



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 31, 2016

ALL FEDERATION



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IN ASIA**

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From the GS' Desk

2016 ended perfectly. We were awarded the 2016 AFC Developing Member Association at the AFC Awards in Abu Dhabi. The Award is presented to a member Association in recognition of professional administration and governance as well as its contribution to the development of the game.

AFC has a system by which they assess all the MAs and points are awarded for the activities on Grassroots, youth development, women's programmes, social responsibility, special projects, coaching courses, etc.

We take this as a compliment and it's a motivation to continue the good work. Indian Football is on the right track under the leadership of Mr. Praful Patel, who was also unanimously re-elected as the President of AIFF as the AGM held on December 21.

I also congratulate him for being appointed as the Senior Vice President of the AFC. Meanwhile, ATK reigned supreme to lift the 3rd Hero ISL. Two titles in three years is no mean achievement. Congratulations.

The launch ceremony of the 10th Hero I-League was spectacular. Quite appropriately 10 teams are playing the 10th edition and the League has a pan-India presence. I wish success to all the teams.

2017 will be exciting. We have the U-17 World Cup, the Women's League, Asian Cup Qualifiers for both men and women.

A Happy New Year to all the stakeholders. We need your cooperation to take Indian Football forward.

Warm regards,

Kushal Das

AIFF WINS AFC DEVELOPING MA AWARD



All India Football Federation on December 1, 2016 won the AFC Developing Member Association of the Year Award at the Asian Football Confederation's (AFC) Annual FC Awards 2016 at the Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi. AIFF President Mr. Praful Patel collected the Award from Mr. Ali Kafashian, Vice President AFC.

"I need to thank AFC for recognising our efforts. Indian Football is headed in the right direction," Mr. Patel told www.the-aiff.com.

The prestigious award is given to a Member Association in recognition of its professional administration and governance as well its exceptional contribution to the development and promotion of the game at all levels within the country.

Member Associations are assessed and awarded points on various areas encompassing the association's activities such as the organisation of courses and seminars, competitions, grassroots and youth development, women's programmes, social responsibility and special projects.

Points are also given for an MA's hosting of AFC qualifying and finals tournaments as well as their national and club teams' placing in AFC and FIFA competitions throughout the year.

In 2016, AIFF has conducted 20 AIFF Grassroots

Leaders Courses while 600 Grassroots Coaches were trained with 12 States implementing the AIFF Grassroots philosophy by setting up Grassroots Centres.

In an effort to increase the number of AFC Licensed Coaches in the Country, the AIFF conducted 29 AFC Courses inclusive of 2 AFC A License Courses, 5 AFC B License Courses, 20 AFC C License Courses and 2 AFC Goalkeeping Level 1 Courses. In the process 210 Coaches received their AFC certification through the above mentioned Coaching Courses.

AIFF is also the sole Sporting Federation in the Country to have launched an overseas online scouting portal for NRIs over the World but with a valid Indian Passport.

However, this is not the first time that AIFF has received an AFC Award at an AFC Awards night.

It was in 2014 that AIFF had won the AFC President Recognition Award for Grassroots Football while the previous year in 2013, AIFF was also nominated in the top three for the AFC Grassroots top three along with eventual winners Japan Football Association and Vietnam Football Federation.

In addition, in 2014, AIFF was adjudged the Best National Sports Federation by the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) at the India Sports Awards Night at the FICCI Federation House in New Delhi.

"I need to thank AFC for recognising our efforts. Indian Football is headed in the right direction."

Mr. Praful Patel, President, AIFF



MR. PRAFUL PATEL RE-ELECTED AS AIFF PRESIDENT



Mr. Praful Patel was unanimously elected as the President of the All India Football Federation at the Annual General Body Meeting held at Football House, the Headquarters of the All India Football Federation on December 21, 2016).

The electoral process was completed in the presence of the appointed returning officer Justice Bipin Chandra Kandpal (Retd.) who declared Mr. Patel elected along with the Executive Committee for the term 2017-2020.

“I declare Mr. Praful Patel unanimously elected as the President of the All India Football Federation. All nominated persons for the posts of Executive Committee members have also been elected unanimously, subject to the final outcome of the pending court proceedings. Congratulations to all of them”, Justice Kandpal declared.

Mr. Dilip Kumar Singh also attended the AGM as an observer on behalf of the Government of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, while Mr. Kuldeep

Vats was the observer on behalf of the Indian Olympic Association.

Besides, Mr. Purushottam Kattel, International Relations Officer, Asian Football Confederation and Dr. Shaji Prabhakaran, FIFA Regional Developmental Officer, South and Central Asia were also present on the occasion.

