

**Government of India
Department of Sports**

31.01.2017

**REPORT ON VISIT OF UNION SPORTS SECRETARY-CUM-DIRECTOR GENERAL, SAI
TO INDORE ON 28TH JANUARY, 2017**

I visited Indore to participate in the 2016 ITTF World Junior Circuit Finals. This is a prestigious event at junior level. After holding 29 tournaments in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, Oceania, 32 best players worldwide were selected for the finals. The performance of Indian players was quite good. Manav Thakkar of India reached the quarterfinals and lost in a closely fought semifinal with a player from Taipei who ended up as the runners up. The players from India, apart from Manav Thakkar, included Archana Kamath, Selena Selvakumar and Rohit Bhanja.

2. The tournament was well conducted. The Competition Manager expressed great satisfaction with all the arrangements and the technical conduct of the tournament. The tournament was hosted by Madhya Pradesh Table Tennis Association at Abhay Prashal Stadium, Indore. This is an outstanding stadium with International level class facilities. The main indoor stadium can accommodate over 20 TT tables. The venue also has outstanding hostel and mess facilities.

3. I had a general discussion with Shri Dhanraj Choudhary, Secretary General, TTFI and members of Madhya Pradesh Table Tennis Association including Smt. Rinku Acharya who has been a former national champion.

4. TT is one of the most competitive Olympic sports with over 200 countries competing in the sport. India has potential to perform well in this sport discipline. At present, our performance is below par. At the continental level we are unable to make our presence felt due to stiff competition from countries such as, China,

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Taipei, Korea, North Korea, etc. Incidentally, Asia dominates TT in the world. However, we have had medal performance at the Commonwealth Games level. Given the TT is a very popular games in the country and is widely played in schools and clubs, there is an immense potential to promote this sport.

5. Shri Dhanraj Choudhary, Secretary General, TTFI and the foreign coach, Mr. Massimo Costantini, indicated that the number of tables at NIS Patiala for National Camp is insufficient for training juniors and seniors. They recommended that National Camps may be regularly held at Abhay Prashal Stadium, Indore. I advised them to submit a detailed proposal for consideration in ACTC for 2017-18. I also advised them to finalize list of core probables for juniors as well as seniors and the training team including sparring partners, physiotherapists, sports medicine doctors, sports psychologists, coaches, etc.

6. Thereafter, I had a discussion with RD, SAI, Bhopal and around 20 SAI coaches who were present. I emphasized on the importance of having proper talent identification and provision of all facilities to the trainees. I advised the RD to carefully assess the performance of each training centre and extension centre and have strong focus on select discipline for result orientation.



(INJETI SRINIVAS)

Secretary(Sports)-cum-DG, SAI
31.01.2017

Copy for information & n/a to:-

- 1) JS(Sports)/JS(Dev), MYAS
- 2) Secretary (SAI)
- 3) ED(T&ES), SAI
- 4) RD, SAI, NSCC, Bhopal

CC: PS to MOS(IC), YA&S