



HOCKEY INDIA

NEWSLETTER

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COVER STORY

JUNIOR ASIA CUP GLORY PUTS INDIAN JUNIOR MEN AND WOMEN'S TEAM IN SPOTLIGHT



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HOCKEY INDIA

PRESIDENT MESSAGE



Namaskar,

The last few months have been incredible for hockey in the country, and I want to thank everyone, including players, organisers, officials, and Hockey India staff, for their dedication to taking the sport we all love to new heights and for all of their efforts to ensure the smooth operation of all tournaments that took place from April to June.

To begin, I'd like to congratulate all of the players who made their country proud by giving their all in every match and winning medals on the international stage. We have organised several National Championships in Rourkela over the last three months, including the 13th Hockey India Sub Junior Men National Championship 2023, the 13th Hockey India Sub-Junior Women National Championship 2023, the 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2023, and the 13th Hockey India Junior Women National Championship 2023.

Over the last three months, our four national

teams competed in several international competitions. Our Men's Junior team won the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 in Salalah, Oman, after a thrilling 2-1 victory over Pakistan.

The Indian hockey team won the maiden Women's Junior Asia Cup in Japan's Kakamigahara, defeating South Korea 2-1 in an exhilarating Final. The Indian Women's Team travelled Down Under while Men's Team visited Europe for their final leg of the FIH Pro League 2022-23.

In addition, we launched the Hockey India Match Officials Education and Development Plan for 2023 to empower aspiring Umpires and Technical Officials. Additionally, we launched the 'Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan' programme to encourage all districts across the country to hold regular coaching camps and intra-district competitions.

To sum up, I would like to say that Hockey India has made tremendous progress in the last three months both on and off the pitch. In the coming months, Hockey India will continue to work to grow the sport of hockey in India.

Padma Shri Dr Dilip Tirkey
President Hockey India

KHELO INDIA WOMEN'S HOCKEY LEAGUE (U-21) PHASE 2 AND FINALS

Date	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Location
29 March - 11 April	Pritam Siwach Sports Foundation	HAR Hockey Academy	Sports Hostel Odisha	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Pritam Siwach Sports Foundation won the Khelo India Women's Hockey League (U-21 - Final Phase) by defeating HAR Hockey Academy 2-0 in the Final. Tannu (12') scored the first goal for Pritam Siwach Sports Foundation, and Sakshi Rana (31') converted a penalty corner early in the third quarter to secure a hard-fought victory for her side.

In the 3/4th match, Sports Hostel Odisha defeated SAI Bal 3-1 to finish third.



13TH HOCKEY INDIA SUB JUNIOR WOMEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

Date	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Location
4-14 May	Hockey Haryana	Hockey Jharkhand	Hockey Association of Odisha	Rourkela, Odisha

Hockey Haryana won the trophy after defeating Hockey Jharkhand 3-2 in the Final. Hockey Haryana came from behind twice to defeat Hockey Jharkhand in a neck-and-neck tie. After Sangita Kumari (7') and Ankita Minz (27') scored to put Hockey Jharkhand ahead, Bhavya (25', 58') equalised and then won the game for Hockey Haryana. Meenakshi (36') also scored for the Champions.

Hockey Association of Odisha defeated Uttar Pradesh Hockey 4-3 in penalty shootouts after regulation time ended with both teams scoring a goal each in the hard-fought 3rd/4th Place match.



HOCKEY HARYANA



HOCKEY JHARKHAND



HOCKEY ASSOCIATION OF ODISHA

13TH HOCKEY INDIA SUB JUNIOR MEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

Date	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Location
18-28 May	Uttar Pradesh Hockey	Hockey Association of Odisha	Hockey Haryana	Rourkela, Odisha

Uttar Pradesh Hockey won the tournament by defeating the Hockey Association of Odisha 7-1 in the Final. Ujjwal Pal (6', 38', 47') converted three penalty corners, while Rahul Yadav (30'), Ketan Kushwaha (39'), Rahul Rajhbar (52'), and Captain Ajeet Yadav (54') each scored a goal to secure their victory. DeonathNanwar (57') scored the only goal for the Hockey Association of Odisha.

The 3rd/4th place match saw Hockey Haryana claim a 4-2 comeback win over Hockey Madhya Pradesh.



UTTAR PRADESH HOCKEY



HOCKEY ASSOCIATION OF ODISHA



HOCKEY HARYANA

3RD KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES 2022 UTTAR PRADESH (UNDER 27 MEN)

Date	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Location
26 May-1 June	M D University, Haryana	I.T.M University, Gwalior	Punjabi University	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

MD University, Haryana defeated I.T.M University, Gwalior 2-0 in the final of the 3rd Khelo India University Games 2022 Uttar Pradesh (Under 27 Women). Manisha Dhawal (35') and Captain Sumita Nain ((53') scored one goal each for the MD University, Haryana. Meanwhile, Punjabi University defeated University of Mysore 2-0 in the 3rd/4th place match to take the Bronze medal home. Akanksha Shukla (49') and Yashika Negi (57') scored one goal each for Punjabi University.



M D UNIVERSITY, HARYANA



I.T.M UNIVERSITY, GWALIOR



PUNJABI UNIVERSITY

3RD KHELO INDIA UNIVERSITY GAMES 2022 UTTAR PRADESH (UNDER 27 WOMEN)

Date	First Place	Second Place	Third Place	Location
26 May-1 June	Punjabi University	Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar	Sambalpur University, Odisha	Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Punjabi University defeated Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar 3-2 in penalty shootouts after the game was locked at 3-3 at the end of regulation time. In regulation time, Captain Gautam Kumar (23', 24') and Sarabjinder Singh (32') scored for Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, while Captain Anil (33', 60') and Jitender Gill (46') scored for Punjabi University. Penalty shootout goals from Ankush, Anil, and Micheal Topno ensured a victory for Punjabi University.



PUNJABI UNIVERSITY

Sambalpur University, Odisha defeated Veer Bahadur Singh Purvanchal University, Jaunpur, UP 2-1 to finish third.



**GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY,
AMRITSAR**



SAMBALPUR UNIVERSITY, ODISHA

13TH HOCKEY INDIA JUNIOR MEN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2023

The 13th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2023 was one of the most entertaining tournaments in the domestic circuit in Indian hockey this year, with teams scoring plenty of goals. The highest-scoring game saw Delhi Hockey smash 54 goals past Tripura Hockey without response.

The 13th Hockey India Junior Men's National Championship 2023 was played out at the Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium in Rourkela, Odisha. After the group stages produced plenty of goals and entertained the fans in Rourkela, which houses the biggest field hockey stadium in the world in

terms of seating capacity, the Semi-Finals saw Hockey Chandigarh come out winners against Hockey Haryana by a scoreline of 3-1 while in the second game, Hockey Madhya Pradesh defeated hosts Hockey Association of Odisha (12-11) in a shootout after the contest ended 4-4 in regulation time.

Eventually, Hockey Madhya Pradesh won the 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2023 after defeating Hockey Chandigarh (4-2) in the Final at the iconic Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium.



HOCKEY MADHYA PRADESH



HOCKEY CHANDIGARH



HOCKEY HARYANA

INDIAN HOCKEY STARS SHARE SPECIAL MESSAGES TO CELEBRATE #WHITECARD CAMPAIGN ON INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE



Indian hockey players united in support of the #WhiteCard Campaign on the 10th anniversary of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace on 06 April 2023. They shared special messages to celebrate the occasion and promote global peace through sports. Similar to colour cards used in sports such as green, yellow, and red, the #WhiteCard represents the endorsement of peace efforts worldwide.

The campaign aims to highlight the growing recognition of sports as a tool for peace and inclusivity in societies.

Speaking on the same, Indian Women's Hockey Team Captain Savita said, "Sport has the power to break the barriers and unite us all. I believe sports

can empower men and women in equal measure. Let us join hands to celebrate the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace through this wonderful #WhiteCard initiative."

Indian Men's Hockey Team Captain Harmanpreet Singh said, "Sports not only keep one physically fit, but also makes them mentally stronger and capable of dealing with any life situations. Sports has made me a better person as it has taught me valuable life lessons that I carry along with me. I feel glad to be associated with the #WhiteCard campaign to promote peace through sports."

The Indian Junior Men's and Indian Junior Women's Hockey Teams also support the cause by displaying their #WhiteCard.

HOCKEY INDIA ANNOUNCES EXCLUSIVE COMMERCIAL AND MARKETING AGENCY FOR THE RE-LAUNCH OF THE HOCKEY INDIA LEAGUE

The performance of Indian men's and women's hockey teams at the Tokyo Olympics rekindled the country's passion for the sport. The Hockey India League (HIL) played a crucial role in promoting hockey and enhancing India's performance. On 10 April 2023, Hockey India announced Big Bang Media Ventures Pvt. Ltd. as its exclusive commercial and marketing partner for the HIL, marking a significant step towards the league's revival.

Speaking on the occasion, Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey, said, "I am very pleased because the Hockey India League was one of my top priorities when I assumed office as president of Hockey India. It will be a critical stepping stone for India and we are delighted to have Big Bang Media Ventures Pvt Ltd (BBMVPL) as our exclusive Commercial partners for the HIL.

Their understanding of sport, esports, content, media & IP monetisation is unparalleled and we are very excited for what we could collectively achieve and deliver."

Ravneet Gill & Madhu Mantena, Founders of BBMVPL, remarked, "The Hockey India League has been a global benchmark for the sport and we are pleased to be a trusted partner for Hockey India in managing the commercial aspects of the league. We are privileged to be part of this incredible and important initiative and look forward to supporting the launch of a successful league."

This announcement marks a momentous occasion for Hockey India, as it takes the first step towards bringing back a new edition of the Hockey India League.



"GOOD TO SEE HOCKEY GOING TO VARIOUS DISTRICTS OF MIZORAM," SAYS INDIAN WOMEN'S TEAM FORWARD LALREMSIAMI

Hockey India's program, 'Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan,' has gained popularity in Mizoram, with young players making progress in the sport.

India's charismatic forward Lalremsiami shared her perspective on the development in her home state and said, "When I took up the sport about eight-nine years ago, fewer players were taking up hockey as there was more focus on football. I came into the national program after getting selected for the National Hockey Academy in New Delhi. But now many more players are coming up in the state from far-off districts as the state association is actively hosting camps and local events."

Lalremsiami also praised Mizoram's Junior Women's Team for their impressive performance in the Hockey India Junior Women East Zone Championship, where they secured the silver medal. "We are all immensely proud of our Junior Team for their outstanding performance in the inaugural Hockey India Junior Women East Zone Championship 2023. Their commitment, hard work, and team spirit were truly admirable and inspired us all, and I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on a job well done!"

She also expressed pride in seeing more players from the North East joining junior camps, as it provides career opportunities and financial stability for them and their families.

Lalremsiami, hailing from Kolasib, Mizoram, has had a successful career in hockey, representing India at various international tournaments, including the Asian Games and the Olympic Games.



HOCKEY SIMDEGA TOURNAMENTS IN JHARKHAND ATTRACT OVER 1900 PLAYERS FROM 87 PANCHAYATS

Hockey India has introduced the 'Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan' program, which focuses on promoting hockey in all districts by organizing coaching camps and intra-district competitions. In Jharkhand, Simdega district has set a remarkable example by hosting tournaments that provide young players from various areas with opportunities to compete at a higher level.

Shri Manoj Kumar Prasad, President of Hockey Simdega and Vice President of Hockey Jharkhand, explained the tournament format in the district and said, "In Simdega, there are 94 Panchayats. We are combining 3-4 Panchayats and hosting trial tournaments between teams from these Panchayats. We have already held 22 tournaments across 87 Panchayats, with around 1900 players competing. We will organise two

more tournaments comprising teams from the remaining 7 Panchayats."

The selected players for these tournaments are under 16 years old and have limited hockey experience. The aim is to provide them with proper coaching so that they can be prepared for sub-junior tournaments in the coming year.

Manoj further revealed the plan to hold a tournament among the winning teams from all 24 tournaments. The top four teams from that tournament, along with eight experienced hockey teams from Simdega, will compete in another tournament at the district level.

Overall, the program has been successful in engaging young players in Simdega and promoting the growth of hockey in the district.



ASSAM HOCKEY EMPHASIZES ON COACHING; PROMOTES HOCKEY IN 29 DISTRICTS THIS SUMMER

Assam Hockey has been working towards Hockey India's visionary initiative - 'Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan' - by organising numerous district-level tournaments to develop the hockey culture in the state and also provide ample opportunities for young children for showcasing their talent and swiftly come up the ranks.

Shri Tapan Kumar Das, General Secretary of Assam Hockey, provided a detailed account of how the state hockey association is leaving no stone unturned to develop and professionalise hockey at every level in Assam.

"Assam Hockey has a tie-up with the State Level Advisory Committee for Students and Youth Welfare, Assam (SLAC) for the development of hockey at every level in Assam," Tapan said.

