

Hon Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi
felicitating the defending champions of the 2nd T20 World Cup for the Blind 2017



Blind Cricket,
a medium to empower the visually impaired sportspersons
to rise beyond social barriers and make their mark in disability sports

CRICKET ASSOCIATION FOR THE
BLIND IN INDIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



Affiliated to World Blind Cricket Ltd. (WBC)

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President's Note

Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar

President, Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI)

President, World Blind Cricket Ltd (WBC)



I remember as a kid staying glued to the radio listening to the cricket commentary and cheering every four and six. I remember gleaming after every victory and brooding over losses. I remember the incessant discussions on how the game should have been played. Plainly cricket was an inseparable part of me since my adolescent days. I grew up with cricket and the seed to make it inclusive was subconsciously sown during that period. The great game took further hold in 1993, when the Blind team from Shree Ramana Maharishi School for the Blind, led by me, a team that included my dear friend Nagesh SP, won the National Tournament.

Being the captain at the State level, the opportunity to meet and greet renowned cricketers and learn from their valuable experiences groomed the player inside me. Apart from leading the team to victory, I wanted to do something more concrete for this beautiful game. Society had to understand the significance of sports for the disabled and the vivacity integrated. The need of the hour was to create a platform where sportspersons with disability could train, build skills, groom and portray talent without any obstacles.

After Samarthanam, the Non-Profit Organization with a mission to empower the disabled community on various fronts, came into being in the year 1997, uplifting blind cricket was one of its prime objectives.

The 2011 World Blind Cricket (WBC) AGM held in Dubai proved to be a game changer for us. The implementation of the 1st T20 Cricket World Cup for the Blind was entrusted to CABI in 2012. It was a herculean task but our resolve was stronger. The tournament was perfectly executed and was acknowledged with the PMI Award for Successful Project Management of World Cup for the Blind 2013. The award showed that CABI was moving in the right direction.

The journey has been at full throttle starting 2012, with many World Cups organized across various states and countries and raising awareness on the game. Thousands of blind cricket players have come forward to prove their mettle and CABI has always supported their passion. The training programmes, coaching camps, skill building and expert sessions helped us in grooming the players and adding confidence.

CABI has produced blind cricket heroes such as Shekhar Naik, the Padmashree Awardee and Prakash Jayaramaiah, winner of the National Award. These exemplary players have surpassed all odds to attain success and stand as role models for the disabled sports community.

The Indian Blind Cricket team's hard work paid off with many winning moments. It's the only team to win all international formats of blind cricket.

The movement is spreading and involving players with visual impairment from various sectors. We are thankful to the Board members, representatives of various blind cricket playing countries and the Governments, State Cricket Boards, supporters, sponsors, partners and our followers who played a pivotal role at every step in achieving extraordinary success.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar".

Secretary's Note

John E David
General Secretary
Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI)



Cricket has been a part of me since childhood when I used to play various alternate forms of cricket suiting the restraints of the visually impaired. It was in 1989 that I had begun playing for the State team and went on to play for the National team as well. More than playing cricket I always wished to impart my knowledge to the budding players and encourage the young aspirants to take up the game of blind cricket.

The opportunity surfaced at Samarthanam in 2009. I am proud to say that I have been an integral part of Samarthanam and played a pivotal role in the formation of Cricket Association for the Blind in India. The organization is a platform for all the young and talented players to take the stage and prove their mettle. I was the Treasurer for CABI in 2010, the year it was founded, but never did I miss a single game in action.

Though I have been assigned to be the Indian team Manager in 2017, interacting with the players, motivating and encouraging them has been a part of my agenda since CABI started playing its first match. Being the Team Selection Committee Chairman I can state that the visually impaired players are dedicated, hard working and committed to the game and it is evident looking at the Indian team's success portfolio. These players have crossed social, economic and cultural barriers to come forward and prove their potential and it is a greatly appreciable feat.

The Indian team had won all the World Championships played and the 2018 ODI World Cup was won without losing a single match all through and I am proud to have coached the team for the tournaments. The success saga does not end here. CABI stand by those who wish to make a mark in the field of blind cricket and we believe that every person with the right support can be molded into a great player.

We would like to thank the sponsors, partners, supporters and followers of blind cricket for believing in the game and in the cause at large. Our efforts are incomplete without your support and we look forward to receiving the same in our journey ahead.



In the memory of SP Nagesh

Late SP Nagesh
Founder President
Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI)



Nagesh SP, Co-founder of Samarthanam Trust and Founder President of CABI, was the major driver of Blind Cricket. He was a cricket enthusiast and was committed towards taking blind cricket to greater levels. It was Nagesh who had triggered the movement of making blind cricket a significant sport and a platform for the visually impaired to progress at various levels. Nagesh's energy and drive were evident in his demeanor which helped pull together people and notice the game.

Nagesh strove towards CABI gaining BCCI-like status with dedicated stadiums, play grounds in each State and recognition across the country. He encouraged budding players with his motivational talks and greatly supported their cricketing careers. CABI will long remember his efforts put towards encouraging cricket for the visually impaired and the plethora of tournaments organized under his administration.

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"He was a man with a mission. He was a cricketer who believed in the game, a visionary who had striven for the upliftment of blind cricket and a role model for many cricket enthusiasts. He was a strong-minded individual who never gave up."

- Mahantesh GK, President of CABI & WBC

"Nagesh was a gifted leader and a generous individual. He put in endless effort for the welfare of the organization and its members though it proved to be a mammoth task. His resoluteness is greatly appreciated and he was the guiding light for us."

- David John, Secretary, CABI



Cricket for the Blind

Origin and History



Cricket is one game that brings out endless vim and vigor in people playing the game and the audience watching them play. Like mainstream cricket, blind cricket also finds its origin somewhere in England around the 1550's. The exact genesis is unclear but it can be said that blind cricket went over many renovations before taking the existing form. It was a game played for recreation by a few visually impaired individuals with empty tins or metal balls.

