



CABI

Cricket Association
for the Blind in India

Affiliated to World Blind Cricket Ltd. (WBC)



IndusInd Bank

Blind Cricket Conclave 2018

The Lalit New Delhi, 9th March 2018



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NEW DELHI

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Report of the 1st IndusInd Bank Blind Cricket Conclave

The Lalit New Delhi, 9th March 2018

Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled**IndusInd Bank -Blind Cricket Conclave 2018****AGENDA****09th Mar 2018 (Friday) - IndusInd Bank Blind Cricket Conclave**

Time	Schedule of Events	Speakers
9.30-11.00	Inaugural Dance	Samarthanam-Sunadha Group
	Welcome Speech -Genesis of CABI	Mahantesh
	Lighting of the Lamp-Release of Souvenir	Swathi Singh/Chetan Chauhan/Sanjeev Anand
	Release of Souvenir - Guest Speech	Swathi Singh
11.00 - 11.30	Coffee Break	
11.30 - 13.00	Informal Discussion on Cricket-Events-Playing international Tournaments-Pressures one will undergo while playing-Overcoming the fears-Fitness/Training-Interactions with the participants	Syed Kirmani/Bishan Singh Bedi/Madanlal/Ajay Jadeja/Ajay Reddy/Sonu Golkar/Deepak Mallik
13.00 - 13.10	Impact of Corporate Support on Sports	Anmol
13.10 - 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00-14.30	Injuries-Prevention-Care	Dr.Hiralal Nag
14.30 - 15.00	Effective Collaboration for success-Corporate involvement in sports for disabled	Adwait Hebbar, Sridhar Ranganathan
15.00-15.30	Media Involvement in Blind Cricket	Norris Pritam/Suprita Das
15.30-16.15	Is disability a hurdle for sports	Durgesh Panth/Dinesh Sharma/Rajendran/Prith Hegde
16.15 - 16.45	Coffee Break	
16.45 - 17.00	Story of a Winner	Farhan/Ajay Reddy
17.00 - 17.15	Present Scenario of CABI- Will India Continue to defend the titles	John David
17.15 - 17.30	Future Plans - Requirements-Demands (Including infra)	Mahantesh
17.30-18.00	IndusInd For Sports-Corporate Support	Sanjeev Anand
18.00 - 18.30	Break	
18.30 - 19.00	Felicitation Ceremony	
19.00 - 21.00	Dinner	

REPORT ON INDUSIND BANK BLIND CRICKET CONCLAVE

A National Conclave on Blind Cricket was organized in New Delhi on 9th March 2018 by Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) in collaboration with IndusInd Bank. This was the first Conclave organized by CABI which saw a huge gathering from all parts. More than 150 representatives from various organizations participated in the Conclave, including 80 cricketers across India. The conclave was conducted in an interactive mode. The objectives of the Conclave were:

Objectives :

- Generate awareness on Blind Cricket in general and in community at large
- Share experiences of some of the legends in Cricket (ex- cricketers and contemporary have threadbare discussions on various challenges encountered in the Blind Cricket)
- Discuss the role of media and CSR in Blind Cricket
- Apprise participants of sports related injury
- Have some suggestions from the participants on the road ahead for the Blind Cricket



Session – I: Inaugural

This was the inaugural session. The session started by a splendid performance by the Sunadha Group, the cultural troupe under Samarthanam. Sunadha is a group of artists with disabilities who excel in classical and folk dances and perform on various State, National and International platforms. This was followed by a lighting of the lamp. The inaugural session was graced by **Smt. Swathi Singh**, Minister of State of Women Welfare, Family Welfare, Maternity and Child Welfare in the Uttar Pradesh (UP) government, **Sri. Chetan Chauhan**, ex cricketer and State Minister of Sports and Skill Development in Uttar Pradesh (UP) Government, legendary cricketers like **Sri. Syed Kirmani**, **Sri. Madanlal**, **Sri. Bishan Singh Bedi** and **Sri. Ajay Jadeja**. On this occasion, a Souvenir was also released on Blind Cricket.



Smt. Swathi Singh gave her best wishes to all the future endeavours of CABI. During this session, **Sri. Chetan Chauhan** congratulated CABI and the blind cricket team on their spectacular achievement. He said that his association with CABI goes back to the time when he was President of the Delhi District Cricket Association. He said that at that time he used to give playground free of cost to the blind cricketers to practice, whereas the charge was Rs. 50.00 lakh.

He had always been supportive of CABI and blind cricket. Delhi District Cricket Association at that time had no provision of giving donations, but he ensured that all the expenses of blind cricketers were somehow taken care of. Board of Cricket Council in India (BCCI) has started to acknowledge and support blind cricket and this surely is a welcome step, he added. He also informed that no sport for the disabled comes under Ministry of Sports, but under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. He said that in his State 66 districts have stadiums and cricket is played in 44 of them. He said that he could help in giving playgrounds to blind cricket team for practice and he will also manage other expenses.