Tapan further revealed that SLAC in association with Assam Hockey will provide hockey coaches to

every district to ensure that young kids get proper training and can hone their skills.

"We are committed to improving our training program and for the same reason we are in the process of providing hockey coaches to every district. Most of the shortlisted coaches are Senior Level players and they belong from different states like Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh etc," Tapan said.

He went on to laud Hockey India for coming up with a plethora of initiatives at the district level to encourage youngsters to not only take up the game but also make a career out of it.

"Hockey India is doing an excellent job, especially in promoting the game to remote parts of the country. Young players are elated as there are now a bunch of opportunities for them to exhibit their skills and talent," Tapan signed off.



HOCKEY GIVES YOUNGSTERS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR A NEW DIRECTION

Hockey has been becoming a popular sport in Jammu and Kashmir, especially among youngsters, courtesy of initiatives by Hockey Jammu & Kashmir and Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council.

Supinder Deep Singh Bakshi, General Secretary of Hockey Jammu and Kashmir, provided a detailed description of how hockey is not only flourishing in the UT but also providing positive direction and ample opportunities to young players.

“First of all, we are focusing on the development of hockey infrastructure in Jammu and Kashmir. Nowadays, hockey is played on Astroturf instead of natural turf (grass) and given the fact that there was only one Astroturf in Jammu and Kashmir, hockey in the UT suffered a great deal. However, last year the J&K Sports Council

decided to set up more Astroturfs in different districts of Jammu and Kashmir,” Bakshi said.

Hockey J&K has successfully conducted numerous tournaments across age categories in different districts despite facing challenges like extreme weather conditions and high-security situations in the UT.

In March this year, Senior Hockey Tournament (Men) was organised at Astroturf Hockey Stadium in District Jammu by Hockey J&K and sponsored by J&K Sports Council, while in April, Junior Hockey Tournament (Men) was organized in Jammu and it saw the participation of eight teams.

All these local tournaments align with Hockey India’s

visionary program - 'Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan' which was unveiled recently to promote the sport in regions where hockey is not so popular. The initiative also focuses on scouting and nurturing young talents.

Bakshi also highlighted how hockey is helping those youngsters who come from troubled regions of Jammu and Kashmir and are vulnerable to violence.

“Hockey is playing an instrumental role in putting the youngsters of J&K on the right track. Anyone who plays hockey has his/her mind fully dedicated towards the sport and does not get distracted by irrelevant things. To date, we haven’t heard of any hockey player from the UT involved in any kind of unlawful activity,” Bakshi said.



KERALA HOCKEY WORKING STRENUOUSLY ON DEVELOPING NATIONAL-LEVEL TALENTS

Kerala Hockey has been working hard to engage more youngsters in the sport. There was a time when hockey was primarily popular in Kerala's Kannur and Thiruvananthapuram. However, due to the efforts of the state federation, most districts in the state are now demonstrating their interest in the sport.

"To promote hockey at the base level, we started a coaching camp in 2019 across all the districts. From 2020 onwards, we also started distributing hockey sticks and balls to schools," Rony Raynold, Executive Officer, Kerala Hockey and Kerala Olympic Association said.

"To develop hockey at the base level, Kerala Hockey distributed around 7000 hockey sticks and balls to around 298 schools in the state. Further, the senior players from the state are going as coaches to train these students in schools," he further added.

As a result of these initiatives, students from most districts have begun competing in hockey tournaments. Raynold pointed out that these steps have increased the reach of the sport at the base level.

Raynold described how the state federation had established a clear path for hockey talent to get the needed exposure.

While the hockey culture is expanding in Kerala, Raynold admitted that it might take some time for the state to produce talents that can compete at the international level, but added that they are on the correct path.

Hockey India recently announced the 'Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan' program, which aims to engage all districts in hosting regular coaching camps and intra-district competitions to spread hockey to remote parts of India. Raynold said that Kerala Hockey shares the same vision and is working towards achieving similar goals.

"Our mission is to spread hockey in every household in Kerala. We align with Hockey India's mindset to spread hockey everywhere as it is a beautiful sport," he signed off.



HOCKEY INDIA ANNOUNCES NEW ACADEMY MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBER UNIT

Hockey India on 05 June 2023 announced Seth Anandram Jaipuria School, Nanpara (Uttar Pradesh) and Cuddalore Hockey Academy (Tamil Nadu) as new Academy Members and Union Bank of India, Nariman Point (Mumbai) as new Associate Member Unit.

With the inclusion of new members, Hockey India currently has 27 Permanent Members, 33 Associate Members, 49 Academy Members and 2 Hoc-Key Members.

Seth Anandram Jaipuria School which has been founded by Prateek Agarwal, is sponsored by Shawariya Education and Foundation. The academy promises to enhance the skills and abilities of athletes offering a range of sports programs along with best coaches, state-of-the-art facilities and a competitive environment.

The Cuddalore Hockey Academy was founded by Mr. A.C Sivakumar and sponsored by the Aristo Public School Cuddalore. The Cuddalore Hockey Academy was founded in 2021 and formally registered in 2022 and currently

provides free coaching camps to men and women athletes in the Cuddalore Stadium.

Talking about the Union Bank of India, it was established in 1919 and is the fifth largest Public Sector Bank in India. The entity promises to take hockey to new heights and help Hockey India in reaching out to new talent in Mumbai.

Speaking on the newly inducted Academy Members and Associate Member Unit, Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey said, "It is a proud moment for us to have new Academy Members and a new Associate Member Unit on board. Throughout history, academies and associate members have consistently strived to establish a conducive atmosphere where individuals can strive for greatness in hockey.

These institutions have placed significant importance on fostering social inclusivity and promoting the holistic growth of hockey players, extending well beyond the confines of the sporting realm."

INDIA COLTS TEAM FOR MEN'S JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023



SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT

GOALKEEPERS

- MOHITH H S
- HIMWAAN SIHAG

MIDFIELDERS

- VISHNUKANT SINGH
- RAJINDER SINGH
- POOVANNA C B
- AMANDEEP
- SUNIT LAKRA

DEFENDERS

- SHARDANAND TIWARI
- ROHIT
- AMANDEEP LAKRA
- AMIR ALI
- YOGEMBER RAWAT

FORWARDS

- BOBY SINGH DHAMI (VC)
- RAJEET SINGH HUNDAL
- ADITYA LALAGE
- UTTAM SINGH (C)
- SUDEEP CHIRMAKO
- ANGAD BIR SINGH

INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM FOR EUROPEAN LEG OF FIH HOCKEY PRO LEAGUE 2022/23



SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT

GOALKEEPERS

- KRISHAN BHADUR PATHAK
- PR SREEJESH

DEFENDERS

- HARMANPREET SINGH (C)
- AMIT ROHIDAS
- JARMANPREET SINGH
- MANPREET SINGH
- SUMIT
- SANJAY
- MANDEEP MOR
- GURINDER SINGH

MIDFIELDERS

- HARDIK SINGH (VC)
- DILPREET SINGH
- MOIRANGTHEM RABICHANDRA SINGH
- SHAMSHER SINGH
- AKASHDEEP SINGH
- VIVEK SAGAR PRASAD

FORWARDS

- ABHISHEK
- LALIT KUMAR UPADHYAY
- S KARTHI
- GURJANT SINGH
- SUKHJEET SINGH
- RAJ KUMAR PAL
- MANDEEP SINGH
- SIMRANJEET SINGH

NEWLY-APPOINTED INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY CHIEF COACH CRAIG FULTON ARRIVES IN INDIA

Newly-appointed Indian Men's Hockey Team Chief Coach Craig Fulton arrived in India on the morning of 28 April 2023. The 48-year-old South African landed in New Delhi where he met with Hockey India officials. On the same day, he flew down to Bengaluru where he took over the reins of the National Coaching Camp is held at the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

Fulton, who was named the Chief Coach of the Indian Men's Hockey Team by Hockey India in March 2023, comes with nearly 25 years of coaching experience and has achieved many milestones during his association with the Irish Men's team and reigning Olympic Champions

Belgium. His rise to fame started with a stint with the Irish Men's Team as the Head Coach between 2014 and 2018 when the team qualified for the Rio Olympic Games 2016. This was the Irish team's first Olympic qualification in 100 years. This historic feat also won him the FIH Coach of the Year in 2015.

Following this, he worked as the Assistant Coach with the reigning Olympic Champions Belgium, where the Belgium team won the Gold medal in Tokyo. He was also part of the Belgian Coaching Staff when the team lifted the World title in 2018, in Bhubaneswar. He was also named Belgium Coach of the Year 2023 after coaching the Belgium club which won the Belgium League.



CRAIG FULTON

NEWLY-APPOINTED SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS RHETT HALKETT, ALAN TAN ARRIVE IN INDIA

Indian Men's Hockey Team's newly-appointed Analytical Coach Rhett Halkett arrived in India on 04 May 2023 and received a warm welcome in New Delhi from Hockey India Secretary General Shri Bholu Nath Singh.

Meanwhile, Alan Tan, who was recently appointed as the Scientific Advisor for the Indian Men's

Hockey Team, also arrived in New Delhi on 06 May 2023 and was welcomed by Hockey India CEO Elena Norman. After reaching Delhi, both of them flew to Bengaluru to join the Indian Men's Hockey Team Camp at the SAI Centre under newly-appointed Indian Men's Hockey Team Chief Coach Craig Fulton.



ALAN TAN



RHETT HALKETT

INDIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM FOR AUSTRALIA TOUR 2023



SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT

GOALKEEPERS

- SAVITA (C)
- BICHU DEVI KHARIBAM

MIDFIELDERS

- NISHA
- NAVJOT KAUR
- MONIKA
- SALIMA TETE
- NEHA
- NAVNEET KAUR
- SONIKA
- JYOTI
- BALJEET KAUR

DEFENDERS

- DEEP GRACE EKKA (VC)
- NIKKI PRADHAN
- ISHIKA CHAUDHARY
- UDITA
- GURJIT KAUR

FORWARDS

- LALREMSIAMI
- VANDANA KATARIYA
- SANGITA KUMARI
- SHARMILA DEVI

INDIAN JUNIOR WOMEN'S TEAM FOR WOMEN'S JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023



SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT

GOALKEEPERS

- ADITI MAHESHWARI
- MADHURI KINDO

MIDFIELDERS

- JYOTI CHHATRI
- MANASHRI NARENDRA SHEDAGE
- MANJU CHORSIYA
- RUTUJA DADASO PISAL
- SUJATA KUJUR
- VAISHNAVI VITTHAL PHALKE

DEFENDERS

- PREETI (C)
- ANJALI BARWA
- MAHIMA TETE
- NEELAM
- ROPNI KUMARI

FORWARDS

- ANNU
- DEEPIKA (VC)
- DEEPIKA SORENG
- MUMTAZ KHAN
- SUNELITA TOPPO



HOCKEY INDIA CONGRATULATES

NIKKI PARDHAN

ON COMPLETING

150

INTERNATIONAL CAPS

The third match of India's Tour of Australia on 21 May 2023 witnessed Nikki Pradhan reaching the 150 international caps milestone. Nikki made her international debut during the South Africa Tour in 2016 and since then she has represented the women's team with aplomb at every important tournament.

Nikki was a member of Indian Team that participated in the Rio Olympics, making her the first player from Jharkhand to participate in the Summer Games. She was also a member of the Indian Team that finished fourth in the Tokyo Olympics.

Nikki was a member of the Indian team that won Gold at the 2017 Women's Asia Cup, Silver at the 2018 Women's Asian Champions Trophy, and Silver at the 2018 Asian Games. She also helped the team win the FIH Women's Series Finals in Hiroshima in 2019 and the inaugural FIH Women's Nations Cup in Spain in 2022.

Congratulating Nikki, Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey said, "Nikki has definitely come a long way since making her India debut and it's because of her sheer hard work. She has matured as a player in the last few years and has been instrumental in the team's success. By becoming the first woman hockey player from Jharkhand to take part in the Olympics, she not only made history but also became an inspiration for young players from her state. On behalf of Hockey India, I wish her the very best as well as congratulate her on achieving this incredible feat."



HOCKEY INDIA CONGRATULATES

MONIKA

ON COMPLETING

200

INTERNATIONAL CAPS

Veteran midfielder Monika achieved the milestone of completing 200 international caps during the opening match of India's Tour of Australia on 18 May 2023.

Hailing from Chandigarh, the 29-year-old cemented her berth in the team, following an impressive international debut in 2012, against New Zealand. She went on to win bronze at the 2014 Asian Games and represented India at the historic 2016 Rio Olympics, where the team qualified after 36 years. She also played a key role in India's victory at the 2017 Women's Asia Cup and secured silver at the 2018 Asian Games. Furthermore, Monika became a double Olympian with a notable fourth-place finish at the Tokyo Olympics.

