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1. FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup 2022 begins today (Oct. 11, 2022)

FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022 started from **11 October 2022**. After successfully hosting the Under-17 men's FIFA World Cup in 2019, India is now hosting the tournament.

Important facts

- **India will take on USA** in their Group-A opening match at the **Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar** on October 11.
- This is the **seventh edition** of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.
- **North Korea** is the tournament's **most successful country**, having won **two titles** since its inception in 2008.
- Previous winners are **South Korea, France, Japan, and Spain**.
- **Spain** are the **defending champions**, having won the **2018 tournament in Uruguay** after **defeating Mexico in the final**.
- The tournament will take place from 11th to 30th October 2022, in **Bhubaneshwar, Navi Mumbai and Goa**.

Financial Inclusion

- All India Football Federation (AIFF) has been sanctioned a financial outlay of **Rs 10 crore** for the maintenance of the playground, spectator capacity in the stadium, energy and cable laying and branding of the ground and training venue, etc.

Objectives

- Increasing the representation of women in football leadership and decision-making
- Motivating more and more girls to play football in India
- Advocating gender-inclusive participation by generalizing the concept of equal play from a young age

FIFA Tournament

- Organized by FIFA, the FIFA Under-17 Women's World Cup is the world championship for female players aged **17 or below 17**.
- The event **started in 2008**.
- The sixth edition of the event was held in **Uruguay** from 13 November to 1 December 2018.
- **Spain** is the current champion of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.

- FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup India 2022 will be the 7th edition of the tournament in
- which 16 teams including India will participate.

2. 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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4. 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**

5. 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.

6. 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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8. 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**

9. 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
2015	David Harte	Ireland
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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Women

2019	Rachael Lynch	Austrelia
2018	Maddie Hinch	Great Britain
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