If one group preferred to play it on the stairs, another wanted to roll the ball on the floor. Moving from one version to another, from one street to another, blind cricket's first documented evidence dates back to 1922, when two blind factory workers in Melbourne started playing the game in their premises. After traveling various parts of Australia and being a great pastime for the blind employees during their recess, the first interstate blind cricket match took place in Sydney, between New South Wales and Victoria, in 1928. Two decades later in 1953, the Australian Blind Cricket Council was formed along with the inaugural Australian Blind Cricket Championship held in Melbourne.

It was 43 years later that the World Blind Cricket Council (WBCC) took shape in 1996 in New Delhi, India, thanks to George Abraham, a visually impaired cricket enthusiast who strived to make the lives of the visually impaired independent and self-reliant.

Blind Cricket in India

George Abraham, Founder of SCORE Foundation and Association of Cricket for the Blind in India (ACBI), paved the path for blind cricket's entry into India. He also played an instrumental role in the formation of World Blind Cricket Council (WBC).

Blind cricket began in India in 1980s when blind players from Australia, Sri Lanka and other blind cricket playing countries had begun visiting India to play occasional matches. The year 1988 is significant in the history of Blind Cricket in India as that's when the first Gujarat Cup was played among the blind regional players in the state. Prior to which, a team from Sri Ramana Maharshi Academy for the Blind flew to England to play a cricket tournament.

Blind cricket took off at National level in 1990, with the first National Cricket Tournament for the Blind, drafted by Abraham and greatly encouraged by former India captain and then the leading run scorer in Test cricket Sunil Gavaskar. The inaugural edition of National Cricket Tournament for the Blind was named after Tata Steel, sponsored by a few major companies and was held in presence of few politicians. Former Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi and Russi Mody, Chairman and Managing Director of Tata Steel, were present during the inauguration. Kapil Dev, former Captain of the Indian Cricket team, inaugurated the first Nationals while the teams received prizes at the hands of Rajiv Gandhi, former Prime Minister of India.

George Abraham along with representatives from various states founded the Association for Cricket for the Blind in India (ACBI) in 1996, to work along with a committee. He envisioned that blind cricket would prove to be a game changer for the disabled community in India. ACBI governed blind cricket tournaments in India for a period of 14 years and organized many cricket tournaments for the blind, both domestic and international, along with hosting the first two World Cups in the year 1998 and 2002 in New Delhi and Chennai respectively.

George Abraham handed over the reins to Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, the Non-for-Profit founded and led by Mahantesh GK in 2010. George played a pivotal in the establishment of Cricket Association for the Blind in India (the sporting arm of Samarthanam) in 2011 and it was just two years down the road that CABI organized the first ever T20 World Cup in 2012, a sensational blind cricket tournament which garnered humongous fame for the Indian Blind Cricket team. India won the World Cup and there has been no turning back.

World Blind Cricket Limited (WBC)

To administer blind cricket at an International level, WBC was formed in 1996 after a meeting held in Delhi, India. George Abraham was the founding Chairman of WBC. In the year 2017, WBC Executive Committee elections were held and Mahantesh GK, President of Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI), was unanimously elected to hold the chair as the President of WBC and focus on the development of blind cricket globally. In the December 2018 elections, Mahantesh GK was re-elected to continue as the President of World Blind Cricket.



"I feel honored to be re-elected as the President of WBC. The game of blind cricket possesses immense potential and is a perfect platform for the aspiring cricketers to show their talent. I am positive that WBC is going to make complete efforts for the benefit of blind cricket."

- Mahantesh GK, President of CABI & WBC

WBC MEMBER COUNTRIES

Australia
Bangladesh
England
India
Nepal
New Zealand
Pakistan
South Africa
Sri Lanka
West Indies

WBC OFFICE BEARERS 2018-20

Mahantesh GK India	PRESIDENT
Salman Bukhari Pakistan	FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
Chaminda Pushpakumara Sri Lanka	SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
Raymond Moxly Australia	SECRETARY GENERAL
Pawan Ghimire Nepal	FINANCE DIRECTOR
Armand Bam South Africa	GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
Maher Yousaf Haroon Pakistan	TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Rajanish Henry India	REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR ASIA

MILESTONES IN



BLIND CRICKET



Association for Cricket for the Blind in India (ACBI) formation
Set up to organize and promote blind cricket.

1996



World Blind Cricket Council established. First International Conference on cricket for the Blind organized by ACBI

1996



First ODI World Cup for the Blind at New Delhi
India, Australia, England, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. South Africa participated

1998



Indo-Pak Petro Cup held in New Delhi
India won the series

2005



Indian team toured Pakistan for a Bilateral series

2004



Second ODI World Cup (Petro World Cup Cricket for the Blind) at Chennai
Pakistan defeated South Africa in the finals

2002



T-20 Asia Cup at Kochi, Kerala.
India were the inaugural champions, beating Pakistan in the finals
National Cricket Tournament for the Blind at Gujarat

2016



Second T-20 World Cup tournament
India beat Pakistan in the finals
National Cricket Tournament for the Blind at Mumbai

2017



Fifth ODI World in UAE and Pakistan. India won the World Cup beating Pakistan in the Finals
India - Sri Lanka Bilateral Series in Colombo
India – England- Sri Lanka Triangular Series
Inaugural edition of Nagesh Trophy won by Odisha

2018

Significance of Blind Cricket

Disability sports are a rightful pursuit which helps in the physical, social and economic development of the sportspersons with disability. Persons with disabilities though talented at every level, owing to the societal stigma, barely come forward and participate on stage.

Narrowing down to individuals with visual impairment, who are equally passionate about cricket, blind cricket has created a significant stage for these immensely talented cricketers to cross the barriers and thrive.

The motive behind organizing cricket for the blind and promoting the game is to provide the budding players with an opportunity to showcase their talent. It invokes a responsibility to respect people with disabilities, understand the needs of the visually impaired and contributes for their holistic development. Eventually aids in fostering the team members' long-term career in cricket and helps them merge with mainstream.