Being the Minister of Skill Development, he said that his State has 660 skill development centres with 3052 trades. 247 are Government training centres and 133 are private. These Centres can offer support to Persons with Disabilities by training them in appropriate skills. He said that his Government was very positive about persons with disabilities and wanted them to be self sufficient and independent. He suggested that skill should also be made an important part of school curriculum. He said that in India only 10% people have some skills, whereas in countries like Korea and Singapore, it was 69% and 54% respectively.

He also shared that his State was ranked first in skill development. His Government had signed MoUs worth 4.00 lakh crores with different industries for skill development. His state had 286 Industrial Training Institutes in which 1.25 lakh children were enrolled.

Sri. Syed Kirmani encouraged the young blind cricket Team and said that he would take the cause forward. He applauded Chetan Chauhan as an opening batsman and thanked him for his support to CABI and appreciated the efforts by his Government in skill development. He, in particular, also mentioned the efforts of Ms. Bhawika, physiotherapist in the Blind Cricket Team whose main job was to keep all the cricketers fit.

Sri. Ajay Jadeja said that he had always encouraged and promoted blind cricket and thanked the Corporate for their support and urged them to give jobs to the blind cricketers.



The introductory remarks were given by **Sri. Mahantesh GK**, President CABI and WBC. He started his remarks by welcoming every participant. He specifically mentioned the efforts and support given by **Smt. Swati Singh** to Samarthanam and CABI. He thanked **Sri. Sanjeev Anand**, Country Head, Commercial Banking-IndusInd Bank to make this Conclave happen. For him, he said it was a dream come true to see all legendary cricketers come together in the support of Blind Cricket. Sri. Mahantesh said that Blind Cricket is an arena where visually impaired prove their mettle, follow their dreams and enrich their lives.

He then briefly explained the history of Samarthanam and CABI. He also gave a brief about the growth and evolution of Blind Cricket (**Given in Box**). He mentioned that Cricket for the Blind is a version of Cricket

adapted for the blind and partially sighted players. The sport has been played since the 1920s. It is based on the rules of standard cricket with slight modifications. The major adaptation is the ball made of hard plastic and filled with tiny ball bearings which will allow the players to hear it. The wickets are made of hollow steel pipes that enable the players to touch it and to produce a sound when struck by a ball.

He further stated that Blind Cricket helps the players to gain confidence to lead independent lives. He said that blind cricketers today have found global presence and recognition. The local community has also shown an increased involvement in blind cricket. Awareness about the game is gradually increasing as efforts are being put to promote it across various parts of the country.

Sri. Mahantesh ended his introductory note by highlighting the following key achievements of CABI:

- CABI organized the National Cricket Tournament for the Blind in Mysore in 2011
- Organized the National Blind Cricket Tournament and selection trials to choose the best players in the country
- Organized Indo-Australian T 20 series in April 2014. India won the prestigious Cup
- Organize Zonal/ National Cricket Tournaments every year
- Organize Zonal Tournaments for Blind children every year
- Organized the second T 20 World Cup Cricket Tournament in Bangalore in 2017. India won the cup.

About Blind Cricket

1922: Australia initiated Blind Cricket
1996: Formation of WBC, ACBI
1998: First World Cup in New Delhi
2002: Second World Cup in Chennai
2006: Third World Cup in Pakistan
2010: Formation of CABI
2012: First T 20 World Cup in India
2014: Fourth ODI World Cup in S. Africa
2016: T20 Asia Cup in India
2017: Second T 20 World Cup in India
2018: Fifth ODI World Cup in UAE

Session – II: Informal Discussion on Cricket Events

This session was an interactive session. Mr. Sunil, representative of the Blind Cricket Team asked **Sri. MadanLal** how he prepared himself for the game and challenges. He responded by saying that cricket demands constant practice all year round. One has to completely focus on the game. He further added that the blind cricketers were a motivation to many young aspiring cricketers and said that he was highly impressed by the entire Team.



Sri. Chetan Chauhan added that his Government had opened jobs for sportsmen, International players are offered Class- I jobs. Process has also been initiated by his Government to honour disabled sportsmen. He considered sports and playing like a prayer which has to be continuously done.

He told the young cricketers to work hard and persevere in their efforts. He vividly remembered that on the eve of Women's World Cup final against England at the Lord's in London in 2017, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced a cash prize of Rs 50 lakh for each member of the Indian team for their performance. The cricket board also announced a cash award of Rs 25 lakh each for the support staff of the Mithali Raj-led side. His Government had also given cash prize to two women in the Team who were from Uttar Pradesh. At this point, Mr. Ajay Reddy, Captain of the Blind Cricket Team under CABI informed Sri. Chauhan that two players in his Team were also from Uttar Pradesh and requested Sri. Chauhan to consider giving them jobs too.

Sri. Ajay Jadeja said that the Indian Blind Cricket Team had achieved a lot and had got laurels for the country. Now it's BCCI who has to give recognition to the Indian Blind Cricket Team. He said that the blind cricket is way beyond all sports and talent. He said that he explains to his son too about the blind cricket and suggested that every child studying in school should be informed about blind cricket. It had reached a level where every individual in this country should know about it.