Congratulating the experienced midfielder, Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey said, "I congratulate Monika on completing this incredible milestone of playing 200 international matches for the country. It is indeed a great honour to wear the jersey with pride and Monika has shown that she is an integral part of this flourishing team. I wish her the best in future matches."



HOCKEY INDIA CONGRATULATES

SAVITA

ON COMPLETING

250

INTERNATIONAL CAPS

Indian Captain Savita on 21 May 2023 reached 250 international caps milestone. She achieved this feat during India's third match of their tour to Australia held at the Mate Stadium in Adelaide.

Savita has risen through the ranks and cemented her place on the team since making her debut at the Spar Cup Four Nations Tournament in Durban in 2009. Her outstanding performances include a historic fourth-place finish in the Tokyo Olympics 2020, Bronze medal in the 2013 Asia Cup, Gold medal in the Women's Asian Champions Trophy in 2016, and Bronze medal at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022. She also led the Indian team to the FIH Nations Cup title, which helped them qualify for the FIH Pro League 2023-24.

Congratulating Savita, Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey said, "Savita has been a pillar of strength for Indian Women's Hockey, standing strong in the goalpost. I congratulate her on completing this incredible milestone of completing 250 International Caps. She has been a huge inspiration to an entire generation of aspiring hockey players. I wish her the best in taking Indian Women's Hockey to new heights.



HOCKEY INDIA CONGRATULATES
**DEEP GRACE
EKKA**
ON COMPLETING
250
INTERNATIONAL CAPS

Hockey India congratulated experienced defender Deep Grace Ekka on reaching the milestone of 250 international caps on 20 May 2023 during India's second match against Australia in Adelaide during their tour of Australia in May 2023.

Hailing from Lulkidihi village in Sundargarh district, she debuted in 2011 during the Four-Nation Tournament in Argentina and has since been a vital part of the national team. An Arjuna awardee, Deep Grace Ekka went on to represent India in the Rio Olympics and Tokyo Olympics, marking the team's first appearance since 1980. Her achievements also include winning the Bronze Medal at the Women's Asia Cup 2013, Gold at the 2016 Asian Champions Trophy, Gold in the Asia Cup 2017, Silver at the Asian Champions Trophy 2018, Silver at the 18th Asian Games Jakarta-Palembang, and Bronze at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games. Her notable contributions also extend to India's Gold Medal victory at the inaugural FIH Women's Nations Cup in Spain in 2022.

Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr Dilip Tirkey extended his congratulation on behalf of Hockey India, he said, "I would like to congratulate Deep Grace Ekka on completing 250 International Caps for India. She is a player who not only brings stability to India's defense but also plays an important role of a penalty corner specialist. Her contribution during the 12 years since making her debut has been immense and has seen her win many medals."

HOCKEY INDIA SECRETARY GENERAL SHRI BHOLA NATH SINGH PRESENTS MEMENTO TO IOC PRESIDENT MR. THOMAS BACH AT FIH SUMMIT

Representatives from the leading nations and FIH Executive Board Members met the President of the International Olympic Committee, Mr. Thomas Bach on 06 June 2023. The unprecedented initiative held under the leadership of FIH President Dato Tayyab Ikram was attended by representatives from India, the Netherlands, New Zealand, England, Spain, Malaysia, Australia, Belgium and Germany, along with key members of the FIH Executive Board.

At the end of the summit, on behalf of Hockey India, Secretary General Hockey India Shri Bhola Nath Singh, presented a memento to Mr. Thomas Bach on the completion of the meeting as a token of appreciation for his efforts.

Speaking about the initiative Shri Bhola Nath Singh said, "We discussed numerous important issues on commercial viability, broadcast, gender equality

communications and sustainability and engaged with various stakeholders. This is a great initiative by FIH and Dato Tayyab Ikram, to bring us together for an exchange of ideas and engage with Mr. Thomas Bach ahead of the upcoming Olympics."

The summit augurs well for Hockey around the world, setting an example of communication and collaboration while focusing on elements such as gender equality, sustainability etc in pursuit of the growth of the game.



WE ARE DEEPLY SADDENED BY THE DEMISE OF OUR FORMER HOCKEY PLAYER AND A GOLD MEDALLIST IN THE U18 ASIA CUP 2000, NEHA CHAUHAN.



WE ARE DEEPLY SADDENED BY THE DEMISE OF OUR FORMER JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY PLAYER AND 1997 FIH JUNIOR MEN WORLD CUP SILVER MEDALLIST, RAJIV MISHRA.



JUNIOR ASIA CUP GLORY PUTS INDIAN JUNIOR MEN AND WOMEN'S TEAM IN SPOTLIGHT

THE JUNIOR TEAMS' FEAT RECEIVED ACCOLADES FROM THE HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER IN HIS RADIO SHOW MANN KI BAAT



The Indian Junior Men's hockey team inked a historic 2-1 win over arch-rivals Pakistan in the Final of the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 in Salalah, Oman. This was India's fourth title at Men's Junior Asia Cup, having won it previously in 2004, 2008 and 2015. Pakistan are the second-most successful team in the tournament with three titles but their last win came 27 years ago in 1996.

Playing in front of a near-capacity crowd at the Salalah Sports Complex, both teams looked threatening from the start but Angad Bir Singh's strike in the 13th minute helped India get on the scoresheet. Arajjeet Singh Hundal, India's top-scorer at Men's Junior Asia

Cup 2023 with eight goals, doubled the lead five minutes into the second quarter.

Though Pakistan were relentless in their pursuit of pulling one back, India had more meaningful possession. A brilliant save from Indian goalkeeper HS Mohith protected India's lead going into the second half.

Despite earning multiple penalty corners and keeping most of the possession, Pakistan could not break the defensive wall led by goalkeeper HS Mohith and India managed to hold onto their lead and win the trophy. HS Mohith was named the Best Goalkeeper of the Tournament.

"After the 1-1 draw in the round-robin stage, we were very aware of the areas we had to do well in order to beat Pakistan," said India captain Uttam Singh, who was awarded the Player of the Match. "It was quite a nervous final. The team had never played in front of such a big crowd but I think the early goals helped us stay in control of the game."

Only a fortnight later, the Indian Junior Women's Team emulated the success of their male counterparts. The result was instantly celebrated across the country as this was their maiden title at this prestigious tournament.

They won 2-1 against the formidable South Korea, four-time winners of the title, in a hard-fought final. Goals were scored by Annu (21') and Neelam (40') while Seoyeon Park scored the lone goal for Korea.

India eves put on an attacking front to put their opponents on the back seat right at the start. Though an early lead by Annu through her penalty stroke was levelled soon after by Park's field goal, India bounced back as they switched to swift counterattacks in the third quarter. The tactic paid off as Neelam converted a penalty corner to put India in front as the third quarter ended with the score 2-1 in favour of the Indian team.

In order to protect their lead, India shifted their focus on defending and controlled the tempo of the game by keeping possession in the fourth quarter. On the other hand, Korea made forced errors and misdirected passes in their desperation to find an equaliser. Ultimately, India stood strong and stuck to their strategy to win the title clash 2-1.

"It was a brave effort by the team, and we did well to defend the scoreline till the end. It was a tense match but we were mentally prepared for this Final clash and we are happy to have created history."

With these two incredible feats, not only did the Indian Junior Men and Women earn a much-deserved entry to the FIH Junior World Cup later this year but they were also showered with appreciation and best wishes by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his radio show Mann Ki Baat.

Hockey India too recognised the significant feat and announced cash award of INR 2 lakh each for players and INR 1 lakh for the support staff.

JUNIOR ASIA CUP GLORY PUTS INDIAN JUNIOR MEN TEAM IN SPOTLIGHT





MEN'S JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH	RESULT
06	WEDNESDAY, 24.05.2023	19:15	INDIA VS CHINESE TAIPEI	18-0
09	THURSDAY, 25.05.2023	19:15	JAPAN VS INDIA	1-3
16	SATURDAY, 27.05.2023	22:30	PAKISTAN VS INDIA	1-1
18	SUNDAY, 28.05.2023	22:30	INDIA VS THAILAND	17-0
24	WEDNESDAY, 31.05.2023	20:00	SEMI-FINAL INDIA VS KOREA	9-1
29	THURSDAY, 1.06.2023	21:30	FINAL INDIA VS PAKISTAN	2-1

JUNIOR ASIA CUP GLORY PUTS INDIAN JUNIOR WOMEN TEAM IN SPOTLIGHT





WOMEN'S JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH	RESULT
06	SATURDAY, 3.06.2023	10:30	INDIA VS UZBEKISTAN	22-0
09	MONDAY, 5.06.2023	08:30	MALAYSIA VS INDIA	1-2
14	TUESDAY, 6.06.2023	10:30	KOREA VS INDIA	2-2
19	THURSDAY, 8.06.2023	12:30	INDIA VS CHINESE TAIPEI	11-0
24	SATURDAY, 10.06.2023	09:30	SEMI-FINAL INDIA VS JAPAN	1-0
29	SUNDAY, 11.06.2023	14:30	FINAL INDIA VS KOREA	2-1

INDIA ENDS **FIH HOCKEY PRO LEAGUE 2022/23** SEASON ON A HIGH

The Indian Men's Hockey Team has been in sublime form in recent months and had a fantastic outing in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2022-23 during the mini-tournament in London and Eindhoven. This was also Chief Coach Craig Fulton's first assignment with the Indian Men's Hockey Team.

The Indian Team did not start the European leg of the FIH Hockey Pro League 2022/23 on a great note, losing 1-2 against Belgium in the first game. For India, it was Mandeep Singh who scored against the Belgians. Up next were Great Britain, and the Indian Men's Hockey Team lost 2-4, with Captain Harmanpreet Singh converting a couple of Penalty Corners.

However, India bounced back in style in their next game, when they smashed Belgium by a scoreline of 5-1 in London, with Vivek Prasad Sagar, Harmanpreet, Amit Rohidas and Dilpreet Singh scoring the goals. The skipper scored twice. In the final game in London, India won against Great Britain in a tense penalty shootout after the game was locked at 4-4 at the end of regulation time. Harmanpreet, Mandeep, Sukhjeet Singh and Abhishek were the scorers.

The team then moved to the Netherlands and lost 1-4 to hosts. Harmanpreet once again scored for India. Up next were Argentina, and the Indian Men's Hockey

Team won 3-0 against them, playing some fantastic hockey, with Harmanpreet, Amit Rohidas and Abhishek finding the back of the net once. The Netherlands would defeat India in the next game by a 3-2 margin while Harmanpreet and co round up their campaign with a 2-1 win against Argentina, where Akashdeep Singh and Sukhjeet

scored.





FIH HOCKEY PRO LEAGUE 2022-2023 (MEN)

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH	RESULT
37	FRIDAY, 26.05.2023	1910	BELGIUM vs INDIA	2-1
38	SATURDAY, 27.05.2023	1710	GREAT BRITAIN vs INDIA	4-2
40	FRIDAY, 02.06.2023	1910	INDIA vs BELGIUM	5-1
41	SATURDAY, 03.06.2023	1710	GREAT BRITAIN vs INDIA	4-4(2-4)SO
43	WEDNESDAY,07.06.2023	2310	NETHERLANDS vs INDIA	4-1
44	THURSDAY, 08.06.2023	2040	ARGENTINA vs INDIA	0-3
46	SATURDAY,10.06.2023	2110	NETHERLANDS vs INDIA	3-2
47	SUNDAY, 11.06.2023	2110	INDIA vs ARGENTINA	2-1

INDIA TO FACE CHINA IN CAMPAIGN OPENER AT THE HERO ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY CHENNAI 2023

The Asian Hockey Federation on 20 June 2023 announced the schedule for the upcoming edition of the Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023. The tournament will begin with Korea and Japan playing the first game, while hosts India will play the third game of the opening day (3rd August) when they take on China at the Mayor Radhakrishnan Hockey Stadium in Chennai.

The Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023 will begin on the 3rd August and go on till the 12th August. The six-team tournament

will see Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan, China, and India battle it out for top honours.