Cricket for the blind opens doors to many employment opportunities as it is supported by both State and Central Governments as also private companies. The economic status of many players who have successfully made a career in blind cricket has improved multiple folds and they stand as an inspiration to the entire blind cricket community. The initiative also evokes a social responsibility in every individual and organization.

"I was fascinated by the way they play cricket, because you just hear and react to that. And you score runs and get wickets and you feel all those kinds of things."

Sachin Tendulkar, Indian mainstream cricketer

BLIND CRICKET

Elements of Change

- A rehabilitation drive
- Encourages young cricket players
- Opens up avenues for employment
- Shapes a competent sportsman
- Improves economic status
- Breaks cultural barriers
- A confidence builder
- Builds leadership qualities
- Imparts team work culture
- Raises awareness
- Brings regard in the society
- Opportunities for travel
- A road to experience new cultures





Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI)

Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) is a registered Non Profit Organization and is the sporting arm of Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled. It is the apex body organizing and conducting cricket for blind in India and is affiliated to World Blind Cricket Ltd (WBC). CABI has been organizing cricket tours and tournaments since 2010 and working towards building awareness of blind cricket.

Cricket for the Blind is a magnificent display of how the visually challenged triumph over all challenges of life and channel it through cricket. CABI strongly believes that visually challenged posses the right to be a part of the sporting glory.

Under CABI's administration, the Indian team lifted the trophy in the India-Pakistan series in 2012, won the First and second T-20 World Cup tournaments in 2012 and 2017, triumphed in the fourth and fifth One Day International World Cups in 2014 and 2018, lifted the first ever T-20 Asia Cup 2016, won the India-Sri Lanka Bilateral series both home and away in 2018 and also won the India – Sri Lanka – England Triangular Series in 2018. CABI launched the all India Nagesh Trophy in 2018-19.

CABI was formed with an objective to use competitive cricket to enable the visually impaired look at life positively, gain confidence and strive to be winners and to broaden their outlook by travelling across the country and abroad. It gives them a chance to interact with people from various cultural backgrounds and use the game as a platform to showcase their ability and talent.

CABI organizes tournaments at District, State, Zonal, National and International levels. It helps the local bodies to organize regional tournaments to spot talent, organize coaching camps, assign coaches, trainers, physiotherapists and other professionals to groom the players and transform into professional sportspersons. Currently 24 states are represented in the domestic level and more than 25,000 visually impaired people play and follow various cricket tournaments in India.



CABI MISSION

To use competitive cricket for making the visually impaired look at life positively, gain confidence and strive to be winners; and enlighten society on the ability and talent of the players.



CABI GOALS

- Create awareness among the public on the ability and talent of the visually impaired youngsters. Provide opportunities to showcase the talent in cricket on various platforms
 - Organize and schedule various coaching activities, tournaments and championships at various levels including bilateral series and overseas tours
 - Create a strong network by including active regional cricket agencies and blind schools. Compose cricketing guidelines and consequently monitor the implementation
 - Help the local cricket governing agencies in organizing regional tournaments for the purpose of identifying talented players.
- Organize teams along with physiotherapists, trainers, umpires and associated personnel and supervise the unit
- Effort towards receiving continuous support and affiliation from Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

International Achievements of India under CABI's Administration

Fifth ODI World Cup
India Sri Lanka Bilateral Series
India – England- Sri Lanka
Bilateral and Triangular Series



India is the only country which has the record of being champions in all the International formats.

Making of the audio ball

An audio ball was designed to enable the visually impaired hear and identify the location of ball and hit accordingly, replacing the empty tin and bats for sticks.

The audio ball was designed by National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun and was a perfect fit in the game. The ball is white in color, larger than a standard cricket ball and made of reinforced plastic. It is filled with eight ball bearings to produce sound for the visually impaired players to identify its movement and location. The audio ball was a huge hit and was readily accepted as the international standard ball, used till date.

Each wicket consists of three tubular stumps (metal, plastic, or wood). The colour of the wickets is either fluorescent orange or yellow. The wickets are screwed together to ensure they are aligned. The boundaries are 45 yards from the pitch. The stumps are made of hollow steel pipes welded into one set to enable players to touch it in order to correctly orient him/her when batting or bowling and also to produce a sound when struck by a ball.

The pitch measures 22 yards in length and 3 yards in width. A line is drawn across the middle of the pitch. Wide ball markings are made at both ends of the pitch on both sides of the wickets at a distance of 2 feet from the outside of the leg and off. Lines are drawn to make an area, measuring ten feet from the middle stump at each end. The line will be drawn at each batting end on leg side and off side. This line is marked to indicate where the Runner shall stand.

Verbal signals are used by players and umpires such as shouting the word 'play' while delivering the ball. The delivery is required to pitch at least twice when bowled to the batsman. Totally blind fielders are allowed to catch the ball on the bounce.

BLIND CRICKET CONCEPT



THE TEAM AND PLAYERS

- The match is played between two teams of 11 players each
- Minimum 4 totally blind players (B1)
- Minimum 3 partially blind players (B2)
- Maximum of 4 partially sighted players (B3)

PLAYER IDENTIFICATION

- B1 players wear a White wrist band or one stripe on the upper arm may also be used.
- B2 players wear a Red wrist band or two stripes on the upper arm may also be used.
- B3 players wear a Blue wrist band or three stripes on the upper arm may also be used.

THE GAME

- Bowling is underarm and the ball has to pitch once before the mid pitch and also one pitch before the batsman
- The bowler gives an audio clue before bowling and the batsmen gives an audio clue when he is ready
- The boundaries are between 45 and 55 yards from the pitch

THE BALL

The ball approved by the World Blind Cricket Ltd is used in all domestic and international matches, that is an audio ball made of hard fiber plastic and filled with tiny ball bearings.

THE BAT

The regular cricket bat used with standard specifications.

BOWLING

Minimum 40% of the overs should be bowled by the B1 players

THE WICKETS

Each wicket consists of three tubular stumps made of hollow metal. The colour of the wickets is either fluorescent orange or yellow.