Sri. MadanLal said that he also followed the blind cricket very closely and saw every match. He said that he had spent his entire life in the playground. He once again reiterated that winning world Cup is a big achievement and he wished the Indian Blind Cricket Team all the best. He also mentioned that their 1983 Win was nothing as compared to what the Blind Cricket Team had achieved.



Sri. Kirmani shared his experience with the Indian Blind Cricket Team and said that while he was in Dubai he saw the players practice the game. He was highly impressed with their game, their batting, bowling and fielding, etc. He said that they play like any international player. On being questioned how blind cricketers field, Mr. Ajay Reddy answered that the keeper tells the fielder about the approximate location and distance of the ball. The fielder then focuses on the location of the sound and plays. He further added that before the 5th ODI Final match, Sri. Kirmani shared with them his 1983 World Cup experiences and told them not to take pressure, but to give pressure. Also more the pressure, more is the focus on the game.



When questioned about how he bowled Vivian Richards in the 1983 World Cup, Sri. Madan Lal said that he took the ball from the hands of Kapil Dev as winning the World Cup was his only focus. With this goal in mind, he bowled Vivian Richards. The 1983 World Cup win changed the entire scenario of the Indian Cricket. He further said that people look at you only when you are the best. He said that today Indian Cricket Team was at its best, one of the best teams in the World. He said that Sri. Virat Kohli had changed the game of Cricket. He went on to say that in the next 20 years, Indian Sports would be the best. He went on to congratulate the organizers and management of the Indian Blind Cricket Team.



Sri. Chetan Chauhan then welcomed **Sri. Bishan Singh Bedi**, another legend in cricket. He said that Sri. Bedi was the fastest left hand spinner. He said that he was able to join the National Cricket Team from the Delhi State Cricket Team because of Sri. Bedi. He also remembered the time when Ranjhi Trophy was won by Delhi in 1978.



Sri. Bedi said that he is extremely proud and privileged to share this platform with Sri. Chauhan, Sh. Madan Lal, Sri. Ajay Jadeja and Sri. Syed Kirmani. He thanked the audience to show so much excitement for cricket.



He told the blind cricketers that if God has given an impairment, then He has also compensated by bestowing one with immense enthusiasm. He also said that how upset he was when India lost against Australia. He encouraged the Indian Blind Cricket Team to keep on playing against all odds. When asked that how he led the Team as a Captain, Sri. Bedi said that whatever he has achieved in his life is because of God. He said that he had never dreamt that he would be a Captain of the Indian Cricket Team. It just happened to him. He said that he has always had a very deep relationship with cricket. He said that cricket and religion were same for him and urged the players to be humble and focused. He said that whatever he is today is only and only because of cricket.

When asked by Sri. Kirmai about the most joyous moment in his career, Sri. Bedi said that cricket had given him plenty of joyous moments. Each time his Team won, it was a memorable moment for him. It is human nature to win in every walk of life and cricket teaches you to abide by the laws of the game. It also teaches to win evenly and squarely. He then explained the difference between umpire and referee. The referee only controls the game, whereas umpire takes major decisions. The referee only helps in reinforcing rules of the game, whereas the umpire is the judge of the game. He also said that during his time, umpire's decision was the final and no one could question it. But now times have changed.

When asked by Zafar that what was the most challenging part of Cricket that Bedi played and who was his role model, Sri. Bedi answered that in his life there was no challenge ever. He said that his model was Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi. He had lost his eyesight even before he started playing cricket but he hated if anyone sympathized with him, He will never let his disability effect his game and he became one of the finest Captain. He also said that Tiger Pataudi was very humble and never let his Nawab status interfere with his game. He played 46 matches and led the country 40 times with his impairment. He always showed lot of respect towards the game. Sri. Mahantesh added that in 2012 when they played the first ODI, Tiger was their symbol.

When asked that how can Blind Cricket find faces and supporters, Sri. Jadeja answered that take blind cricket to every child, every school, every class, etc. He said that the blind cricketers can become teachers, mentors for children. Sri. Bedi added to this and said that one does not need eyes to have a vision. He urged BCCI to take CABI under its fold as this will be a big boost to the visually challenged cricketers. He also said the Indian Blind Cricket Team was an inspiration to many.



When asked by a visually challenged cricketer as to how does it feel, when no one looks at these players, Sri. Bedi said never to lose hope and to always believe in the inner strength. He gave example of HPS Ahluwallia who inspite of his disability surmounted Mt. Everest. He also cited example of another wheelchair bound person who was running and managing an entire foundation.

Sri. Kirmani and Sri. Bedi also shared that both of them were from very modest backgrounds. Sri. Kirmani said that they had no proper guides, no teachers and no playgrounds to play. There was no one who could tell them about their own talent. He further added that talent is a natural gift and it needs constant nurturing. Sri. Bedi said that he had no money to buy shoes or gloves. It was only when he went to play against England in 1967, he realized that he could represent his own county. He advised the players never to give up on their passion and dreams. Representative from Rajasthan also remembered how India knocked out Pakistan following Sri .Ajay Jadeja's sensational assault on Waqar Younis in 1996 in quarter finals.