Mr. Chirag Tanna and Mr. Rochak Langer represented FSDL in the AGM.

“On behalf of the AIFF, I can assure you of the highest standard of ethics and transparency,” Mr. Patel told the house immediately after being re-elected.

“I thank all of you for your support and am grateful for your continuous support,” he added. “I take pride in the fact that I have been given the honour of heading one of the most professional sports bodies in the Country.”

Meanwhile, the Special General Body Meeting, which was also held unanimously, approved the proposed amendments to the AIFF Constitution.

LIST OF ELECTED MEMBERS

Mr. Praful Patel (President)
Mr. Subrata Dutta (VP, East)
Mr. K. M. I. Mather (VP, South)
Mr. Subhash Chopra (VP, North)
Mr. Larsing Sawyan (VP, North-East)
Mr. Manavendra Singh (VP, West)
Mr. ZA Thakur (Treasurer)
Mr. AR Khaleel (Member, South)
Mr. Jessiah Villavarayar (Member, South)
Mr. Deepak Kumar (Member, North)
Mr. Deepak Sharma (Member, North)
Mr. Ghulam Rabbani (Member, East)
Mr. Sanjay Behera (Member, East)
Mr. Amit Ranjan Dev (Member, West)
Mr. Gulab Chauhan (Member, West)
Mr. MN Brahma (Member, North-East)
Mr. L Hmar (Member, North-East)

Mr. Praful Patel appointed as Senior VP, AFC

AIFF President Mr. Praful Patel was appointed as the Senior Vice President of the AFC on December 01, 2016. ‘I am grateful & thankful for all the support extended,’ Mr. Patel tweeted from his Official Twitter account @praful_patel

Under Mr. Patel’s tutelage, India won the rights to host the FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017 and hosted the AFC U-16 Championship in September 2016.



Pan India spread to highlight 10th Hero I-League



The 10th Edition of the Hero I-League, India's premier domestic Football competition, will see a return of representation from all four regions of the Country - Mohun Bagan, Kingfisher East Bengal, Aizwal FC and Shillong Lajong from the East and North East; Mumbai FC, DSK Shivajians FC and Churchill Brothers FC Goa from the West; JSW Bengaluru FC and Chennai City FC from the South and debutants Minerva Punjab FC will bring the North of India back into top flight Indian Football after a gap of five seasons.

As the 10th edition of the Hero I-League was launched at a glittering ceremony at a hotel in the National Capital, Mr. Praful Patel, President, All India Football Federation (AIFF), said: "The ten participating teams in the 10th edition of the Hero I-League are based from across the length and breadth of the Country. I thank Hero MotoCorp for their support to the I-League and Indian Football. The League is the unifying factor for the Football fans in India as right from Aizwal FC in the North-East to Mumbai FC in Mumbai, and from Minerva City Punjab FC in Chandigarh to Chennai City FC in Chennai, the clubs represent pan India. The Hero I-League is the premiere league of the country through which teams participate in the AFC Cup and the AFC Champions League. I wish success to all the participating teams."

Mr. Pawan Munjal, Chairman, MD & CEO,

Hero MotoCorp Ltd said: "Football has clearly become one of the most popular sports among youngsters in the country. As the Title Sponsor of all the marquee football tournaments in the country - Hero ISL, Hero I-League and Hero Federation Cup - Brand Hero has been the pioneer in popularising the game in India. With over 100 matches to be played by the 10 teams in the fray, the Hero I-League and Hero Federation Cup will certainly bring a lot of excitement for the fans, and contribute towards the long-term development of the game."

Mr. Kushal Das, General Secretary, AIFF said: "The competitive spirit of the Hero I-League has been outstanding over the last few editions. The League witnessed a substantial increase of almost 40 percent in spectator attendance and here we are, prior to the kick-off of the 10th edition, expecting the graph to further go up."

He further stated: "This edition, the League has a pan India presence. I wish luck to all the teams. May the best team come out as the winner of the Hero I-League. Hero Motocorp has been providing extensive support for the promotion of Indian Football and I thank them for their cooperation."

The first game of the six-month long League will kick off on January 7 in Bengaluru with defending champions Bengaluru FC locking horns with Shillong Lajong FC.



Jeje is 2016 AIFF Player of the Year



Jeje Lalpekhlua was nominated as the '2016 AIFF Player of the Year.' The announcement was made by Mr. Praful Patel, President, AIFF at the AIFF Annual General Body Meeting held at the AIFF Football House in New Delhi on December 21, 2016. He will be presented a prize of Rs. 2.5 lakh along with the glittering Trophy.

