of the component of the compo

The Political And Business Daily - Bhubaneswar

Long stint in Bengaluru reason behind success: Hockey forward Gurjant

INDIAN men's backey forward Carajant Singh feels the amount of himse the boys spent together at the Bengaluru camp during the pandemic had helped than the Bengaluru for more than a synchroid an antural understanding and that was the results to the Bengaluru for more than a synchroid the teams recent success.

India rescently best following the pandemic had been supplied and the seed of the lindia, said: "We all have been supplied at the camp since one year, and I don't indicate think any other team would have spent this much time spent besides witning two of the four practice games.

The Indian men's and tenth ## The Hockey League games besides witning two of the four practice games.

The Indian men's and the four practice games.

The Indian men's and the four practice games.

The Indian men's and the section of the biggest reasons belief our section of the biggest reasons belief our section for the biggest reasons belief our sections and sentences of the biggest reasons belief our sections of the s

the squad that toured both Europe and Argentina. The 26-year-old striker added that. "We all had that

added that. We all had that hunger to perform, to put in all our preparations at test, especially against a quality side like Argentina. So, we were really excited to be back. We were in a fresh frame of mised, and I feel that really helped as in gaining momentum on the tours."

tours.

The Amritsar-born player foels that the experience of the recent tours will help the world No. 5 side compete against serong teams at the Olympics.

Mint - HYD

The Olympic dreams of India's horsey queens



Telangana Today - HYD

Hockey team simulating Objects a mesphere



Telangana Today - HYD

Honomisa in he in Hit paned, says broojesh

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The Hindu - Mumbai

India names tried and tested squad



48

Deshbandhu - Delhi

Olympic gold winners Kaushik, Ravindra die

NEW SELECTION OF THE SE

Keashik died after bettling Covid-18 for the past fixed weeks. He was 66 and it sur-vived by his sen and wife. Kaashik, a member of the 1890 Mosow Olympies gold-medal/winning team, had testnd positive for Covid-19 or April 17 and was admitted to a

all mentils and returning to the control of the Con





Over our decodes in various capacities. His Moscow Openpie teanursale Zofar Iqfual remembers Kanaitsk us someone who gave his heart and soal to the game like more of his contemposary teanurales. — TNS, agencies

The Political And Business Daily - Bhubaneswar

Pandian honoured by FIH for contribution to promote hockey

Presidents Award during the 47th Fill Compress today", Hockey India tweeted.

SECRETARY to Chief Minister V Karthrikoyan Fandian Sahuday woshioneed by the International Hockey-Bederation (HII) for his contribution to promote and develop Hockey as State.

and develop Hockey as State.

The award was confused on him at the 47th Congress of FER.

Hockey Insta congratulated Fundian for the award, stating that it's a well-deserved acknoset-odgreen for the soundaring contributions and services to hockey in Colleta.

Mr. W. Karthickyon Fandian, 16x, and Private Secretary to Chief Minister Chiefs, and Private Secretary to Chief Minister Chiefs.

WINNER OF THE FIN PRESIDENTS AWARD

m to held in Blubaneswar and Rouriela from 15 - 28 January 2023. When India based the Hith edition of the World Cup in 2018, all the matches of the compe-tition were held at the Kolinga Hockey Stadium in Bautaneswar.

The Indian Express - New Delhi Hockey star

gold medal-winning women's team. Siwach, 46, runs a hockey academyin Sonepat — a modes: facility, amid-sized ground with an unever playing surface. "Neha was 11 when I spotted

an univern playing surface.

"Neha was II when I spotted her loitering near the ground every day. She eight's speak a lot. So one day. I gave her a slopping upe. She showed a let of stamina so I thought, "why not try to teach her hockey?" she recalls. Sineach promised Neha" two proper meds? "if she would play. "I wanted to convince her pariets so I went to her home, which wasn't too far from the academy." Smach says.

But, she adds, Nehawwa "emabarrassed" to invike her. "Its was basically just one very small, dimly lit room. If you took I os small steps, you'd hit a wall," Sinch says. The wooden plank on one conner, a makeshift is then on the other side, and a on. the other side, and a cot. The family of five lived next

The family of the lived next to an opendician han another interview. Neha had recalled her smaggles: "All remember's my father coming home drunk and things getting out of control. He didn't have a job."

And yet, her teammabs comfide, sich has always been "among the happy-go-lucky players in the team, always smeling no matter what the situation".

tion".