Sri. Anmol, Marketing Manager, OPPO Mobiles congratulated the Indian Blind Cricket Team for winning the world Cup. He said that OPPO will continue to give all it's support to CABI



Session-III: Injuries. Prevention & Care

The first session post lunch was on Sports related Injuries conducted by Dr. Hiralal Nag. He began by mentioning that the seven most common sports injuries are:

- Ankle sprain.
- Groin pull.
- Hamstring strain.
- Shin splints.
- Knee injury.
- Knee injury: injury resulting from the repetitive movement of kneecap against thigh bone.
- Tennis elbow (epicondylitis)



The most common sports injuries are strains and sprains. Sprains are injuries to ligaments, the tough bands connecting bones in a joint. Suddenly stretching ligaments past their limits deforms or tears them. Strains are injuries to muscle fibers or tendons, which anchor muscles to bones. Strains are called “pulled muscles” for a reason: Over-stretching or overusing a muscle causes tears in the muscle fibers or tendons. Sometimes preventing common sports injuries is beyond one's control, but many times sports injuries are preventable. He mentioned that every workout should start with a gentle warm-up to prevent common sports injuries. Getting warmed up increases blood flow to the muscles, gets you more flexible, and could decrease injuries.

Dr. Nag then explained the following specific tips for treating each of the most common sports injuries:

1. Ankle sprain

Most sports persons experience a sprained ankle, which typically occurs when the foot turns inward. This turning stretches or tears the ligaments on the outside of the ankle, which are relatively weak. With an ankle sprain, it's important to exercise to prevent loss of flexibility and strength and re-injury.

2. Groin pull

Pushing off in a side-to-side motion causes strain of the inner thigh muscles, or groin. “Hockey, cricket, football, and baseball are common sports with groin injuries. Compression, ice, and rest helps in healing most groin injuries. Returning to full activity too quickly can aggravate a groin pull or turn it into a long-term problem.

3. Hamstring strain

Three muscles in the back of the thigh form the hamstring. The hamstring can be over-stretched by movements such as hurdling — kicking the leg out sharply when running. Hamstring injuries are slow to heal because of the constant stress applied to the injured tissue from walking. Complete healing can take six to 12 months.

4. Shin splints

Pains down the front of the lower legs are commonly called “shin splints.” They are most often brought on by running — especially when starting a more strenuous training program like long runs on paved roads. Rest, ice, and over-the-counter pain medicine are the mainstays of treatment.

5. Knee injury: ACL tear

The anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) holds the leg bone to the knee. Sudden “cuts” or stops or getting hit from the side can strain or tear the ACL. ACL tears are potentially the most severe of the common sports injuries. A completely torn ACL will usually require surgery in individuals.

6: Knee injury: Patellofemoral syndrome

Patellofemoral syndrome can result from the repetitive movement of kneecap (patella) against thigh bone (femur), which can damage the tissue under the kneecap. Running, volleyball, and basketball commonly set it off. One knee or both can be affected. Patellofemoral pain can take up to six weeks to clear up. It's important to continue low-impact exercise during this time.

7. Tennis elbow (epicondylitis)

Repetitive use of the elbow — for example, during golf or tennis swings — can irritate or make tiny tears in the elbow's tendons. Epicondylitis is most common in 30- to 60-year-olds and usually involves the outside of the elbow. Epicondylitis can usually be cleared up by staying off sports until the pain improves.

When to get medical attention for common sports injuries

Dr. Nag further suggested that any of the following signs are indications to see a doctor:

- Deformities in the joint or bone
- Excessive swelling
- Changes in skin color beyond mild bruising



Session- IV: Effective Collaboration for Success - Corporate Involvement in Sports for the Disabled

This session was conducted by **Sri. Adwait Hebbar** of IndusInd Bank and **Sri. Sridhar Ranganathan** from Allergan.

This session discussed participation of people with disabilities in sport once their access has been secured. Till now sport is an area of life in which people with disabilities arguably have less favourable experiences than their non-disabled peers and competitors. Typical barriers for people with disabilities to participate in sport include lack of awareness on the part of people without disabilities as to how to involve them in teams adequately; lack of opportunities and programmes for training and competition; too few accessible facilities due to physical barriers; and limited information and access to resources. But it is hoped that Blind Cricket will change this trend and sportsmen and women with disabilities would be given as much recognition as their non disabled counterparts.

Blind Cricket has been able to create some awareness on the rights of people with a disability to be involved in sport at all levels. It is now gradually being recognized that there are opportunities for all people with a disability to be involved in sport - on equal terms with non-disabled. The society still has to accept people with a disability in terms of their potential to be involved in sport. Probably communication and collaboration between the sport sector and the disability sector needs to be further strengthened.

Ranganathan stated on how his organization always wanted to be a part of the sports of Persons With Disabilities (PWDs). He further stated that the society should start focusing on what PWDs can do and not on what they cannot do. His major point of emphasis was skill strength.

Shri. Hebbar on the other hand mentioned that NGOs can play a major role in advocacy, especially at the field level. He stated that a repository should be developed of the skills that PWDs have and these should be matched with the jobs that Corporates offer. He also said that Hon'ble PM is talking about field level entrepreneurship and self employment. The skills of the PWDs should also be taken onto account when organizations impart training.