THE PITCH

All International matches are played on a surface mutually agreeable to the participating teams. WBC prefers to play on turf or synthetic grass surfaces.

SCORING

All runs scored off the bat by a B1 batsman are doubled and credited to the batsman.

CAUGHT

A “one bounce” catch by a B1 player results in the batsman being declared out.

FIELDSMEN

The fielders do not dive or lie down until the batsman completes playing a stroke or the ball passing the batsman.

BLIND CRICKET ENDORSERS



Rahul Dravid, Chris Gayle, Arjuna Ranathunga, Ravichandran Ashwin, Virat Kohli, Yuvraj Singh, Irfan Pathan, Zaheer Khan, Sourav Ganguly, Sachin Tendulkar, Syed Kirmani, Ravi Shastri, BS Chandrashekhar, Sadanand Viswanath, Sheldon Cottrell and many more.

THE MASCOT LAUNCH BY THE LEGENDARY CRICKETER SOURAV GANGULY during the first T20 World Cup for the Blind 2012



We are grateful for the support of the legendary Indian Captain and Cricketer, Sourav Ganguly who has been associated with the Cricket Association for the Blind since 2012 as our Brand Ambassador. Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled and The Cricket Association for the Blind in India appreciates his magnanimity in supporting Blind Cricket.

RENNOWNED CRICKETER RAHUL DRAVID AS THE BRAND AMBASSADOR during the second T20 World Cup for the Blind 2017



We immensely appreciate the support extended by Rahul Dravid, former Indian cricketer and captain of the Indian national team who has been the Brand Ambassador during the second T20 World Cup for the Blind 2017. Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled and Cricket Association for the Blind in India are indebted to Rahul Dravid for the encouragement, his contribution during promotions and valuable words of advice, making the event a grand success.

"BLIND CRICKET HALL OF FAME"



Open - Republic TV Award under the "Special Jury mention category" 2019



CNBC TV18 India Business Leader Award
IBLA, for Outstanding Contribution to Brand
India to Indian Blind Cricket team 2018



CavinKare Ability Award
for Eminence 2018



NDTV Spirit of Sports Award for lifetime
achievement for contribution in the field of
sports against the odds 2012

PMI Award for Successful Project Management of World Cup for the Blind
2013

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

HIGHLIGHTS

JANUARY 2018

India blind cricket team bring home the Fifth ODI World Cup 2018



UAE and Pakistan

7 to 20 January 2018

Australia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka

It was a proud moment for the entire country and the blind cricket community as the Indian Blind Cricket team brought home the Fifth ODI World Cup trophy. India remained unbeaten throughout the tournament and were deserving winners, beating Pakistan in the final. Chasing 307 in 40 overs the game went right down to the wire living up to every bit of the hype. The entire Nation celebrated the success and the appreciation received from Hon President, Hon Prime Minister and other prominent personalities was remarkable.

MARCH 2018

Cricket Conclave supported by IndusInd Bank



New Delhi

9 March 2018

Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) and Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled in association with IndusInd Bank organized a Blind Cricket Conclave to recall the achievements of CABI, success stories and discuss the future of blind cricket with ways to widen its reach. The IndusInd Blind Cricket conclave had corporates, sponsors, aspiring cricketers, Government bodies and renowned sportspersons gathered together to explore collaboration opportunities.

More than 150 representatives from various organizations participated in the interactive Conclave, including 80 cricketers from across India. Swati Singh, Minister of State of Women Welfare, Family Welfare, Maternity and Child Welfare in the Uttar Pradesh (UP) government. Chetan Chauhan, former India cricketer and State Minister of Sports and Skill Development in Uttar Pradesh, legendary cricketers like Syed Kirmani, Madan Lal, Bishan Singh Bedi and Ajay Jadeja graced the event. The Conclave ended on a positive note and a promise to strive for the bright future for Blind Cricket.



APRIL 2018

Allergan supports programmes for holistic development



Employability Skilling and Cricket Coaching Programme

Samarthanam launched “Employability Skilling and Cricket Coaching Programme” with support from Allergan. The objective of the programme was to perfect the cricketing skills of the players on one hand and also to groom their communication, personality and social skills, turning the players into professional sportsmen.



North Zone school cricket tournament for Blind

Encouraging young cricketers and to identify talent in their early years, Allergan-supported North Zone school cricket tournament for Blind, organized at Kamla Nehru College and The Frank Anthony Public School on 28 and 29 April in Delhi in collaboration with CABI, CAB Delhi, National Federation of the Blind, Equal Opportunity Cell and Enabling unit.



Allergan West Zone School Cricket Tournament

The tournament for the Visually Impaired was organized at Barkatullah Cricket Ground -Bhopal by Cricket Association for the blind in Madhya Pradesh in association with CABI and sponsored by Allergan and Bal Samrakshan Ayog, Madhya Pradesh. Six teams from Madhya Pradesh, three teams from Rajasthan, one team from Chhattisgarh, one team from Maharashtra participated in the tournament.

CNBC India Business Leader Award



**6 April 2018
New Delhi**

CNBC TV 18 honored the Indian Blind Cricket Team with the ‘Indian Business Leader Award- IBLA, for Outstanding Contribution to Brand India’ received by Mahantesh GK, President - CABI and WBC, and John David - Head Coach, Team India along with four Indian cricketers.. The award was given away by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Ms. Aruna Sundara Rajan, Secretary Telecommunication.



An Inclusive Cricket Exhibition Match on the lawns of Australian High Commission

 21 April 2018
New Delhi

Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled in association with the Australian High Commission, India organized an 'Inclusive Cricket Exhibition Match' between the Indian blind cricket team and representatives of the diplomatic community representing the High Commissions of Australia, UK, New Zealand and Canada at the Australian High Commission premises in Delhi.

The game saw the active participation of Dr. Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Hon Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment and Chris Elsoft, Australia's Deputy High Commissioner, who played the game wearing blindfolds. The Australian High Commission hosted the Inclusive Blind Cricket Exhibition Match as part its Development4All campaign, an initiative to encourage the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of life.