HERO ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY CHENNAI 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	POOL	MATCH
01	THURSDAY, 3 AUGUST 2023	16:00	ONE POOL	KOREA VS JAPAN
02	THURSDAY, 3 AUGUST 2023	18:15	ONE POOL	MALAYSIA VS PAKISTAN
03	THURSDAY, 3 AUGUST 2023	20:30	ONE POOL	INDIA VS CHINA
04	FRIDAY, 4 AUGUST 2023	16:00	ONE POOL	KOREA VS PAKISTAN
05	FRIDAY, 4 AUGUST 2023	18:15	ONE POOL	CHINA VS MALAYSIA
06	FRIDAY, 4 AUGUST 2023	20:30	ONE POOL	INDIA VS JAPAN
07	SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST 2023	16:00	ONE POOL	CHINA VS KOREA
08	SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST 2023	18:15	ONE POOL	PAKISTAN VS JAPAN
09	SUNDAY, 6 AUGUST 2023	20:30	ONE POOL	MALAYSIA VS INDIA
10	MONDAY, 7 AUGUST 2023	16:00	ONE POOL	JAPAN VS MALAYSIA
11	MONDAY, 7 AUGUST 2023	18:15	ONE POOL	PAKISTAN VS CHINA
12	MONDAY, 7 AUGUST 2023	20:30	ONE POOL	KOREA VS INDIA
13	WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 2023	16:00	ONE POOL	JAPAN VS CHINA
14	WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 2023	18:15	ONE POOL	MALAYSIA VS KOREA
15	WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 2023	20:30	ONE POOL	INDIA VS PAKISTAN
16	FRIDAY, 11 AUGUST 2023	15:30	5/6TH PLACE	5TH IN POOL VS 6TH IN POOL
17	FRIDAY, 11 AUGUST 2023	18:00	SEMI-FINAL 1	2ND IN POOL VS 3RD IN POOL
18	FRIDAY, 11 AUGUST 2023	20:30	SEMI-FINAL 2	1ST IN POOL VS 4TH IN POOL
19	SATURDAY, 12 AUGUST 2023	18:00	3/4TH PLACE	LOSER SF1 VS LOSER SF2
20	SATURDAY, 12 AUGUST 2023	20:30	FINAL	WINNER SF1 VS WINNER SF2

INDIA WOMEN TO TAKE ON CANADA INDIA MEN TO LOCK HORNS WITH KOREA IN OPENING GAMES AT FIH JUNIOR WORLD CUPS

The FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup Chile 2023 was officially launched on 22 June 2023 at the Chilean Olympic Committee's headquarters. The tournament will take place from 29 November to 10 December. The Indian Junior Women's Team have been grouped in Pool C along with Belgium, Canada, and Germany. India will open their campaign against Canada on 29th November in Santiago, Chile before taking on Germany on 1st December. In their third and last Pool game, the Indian team will take on Belgium on 2nd December.

Speaking on the Pools revelation, Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023 winning Captain Preeti said, "We are thrilled to see the Pools for the World Cup unveiled. It's an exciting moment for our team as we gear up to compete against some of the best junior teams from around the world."

"We are aware that each Pool is filled with talented and formidable opponents, but we see this as an opportunity to showcase our skills, determination, and teamwork on the global stage. We are confident in our abilities and will give our all in every match," she added.

Meanwhile, The FIH Hockey Men's Junior World

Cup Malaysia 2023 was officially launched on 24 June 2023 at the Mercure Living Hotel in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

India Colts have been placed in Pool C alongside Canada, Korea and Spain. According to the schedule, India's campaign will commence against Korea on 5th December in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, while they will take on Spain in their second Pool game on 7th December. In their third and last Pool game, India will clash with Canada on 9th December.

Speaking on the Pools draw, India's Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 winning Captain Uttam Singh said, "The Pool's draw for the World Cup has set the stage for some intense competition. We are thrilled to be part of such a prestigious tournament and look forward to testing our mettle against the world's best junior teams. Our goal is to make our country proud and leave a lasting impression."

Each team in the Pool stage will play the other three teams in their respective Pool once and the top two teams from each Pool will progress to the Quarter-Finals, while the remaining teams will play for classification positions.

FIH HOCKEY WOMEN'S JUNIOR WORLD CUP 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH
03	WEDNESDAY, 29.11.2023	23:30	INDIA VS CANADA
10	THURSDAY, 30.11.2023	16:30	INDIA VS GERMANY
17	SATURDAY, 2.12.2023	19:30	BELGIUM VS INDIA

FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JUNIOR WORLD CUP 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH
05	TUESDAY, 5.12.2023	15:30	INDIA VS KOREA
16	THURSDAY, 7.12.2023	17:30	SPAIN VS INDIA
23	SATURDAY, 9.12.2023	15:30	INDIA VS CANADA

“I WANT TO PLAY IN THE OLYMPICS AND WIN GOLD MEDAL FOR MY COUNTRY,” SAYS 16-YEAR-OLD SUNELITA TOPPO

Sunelita Toppo, a 16-year-old forward, has shown remarkable progress in the Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team. Her development took a significant step forward when she was selected for the Hockey India Senior Women National Coaching Camp in April 2023. Hailing from Kukuda village in Sundargarh, Odisha, Sunelita comes from a place known for its strong hockey culture, with a majority of the region's players pursuing the sport.

At the age of eight, Sunelita was inspired by the local hockey tournaments organized in her village and decided to take up the sport.

“Most of the people in my village play hockey and they even organise local hockey tournaments there, which I found fascinating and eventually decided to take up the sport at the age of eight,” she said.

“However, I never thought of becoming a professional player back then and played hockey just to enjoy the game,” she added.

Despite facing financial challenges, Sunelita's determination and the support of her family helped her secure admission into the SAI Training Centre (STC) in Sundargarh, which offers residential training and coaching in various sports, including hockey.





“Due to financial constraints, I had to face numerous issues in my journey of becoming a professional hockey player, but my family believed in me, they backed me and also provided moral support throughout which is why I am at this stage today,” Sunelita said.

Sunelita's consistent performances led to her inclusion in the Junior Women's Team, which ultimately led to her selection for the Hockey India Senior Women National Coaching Camp in April 2023.

Revealing her success mantra, Sunelita said that it was her coach's simple but important advice that changed her life for good. “My coach told me that my game is good but it's the hard work that makes a person successful. So, that's the advice I'm following till now and that's why I always aim to work hard and give my hundred percent in anything I do,” she said.

Sunelita's journey showcases her determination, resilience, and the impact of family support in overcoming challenges to pursue her passion for hockey.

'FOCUS IS ON MAKING IT TO THE SQUAD FOR THE HANGZHOU ASIAN GAMES,' SAYS SIMRANJEET SINGH ON RETURNING TO THE INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY CORE GROUP

Indian Men's Hockey Team attacking midfielder Simranjeet Singh in August 2021 proved his mettle at the grandest stage when he scored a brace to help his team post a 5-4 victory over Germany in the Tokyo Olympics Bronze medal match, paving the way for India's return to the podium in the Olympic Games in men's hockey after 41 years.

But his career hit a major roadblock since then having suffered numerous injuries and missing some key tournaments including Hero Asia Cup in Jakarta and FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela which was held from 13th to 29th January 2023. Though he was part of the Asia Cup team, he returned home midway after playing the first match against Pakistan due to injury.

However, the 26-year-old mercurial talent has made a comeback to the Core group and also took part in the Indian team's remaining FIH Hockey Pro League 2022/23 matches in Europe.

"I am super happy to return to the National Coaching Camp after struggling with injuries for quite some time," Simranjeet said, before adding, "It was disheartening for me to miss the World Cup."



Simranjeet also revealed that he took inspiration from Brazilian ace Neymar Jr to sail through the difficult period and make a comeback.

“In sports, players can suffer injuries at any given moment but it depends on them how they deal with it and make a comeback. For me, Neymar served as an inspiration as despite getting injured numerous times, the Brazilian footballer has always made a strong comeback. Likewise, I also focused on regaining full fitness, did all the necessary things to make a comeback and most importantly, I never gave up.”

Talking about his goals, Simranjeet, who played a key role in India's Junior World Cup win in 2016, said, “I am focused on making it to the squad for the Hangzhou Asian Games, which will be played later this year. The tournament is crucial for us as it will give us an opportunity to directly qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics and also assert our dominance in Asia.”



INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM
SIMRANJEET SINGH
MIDFIELDER



CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU TO HOST HERO ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY CHENNAI 2023

Hockey India has chosen Chennai, Tamil Nadu as the venue for the Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023, aiming to bring international hockey events to different cities in the country. The seventh edition of this prestigious tournament is scheduled to take place from August 3rd to 12th, 2023, serving as a precursor to the Hangzhou Asian Games in September.

Chennai, having previously hosted the Asia Cup in 2007, proved to be a lucky venue for the home team, which won the title by defeating Korea 7-2 in the Final.

Welcoming the participating teams to Tamil Nadu, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Welfare

and Sports Development Thiru Udhayanidhi Stalin said, "It is indeed a great pleasure and honour to host the Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu which was once the capital of hockey in South India with many reputed domestic and international events being held here. I believe hosting the Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023 here will further revive the sport in the region and watching top teams in Asia will also inspire the younger generation to take up hockey as a career. The Tamil Nadu government under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru MK Stalin extends all the support required to make this event a grand success."



Hockey India President, Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey, thanked Minister Thiru Udhayanidhi Stalin for his support and said, "On behalf of Hockey India, I thank Shri Udhayanidhi Stalin, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Welfare and Sports Development for his support in hosting this prestigious tournament in Chennai. I had the honour of interacting with him during the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup Bhubaneswar-Rourkela

and it was very encouraging to see his enthusiasm and passion for hockey. I also thank AHF for this opportunity. It has been a while since we had all the top teams in Asia come to India and participate here. I have very fond memories of playing in Chennai and we hope they will all turn up in large numbers to support the participating teams."



MUMTAZ KHAN OPTIMISTIC ABOUT INDIA'S PROSPECT AFTER GETTING NAMED TO INDIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY CORE GROUP

One of the brightest talents in the Indian Women's Hockey set-up, Mumtaz Khan has risen through the ranks in recent years. Her journey so far has been anything but easy as she has faced many hurdles in her career. Mumtaz's list of challenges includes two ACL injuries in 2019 and 2022.

Talking about her rough phase and how she tackled it, Mumtaz said, "It was a big setback for me as I suffered an injury for the first time in my career and it turned out to be an ACL tear. I was very anxious while recovering from the injury and used to think if I'll be able to walk again or not. If it's the end of my career?"

"I was very irritated and used to cry a lot during that rough period, but I still managed to complete my rehab in 6-7 months. I motivated myself to get back on the field as soon as possible and play as I used to before I got injured," she added

Mumtaz also expressed her gratitude to her team members, coaches and support staff for helping her get back on her feet when she was struggling.

"I was a junior team player when I got injured. So, I didn't have any job back then nor was I financially stable. However, Hockey India supported me in every possible way during that time and even put me in rehab with the senior team. There used to be a physio, a trainer and members of medical staff to take care of me and assured me that I will be fit again to play. Moreover, senior players used to check in on me and provide moral support during rehab. Hence, I am really grateful to Hockey India for extending a helping hand when I needed it the most," she said. .



Mumtaz further revealed that she didn't tell her parents about her injuries in order to keep them stress-free. "I never told my parents about my injuries even when I went under the knife. I didn't involve my parents as there were already many other issues they were dealing with and I didn't want to add to their tension."

Mumtaz was India's top goal scorer and third-highest overall at the 2022 Women's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup in South Africa with eight goals. Owing to her impressive performance in the tournament, Mumtaz was also named in the senior squad for Hero FIH Hockey 5s Lausanne 2022 in which she scored five goals.

Notably, Mumtaz Khan was named FIH Women's Rising Star of the Year in 2021 and she also won Hockey India Asunta Lakra Award for Upcoming Player of the Year 2022. Speaking on the same, she said, "Given the fact that I was on the verge of giving up on hockey after getting injured, it was no less than a dream for me to win the two prestigious awards. Also, I received the FIH Women's Rising Star of Year award due to my team as all the players in the junior team were very supportive and it was a bonding between us which helped me put up a good show on the field."

Mumtaz played an instrumental role in the Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team's title-winning campaign at the recently held Junior Asia Cup in Japan.



INDIAN WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM
MUMTAZ KHAN
FORWARD

PADDY UPTON TO WORK WITH INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM AS MENTAL CONDITIONING SPECIALIST

With the upcoming Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023 in August, Mental conditioning expert Paddy Upton has been roped in by Hockey India to work with the Indian Men's Hockey team. Paddy will hold three-part mental conditioning sessions starting 1st July at the National Coaching Camp for Indian Men's Core group in SAI, Bengaluru. The Cape Town-based high-performance coach, author, speaker, and professor, has an extensive background in sports psychology and leadership coaching. He has over two decades of experience working with professional athletes and teams across various sports.

His earlier stint includes being part of the Indian national cricket team where he played a pivotal role in leading them to victory in the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup. He also guided the team to achieve the top spot in the Test rankings for the first time in history.

Besides cricket, Paddy has provided mental training workshops to the South African Men's Hockey Team, Australia Men's Hockey Team, Indian Super League (ISL) sides FC Goa and FC Hyderabad, England Men's Rugby Team and many other sports teams.



CRAIG FULTON'S ULTIMATE GOAL WANTS PLAYERS TO PERFORM TO THEIR BEST

Craig Fulton, who was appointed as the Indian Men's Hockey Team's Chief Coach before the start of the FIH Hockey Pro League matches in the United Kingdom, arrived at the SAI Centre, Bengaluru on 29th April 2023, and got straight down to business. He started by focusing on the team's fitness and also held speed and agility sessions. He also heaped praises on the facilities at SAI.