The session was very conceptual and communicative and it spoke about positive attitude towards PWDs. The session ended by explaining to all a powerful message through the ASS strategy, which is as follows:

- A- Advocacy
- S- Skill development
- S- Self employment



**AS A BANK,
WE HAVE MADE SOME RATHER FINE INVESTMENTS IN
ART, MUSIC, SPORTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT.**

It is said that a bank is all about returns. At IndusInd bank, one way of giving back has been to invest in areas that make our society richer. A society that has so graciously allowed us to be a part of it. Just so that all of us may profit from it.



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Session- V: Media Involvement in Blind Cricket

This interactive session was conducted by **Mr. Norris Pritam** and **Ms. Suprita Das**. The depiction of disability in the media plays a major role in moulding the public perception of disability. Perceptions portrayed in the media directly influence the way people with disabilities are treated in current society. Media platforms have been cited as a key site for the reinforcement of attitudes and ideas in regard to people with disabilities.



Sh. Pritam was of the view that although personal interaction is the most effective medium for conveying the personal experience of disability, the mass media can be an effective vehicle for bringing about greater understanding, and a consequent gradual change in public perceptions of blind cricket. He further stated that sports are no longer only a medium of recreation, but a full fledged industry. The fact is that cricket is covered so much is because it gives lot of revenue to media. He also suggested that one has to be an out of the box thinker to be in media. Media promotes certain images of the disabled by selectively covering certain events and ignoring others. He opined that disabled people should not only be invited to discussions or debates on TV and radio only around topics of disability. They should be invited by media platforms on common topics of interest like, sports, politics, etc.

Representative from Jharkhand suggested that media can play a very significant role in connecting Blind Cricket with celebrities and Corporate Houses. The media can also help in providing new information and contributing new ideas and values. He was of the view that in today's day and age, media is a powerful medium which can be used to bring about transformation of any kind. If media became more sensitive towards the needs of the disabled, it will automatically get reflected in the society at large, because of the impact media has on a large section of the population. It can definitely affect public opinion and public perception of Blind Cricket.

Ms. Suprita Das gave the following suggestions:

- Conclave like this should be conducted on a regular basis to increase awareness and acceptance of blind cricket
- Cricket players could get training on media journalism.
- Ms. Das and Sri. Pritam offered that they could conduct this training.
- Blind cricketers saying their own story would have a very powerful impact.
- CABI should keep media informed about its calendar of events so that Media is well informed about various events and programmes of CABI.



All these suggestions were very well taken, especially the one related to skill development of blind cricketers on media.

KEY MESSAGES THAT MEDIA CAN GIVE

- Stop viewing persons with disabilities as objects of pity
- Make media accessible to people with blindness and visual impairments
- Include persons with disabilities in mainstream media discussions
- Blind cricket is equally important as any other form of sport.

Session- VI: Is Disability Hurdle for Sports ?

The speakers of this session were **Sri. Rajendra (Ex CEO Samarthanam), Sri. Dinesh Sharma (Delhi District Cricket Association), Sri. Prith Hegde (KSCA) and Sri. Durgesh Panth.**

Sri. Rajendra with his presentation mainly in the form of visual representations asked the audience to reflect on the following key question:



Whether People with Disabilities empower Sports? Or Sports empower Disability?

He then narrated an incident about the time when he was a Principal in a Blind School. Some of the teachers in blind school always use to complain that, the Physical Education Teacher and sports teacher takes away blind boys and girls for practice during exam time and students will fail. Sri. Rajendra said that he took a challenge with the teachers that if students fail, he shall remove Sports from curriculum. Those boys and girls who were involved

in sports scored more than other students who didn't play sports.

He ended his presentation by the following lines:

- ➔ Sound mind in Sound Body. This applies to all including people with disabilities as disability is just a human diversity
- ➔ Sound mind enshrines itself in all human beings, once they practice sports
- ➔ Don't look at disabilities, but see abilities first.
- ➔ Nothing is impossible by PWDs, provided right opportunities are created without discrimination
- ➔ Disability is NOT in my body, it is in the society's attitudes on me."



Sri. Dinesh Sharma applauded the Blind Cricket Team on winning the 5th ODI by beating Pakistan.

Sri. Durgesh Panth said that the blind cricket team had already started to change people's attitude. Quoting example of his own son, Sri. Durgesh Panth stated that his son's room now has a poster of Mr. Ajay Reddy, captain of the Blind Cricket Team. He further said that the blind cricket team is a living example of co- existence, cooperation and empowerment. He said that he fully supported blind cricket and would take meaningful steps to take the movement forward. He also briefly mentioned training of teachers that was undertaken by Samarthanam in Uttarakhand. He said that the workshop was an eye opener and the teachers were wonder struck by the potential and achievements of PWDs.



skills of stock market too. He said that his company could make arrangements for the same.

