

SAI joined hands with GAF for promoting excellence in Aquatic Sports for SAINSA through Talent Identification Development and Management (TIDM) programme.

New Delhi: 21st December, 2015: SAI and Glenmark Aquatic Foundation (GAF), a Public Charitable Trust, have joined hands today for the Talent Identification, Development and Management (TIDM) programme of SAI National Swimming Academy (SAINSA) operational at Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Swimming Pool Complex. An Agreement detailing the financial commitments along with areas of cooperation has been signed today in the presence of Director General, SAI, Shri Injeti Srinivas and Mr Glenn Saldanha, CMD Glenmark Pharmaceuticals & Trustee, GAF

SAINSA was inaugurated on 14th May, 2014 with the objective to identify, nurture and train the selected athletes through sub junior & junior category through scientific, sustainable and systematic methods executed through a network of Coaches/Trainers and scientific personnel. The academy is also being equipped to function as the High Performance Centre with the establishment of Aquatic Sports Science Centre fully fitted rehabilitation and recovery facility. The academy inducts trainees between the age group of 8-17years selected through a stringent National selection inclusive of Sports Science & Sports Medicine tests. The trainees in the senior category will be inducted shortly. Water Polo has been introduced in SAINSA will Diving following shortly.

GAF is a public charitable trust registered under the Maharashtra Public Trust Act, 1950, with the object to encourage, promote and aid the development of the sports of swimming in India by providing ultra-modern infrastructure and specialized coaching to take this sport in India to an international level thereby contributing to the well-being of the society at large.

SAINSA & GAF will execute the TIDM Programme working in tandem to source the best coaching team and SSSM personnel. GAF has committed itself to an estimated 10 Crores expenditure on the TIDM programme over a period of 5 years.

Mr Jim Steen, an American coach with a great repute has been identified as the Mentor Coach for this programme. A14-time winner of the NCAA's Division III Coach of the Year award along with a seven-time winner of the American Coaches Association Award for Excellence makes him a suitable choice for SAINSA.

The **Swimming federation of India** and the **Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences** play an active and pivotal role in executing the National Selection trials inclusive of scientific tests and has been a great support to this initiative.

Shri Injeti Srinivas, Director General, SAI, welcomed this joint initiative and stated that it would serve as a role model to professionalize sports coaching in the country. **Mr. Glenn Saldanha, Trustee of GAF** expressed great satisfaction with this partnership hoping to institutionalize the present collaboration between SAI and GAF.

SAI appreciates and acknowledges the initiative of the corporate houses that have come forward to promote sports in the country through such initiatives.