JULY 2018

First ever Bilateral Cricket Series with Sri Lanka

 18 to 26 July 2018
Colombo, Sri Lanka

The first-ever Bilateral Series between India and Sri Lanka, supported by IndusInd Bank, was played in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The objective was to promote and develop Blind Cricket in Sri Lanka apart from motivating the Sri Lankan Cricket Board and Government to extend their support to Blind Cricket.

The series consisted of 3 ODI's and 5 T20's of which Sri Lanka won the ODI series and India won the T20 series. Many youngsters were given an opportunity to play and as many as 7 players made their debut in the Bilateral series as CABI believes in encouraging potential talent in visually impaired cricketers.

OCTOBER 2018

Bilateral and Triangular Cricket Series for the Blind



2 to 27 October 2018

Bangalore, Goa, Pune, Mumbai, Bhopal, Ludhiana, Faridabad, Delhi, Cuttack and Kolkata

India triumphed in the India- England Bilateral Series which was supported by IndusInd Bank. The tournament was played between India and England. India won over England 2-0 in a 3 match T20 series played at Bengaluru,

The Triangular series was played at Goa between India, England and Sri Lanka, supported by L&T. India beat Sri Lanka in the Finals.

India - Sri Lanka Bilateral Series was played across multi cities in India in a 5 T20 and 3 ODI series. India whitewashed Sri Lanka in both the series standing to be champions.



DECEMBER 2018

Prakash Jayaramaiah makes the country proud



7 Dec 2018

New Delhi

Prakash Jayaramaiah, Vice-Captain of the Indian Blind Cricket team, received the National Award for the Best Sportsperson with Disability. Prakash is a wicket-keeper batsman from Karnataka who played his first national tournament in 1998. He is a recipient of many Man of the Match and Man of the series awards.



DECEMBER 2018

1st Ever Women Blind Cricket Tournament



17 Dec 2018

Dehradun

The 1st ever Women Blind Cricket Tournament kicked off in Dehradun, organized by Uttarakhand Science Education and Research in association with CABI and Samarthanam. Delhi, Odisha and Uttarakhand took part in the event.



JANUARY 2019

CABI presented with the Open- Republic TV award



28 January 2019
Delhi

The Cricket Association for the Blind in India was awarded the prestigious Open - Republic TV Award under the “Special Jury mention - category” for the achievements of the Indian Blind cricket team in the fifth ODI World Cup in 2018. Mahantesh GK, President of CABI, John David, General Secretary of CABI and few members of the team along with Captain Ajay Reddy, were felicitated by Sanjiv Goenka, Chairman Goenka group and Arnab Goswami.

FEBRUARY 2019

IndusInd Bank Nagesh Trophy National Level Cricket Tournament for the Blind



23 November 2018 to 10 February 2019
23 teams | 59 matches

The final of the inaugural edition of the IndusInd Bank Nagesh Trophy was held at the iconic Eden Gardens. The Cricket tournament is named in memory and honor of Late SP Nagesh, Founder President of Cricket Association for the Blind in India and Founder Trustee of Samarthanam Trust. Nagesh was a friend, mentor and an avid cricketer himself and motivated every blind cricketer passionate about the sport to go beyond barriers.

After more than two months and 59 matches in which 23 teams from across the country battled each other, it was down to the last two states where Odisha beat Andhra Pradesh to be crowned as the champions of the inaugural edition of IndusInd Bank Nagesh Trophy. The event was aimed at spreading the game and create an increased awareness across the country.

COACHING CAMPS IN 2018



Allergan Youth and Adult National Cricket Coaching Camp



India's tour of Sri Lanka



India, Sri Lanka and England Bilateral and Triangular Series

MOMENT OF HONOR

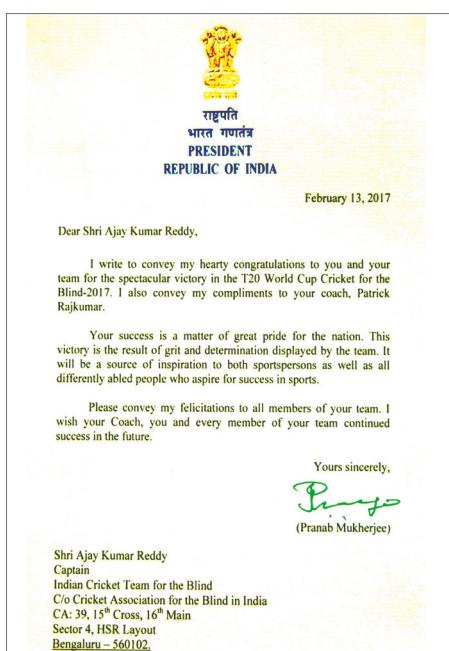
Felicitation by former Hon President Pranab Mukherjee after first T20 World Cup 2012



Felicitation by Hon Prime Minister Narendra Modi after fourth ODI World Cup 2014



Felicitation by Hon Prime Minister Narendra Modi after the second T20 World Cup 2017



An appreciation letter received from former Hon President Pranab Mukherjee addressed to the Captain of Blind Cricket team Ajay Reddy

Felicitation by Hon President Ram Nath Kovind after the fifth ODI World Cup 2018



Felicitations by prominent politicians after the fifth ODI World Cup 2018



Rajnath Singh, Minister of Defense of India



Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India



Swati Singh, Minister of Women Welfare
Govt of UP



Thaawar Chand Gehlot, Minister of Social
Justice and Empowerment

MOMENT OF HONOR

India-Sri Lanka Bilateral Series 2018



Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena and the Indian Blind Cricket Team



Former Sri Lankan World Cup winning Cricket Captain, Arjuna Ranatunga



High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka

Nagesh Trophy Inauguration 2018



SOCIAL MEDIA MENTIONS

Narendra Modi  @narendramodi

Delighted that India won the Blind T20 World Cup. Congratulations to the team. India is proud of their accomplishment.