Sri. Prith Hegde said that in the share market there is a section for the differently abled. They can be easily trained on the



Session-VII: Story of Winners

This segment of the Conclave dealt with inspiring stories of two blind cricketers, **Mr. Ajay Reddy**, Captain of the Blind Cricket Team and **Mr. Farhan**, Ex Blind Cricketer

The session started by Mr. Reddy sharing with the participants his story. He said the following:

He faced lot of struggles in his life. His life had lot of financial and health issues. But he was encouraged by his seniors. Initially he has no patience. But he learnt that every mistake is a teacher. His seniors guided him that he was a very good player, but he never shared anything with his other team members. He was asked by his seniors to start giving suggestions.



In 2013, Ajay became totally blind and underwent a surgery. He got some vision back. In 2014, when he went to play against Pakistan, his eye was not completely fine and it was a very challenging experience for him. He almost thought that his cricket career had ended. But he was encouraged by the entire management and this became a turning point for him. Then Ajay joined a Bank job and he had to miss an International Tournament. But now he says things have completely changed. He now practices on a daily basis. His Bank is fully supportive. He has even got a promotion after winning the Asia Cup.

He ended by saying that “if we make right choices with the intention of commitment, determination, dedication and hard work, then you would surely achieve your goal.” He thanked the management, sponsors, his team and his parents for his success.

The next story of a winner's life was narrated by Mr. Mohammed Farhan. He had to say the following:



“I got a chance to be here today in front of you because of the blind cricket. My life changed because of blind cricket.” Farhan had a wandering life before. He had a big family with two brothers, three sisters and parents. Since birth he stayed at home. His family spent a lot, and sold off the only piece of land in his treatment. In 2011, when he played the first time, an organization came forward and gave them a home.

Farhan went to a blind school in Mallapuram. However if he continued with his studies then his family would be starving. So he started doing tile working the day and mining work during the night. When he was playing cricket, another team mate of Farhan got job because of blind cricket, it was at this stage that he realized the importance of blind cricket and started performing.

Since 2004 he was playing blind cricket in school. He was selected at the State level in 2010. From 2012 he started playing seriously and performed very well. It was at this point that Mr. David John contacted him. After India- Australia series, he played in World Cup and got funds from Government of Kerala and Government of India. Using these funds, he got his remaining two sisters married

After his performance in T-20, he wanted to continue. But he got a Government job. He thanked CABI Kerala profusely for this, At this stage his mother who was fighting cancer, passed away and could not see him get a Government job. Farhan ended by saying that he's had a very fulfilling career and is also getting married next month.

Session- VIII: Future Plans/ Suggestions

In this session, Sh. Mahantesh said that the Conclave was very fruitful with very motivating sessions. He said that this Conclave had proved that the future of Blind Cricket was very bright. He further went on to say that cricket had transformed life of each of the blind cricketer. He stated that visual impairment represents a very unique disability. He was overwhelmed by the support that this Conclave could garner for Blind Cricket. He urged his Team to never look back and was convinced that one well intentioned step is reciprocated by hundred such steps. He also stated that Blind Cricket Team under CABI had been winning since 2012. It had won international championships in 2016, 2017 and 2018. All this happened because of TEAM approach. Sh. Mahantesh then explained that **If TEAM Stands Together Everyone Achieves More.**



Sri. Sanjeev Anand Country Head, Commercial Banking, IndusInd Bank assured continued support to blind cricket through IndusInd Bank. "IndusInd Bank's CSR initiatives around sport development aim to



foster professional athletes who do not have access to sporting infrastructure and professional training. In April 2016 IndusInd For Sports was formed as a vertical within the bank, dedicated to the development of sporting capability in India and to integrate sport into the DNA and the minds of its employees. For the IndusInd Para Champions Programme, the bank has tied up with the GoSports Foundation, and for the Blind Cricket Programme with CABI (Cricket Association for the Blind in India) to promote the Indian Blind Cricket Team . The Blind Cricket team gets logistical support as they travel across the country to share their success stories and encourage other visually-impaired youngsters to take up the sport. The Indian Blind Cricket Team won the recent 5th ODI World Cup 2018 earlier this year. The bank has committed to the existing programmes till 2019 and plans to build on this in an engaged manner. It also aims to advocate providing

sporting facilities for the differentlyabled in schools and colleges.

Being a champion is a matter of mental strength for the team and we want to leave no stone unturned in showcasing to the world the talents, skills and potential of our differentlyabled cricket team, in turn highlight their passion and dedication for a game that all of us love so much. These players symbolize the triumph of the human spirit and embody the Bank's cause in the most honest and committed approach. It is amazing to watch them overcome their physical disability and only focus on achieving personal and national glory. IndusInd Bank is very proud to be associated with the cause of the blind cricket and will be with this talented team of passionate and dedicated cricketers to support them in their quest for success and glory. We hope this association will encourage them and other budding cricket enthusiasts to overcome their disability and play for the country in future too."



Future Plans

- Sri. Mahantesh informed the House that zonal level Tournaments have already been initiated. State Cricket Boards / Associations have started to support these Tournaments.
- Samarthanam plans to set up a Sports Academy in Bengaluru. The main aim would be to promote sports through training, practice, etc. the Academy would be one of it's own kind with modern equipment, infrastructure, etc
- CABI calendar of events and tournaments should be widely circulated
- Sessions should be conducted in schools to inform children about Blind Cricket
- Leadership training in Banks could be conducted for young budding cricketers which should begin in future
- Blind cricketers could also be trained on media journalism, banking skills. etc.