He said, "I was surprised to see how big the facility is. It has everything under one roof. The exclusive gym for hockey is world-class. The pitches are good, the facilities for recovery are good, and the food

hall is new and good too."

Fulton knows what is expected of him and believes that pressure can be a positive thing as it will help the players focus and perform at their best. His ultimate goal is to create a positive and supportive environment where the Indian team can perform at their best.

Interestingly, Craig has nearly 25 years of coaching experience. He worked with Belgium from 2018 to 2021 and under his guidance, the team won the 2018 FIH Men's World Cup and the Olympic Gold medal in Tokyo Olympics.



**CRAIG FULTON'S
INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM'S CHIEF COACH**

‘HOCKEY INDIA KA ABHIYAN HAR GHAR HO HOCKEY KI PEHCHAN’ PROMISES TO BUILD HOCKEY CULTURE

Taking hockey to remote parts of the country, the national governing body has initiated the ‘Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan’ program with an aim to engage all the districts to host regular coaching camps and intra-district competition.

After the success of 1st Hockey India Zonal Championships held across North, South, East and West Zones, the National Sports Federation has urged all the State Member Units to work closely with their respective district associations and ensure they host regular activities to help promote hockey and scout talent.

Speaking about the official communication made to all State Member Units, Padma Shri Dr Dilip Tirkey, President of Hockey India, said, “As part of Hockey India's drive to have hockey tournaments at every level and to motivate State and District Member Units, Hockey India recently deployed four officials in each of the four zones (North, South, East, and West) to brief our State and District Units on why hosting these tournaments and coaching camps are essential not only to develop the sport but also to build a strong sports culture among the youth in their respective state. These tournaments create a sense of identity for players and promote active participation.”

According to Hockey India, each state should organise district and state-level tournaments throughout the year, with respective teams for state championships chosen based on their performance in the district championship. Furthermore, the state championships aid in the selection of the state team for the Hockey India National Championships.

“The State and District level tournaments, like the National Championship, must be divided into six categories: Senior Men, Senior Women, Junior

Men, Junior Women, Sub Junior Men, and Sub Junior Women. We have mandated that the teams for the State Championship must be chosen based on their performance in the District Championship. As part of Hockey India's initiative to bring hockey to every city, colony, block and village, Hockey India office bearers are ensuring that these tournaments and coaching camps take place regularly,” expressed Shri Bhola Nath Singh, Secretary General of Hockey India.

Several State Member Units including the Hockey Association of Odisha, Hockey Jharkhand, Hockey Bihar, Uttar Pradesh Hockey, Le Puducherry Hockey, Hockey Andaman & Nicobar, Kerala Hockey, Assam Hockey, Hockey Jammu & Kashmir, and Hockey Arunachal, have already begun these competitions and coaching camps at the district level. Districts such as Simdega, Jammu, Jamtara, Hardoi, Muzzafarpur, Upper Subansiri, Jharsuguda and Villianur have already completed hosting age-group level matches and coaching camps.

As part of the ‘Hockey India ka Abhiyan Har Ghar Ho Hockey Ki Pehchan program’, hockey sticks and balls were also distributed in various states while Hockey India office bearers are in constant communication with their Member Units to further facilitate and provide any support needed in promoting the sport.



COUNTDOWN BEGINS LESS THAN A MONTH TO GO FOR THE HERO ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY CHENNAI 2023

With less than a month remaining until the highly anticipated Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023 kicks off, hockey enthusiasts across Asia are eagerly awaiting the captivating matches, brilliant goals, and fierce rivalries that this coveted tournament promises to deliver.

This will be the seventh edition of the prestigious tournament and it is scheduled to take place from 3rd August to 12th August 2023 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, which last hosted an international hockey event in 2007.

This tournament will be pivotal for participating teams as it will help them prepare for the Hangzhou Asian Games in September where teams will aim to earn direct qualification for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games by clinching the Gold Medal.

Meanwhile, Indian Men's Hockey Team Captain Harmanpreet Singh expressed excitement and optimism, noting the build-up and anticipation surrounding the crucial tournament.

"We have been working very hard for this tournament as we aim to make our nation proud by winning the Gold Medal. Also, the team is excited to play in Chennai as for many of us, it will be the first time that we

will be playing there. The Indian team last played in Chennai in 2007 when India defended the Asia Cup title successfully, so, we hope to emerge victorious again in Chennai," Harmanpreet Singh said.

He added, "Moreover, the tournament holds immense significance for the team and will provide us with an opportunity to gauge our progress and test our mettle against formidable opponents which will be very important for us ahead of the Asian Games where we aim to win the Gold medal and directly qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympics."

India are the most successful team in the marquee event alongside Pakistan as both sides have won the Asian Champions Trophy three times each. The Indian Men's Team won this Title in the inaugural edition held in 2011, while in 2016, India defeated nemesis Pakistan in the Final to win the title for the second time. In the following edition in 2018, India were declared joint winners with Pakistan after rain affected the proceedings of the summit clash held in Muscat.

Moreover, India won the Bronze Medal in the last edition of the tournament in 2021 after defeating Pakistan in the 3/4th place match.

PROUD CAPTAIN UTTAM SINGH REFLECTS ON HISTORIC MEN'S JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023 GLORY

The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team were greeted with rousing cheers upon their arrival in the nation on 03 June 2023 after winning the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 in Salalah Oman by decisively defeating traditional rivals Pakistan.

The Indian Team was welcomed by officials from Hockey Karnataka, including Secretary A B Subbaiah, and a delegation from SAI STC comprised of junior hockey players from Karnataka.

India Colts were crowned Champions after a thrilling 2-1 victory over Pakistan in the Final to win the tournament for a record fourth time. They were unbeaten throughout the campaign, having registered five wins and a draw in six matches.

With this historic victory, India has set a new record for the most titles won at the Men's Junior Asia Cup. Previously, India and Pakistan were tied at three.

"It brings us great joy to come back home with the trophy, we have put in a lot of hard work as part of our preparation, and it is nice to be rewarded for it."

He further said, "It is heartwarming and very motivating to see a legend like AB Subbaiah welcome us."

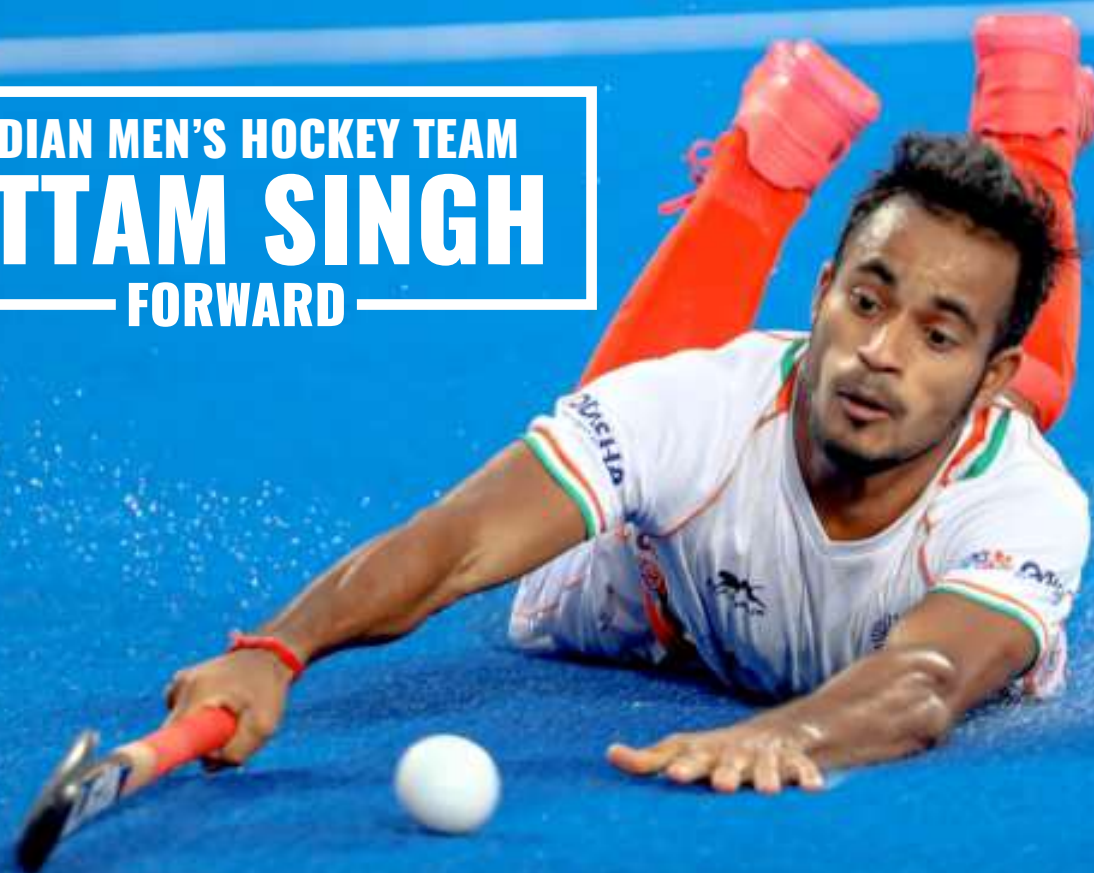


Uttam Singh, who was part of the team that missed out on a podium finish after losing in the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's Junior World Cup Bhubaneswar 2021 Semi Final stated that the focus now shifts to winning the Junior World Cup.

"Our coach says that he wants winning to become a habit for us, our exploits must continue after the Sultan of Johor Cup and

Junior Asia Cup victories, our complete focus is now on the Junior World Cup. The expectations to win at the Junior World Cup are realistic; it is based on our previous performances. We also play with the Senior Men's Hockey Team regularly and the matches are close often. So, we know that the potential is there, we need to polish ourselves and live up to the expectations," he said.

INDIAN MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM
UTTAM SINGH
FORWARD



HOCKEY INDIA NAMED FORMER INDIA CAPTAIN TUSHAR KHANDKER AS COACH OF INDIAN JUNIOR WOMEN'S TEAM

Hockey India on 27 June 2023 named former India Captain Tushar Khandker as the new Coach for the Junior Women's Team. His appointment is a boost for the Junior Women's side as they prepare for the FIH Women's Junior Hockey World Cup 2023 in Santiago, Chile, which is scheduled to take place from 29th November to 10th December.

Apart from his prolific international career, Khandker has developed a strong portfolio in coaching. Between 2014 and 2016, he was part of the Indian Men's Team in the capacity of Coach and has tasted numerous feats including a historic Champions Trophy 2016 Silver Medal in London, a Gold at Asian Champions Trophy, a Bronze at the World Hockey League 2015 in Raipur among others. He was also part of the team's coaching staff for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games.

In his recent stint as Chief Coach Janneke Schopman's deputy for the Women's side, Khandker helped the team prepare for the Asian Champions Trophy 2021 in South Korea, they also played the Asia Cup in Oman in 2022 where the team won Bronze and also qualified for the World Cup. He was also part of the Women's Team support staff for their maiden FIH Pro League 2021-22 season.



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In recent years, Khandker has also pursued FIH Level 1 course apart from Hockey India's Coaches Education Pathway Level Basic, Level 1 and Level 2.



INDIAN JUNIOR MEN'S HOCKEY CORE GROUP RETURNS TO NATIONAL CAMP AS THEY BEGIN PREPARATIONS FOR FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JUNIOR WORLD CUP 2023

Hockey India on 20 June 2023 named a 40-member core probable group for the Junior Men's National Coaching camp, scheduled to take place from 21st June to 31st July at SAI, Bengaluru.

While 30 out of the 40-member group will report to Coach CR Kumar in SAI, Bengaluru on 21st June, the remaining players will report on 2nd July after the ongoing 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2023 in Rourkela concludes.

The Indian Colts, led by experienced coach CR Kumar, will look to fine-tune their preparations for the FIH Junior Hockey Men's World Cup, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from December 5 to 16, 2023, during this camp.

The Men's Junior Team are coming off a historic Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 win in Oman. They also set a new record for the most titles (4) won at the Men's Junior Asia Cup.

THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS WILL BE PART OF THE JUNIOR MEN NATIONAL COACHING CAMP

- > PRATIK NIGAM
- > CHETAN SHARMA
- > INNOCENT MUNDA
- > SAHABAZ KHAN
- > VISWAS G
- > MOHIT HS
- > SHARDA NADA TIWARI
- > WARIBAM NIRAJ KUMAR SINGH
- > ABDUL AHAD
- > VISHNU KANT SINGH
- > UTTAM SINGH
- > SUDEEP CHIRMAKO
- > ARAIJEET SINGH HUNDAL
- > ARUN SAHANI
- > SUNIL LAKRA
- > MOHIT KARMA
- > HIMWAAN SIHAG
- > NEERAJ
- > SOURABH ANAND KUSHWAHA
- > B.R. BIPIN
- > RANVIJAY SINGH YADAV
- > ADITYA SINGH
- > AMIT KUMAR YADAV
- > LABAN LAGUN
- > SATISH BALU
- > AMANDEEP LAKRA
- > CYRIL LAGUN
- > SUNIL JOJO
- > RAJINDER SINGH
- > POOVANNA CB
- > BOBY SINGH DHAMI
- > ANGAD BIR SINGH
- > GURJOT SINGH
- > ADITYA LALGE
- > AMANDEEP
- > ROHIT
- > SUKHVINDER
- > AMIR ALI
- > MANOJ YADAV
- > YOGEMBER RAWAT

FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JUNIOR WORLD CUP 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH
05	TUESDAY, 5.12.2023	15:30	INDIA VS KOREA
16	THURSDAY, 7.12.2023	17:30	SPAIN VS INDIA
23	SATURDAY, 9.12.2023	15:30	INDIA VS CANADA

HOCKEY INDIA ANNOUNCES CORE GROUP FOR SENIOR MEN'S NATIONAL COACHING CAMP AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE HERO ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY CHENNAI 2023

Hockey India on 25 June 2023 named a 39-member core probable group for the Senior Men's National Coaching camp scheduled to take place from 26th June 2023 to 19th July 2023 at SAI Centre in Bengaluru.

The camp will conclude ahead of the team's trip to Terrassa, Spain, where they will compete against

England, Spain and the Netherlands in the 100th Anniversary Spanish Hockey Federation - International Tournament from 25th July 2023 to 30th July 2023. The four-nation tournament will be followed by the prestigious Hero Asian Champions Trophy Chennai 2023, starting on 3rd August 2023, in which the Indian Men's Hockey Team will face off against Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Japan, and China for the title.

GOALKEEPERS

- KRISHAN BAHADUR PATHAK
- PR SREEJESH
- SURAJ KARKERA
- PAWAN MALIK
- PRASHANT KUMAR CHAUHAN

MIDFIELDERS

- MANPREET SINGH
- HARDIK SINGH
- VIVEK SAGAR PRASAD
- MOIRANGTHEM RABICHANDRA SINGH
- SHAMSHER SINGH
- NILAKANTA SHARMA
- RAJKUMAR PAL
- SUMIT
- AKASHDEEP SINGH
- GURJANT SINGH
- MOHD. RAHEEL MOUSEEN
- MANINDER SINGH

DEFENDERS

- HARMANPREET SINGH
- JARMANPREET SINGH
- SURENDER KUMAR
- VARUN KUMAR
- AMIT ROHIDAS
- GURINDER SINGH
- JUGRAJ SINGH
- MANDEEP MOR
- NILAM SANJEEP XESS
- SANJAY
- YASHDEEP SIWACH
- DIPSAN TIRKEY
- MANJEET

FORWARDS

- S. KARTHI
- MANDEEP SINGH
- LALIT KUMAR UPADHYAY
- ABHISHEK, DILPREET SINGH
- SUKHJEET SINGH
- SIMRANJEET SINGH
- SHILANAND LAKRA
- PAWAN RAJBHAR

HERO ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2023

MATCH NO	DATE	TIME (IST)	MATCH
03	THURSDAY, 3.8.2023	20:30	INDIA VS CHINA
06	FRIDAY, 4.8.2023	20:30	INDIA VS JAPAN
09	SUNDAY, 6.8.2023	20:30	MALAYSIA VS INDIA
12	MONDAY, 7.8.2023	20:30	KOREA VS INDIA
125	WEDNESDAY, 9.8.2023	20:30	INDIA VS PAKISTAN

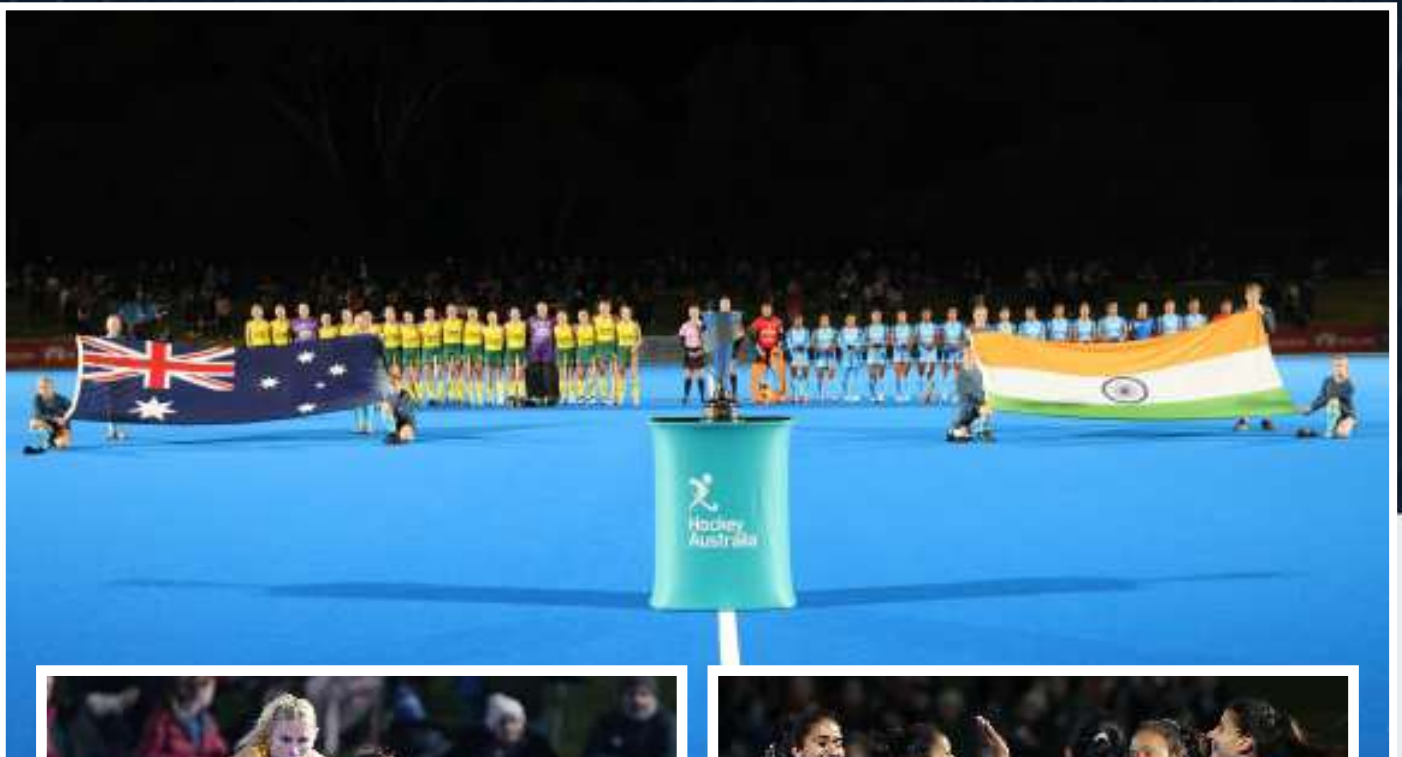
INDIA SENIOR WOMEN TOUR OF AUSTRALIA

The Indian Women's Hockey Team toured Australia for five games from 18 to 23 May at the MATE Stadium in Adelaide. In the first game, which was Monika's 200th senior cap, the Indian Women's Hockey Team went down 2-4 against the hosts with Sangita Kumari and Sharmila Devi finding the back of the net for the visitors. The second contest saw Deep Grace Ekka complete 250 caps in the Indian colours. However, once again, hosts Australia had the better day on the field, winning 3-2 against the Indian Women's Hockey Team, with Sangita Kumari and Gurjit Kaur scoring.

The third match of the tour was a landmark game as well for a couple of players as Captain Savita got

her 250th cap and Nikki Pradhan registered appearance number 150. The Indian Women's Hockey Team put in a solid performance, thwarting the Australians and coming away with a 1-1 draw, with Deep Grace Ekka getting on the scoresheet.

The Indian Women's Hockey Team faced Australia A in the final two games of the tour. The first contest saw the hosts overpower India narrowly, as they won 3-2. It was Sangita Kumari, who was among the scorers again, along with Salima Tete. The Indian Women's Hockey Team however were able to round off the testing tour on a positive note by winning the last match of the tour 2-1. Navneet Kaur and Deep Grace Ekka scored for India. It was India's only win on the tour.



JYOTI RELISHES PLAYING IN SENIOR'S WOMEN NATIONAL CAMP

Odisha's 20-year-old defender Jyoti Chhatri in April was named in the 33-member core probable group for the Senior Women's national coaching camp at SAI Bengaluru.

On the privilege of getting selected for the camp for the first time, Jyoti said, "It is an immense privilege to play, learn and grow amongst some of India's finest hockey players, all of us dream about playing at the highest level and representing India. This is an incredible opportunity."

Jyoti is a national hockey cadet from the Sports Hostel in Sundargarh. Based on her exceptional performance, Jyoti was transferred to Odisha Naval Tata Hockey High Performance Centre, in Bhubaneswar in 2021. The transition, she conceded, was one of the biggest challenges she faced, "It was challenging to be far away from home, but my family supported me, along with the coaches and staff at Odisha Naval Tata HPC."

Jyoti, who is the youngest of three siblings, took up hockey in 2014 after getting inspired by her brother who himself was a goalkeeper.



HOCKEY INDIA LAUNCHES MATCH OFFICIALS EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN TO EMPOWER ASPIRING UMPIRES AND TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

In their bid to empower aspiring Umpires and Technical Officials in the country, Hockey India on 28 June 2023 launched a holistic Hockey India Match Officials Education and Development Plan.

Through this initiative, Hockey India aims to develop and educate the Umpires and Technical Officials currently officiating at the district and state level tournaments. The educational plan will provide these officials with an opportunity to progress and be inducted into the Hockey India officiating system will enable them to officiate in Hockey India sanctioned Sub Junior and Junior Level Zonal National Championships initially and also equip them to be included in the Hockey India potential list.

Hockey India notified its Member Units to nominate their registered Umpires and Technical Officials through the Hockey India Member Unit Portal. As part of the development process, the nominated candidates will be further selected by Hockey India as per their eligibility and will be attending the Hockey India Umpires & Technical Officials workshops scheduled in the month of July 2023. The course will be held in five zones namely in New Delhi, Pune, Andhra Pradesh, Jamshedpur and North East. The venue for the North East zone will be revealed later.

To ensure equal representation by women, the Federation has asked its members to nominate a maximum of 6 Technical Officials and Umpires each out of which 3 must be female and 3 male. Altogether a maximum of 12 nominations are requested from the Member Units.

The candidates who enrol for the Match Officials Education and Development Plan will receive interactive learning and study material to keep them updated with the latest FIH rules

and regulations. To implement what they have learnt in theory, they will get a chance to officiate as an Umpire/ Technical Official at the Hockey India sanctioned All India Sub Junior & Junior category Tournaments & National Championships. They will also be eligible to attend future FIH Academy, AHF & Hockey India Umpires & Technical Officials Courses and workshops.

Urging the Member Units to encourage youngsters to take up the course, Hockey India President Padma Shri Dr. Dilip Tirkey said, "Over the last few years, Hockey India has persistently hosted online workshops for officials to up-skill their knowledge. This has in turn helped many of our officials get an opportunity to officiate in international matches. With an aim to get more people enrolled into the Hockey India officiating system, we have launched a first-of-its-kind holistic Match Officials Education and Development Plan that will bring aspiring officials up to speed with international standards."

Hailing the initiative, Hockey India Secretary General Shri Bhola Nath Singh stated, "This educational plan is important for the development of officiating standards within the country because it is not enough to nurture and develop young talent; it is imperative that we ensure that when these young players go to play at District, Zonal, or State level tournaments, they have the best of the best experience not just in terms of the matches being conducted but also in terms officiating standards in the tournament."

"These candidates will also have the opportunity to officiate at the Sub Junior and Junior category Hockey India sanctioned tournaments and put their knowledge to test, raising the bar for the quality of hockey being played across the country," he concluded.



HOCKEY INDIA OLYMPIC DAY 2023 CELEBRATIONS

On Olympic day, Hockey India and its Member Units organized various events with the objective of strengthening the connection between individuals of all ages and sports. These activities were aimed at bringing people from diverse backgrounds together, transcending gender and physical barriers, and providing them with the opportunity to engage in their first sports experiences.

Staying with the theme of this year's Olympic Day celebrations theme 'Let's Move', over 35 Hockey India Member Units organized a range of activities to showcase the power of physical activity, centred around the sport.