RETWEETS 5,746 LIKES 19,053

2:57 AM - 12 Feb 2017

681 5.7K 19K

B.S. Yeddyurappa  @BSYeddyurappa

Felicitated team members of @blind_cricket for winning #BlindWorldT20 at my residence today. Appreciate the grit & determination of this team



RETWEETS 86 LIKES 272

Shah Rukh Khan  @shahrukhkhan

Just heard India won the T20 Cricket World Cup. Couldn't watch the match. How awesome & inspiring is that. Boys I want to meet u & hug u

RETWEETS 4,807 LIKES 24,279

2:44 AM - 12 Feb 2017

987 4.8K 24K

Naveen Patnaik  @Naveen_Oଡିଆ

Congratulate #TeamIndia on winning #BlindCricket2017 T20 World Cup, proving once again that sheer will & commitment triumphs all odds.

Virender Sehwag  @virendersehwag

Congratulations to our #OtherMenInBlue on winning the T20 World Cup for the Blind. They have lit up smiles for a billion people.



Anupam Kher  @AnupamKher

Congratulations #IndianBlindCricketTeam 4 winning d World Cup. Dil mein desh ke liye aise jazbaat ho to jeet ki mithas badh jaati hai.:)



All India Radio News  @airnewsalerts

#INDvsPAK 🏆: India clinch #BlindCricketWorldCup 🏆 title after beating #Pakistan in final.

Anil Kapoor  @AnilKapoor

Congratulations #TeamIndia on winning the #BlindCricketWorldCup!! The whole nation is extremely proud & inspired! Well played! #INDvsPak

Mohanlal  @Mohanlal

Congratulation to our cricket team for winning the blind cricket World Cup by beating Pakistan. Proud Moment #BlindCricketWorldCup #Teamindia

State Bank of India  @TheOfficialSBI

Congratulations to the unbeaten #Champions, #TeamIndia, on winning the #BlindCricketWorldCup!!

Doordarshan News  @DDNewsLive

15h #Colombo is hosting the first ever bilateral blind cricket series between #India and #SriLanka; Indian team today called on Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Tarunjit Singh Sandhu

INDIA vs SRI LANKA 

1st Ever Bilateral Blind Cricket Series



On the sets of the famous Kapil Sharma Show

25

"THANK YOU SUPPORTERS"

We owe our success to you

IndusInd Bank Ltd

Allergan India Pvt Ltd

L&T Technology Services Pvt Ltd

State Bank of India

Book-a-smile

Bank of Baroda

Conares

Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

Government of India

Government of Karnataka

State Governments

State Cricket Associations

Nike

Doordarshan

NDTV

Le Meridien

Air India

FINANCIALS

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2019

RECEIPTS

RECEIPTS	2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount (Rs)	Percentage	Amount (Rs)	Percentage
Opening Balance	47.18	50.20%	18.51	10.91%
Earned/Self generated income	-	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Donations from Indian Sources	44.55	47.40%	85.69	50.49%
C.S.R Donations	-	0.00%	0.00	0.00%
Government Grants	2.00	2.13%	64.50	38.01%
Corpus fund	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Loans/payables	0.24	0.26%	0.93	0.55%
Other Receipts	0.02	0.02%	0.07	0.04%
Total	93.99	100%	169.70	100.00%

PAYMENTS

PAYMENTS	2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount (Rs)	Percentage	Amount (Rs)	Percentage
Capital items/assets	0	0.00%	-	0.00%
Programme Staff Salaries, benefits, Consultants Fee	20.98	22.32%	1.80	1.06%
Programme	23.26	24.75%	14.01	8.26%
Staff Travel	3.22	3.43%	0.31	0.18%
Office Support/Admin	7.52	8.00%	0.64	0.38%
Other Payments	0.06	0.06%	0.74	0.44%
Deposits & Advances	0	0.00%	15.00	8.84%
Loans/Payables	10.59	11.27%	90.01	53.04%
Closing Cash and Bank Balance	28.36	30.17%	47.19	27.81%
Total	93.99	100.00%	169.70	100.00%

Rs in Lakhs

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AS ON 31/03/2019

INCOME

INCOME	2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount (Rs)	Percentage	Amount (Rs)	Percentage
Earned/Sell generated income	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Donations from Indian Sources	44.55	95.67%	80.75	88.90%
C.S.R Donations	-		-	0.00%
Government Grants	2.00		10.00	11.01%
Other Income	0.02	0.03%	0.08	0.09%
Total	46.57	95.70%	90.83	100.00%

EXPENDITURE

EXPENDITURE	2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount (Rs)	Percentage	Amount (Rs)	Percentage
Programme Staff Salaries, Benefits, Consultants Fee	20.98	45.05%	1.80	1.98%
Programme	23.26		14.01	15.42%
Staff Travel	3.22	6.91%	0.31	0.34%
Office Support/Admin	7.52	16.15%	0.64	0.70%
Other Expenses	0.06	0.13%	0.56	0.62%
Total Expenditure	55.04	118.19%	17.32	19.07%
Depreciation	0.10	0.21%	0.13	0.14%
Excess of Income over expenditure	-8.57	-18.40%	73.38	80.79%
Total	46.57	100.00%	90.83	100.00%

Rs in Lakhs

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS ON 31/03/2019

ASSETS

ASSETS	2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount (Rs)	Percentage	Amount (Rs)	Percentage
Fixed Assets	0.65	1.15%	0.76	1.14%
Deposits & Advances	25.74	45.57%	15	22.52%
Receivables	1.74	3.08%	3.67	5.51%
Cash and Bank Balances	28.35	50.19%	47.19	70.83%
Total	56.48	100.00%	66.62	100.00%

LIABILITIES

EXPENDITURE	2017-18		2018-19	
	Amount (Rs)	Percentage	Amount (Rs)	Percentage
General Fund (unrestricted fund)	27.2	48.16%	35.74	53.65%
Payables	29.28	51.84%	30.88	46.35%
Total	56.48	100.00%	66.62	100.00%

Rs in Lakhs

Cricket Association for the Blind in India

AGM AND GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETINGS

CABI 8th Annual General body Meeting



23-24 June 2018
Bengaluru

The 8th Annual General Body Meeting of CABI witnessed representatives and secretaries from 22 states of India. The meeting concluded with major decisions made towards the welfare of blind cricket and also the involvement of the 22 States affiliated to CABI. Committees were formed to ensure continuous growth and development of Cricket for the Blind across all States along with increasing its reach. Women's Cricket was one of the major discussions where a schedule was finalized for the upcoming National Women's Tournament in Jharkhand which would largely encourage Blind Cricket among women.