But her mother "worked from morning till evenings to make sure our basic needs were taken care of". Soon, the women in the family started working at

the cycle factory, "For one spoke, we were paid 8s 5," says Devi. When, we were paid 8s 5," says Devi. When, whose forther passed away affew years ago, continued helping her mether even after she started playing booksy. "She never shied away from extra work, But she used to feed a little to the booking ground. She used to freeze. Ultimately, I had to tell limit to stay away frommy academy," says Smach.

The cosh to took Neha under her wings, providing her equipment, food and "wenything else she needed." "Once, we were playing a start-level march in Gurgson. In the first half, she wasn't munning much. Lasked her the reason and she lifted her left foot to reveal a big hole in her shoe," Swach says.

During the half-time broak, Swach's husband Ruldeep, also player-tumed coach, ran to a nearby store and got Neha, now employed with the Rathways, a new pair of shoes, "In the second half she almost single-handedly ran through the opposition defence with her explosive speed along with the knack of scoring goals — that saw Neha rise.

It is the attribute — speed along with the first saw Neha rise.

goals. "Swach says.

It is this attribute — speed along with the knack of scoring goals — that saw Neha rise through the rarks and make her international debut at 88. She's been in-and-out of the tearn but under Speed Marijne, the Destruct coach of the women's team, Neha has blossomed into a sharp battacker with the ability to slip past the defence.

At 4-feet-9, Neha most often isrituhe tallest player on the field. But in a sport that is since asingly getting physical, height is her weapon, Shwach says. "Her runs are not spotted easily so she can get into dangerous goal-scoring positions," she says.

With her career earnings. Neha now provides financial support to the academy, even do nating her playing kit, shoes and hockey sticks. Recently, she and

Delni
her mother moved into a highrise apartment complex in
Sonepat along the Delhirise apartment complex in
Sonepat along the Delhirise and the Delhirise and the Delhirise and the Phogat sisters and Siwach herselt.
That's not all. A couple of
rooms in Neha's home are reserved for underprivileged players who train at Siwach's acadenry and can't afford a place in
stay — Hoejunior India women's
player Artim. 'Her journey inspires me alot. She did not have
anything when she began," anything when she began," Antim says. "And now, Didi is taking care of us all."

The Indian Express New Delhi

Toxic' childhood to cycle factory to Indian hockey team for Tokyo Olympics



The Statesman New Delhi

The second of th

The Times of India Bangalore

Reid insists on both

doses before Cames

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Total September 19 Control of the Co an area of the control of the contro

Orrisa Post - Bhubaneswar

TEAM WORKING HARD TO SCORE MORE FIELD GOALS

TOKYO BEST CHANCE TO WIN MEDAL: LALIT

Brangalere, May 4: Indian men's bookey tears for ward Lalif.
Don't tear for ward Lalif.
The Tabyo Olympics scheduled to
start July 20.
During the recent Angestina
bout, the Indian teams sourced 12
pools in hear paratice muches and
two goals in two 27H 700 Lenges
games against the Olympic chainpions. However, Lalif. said there
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titles. We have also forepass of
forced from the 55m mark," informat the forward.
Lalif said the non con be a bit



sharper while taking chusicos in-adde the circle. "This is something we are fucusing on their great or-going entag." he said.

Lailt asserted that britis con-win a medial the Tokyo Olympis-despite furing several challenges in the local up to the Garons due to the COVID-19 prodessit. "All of us in the care group be-lieve this (Tokyo Olympics) is one best shed at a redsl. We contain he will be the control of the con-gret whatever dualetases we man

TIES POSTPONED

the internal time frame section on tragement in the vision of a unique Cardi-Si cases, the world boals (FER) informed Tracellay, MoSa ever solid-uled to play against fasion, May 25 and 25, Tolland by the tool git to to Germany, May 21 and 24, TSR, Hockey, milds as well as the national associa-tions of Germany, Sparse and Small. Default and bying to read-mobile the german, TSR sealing a statement.

The Pioneer - HYD

Mental fitness is as important as physical fitness'

PTI BENGALURU

Indian men's bockey team Idefeoder Jamuanpreet Singh on Friday stressed on the importance of mental fitness as they prepare for the Tokyo Olympic amid a raging COVID-19 pandemic.

The 24-year-old has been training at SAI centre in Bengaharu as part of the Senior Core Group shead of the Olympics.

Core Group shead of the Olympics.

"I feel mental litraese is as important as physical fitness to deal with the current situations. A player mends to be mentally strong, and for that, we have been helping each other," said immuspreat in a release issued by Hockey India.

ny Hockey India. India were supposed to play their FIH Pro League away matches against Great Bettain, Spoin and Germany this month but the ties were postponed due to travel restrictions imposed in the wake of a surge in COVID-19 cases.

restrictors imposed in the wake of a surge in COVID-19 cases.

