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### 1. Anurag Singh Thakur starts 'Kick Off The Dream' campaign ( Oct. 10, 2022 )

Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports **Anurag Singh Thakur** launched a campaign named '**Kick Off the Dream**' to support the Indian Women's U-17 football team set to participate in the **U17 FIFA Women's World Cup** from October 11.

#### Important facts

- This is the **first time** India is hosting the event.
- He nominated Law Minister **Kiren Rijiju**, athlete **Neeraj Chopra** and actor **Ajay Devgn** to join the '**Kick off the Dream**' campaign and support Indian women footballers participating in the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup for the first time.
- The Under 17 Women's World Cup will be held in **Bhubaneswar, Goa and Navi Mumbai** from 11 October.

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### 3. Goa to host the 37 National Games ( Oct. 9, 2022 )

The Indian Olympics Association has announced that the 37th National games 2023 will be hosted by Goa in October. The dates will be announced later. This is the first time that Goa will host the National Games.

The 36th National Games was initially scheduled to be held in Goa in 2016 but was postponed a few times and later shifted to Gujarat.

It is being held in six cities of Gujarat -- Gandhinagar, Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot and Bhavnagar from September 27 to October 10.

The 35th National Games was held in Kerala in 2015.

The first National games was organized in India as Indian Olympics Games in 1924 in Lahore.

### **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)**

It was set up in 1927. The Indian Olympic Association is the governing body for the Olympic Movement and the Commonwealth Games in India

It is an International Olympics Committee recognised body which sends Indian teams for the Olympics, Asian and other multinational sporting events.

**Sir Dorabji Tata** was the first President of the IOA.

Acting President: **Anil Khanna**

Headquarters: **New Delhi**

### **4. Pankaj Advani wins his 25th World title at Kuala Lumpur ( Oct. 9, 2022 )**

**Pankaj Advani** of India defeated Sourav Kothari in the final of the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship, to win his 25th World title.

The final of the 2022 IBSF World Billiards Championship was held in **Kuala Lumpur**, Malaysia on 8 October 2022.

Pankaj Advani has won the World Billiards title for five times in a row.

Pankaj Advani has now won **25 world titles**. No other Indian sportsperson has won so many world titles in any sport.

### **Cue Sport**

Cue sport is played on a table where a cue (stick) is used to hit the balls. Snooker, Billiards, and pool are some famous cue sports in the world.

### **5. Mallakhamb competitions begin at National Games ( Oct. 8, 2022 )**

Indian indigenous sport **Mallakhamb** began at the **36th National Games** on 7 October.

#### **Important facts**

- Mallakhamb was introduced in the 2021 **Khelo India University Games**, where Madhya Pradesh won 12 medals including 5 Gold, 5 Silver and 2 Bronze.
- It is one of the five new games to be played in the National Games this year.

#### **What is mallakhamb?**

- Mallakhamb is a form of **aerial yoga or gymnastics** with vertical stable or hanging **wooden poles** performed by a gymnast.
- Malkhamb is a form of ancient martial art, which was used as an aid to the training of wrestlers and warriors of the ancient era.

- This ancient sport of India first caught the attention of the whole world during the **Berlin 1936 Olympics**.
- **Malkhamb Federation of India** was established in **1981** and later the rules of the game were formalised.
  - Since then, the sport has spread all over the world and for the first time in the year **2019, the Malkhamb World Championships was held in Mumbai**, in which more than **150 athletes** from more than **15 countries** participated.

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## **7. Harmanpreet singh wins consecutive FIH male player of the year award ( Oct. 7, 2022 )**

India's men Hockey team player, Harmanpreet Singh was voted the men's **FIH Player of the Year 2021-22**. This was announced by the International hockey regulator, FIH on 7 October 2022 at **Lausanne**.

Harmanpreet Singh became the **fourth player** after Belgium's Teun De Nooijer and Arthur van Doren and Australia's Jamie Dwyer to win the award in the men's category in **two consecutive years**.

Harmanpreet Singh was the top goal scorer in the FIH Hockey Pro League 2021-22 with 18 goals .

### **Others Indian to win the 2021-22 award**

Earlier , [Mumtaz Khan](#) was named the FIH **women rising star player** of the year 2021-22 .

[PR Sreejesh](#) and **Savita Punia** were named as the FIH Men's and Women's **Goalkeeper** of the Year 2021-22 for the second year in a row.

### **Female FIH player of the year 2021-22**

Dutch player **Felice Albers**, was voted the female's FIH player of the year 2021-22.

### **FIH**

FIH (Fédération Internationale de Hockey) is the governing body of men's and women's International hockey.

Headquarters: **Lausanne, Switzerland**

Acting President: **Seif El Dine Ahmed**

### **8. PR Sreejesh, Savita Punia voted FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year ( Oct. 6, 2022 )**

**PR Sreejesh and Savita Punia** have been voted **FIH Men's and Women's Goalkeeper of the Year** for the second year in a row.

### **Important facts**

- **Indian women's hockey team captain Savita Punia** and veteran **goalkeeper PR Sreejesh** won the FIH Goalkeeper of the Year title in both men's and women's categories based on their performances.
- Savita is the **third athlete to win the Goalkeeper** of the Year (Female) for three consecutive years since the inception of the award in 2014.
- In his 16th year as a full international for India, Sreejesh proved his mettle by appearing in all 16 games in the FIH Hockey Pro League in which India finished third.
- He also participated in all six sports at the 2022 Birmingham Commonwealth Games, when India won the silver medal.
- Sreejesh got a total of 39.9 votes, followed by Belgium's Loik van Dooren (26.3 points) and Netherlands' Primin Bloc (23.2 points).
- It was voted online by experts (40%), teams (20%), fans (20%), and media (20%).
- Sreejesh is the third consecutive player to win the FIH Goalkeeper of the Year title.
- Earlier, David Hurt (Ire) had won the award twice in 2015 and 2016, while Vincent Vanash (Belgium) won the award three times in a row from 2017 to 2019.

**FIH Goalkeeper of the Year past winners****Men**

2019	Vincent Vanash	Belgium
2018	Vincent Vanash	Belgium
2017	Vincent Vanash	Belgium
2016	David Harte	Ireland
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2014	Jaap Stockmann	Netherland

**Women**

2019	Rachael Lynch	Austrelia
2018	Maddie Hinch	Great Britain
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2015	Joyce Sombroek	Netherland
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### **10. Rest of India wins the Irani Cup by 8 wickets defatting Ranji Champion Saurashtra ( Oct. 5, 2022 )**

Hanuma Vihari led Rest of India won the Irani Trophy for the 29th time as it beat the Ranji Champion Saurashtra by 8 wickets on the fourth day of the Irani cup.

The Irani trophy which is a curtain raiser of the domestic cricket season in India was held at **Rajkot** from 1-4 October 2022.

Mukesh Kumar of Rest of India was the Player of the match for his 5 wickets haul in the match.

The Saurashtra side was led by Jaydev Unadkant.

#### **Brief Score:**

Saurashtra; 98 and 380

Rest of India; 374 and 105 for 2 wickets

#### **Irani Trophy**

It is organised by the Board of Control of Cricket (BCCI) between the current Ranji Trophy champion team and the Rest of India team. Four Day match is played in the Irani Trophy.

It was started in 1969-70 by the BCCI. It was named after the BCCI treasurer Zai Irani.

Rest of India has won it 29 times.