Bharat Cricket League was introduced with established States' participation with an assurance to involve other States. A definite framework has been drawn for the Blind Cricket League along with a schedule. The AGM was successfully closed with a pledge to incessantly effort for the betterment of Blind Cricket and to improve on the current scenario of both the game and the players across the country.



CABI Governing Council Members Committee



March and October 2018
Bengaluru

CABI Governing Council Member Committee comprises of 13 members. The committee gathers twice in a year to review and draft programmes. The 2018 meetings focused on expanding the reach of blind cricket, online as well as geographically. The need of the hour was to increase the awareness, organize matches to promote the game and introduce blind cricket to cricket enthusiasts in distant regions of the country.

Nagesh Trophy, in honor of late SP Nagesh, has been drafted and the schedule was launched, along with the decision that the final match should be played only at the iconic Eden Gardens, Kolkata. The sustainability of blind cricket was greatly focused on and garnering sponsorships was of utmost priority, along with ensuring all the state registrations.

According to the members, development of women's cricket gained paramount significance and a proposal to launch the first ever National Women's Cricket Tournament in 2019 is underway.

WORDS OF APPRECIATION



IndusInd Bank

Adwait Hebbar

Head - Corporate Services and CSR

Our association with Samarthanam began in 2016-17. For us, it has been about empowerment, inclusion and social upliftment, since the cricketers had to not only battle negative social perceptions about their condition, but many of them also came from social and economic backward backgrounds. It is with great pride and delight that we have seen this collaboration growing. The partnership which was conceived for promoting excellence in Cricket amongst the visually disabled, has grown to take the game to every state in India and identify talent and nurture them to represent the Country. What makes us very happy and proud is when we hear the testimonies of several athletes on how the IndusInd Blind Cricket Program has transformed their lives for the better.

Given the success of the program, supporting the IndusInd Nagesh Trophy was a natural choice for the Bank. The response to this tournament has been heart-warming. I am certain that from this tournament will emerge some exciting talent and future champions. We wish Samarthanam, CABI and all the players the very best. May the players earn fame and prosper.





Allergan

Raghuprasad KN
Senior Manager - Business Information Management,
Commercial IT

Cricket in India is a huge game, rather religion! We have everyone in India from young to old following it and making it popular. The differently abled have not been left far behind and the visually impaired, and have adapted the game with modifications to suit their disability and excel in it.

Cricket for the visually impaired has been encouraged and given the necessary impetus by CRICKET ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND IN INDIA (CABI), the cricketing arm of SAMARTHANAM TRUST FOR THE DISABLED with which ALLERGAN India is associated.

Allergan India supports the identification of cricketing talent, training and the coaching camps for the visually impaired in Cricket at School levels, zonal levels and at national level. These camps also include computer training, life skills and soft skill training in- order to give the recipients of the services a complete package that helps them build their confidence, self-image, and strategies to cope up with life and its demands along with rigorous training in the field of blind cricket

Allergan India has been associated with Samarthanam from past 3 years in their other projects like higher education & training for differently abled and underprivileged youths across Karnataka and in various other awareness activities like Sewage water treatment plant, Walk-a-thon etc.



WORDS OF APPRECIATION



L&T Technology Services

Paneesh Rao

Chief Human Resource Officer

Cricket is the most popular sport in India and remains to be the most watched and adored game in every corner of the country. To establish inclusivity in the sports arena and involve the visually impaired cricket enthusiasts, Cricket for the blind has taken shape and is fostered by Samarthanam and Cricket Association for the Blind in India.

Cricket Association for the Blind in India has taken up the significant task of building a platform for the visually impaired cricketers and is doing an incredible job at it. We, at L&T Technology Services, are proud to be a part of the initiative and support the cause.

L&T has supported the Triangular Cricket Series for the Blind played between India, England and Sri Lanka and won by the Indian Blind Cricket team. The game has garnered recognition and applause across the country, adding to the success portfolio of the Indian Blind cricket team. L&T also takes great pride in coaching the budding blind cricket players through the coaching camps organized by CABI in various batches. The focus is on grooming the skills of the players and placing them on the international stage. The ultimate message on ability surpassing disability is reaching the general public through cricket for the blind and we are glad to be a part of the movement.

L&T Technology Services appreciates the programs initiated by Samarthanam and CABI, and wish to continue our support towards this initiative. We wish the organization the very best in accomplishing their vision and going further, we hope CABI brings in more laurels to the country.

Thank you.





Nike

"Everybody is welcome, everybody is equal. No matter what your differences are, you're accepted. I love that." -Assistant Head Coach at NIKE.

At NIKE we believe in the power of sport to unite everyone and to further inspire people to take action in their respective communities. Nike is a company of purpose, growth and innovation. We are committed to building an inclusive culture at Nike and to break down barriers for athletes thereby creating an equal playing field for all. With this vision we partnered with Samarthanam Trust, which works towards the empowerment of persons with disabilities and the underserved. The initiatives of Samarthanam strive towards creating opportunities for them to keep pace with the rest of the society. Samarthanam caters to people in need by providing plethora of services including quality education, accommodation, nutritious food, vocational training, sports and placement based rehabilitation.

NIKE together with Samarthanam encouraged and supported a platform for the visually impaired cricketers to help portray their talent and ability and promote cricket for the blind both at a domestic as well as at an international level. Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI), the cricketing arm of Samarthanam, fosters the game of blind cricket and the visually impaired players across India. NIKE encouraged the visually challenged cricketers by providing shoes, kits and jerseys and giving them the best experience of sports.