The Conclave ended by a felicitation ceremony for the Blind Cricket Team. The Conclave ended on a very positive and progressive note for a bright future for Blind Cricket.



PUBLICATIONS:



क्रिकेट एसोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया के कार्यालय में भारत के क्रिकेट खिलाड़ियों को विना म्या सम्मिलित।

वेदी का वीसीसीआइ से सवाल

नई दिल्ली, 8 दिसंबर - पूर्व भारतीय क्रिकेटर बिशन सिंह वेदी ने वीसीसीआइ से क्रिकेट एसोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया (सीएबीआइ) को मान्यता नहीं दिए जाने पर सवाल किया है जिससे भारत के दिव्यंग खिलाड़ियों को एक नई उम्मीद मिली है। दिल्ली में एक कार्यक्रम में वेदिसारकण धारा लेते पुरुषों में निर्यात विचार का जतन वाली भारतीय दिव्यंग टीम की सीक्रेटरी भी

वेदी ने पूर्व भारतीय कप्तान टाइगर पतादी का उदाहरण देते हुए कहा कि टैट क्रिकेट में पड़ोस करके ये पहले वेदर ने अपने आँसुओं को रोक्ती खी दी थी। उन्हें किसी का समर्थन जतना पसंद नहीं था। उन्होंने कहा कि अगर (दिव्यंग क्रिकेटर) लक्ष्मी लोणी के निराशा को देखें हैं। उम्मीद है कि वीसीसीआइ वीसीसीआइ को अपने दायरे में आगे जतन करेगा।

Bedi urges BCCI to take CABI under its fold

New Delhi, Former India captain Bishen Singh Bedi on Friday urged the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to take blind cricket under its fold.

The Cricket Association for Blind in India (CABI) is yet to be recognised by the Indian government. Addressing the IndusInd Bank Blind Cricket Conclave, Bedi said: "I would expect the BCCI to take CABI under its fold and give all the assistance they require. "You all are inspiration for millions. You all have shown that even if you don't have eyesight, you can have vision."

The conclave was concluded by felicitation to Blind Indian cricket team, champions of the 5th ODI World Cup. The conclave was attended by more than 80 cricketers across India.

Bedi also gave the example of former captain Tiger Pataudi, who played his entire international cricket after losing an eye due to a car accident. "Tiger lost eyesight before he made his Test debut. He hated if anyone sympathised with him. He never considered it as a physical disability and went on to become India's finest captain. He was a Nawab but never behaved like one," Bedi said during the event.

Former India wicket-keeper Syed Kirmani recollected that how in his time many facilities were not available for cricket. But passion and will power enabled him to be a part of the national team. Chetan Chauhan, Minister of Sports and Skill Development in Uttar Pradesh, offered full support to the Indian blind team in providing them jobs. Former middle-order batsman Ajay Jadeja said that information about blind cricket should reach every section of the society, including school going children and everyone should experience playing this game.

BEDI'S PLEA TO THE BCCI



Former India captain Bishen Singh Bedi on Friday urged the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to take blind cricket under its fold. The Cricket Association for Blind in India (CABI) is yet to be recognised by the Indian government. Addressing the IndusInd Bank Blind Cricket Conclave, Bedi said: "I would expect the BCCI to take CABI under its fold and give all the assistance they require. "You all are inspiration for millions. You all have shown that even if you don't have eyesight, you can have vision."

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Bedi wants BCCI to recognise CABI

Bishan Singh Bedi and Syed Kirmani urged the BCCI to take the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) under its aegis, which will be a big boost for India's visually-challenged cricketers. "I would expect the BCCI to take CABI under its fold and give all the assistance they require," Bedi said.

'अंधरु क्रिकेट' को मान्यता देना

नई दिल्ली (टीएनए): अंधरु क्रिकेट को मान्यता देना भारत की क्रिकेट एसोसिएशन ऑफ इंडिया (सीएबीआइ) को मान्यता देने की मांग करते हुए कहा कि इससे देश में दृष्टिहीन क्रिकेट को काफी बढ़ावा मिलेगा। वेदी, किरमानी और मदन लाल ब्लाईंड क्रिकेट कॉन्क्लव में मौजूद थे, जहाँ इस साल जनवरी में वर्ल्ड कप जीतने वाली भारतीय टीम के खिलाड़ी भी आए थे। वेदी ने टाइगर पतादी का उदाहरण देते हुए कहा कि कर पुरतन में एक आँख खोने के बाद भी वे अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट में खेले।

Bedi's appeal: Former India captain Bishen Singh Bedi and wicketkeeper Syed Kirmani urged the BCCI to take the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) under its aegis, which will be a big boost for India's visually-challenged cricketers. "You all are inspiration for millions. I would expect the BCCI to take CABI under its fold and give all the assistance they require. You all have shown that even if you don't have eyesight, you can have vision," Bedi said.