"We communicate with each other, see try to create a positive environment around so that everyone stays in a happy zone. I feel because of this, there's a very good team bonding, which has been helping us with our preparations for the Olwiptics," he said.

Asked how he is preparing for the Tokyto Games, larmanpreet said. My focus remains only on giving my best, with the full energy, and trying to improve each and



every day at the training.

"I put on a challenge to myself that, I should keep reducing my margin of error."

Jarmarperet, who made his debut for the notional team in 2018, feels he is forturate to have the support from the senior players since the beginning of his career.

Tam very fortunate and thankful to all senior players as well as couches because they know my past (the two-year doping ban in 2015), they know my past (the two-year doping ban in 2015), they know my past (the two-year doping than courself they have a long time.

snew I was ecturning after a long time.
"They have abrays sup-ported me since the beginning. They ha e guided me at each step and have been motivating nee a lot.
"Moreover, it also helps

"Moreover, it also helps when you have a senior play-er as a rocenmate. Kothajit. (Singh) paaji is my rocenmate here, and we share a good bond on and off the field."

The Political And Business Daily - Bhubaneswar

Belief of winning Olympic medal motivates us: Hockey captain Manpreet

NEW DELHI, MAY 9

MEW DELH, MAY 9

WITH 25 days in go for the Tokan Olympic Carms, Irolin backey caps that May be a superior of the Carlon May has said flast despite the subset of the Conti-19 panels for the Contine Carmon against Germany and Spatis. These said the Contine Carmon and Carmon against Germany and Spatis. These maldens seems are trapprocedurable times "said Marponet, two is training with the freats or the Sports Audisorpy of Indias Continents and Carmon a



poor peak at the right for.

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Whenever contains the first form of the opposed relief that all the energy players who had weeted Considerative recently will asserter being.

We are antiewed their all the invincency players are deleg from any larger are deleg from any larger are deleg from any larger are deleg from the peak of the contains and peak of the first form of the

The Morning Standard - New Delh

Mindset of team has changed: Marijne

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TEAM BIRTHDAYS

	JU	<u>LY</u>	
JARMANPREET SINGH	18	BOBY SINGH DHAMI	01
VARUN	25	MOHD. SADIQ	10
SHAMSHER SINGH	29		
AUGUST (NAME OF THE OF			
KOTHAJIT SINGH KHADANGBAN	17	RABICHANDRA SINGH MOIRANGTHEM	03
		VISHNU KANT SINGH	10

SENIOR WOMEN	JUNIOR WOMEN				
<u>JULY</u>					
NISHA	09 PRIYANKA	08			
SAVITA	11 SUMAN DEVITHOUDAM	16			
	BEAUTY DUNGDUNG	21			
AUGUST					
	KHUSHBOO	06			
	GURMAIL KAUR	22			
	PRABHLEEN KAUR	25			
	SIMRAN	30			

FOCUS

GURJIT KAUR

(Indian Women's Hockey Team) My age is - 25

My hometown is – Amritsar, Punjab

I play as a – Defender

My debut was in -2014

My most important target – is to represent at

Olympics and win a medal there for the country

My favourite workout is – Core workout

My favourite actor is – Don't have any anyone

in particular, but I like all the bollywood actors

My favourite song is – I like listening to Punjabi songs.

Hence all the Punjabi songs

My favourite cuisine is – Ghar ka khaana (Sarson ka saag)

My best sporting moment – 2017 Hockey Women's

Asia Cup, Gifu because we clinched the Title

My idol is – No one in particular, but I admire all the drag flickers

My dream destination is – Paris

If I wasn't a hockey player, I would've been – Teacher or maybe Doctor

My gym buddy are – Everyone in the team

My favourite outfit is – Punjabi suit

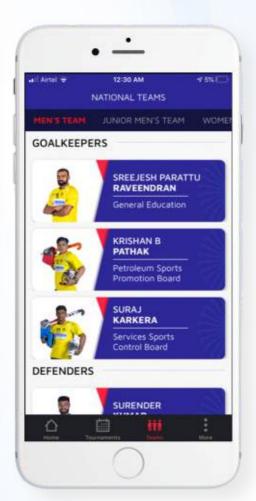
My go-to karaoke song is – I don't sing at all, not a good singer

3 things I don't travel without – Cell Phone, Headphones and Wallet

My cheat meal – Pizza









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