We at Nike believe in the vision of Samarthanam and are so proud to be part of this journey.

Thank you.



OUR SUCCESS STORIES speak for themselves

ILLURI AJAY KUMAR REDDY Captain- Indian Blind Cricket team

99

"I believe in blind cricket and my ability to lead the team to the best of my strengths."



Ajay Kumar Reddy is an enthusiastic sportsperson who picked up interest in cricket when he was in school. He is a native of Andhra Pradesh and had lost his vision in an accident when he was just 4 years old. But his passion towards this beautiful game kept him going all along. His first match was when in school in 2003 as part of a District Level Tournament.

Ajay completed his BA degree before choosing cricket as his career. He played his first international match against England in 2010 as part of India's tour England. Ajay is a B2 category player and is the current captain of Indian blind cricket team. He has received 13 international 'Man of the Series' and many more 'Man of the Match' awards in his cricketing career. After winning the ODI World Cup he was awarded a cash prize by the Sports Ministry and MSJE and a cash award by MSJE also after winning the Asia Cup in 2016. Ajay also received the 'Best Sportsperson Award' from the Andhra Pradesh Govt.

"Shekhar Naik, former Indian Blind Cricket captain, has motivated me to play blind cricket," says Ajay. "I understand the predicaments of a person with disability and would like to support, encourage and motivate my co-players to come forward and be a part of blind cricket," adds Ajay.

PRAKASH JAYARAMAIAH National Awardee

99

"It was a difficult road but when you dedicate yourself to something you trust, no disability can be an obstacle."

Prakash hails from Ramnagaram in Karnataka. He completed his SSLC before choosing cricket as a career. Born in 1984, Prakash is a B3 category player who always wanted to be a part of blind cricket on a bigger stage. When still in school he was inspired by his seniors playing blind cricket and played his first tournament in 1998 in a State Tournament at Ramnagar. His first international tournament was against England in 2010.



Prakash partly lost his vision in an accident when he was 8 months old. But he never found being visually impaired as a limitation. He is a 40 times 'Man of the Series' winner from the many State, Zonals and Nationals tournaments. He received 88 'Man of the Match' awards during South Zone, National and International Tournaments.

"It was a moment of pride. I feel honored for the recognition and would want to continue dedicating myself to blind cricket," says Prakash on receiving the National Award for Best Sportsperson with Disability given by the Government of India. Prakash has been the vice-captain of the Indian team for the Asia Cup, 2nd T20 World Cup and Fifth ODI World Cup and has been a major contributor to the team's success.

SHEKAR NAIK

Padmashree Awardee

"Education is one thing but my passion is cricket."

99

Shekar is a native of Shimoga in Karnataka. Shekar was completely blind at birth but his vision returned partially when he was about 8 years old. Shekar has been playing cricket since 1997 beginning from school and moving on to play for the State and then the country. He is a B3 category cricketer and was captain of the Indian team. Shekar has been with Samarthanam since 2005 and has received great support from the organization.

"My mother was also partially blind. She told me that I have to do something in life. She is my inspiration," says Shekar. He also idolizes his trainer and Mahantesh GK, Founder Managing Trustee of Samarthanam. With a smile and humility in his voice Shekar says, "Mahantesh Sir has given me a job, a life – I don't have words to say anything more."

In 2004, when the Indian blind cricket team first visited Pakistan, Shekar scored 198 in one of the games, which is his highest score at international level. During the 2006 World Cup, Shekar was the only player who was selected from Karnataka and he was awarded the Man of the Series. The biggest recognition came when he was awarded the Padmashree for his endless efforts towards blind cricket.

Apart from cricket, he was also a National level athlete and played chess. During school days he was also a Bharatnatyam dancer who performed nineteen Yakshaganas. Shekar believes that there is a lot of scope for blind cricket in India. Shekar's dream is to coach other blind cricketers and has been working towards materializing his dream.





Blind Cricket SOCIAL IMPACT



25000 blind cricketers reached



24 states affiliation



>100 matches organized in one year



>15 media platforms promote the game



>5 coaching camps in one year



4 World Championships



>1 million people follow



1 Padmashree and 1 National Award



Employability generation



Economic stability



Nourishing cricket talent across India

WAY FORWARD

Goals for 2020

Cricket for the Blind proved to be game-changer for many visually impaired players who have defied all odds and dedicated their lives to cricket. Cricket Association for the Blind in India is honored to be the part of the success stories of many blind cricket heroes. We believe that passion is more valuable, provides you with right momentum and helps in achieving success. We wish to empower every blind cricket player, groom their skills in cricket and outside and make them economically independent.

Moving ahead, in the year 2019-2020, CABI looks forward to witnessing a rise in the statistics pertaining to the overall progress of blind cricket and its reach.

CABI will be organizing a Bilateral Series at Jamaica, being the first ever Blind Cricket Series on the Caribbean Islands. We are extremely enthusiastic about the tour and grateful to the sponsors, partners and Government of Jamaica for going to make it possible. CABI will also be organizing Nagesh Trophy, a National Level Blind Cricket Tournament, in memory of late SP Nagesh, Co-Founder of CABI.

Encouraging the women blind cricket players and supporting them at large are CABI's Women Cricket Coaching Camps and matches which have been witnessing major response from the visually impaired women players. CABI will be organizing tournaments for women blind cricket players in the country with focus on bringing together the maximum players into the field. The first Womens National Tournament will be organized on 19 December 2019, marking a milestone in the history of womens blind cricket.

CABI will be focusing on blind cricket at school level and providing opportunities to participate at National and International level. The young players will be provided with improved infrastructure and coaching facilities, grooming their skills and making them the star players of tomorrow.

The much awaited 3rd T20 World Cup Cricket Tournament for the Blind will mostly begin at the end of 2020 or early 2021.

As we step into the new financial year, we look forward to receiving affiliation from BCCI and Ministry of Sports, strengthening our cause and empowering the disabled players, making them independent at many levels.





FIND US

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