An elated Jeje said that he was "honoured" on being chosen for the Award. "This year has really gone great for me. This award is another motivation for me to reap more in the future," he stated.

Furthermore, Sasmita Malik was conferred with the 2016 AIFF Woman Footballer of the Year. The Odisha-based footballer will be bestowed with a prize of Rs. 2 lakh besides a Trophy.

AIFF also inducted two '2016 AIFF Award for Special Recognition' awards for Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Uvena Fernandes. They will be bestowed with Rs. 1 lakh and a trophy apiece. Gurpreet represented Stabaek FC in the

Europa League, first Indian to feature in a Europa League fixture whereas Uvena Fernandes is the first Indian Official to officiate in a World Cup final match. She officiated the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2016 final in Jordan.

Meanwhile, Rowllin Borges was declared as the '2016 AIFF Emerging Player of the Year.'

Sanju, an integral part of the team who won the South Asian Games 2016, was being honoured with the '2016 AIFF Emerging Women Footballer of the Year' award.

Furthermore, Punjab Football Association snapped the '2016 AIFF Award for Best Grassroots Programme.'

The '2015 AIFF Award for long-time contribution to Indian Football was awarded to Nike.

Pranjal Banerjee from IFA won '2016 AIFF Award for Best Referee' along with Joseph Tony was awarded the '2016 AIFF Award for Best Assistant Referee.'

2016 AIFF AWARDS AT A GLANCE

- 2016 AIFF Player of the Year: Jeje Lalpekhlua
- 2016 AIFF Woman Footballer of the Year: Sasmita Malik
- 2016 AIFF Emerging Player of the Year: Rowllin Borges
- 2016 AIFF Emerging Woman Footballer of the Year: Sanju
- 2016 AIFF Award for Best Grassroots Development Programme: Punjab Football Association
- 2016 AIFF Award for long-time contribution to Indian Football: Nike
- 2016 AIFF Award for Best Referee: Pranjal Banerjee
- 2016 AIFF Award for Best Assistant Referee: Joseph Tony

Bank of Baroda becomes 1st National supporter for FIFA U-17 WC India 2017

Bank of Baroda has become the first Indian company to sign up as a National Supporter for the FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017, the first FIFA event to be hosted in the subcontinent.

Chairman of the Local Organising Committee and President of AIFF Praful Patel said: "We are pleased to welcome Bank of Baroda as the first Indian company that will be associated with the FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017. As an organisation that has a long affiliation with football, this company has been an active supporter of the game for many years and shares our enthusiasm to develop and strengthen football in India."

"I am committed to ensuring that football development in India gets the support it deserves, and I believe this new partnership with Bank of Baroda is a concrete step to continue the growth that the sport has had in India," he added.

"We are highly motivated to promote football and to inspire a new generation of youngsters. Partnering with the FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017 was a logical choice for us, as there will be no bigger sporting event in the country next year," said Mr Rakesh Kumar Bhatia, GM (Marketing, Corporate Communications & WMS) at Bank of Baroda.

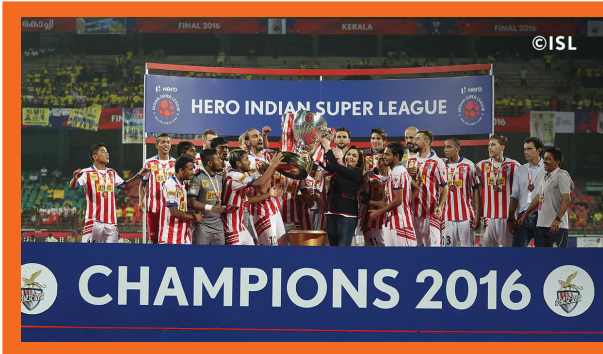
AIFF organises FIFA Women's Youth Course

The All India Football Federation organized FIFA Women's Youth Course under AIFF's initiative to extend the horizons of Women's Football in India which kicked-off in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh on December 05, 2016.

19 Women AIFF D License Coaches participated in the Course. Anna Signeul from Sweden was the course instructor. The Course not only aimed to bolster the tenacity of Women Coaches in the Nation but also helps them to further learn the minute technicalities of the game whilst synchronizing themselves with the modern trend of Women's Football in the World.



ATK WIN HERO ISL FOR SECOND TIME



ATK survived the penalty shootout against Kerala Blasters in the final to emerge champions of the Hero ISL-3. We relive the moments of the majestic finale.