वीसीसीआयने नेत्रहीन क्रिकेटला मान्यता द्यावी - वेदी

■ नवी दिल्ली : भारतके मानवी कर्णधार विश्वनाथ वेदी आणि माजी स्पॉन्सर कर्णधार किरमानी यांनी वीसीसीआयने नेत्रहीन क्रिकेटला मान्यता द्यावी, अशी मागणी केली आहे. रस्ते अपघातात टायगर पतादी यांच्या एका डोळ्याला इजा झाली होती. एका डोळ्याने दिसत नसल्याने आणख्यार कोणी उपकार करू नये, असे पतादी यांना नेहमी वाटत असते. पतादी यांनी कधीही शारीरिक अक्षमतेला मानले नाही. उलट यावर मात करत एक यशस्वी कर्णधार म्हणून स्वतःला सिद्ध करून दाखवले, असे वेदी यांनी निदर्शनास आणून दिले. पाचव्या नेत्रहीन विश्वचषकावर नाव कोरण्याच्या भारतीय संघानेही हीच कामगिरी केली आहे. त्यामुळे ते स्तूतीस पात्र असल्याची प्रतिक्रिया वेदी यांनी दिली. नवी दिल्लीत रंगलेल्या इंडसइंड बँक नेत्रहीन परिसंवादाच्या वेळी भारतीय नेत्रहीन संघाचे सर्व खेळाडू उपस्थित होते. यावेळी भारताचा माजी क्रिकेटपटू अजय जडेजासोबत इतर खेळाडूंनी नेत्रहीन क्रिकेटच्या भविष्यासाठी पाऊले उचलण्याची असे आवाहन केले.

प्रथम जागतिक दृष्टिहीन क्रिकेट कर्णधार



दुआबिल्ली, ८/११ (खबरदुआ) : आरंभिक दृष्टिहीन क्रिकेट आवागारण व प्रथम जागतिक कर्णधार आद्योक्त होलावला आहे। विश्व दृष्टिहीन क्रिकेट संघाचे प्रथम कर्णधार वेदी यांनी नेत्रहीन क्रिकेटला मान्यता द्यावी, अशी मागणी केली आहे. रस्ते अपघातात टायगर पतादी यांच्या एका डोळ्याला इजा झाली होती. एका डोळ्याने दिसत नसल्याने आणख्यार कोणी उपकार करू नये, असे पतादी यांना नेहमी वाटत असते. पतादी यांनी कधीही शारीरिक अक्षमतेला मानले नाही. उलट यावर मात करत एक यशस्वी कर्णधार म्हणून स्वतःला सिद्ध करून दाखवले, असे वेदी यांनी निदर्शनास आणून दिले. पाचव्या नेत्रहीन विश्वचषकावर नाव कोरण्याच्या भारतीय संघानेही हीच कामगिरी केली आहे. त्यामुळे ते स्तूतीस पात्र असल्याची प्रतिक्रिया वेदी यांनी दिली. नवी दिल्लीत रंगलेल्या इंडसइंड बँक नेत्रहीन परिसंवादाच्या वेळी भारतीय नेत्रहीन संघाचे सर्व खेळाडू उपस्थित होते. यावेळी भारताचा माजी क्रिकेटपटू अजय जडेजासोबत इतर खेळाडूंनी नेत्रहीन क्रिकेटच्या भविष्यासाठी पाऊले उचलण्याची असे आवाहन केले.

ब्लाईंड क्रिकेट के लिए अपील

■ नई दिल्ली : भारतीय टीम के पूर्व कप्तान बिशन सिंह वेदी और पूर्व विकेट-कीपर सैयद किरमानी ने बीसीसीआई से भारतीय ब्लाईंड क्रिकेट संघ (सीएबीआइ) को मान्यता देने की मांग करते हुए कहा कि इससे देश में दृष्टिहीन क्रिकेट को काफी बढ़ावा मिलेगा। वेदी, किरमानी और मदन लाल ब्लाईंड क्रिकेट कॉन्क्लव में मौजूद थे, जहाँ इस साल जनवरी में वर्ल्ड कप जीतने वाली भारतीय टीम के खिलाड़ी भी आए थे। वेदी ने टाइगर पतादी का उदाहरण देते हुए कहा कि कर पुरतन में एक आँख खोने के बाद भी वे अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट में खेले।



Bedi praises blind cricketers

Bishan Singh urges BCCI to take CABI under its fold

Former India captain Bishan Singh Bedi urged the BCCI to take the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) under its aegis, which will be a big boost for India's visually-challenged cricketers. "You all are inspiration for millions. I would expect the BCCI to take CABI under its fold and give all the assistance they require. You all have shown that even if you don't have eyesight, you can have vision."

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Madan Lal inspired everyone with stories of their 1983 triumph against all odds. "Sharing his own experience, Madan Lal said, "In order to perform well one should keep working in the right process with focus and should prepare forever and not just one particular game."

Praising the success of blind cricketers, Ajay Jadeja said, "The board needs you and not you need them. This game has a lot to offer and more to teach."