Among the activities were exhibition hockey matches, mini hockey tournaments, kayaking, roller skating, engaging quizzes, creative drawing

competitions, and thought-provoking essay writing competitions, all focused on Olympic Day and its values.

For example, Hockey Bengal organised a run and hockey matches which saw the participation of Police personnel. Hockey Rajasthan conducted an Olympic Day awareness run, tree plantation and even kayaking. They also celebrated International Yoga Day with great enthusiasm under the Olympic Day program as hockey players across age groups practised Surya Namaskar and Pranayama in Rajasthan.

The hockey family in India celebrated this momentous occasion, expressing their joy through an outpouring of pictures and videos, which were shared on Hockey India's social media handles.



'MY FAMILY HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY BIGGEST SUPPORT SYSTEM,' SAYS INDIAN JUNIOR WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM PLAYER NEELAM

Hailing from Kaimri – a small village located in Hisar district in Haryana, Neelam's path to becoming a hockey player began in her childhood when she observed her elder sister and cousin sister heading to the ground to play hockey.

However, the path to success was not easy for the 19-year-old defender, who was part of the Indian team that recently made the nation proud by winning the Women's Junior Asia Cup 2023 in Japan.

From financial constraints to injury issues, Neelam had to face numerous challenges in her journey so far, but she overcame every hurdle due to the support and collective determination of her family, which includes her father, mother, two sisters, and brother.

"My father is a farmer, while my mother is a homemaker. There was a phase in our life when we were going through a financial crisis as my father's income was completely dependent on growing and selling crops and sometimes the whole process would take six months. So, there were times when there was no money left in the house. I even remember asking my mother for Rs 500 once as I had to travel to participate in a hockey tournament which was a 10-day affair. But, due to insufficient funds, my mother had to borrow the sum from our neighbours," Neelam said.

"However, even in the toughest of times, every member of my family always respected me and my decisions and never stopped me from playing hockey. Also, once my eldest sister got a job, she

made sure that I stop thinking about financial constraints and focus only on playing hockey. My sister even gifted me expensive studs shoes and a high-quality hockey stick after getting her first job. She even used to take me to the ground for practice," the young defender added.

After facing rejections in 2012 and 2013, Neelam got selected for the SAI Training Centre in Hisar in 2014. faced numerous injuries immediately after joining the centre due to which she couldn't participate in any tournament for two years straight, and once again it was her family who assisted her in navigating through the challenging period.

"I had injuries as soon as I joined the hostel. Sometimes my ankle was fractured. Sometimes my hamstring was pulled. I did not participate in a single tournament for two years. I would practice for a month and rest for a month," Neelam stated.

"However, my family, which has always been my biggest support system, once again motivated me to bounce back and became my guiding light, as I began my journey of recovery and resurgence. While my eldest sister, who is also a hockey player and part of the CRPF hockey team, used to help me improve my game by imparting her knowledge and skills, my brother made sure to keep me motivated by telling me that I am the best player in my batch and could achieve anything. My mother used to say that I will recover and play in a good tournament. All in all, my family was very cooperative then and has always been my biggest support system," she concluded.



NEELAM

HOCKEY TE CHARCHA

The 39th episode of the Hockey Te Charcha podcast featured Gurbux Singh who was honoured with the prestigious Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award for his service to the sport at the 5th Hockey India Annual Awards 2022 held in March in New Delhi. The legendary player shared his views on the esteemed award and recent developments in Indian hockey's domestic structure.

On being recognized with Hockey India's most prestigious award, he said, "Of course, the Olympic Gold medal, Asian Games Gold medal, they are the best and whatever an athlete can achieve in their life, but when you are recognized for what you have done, by your own fraternity Hockey India, that's the ultimate thing."

Also appearing on another episode of the show, Indian Men's Hockey Team midfielder Hardik Singh opened up on being awarded Hockey India Balbir Singh Sr. Award for Player of the Year 2022, he said "I really appreciate Hockey India and the jury, who thought that I am capable of receiving the Player of the Year Award. Moreover, I think these awards keep the Seniors, as well as the Junior players motivated as there's always a hunger to perform better and that helps you to keep getting better and better,".

Winner of the Hockey India Asunta Lakra Award for Upcoming Player of the Year 2022 and FIH rising star 2023; Mumtaz Khan also featured on the Hockey Te Charcha podcast where she expressed her pleasure at being recognized with two of hockey's most prestigious awards, "I never envisioned that I would win an award so early in my career, but I always hoped to do well for the team and myself. I know that I just need to

work on myself and improve my game, I will reap the rewards of it at some point. 'She also went on to speak about her early years and her challenging recovery from an ACL injury.

India's Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 winning Captain Uttam Singh also featured in the Hockey Te Charcha podcast, following India's historic triumph at the Junior Men's Asia Cup Trophy. The charismatic leader was also recently recognized as the Jugraj Singh Upcoming Player of the Year. Speaking on his achievements, he remarked, "Knowing what my parents and I have faced I know I must never get ahead of myself and at the same time I never want to settle. This is just the start; I want to achieve much more."

The most recent episode of the Hockey Te Charcha podcast featured Indian Women's Hockey Team Captain Savita Punia, who hopes to lead her team to a podium finish at the upcoming Hangzhou Asian Games in September and October 2023.

She said, "In the last Asian Games, we came close to winning the Gold medal; and losing only by a goal to Japan (1-2) in the Final was heart-breaking. This time we feel that we are more determined than ever before to finish on the top."

The star goalie also discussed how Hockey India's efforts to build a strong women's programme have helped to make hockey a financially secure career option.

Savita won the prestigious Hockey India Balbir Singh Senior Award for Player of the Year (Women) at the 5th Hockey India Annual Awards 2022.



HOCKEY
TE CHARCHA
PODCAST
GURBUX SINGH
HOCKEY INDIA MAHA BHAYAN CHAND LIFETIME
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2022 WINNER
LIVE NOW
Spotify

HOCKEY
TE CHARCHA
PODCAST
HARDIK SINGH
HOCKEY INDIA BALKRISHN SINGH SR AWARD
FOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR 2022 WINNER
LIVE NOW
Spotify

HOCKEY
TE CHARCHA
PODCAST
MUMTAZ KHAN
HOCKEY INDIA RASHTRIYA LAKSHI AWARD
FOR UPCOMING PLAYER OF THE YEAR 2022 WINNER
LIVE NOW
Spotify

HOCKEY
TE CHARCHA
PODCAST
SAVITA
HOCKEY INDIA BALKRISHN SINGH SR. AWARD
FOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR 2021 & 2022 WINNER
LIVE NOW
Spotify

HOCKEY
TE CHARCHA
PODCAST
UTTAM SINGH
MEN'S JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023
GOLD MEDAL WINNING CAPTAIN
LIVE NOW
Spotify

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT



Congratulations to the Biju Patnaik Hockey Stadium (SAIL), Rourkela, India, for receiving the FIH Category 2 field certificate based on its construction, performance, and player welfare requirements.



Congratulations to the Govt. High School, Marar, Gurdaspur, Punjab, India, for receiving the FIH Category 2 field certificate based on its construction, performance, and player welfare requirements.



Congratulations to the Paramdih Hockey Stadium, Koida, India, for receiving the FIH Category 3 field certificate based on its construction, performance, and player welfare requirements.



Congratulations to the Kailash Prakash Stadium, Meerut, India, for receiving the FIH Category 2 field certificate based on its construction, performance, and player welfare requirements.

Women's hockey team to tour Australia before Asian Games

Five-match series will commence on May 18 and conclude on May 27

JAYSHU SINGH
The Indian women's hockey team will tour Australia for a five-match series, which will commence on May 18 and will conclude on May 27. India will play Australia in the first three games of the series, followed by two matches against Australia A.

All the matches will be played at MATH Stadium in Adelaide.

India will play their opening match of the tour on the 18th May before playing back-to-back games on the 20th and 21st May. The visitors will then complete against Australia A on the 24th and 27th May. The Australian

women's hockey team is currently ranked third in the world, while the Indian team is ranked eighth.

The tour will serve as a warm-up event for the Hangzhou Asian Games, which will take place in September-October this year.

Talking about the same, Jasvinder Singh, the Chief Coach of the Indian women's hockey team, said, "Playing Australia in Australia will help us assess where we are compared to the top of women's hockey. More importantly, the series will be crucial for our preparations for the Asian Games in Chennai as it will give

us ideal exposure while helping us re-evaluate the areas where we need to make improvements and changes. So, it's a very important tour for us strategically."

India will travel to Australia with a lot of confidence, having won the ICF Women's Nations Cup in December 2022 by defeating host Spain in the final. Furthermore, in January 2023, India toured South Africa, where they took on the hosts in four matches and registered comprehensive 5-1, 7-0, and 4-0 victories in the opening three games, while the fourth game ended in a 2-2 draw.

SANM



Good to see hockey going to various districts of Mizoram: Indian women's team forward Lalremsiami

SHALOM | Hockey India's latest initiative to spread hockey across the country through state hockey clubs is making the Indian women's hockey team forward Lalremsiami in Mizoram, where young players are readily coming up for roles.

Who ever ICC International Cup, Mizoram's first Olympic hockey event will feature women's team forward Lalremsiami said that she is happy to see such initiatives that are helping to develop the game in her state, taking up the sport. "It is a wonderful step in the development of the game in our state," she said.

"When I took up the sport about 10 years ago, there were fewer players taking up hockey in Mizoram than there are now," she said.



Lalremsiami (right) during a practice session for the national program ahead of the Asian Cup in New Delhi, but getting excited for the Asian Cup.

During her time in the state, Lalremsiami has seen a significant increase in the number of women taking up the sport. "The women's hockey team in Mizoram is growing rapidly," she said. "I am excited to see the state government's support for the sport, which is helping to attract more players to the game." Lalremsiami is a forward for the Indian women's hockey team and has played for the Mizoram state team. She has also represented India at the Asian Cup and the Commonwealth Games. Lalremsiami is a member of the Indian Hockey Federation and has been a part of the national team since 2015. She has played in several international tournaments, including the Asian Cup and the Commonwealth Games. Lalremsiami is a professional hockey player and has been a part of the Indian women's hockey team for several years. She has played in several international tournaments, including the Asian Cup and the Commonwealth Games. Lalremsiami is a member of the Indian Hockey Federation and has been a part of the national team since 2015. She has played in several international tournaments, including the Asian Cup and the Commonwealth Games.

NEW ASSISTANCE

INDIAN MEN AND WOMEN HOCKEY TEAMS GEAR UP WITH NEW SUPPORT STAFF

THE NETWORK
NEW DELHI

Renowned Australian coach Anthony Ferry has been appointed as the assistant coach of the Indian women's hockey team while South African Brett Hallatt will perform the same role with the men's team. Hockey India announced on Friday.

The national federation also announced other support staff for both the teams. Ferry, under whose supervision Canada men's team qualified for the 2020 Rio Olympics and who also helped Japan women win their maiden Asian Games gold medal in 2018, will assist head coach Jasvinder Singh in his new role. Ferry also helped Canada U21 men's team qualify for the two consecutive editions of the Junior World Cup and was the head coach and High-Performance Director of the USA women's side from August 2020 to April 2022. Besides Ferry and



India hockey men's and women's team

Hallatt, Hockey India also announced Australian Alan Tan's appointment as scientific adviser to the national coach team. Both Hallatt and Tan will be a part of the coaching setup of the men's team led by newly appointed chief coach Craig Paton of South Africa.

Brett owned US Hockey national cups between 2010 and 2018 for South Africa.

Paton coached the men's team led by newly appointed chief coach Craig Paton of South Africa. Brett owned US Hockey national cups between 2010 and 2018 for South Africa.



Women's hockey camp ahead of Australia tour set to begin

PTI | BANGALORE

Hockey India is organising a 10-day women's hockey national camp from Sunday to the end of the "Asian Cup" and "Asian Cup" in one camp ahead of the tour of Australia in May.

The women's team chief coach Jasvinder Singh said the camp, from April 9 to April 19 in Bangalore, followed by the series against Australia, should give the players the most match practice in the camp.

"After the last camp, in which we were able to establish our best players for the upcoming Asian Cup and Commonwealth Games, we are looking to improve our level of performance and quality," said Jasvinder Singh, Hockey India's women's coach.

"Having Australia in Australia at the end of this camp will help players where we are compared to the top of women's hockey," he added.

COACH PROFILES (IN ORDER)

Head Coach: Jasvinder Singh, India

Assistant Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

Goalkeeping Coach: Robert Hogg, Scotland

Defence Coach: Greg Galt, Australia

U19s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U17s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U15s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U13s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U11s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U9s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U7s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U5s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U3s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U1s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U0s Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-18 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-16 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-14 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-12 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-10 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-8 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-6 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-4 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-2 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

U-0 Coach: Alan Tan, Australia

ACT a litmus test, says Harmanpreet

NEWS/SPORTS

The Indian men's hockey team captain Harmanpreet Singh today said the upcoming Asian Champions Trophy in Chennai will be a "litmus test" for the side ahead of the Asian Games to be held in September-October later this year.

The seventh edition of the Asian Champions Trophy is scheduled to be held from August 3 to 12, serving as a precursor to the Asian where teams will vie for gold and qualify for the Paris Games.

"For many of us, it will be the first time that we will be playing in Chennai. I remember our previous talk-

ing about the Asian Cup in 2007 held in Chennai which was a great tournament for India, defending the title is a successful campaign," Harmanpreet said.

"This will be an ideal tournament for us to see where we stand against the same teams with whom we will be competing in the Asian Games. It will be a litmus test for the team ahead of the Asian Games. It will also give us a good understanding of our opponents and we can better prepare well for the Asian Games where we aim to win the gold medal and qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympics," he added. — PTI



The Indian captain sees Asian Champions Trophy as a stress rehearsal for the upcoming Asian Games later in the year.

WORLD TROPHIES

CHENNAI SET TO HOST ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2023 FROM 3-12 AUGUST

THE NETWORK
NEW DELHI

India will host the Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament for the first time from August 3 to 12 in Chennai, with international matches returning to the city after 16 years.

The seventh edition of the prestigious continental event, which was inaugurated in 2001, will serve as a precursor to the Asian Games hockey competition in Hangzhou, China in September.

Asian hockey powerhouse and three-time champion Pakistan as well as China are yet to confirm their participation to the tournament to be played at Major Raddhakrishnan Stadium.

Tamil Nadu Sports Minister Vigneshwaran Srinivasan said hosting of the tournament in the southern metropolis will help in the revival of the sport in the region.

"It is indeed a great pleasure and honour to host the Hero Asian Champions Trophy 2023 in Chennai and which was the capital of hockey in South India with many reputed domestic and international events being held here," the minister said here on Monday.



Harmanpreet Singh

"I have hosted the Hero Asian Champions Trophy here and further revive the sport in the region and working together in Asia will also inspire the younger generation to take up hockey as a career," Chennai said here on Monday.

India have also won the tournament three times (2001, 2006 and joint winner with Pakistan in 2018) while South Korea clinched the last edition this in 2022 in Thailand.

Hockey India Secretary General Hitesh Nath Singh said the national federation officials have already visited the venue in Chennai and have taken note of the ongoing preparations

for the tournament. "In recent years, Odisha has been the centre of major international hockey tournaments but we are also keen on taking international matches to other states in the country," he said.

Tamil Nadu in the past decade has hosted many important Hockey India National Championships across various age groups. Nath said with the support of all the stakeholders, we will have a successful and memorable event." He said Hockey India officials have already visited the tournament venue and have taken note of the preparations.

Good to see hockey going to various districts of Mizoram: Indian women's team forward Lalremsiami

BENGALURU - Hockey India's latest initiative to engage various districts across the country through the Hockey India A1 Pechara program has seen several lakhs in Mizoram where young players are actively coming up to the fore.

With over 100 International Caps, Mizoram's first Olympian hockey player and India women's team forward Lalremsiami said that she is happy to see more youngsters from the state taking up the sport. Providing a perspective about the development in her home state, India's charismatic forward (Lalremsiami) told Hockey India, "When I look up at the sport after eight-plus years, you think there have players taking up hockey in their own areas here on football."



Lalremsiami (left) and teammates during a match. Photo: Hockey India.

coming up in the state from far-off districts as the state association is actively hosting camps and local events. The initiative also led to the state's Junior Women's Team for the Hockey India A1 Pechara being named as the 5th runner-up at the 5th Hockey India Junior Women's Team Championship 2023. Chief Executive, Rishi Choudhary of the Hockey Association of Odisha, which hosted the Hockey Women's quarter for the final of the 5th Hockey India Junior Women's Team Championship 2023, where they lost to India's first-ranked 2-2 (2-1) after being scored in final 4 with four strikes under their belt from the group. "We are all immensely proud of our Junior Team for their outstanding performance in the inaugural Hockey India Junior Women's Team Championship 2023."

Hockey: India, Pakistan in same pool for men's Jr Asia Cup

MUMBAI

Hockey India's preliminary round for the men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 is set to begin in Delhi on May 27. The tournament will feature 12 teams, with India and Pakistan in the same pool. The preliminary round will be held in a round-robin format, with the top two teams from each group qualifying for the knockout stages. The final will be played on June 1.



Teams in the preliminary round will play in a round-robin format in their respective pools with the top two finishers in each group qualifying for the knockout stages. The final will be played on June 1.

Odisha Cabinet approves extension of sponsorship for Indian hockey teams for another ten years

State Cabinet also approves 14 other proposals including promulgation of ordinance for amendment to OSEBC Act-1993

PRIYANKA DAS

The Odisha Cabinet has approved the proposal for extension of sponsorship agreement of both the men and women Indian national hockey teams (men and junior) for a further period of ten years (i.e., from 2023 to 2033).

The state has been the official sponsor of both the men and women national hockey teams since 2008. This support is going to be a significant step towards the growth and development of hockey in India.

The Cabinet also approved 14 other proposals including promulgation of ordinance for amendment to OSEBC Act-1993.



Odisha Hockey Federation officials and mascot during a ceremony. Photo: Odisha Hockey Federation.

The Odisha Hockey Federation (OHF) has decided to extend its sponsorship agreement for the Indian national hockey teams for a further period of ten years (i.e., from 2023 to 2033). The state has been the official sponsor of both the men and women national hockey teams since 2008. This support is going to be a significant step towards the growth and development of hockey in India.

The Cabinet also approved 14 other proposals including promulgation of ordinance for amendment to OSEBC Act-1993.

Indian eyes to focus on improving defence, says Deep Grace Ekka

#ADELAIDE

The Indian Women's Hockey Team Vice Captain **Deep Grace Ekka** (in pic) believes that a strong defence line will be critical to the team's chances of winning the final two matches of their tour of Australia as well as putting up a strong performance in the upcoming big tournaments like the 19th Asian Games Hangzhou 2022.

Notably, the Indian team has played three games against Australia, losing 2-4 and 2-3 in the first two games, respectively, and coming from behind in the third game to ensure a 1-1 tie. In their final two games of the tour, the visitors will face Australia 'A'.

Deep Grace Ekka, the team's experienced defender, commented on the same, saying, "Given that we played against a strong team like Australia, we produced a good show in the first three games, especially attacking-wise, but we conceded quite a few goals, which shouldn't be happening. Hence, we are focusing on improving our defending in the next two games and ending our tour on a high by winning the remaining matches."

"Also, if we ensure that we don't concede goals easily, it will help our forward line put pressure on opponents by attacking freely," she said. **IANS**



Deep Grace Ekka in action during a match. Photo: Hockey India.

PLAYER SAYS

LALREMSIAMI TALKS ABOUT UPLIFTING OF HOCKEY IN INDIA

THE NETWORK

Hockey India's latest initiative to engage various districts across the country through the Hockey India A1 Pechara program has seen several lakhs in Mizoram where young players are actively coming up to the fore.

With over 100 International Caps, Mizoram's first Olympian hockey player and India women's team forward Lalremsiami said that she is happy to see more youngsters from her state taking up the sport. Providing a perspective about the development in her home state, India's charismatic forward Lalremsiami told Hockey India, "When I look

up at the sport about eight-plus years ago, there were fewer players taking up hockey as there was more focus on football. I came into the national program after getting selected for the National Hockey Academy in New Delhi. But now there are many more players coming up in the state from far-off districts as the state association is actively hosting camps and local events."

"We are all immensely proud of our Junior Team for their outstanding performance in the inaugural Hockey India Junior Women's Team Championship 2023. Their commitment, hard work, and team spirit were truly admirable and inspired us all, and I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on a job well



Lalremsiami (left) and teammates during a match. Photo: Hockey India.

done!" she added.

Siami, as she is fondly called by her teammates, is from Kohabari, a village about 80 kilometres from Aizawl, Mizoram. She was motivated for a state government program in Thailand in 2016. Her career took off when she was picked as a member of the National Hockey Academy in New Delhi where she honed her skills and found a breakthrough when she was picked for the U18 Junior Indian team that played the U-18 Junior Asia Cup in 2019.

"It makes me feel very proud and happy to see more players coming into the junior camps from the North East. Many youngsters now feel like they can make a career out of hockey which will help them provide a financially stable life for themselves and their families," added the attacking forward who also doubles up as a ball striker.

Next up, the team is looking to further improve their performance at the Asian Games in China. In 2008, the team ended their campaign with a Silver medal and in 2014 they won a Bronze medal. "Back in 2018, we lost the Final very closely to Japan. As youngsters back then, some of us were quite happy to win a Silver medal but now in hindsight I feel like we came so close to a historic Gold medal. Our aim this time is to win Gold and qualify for the Olympics for the third consecutive time," Siami said.

The Indian Women's Team is currently based at SAI, Bengaluru for the National Coaching Camp.

ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY IN CHENNAI FROM AUGUST 3-12

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
Chennai

The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy.



Left to right: Secretary of the Hockey Federation of India, Dr. Jai Singh, and other officials.

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U-21 Women's Hockey League: Subsidies as Goals for Pritam Swachh Foundation

By Anshu Singh

Delhi

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A group of young women's hockey players from the Pritam Swachh Foundation.

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Challenge to keep winning streak intact: Rohidas

By Anshu Singh

Delhi

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Indian hockey team players celebrating a victory.

The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy.



Triumphant: The victorious Haryana team. HOKEY INDIA TWITTER

Haryana crowned sub-junior National women's champion

The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy.

सविता-निकी के रिकॉर्ड मैच में भारत ने ऑस्ट्रेलिया को 1-1 की बराबरी पर रोका

By Anshu Singh

Delhi

The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy.



Two hockey players competing for the ball during a match.

The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy.

HI ANNOUNCE INDIAN TEAM FOR JUNIOR ASIA CUP 2023

By Anshu Singh

Delhi

The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy. The Hockey Federation of India has been working for the last few months to get ready to host the Asian Champions Trophy.



India's Junior women's hockey team for Junior Asia Cup 2023.

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I had to reset myself to bounce back: Hardik

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Hockey: Indian women play out 1-1 draw with Australia

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TEAM BIRTHDAY'S

SENIOR MEN

JUNIOR MEN

JULY

PAWAN RAJBHAR	02	ABDULAHAD	11
JARMANPREET SINGH	18	VISWAS G.	28
VARUNKUMAR	25		
SHAMSHER SINGH	29		

AUGUST

MORIANGTHEM R	03	VISHNU KANT SINGH	10
ABHISHEK	15		

SEPTEMBER

S. KARTHI	01	SOURABH KHUSHWAHA	16
HARDIK SINGH	23		

SENIOR WOMEN

JUNIOR WOMEN

JULY

NISHA	09	TARANPREET KAUR	02
SAVITA	11	NIKITA TOPPO	06
BEAUTY DUNG DUNG	21	MAHIMA TETE	25
		ANISHA SAHU	25

AUGUST

KHUSHBOO	06
KURMAPU RAMYA	13
NEELAM	17
PRIYANKA YADAV	22
SAKSHI RANA	31

SEPTEMBER

MONIKA DIPI TOPPO	12
MANASHRI SHEDAGE	16
YOGITA VERMA	28

IN FOCUS

INDIAN JUNIOR MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

ARAIJEET SINGH

My age is – 19

My hometown is – Pakharpura, Amritsar

I play as a – Forward

My debut was in – FIH Junior World Cup 2021

My most important target – Olympic Gold Medal

My favourite workout is – Shooting

My favourite actor is – Diljit Dosanjh

My favourite song is – The last ride

My favourite cuisine is – Punjabi

My best sporting moment – Winning Junior Asia Cup

My idol is – My dad

My dream destination is – Canada

If I wasn't a hockey player, I would've been – Cricketer

My gym buddy is – Music

My favourite outfit is – Casuals

3 things I don't travel without – Phone, Charger and AirPods

My cheat meal – Amritsari Kulcha



IN FOCUS

INDIAN JUNIOR WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM

ANNU



My age is 20

My hometown is – Roj Khera, Haryana

I play as a – Forward

My debut was in – Uniphar U23 5 Nations Tournament

My most important target – Winning Junior World Cup

My favourite workout is – Footwork

My favourite actor is – Tarsem Jasser

My favourite song is – Dana Pani by Amrinder Gill

My favourite cuisine is – North Indian

My best sporting moment – Winning Junior Nationals, being awarded Best Forward and being called up to the national setup

My idol is – Rani

My dream destination is – Canada

If I wasn't a hockey player, I would've been – Wrestler

My gym buddy is – Preeti and Manju

My favourite outfit is – Casual

3 things I don't travel without – Money, Phone and Charger

My cheat meal – Roti



HOCKEY INDIA

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