



India to Host First Deaf ICC World Cup T 20 in November 2018

- *Event to be held in association between Deaf Cricket Society (DCS) affiliated to the Deaf International Cricket Council (Deaf ICC)*
- *Eight-day tournament with 200 players participating from 8 nations*

*** for updates on tournament please visit :**

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New Delhi, 27th September, 2018: For the first time since becoming one of the top cricket playing nations, India will host the Deaf ICC T20 World Cup in November this year. The tournament will be hosted by the Deaf Cricket Society (DCS), the Apex Body governing, promoting and organizing Cricket for the deaf in India, that is affiliated to the Deaf International Cricket Council (Deaf ICC).

The World Cup T 20 will see participation of teams from as many as **8 countries**, over a nine day period and over **200 players** vying for the top honours of being the World T20 champions. The tournament is being held **between 23 November and 30 November** 2018 in the Gurugram area of the **National Capital Region**. The **countries participating** include England, Australia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, South Africa, apart from host India.

Sumit Jain, General Secretary, Deaf Cricket Society commented “Cricket is still one of the most popular sports played and watched in the country. In 2017 alone, the sport enjoyed 717 million TV viewers and around 27 billion impressions per week. The annual investment in Indian cricket is as much as Rs 8000 crore. And today we are confident that Disability sport such as Cricket will gain momentum and support by this world class tournament being held in India.”

Stefan Pichowski, Chairman, Deaf – International Cricket Council said, “We recognize that India have a huge cricket following of over 1 billion people in the land and we are delighted that India are hosting Deaf-ICC T20 World Cup to succeed the DICC Championships 2016 at ICC Academy in Dubai.

We are confident that this global and mega event will be successful with Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, South Africa and Sri Lanka participating to complete in the inaugural Deaf-ICC T20 World Cup. WHO estimates that around 466 million people have disabling hearing loss. This mega event has the potential to inspire hope to millions globally.

We are confident that business corporations will seek to support Deaf-ICC for its ten year plan and long term.”

The tournament includes an opening and closing ceremony, as well as four matches a day over the eight day period. Eight teams will be divided into two groups and each team will play three matches in the group Stage. Two teams from each group will qualify for the Semi-Finals.

As a Society, DCS organizes tournaments at School, Associations, District, Women, State, Zonal, National and international levels. It helps the local bodies to organize local level tournaments to spot talent, develop teams of coaches, physiotherapists, trainers, umpires and other team support personnel. It also provides players with necessary financial or medical assistance when necessary. So far the Society has hosted as many as 12 Domestic and International tournaments including the first T-20 World Cup Cricket Championship for Deaf on 18 – 27 November 2015 in Delhi.

Deaf Cricket Society, started in 2012, is a non-profit voluntary organisation registered society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It is also registered under the Persons with Disabilities Act of 1995. The DCS has 08 state level associations and over 500 players affiliated at various domestic cricket level tournaments in India. It is affiliated to the Deaf-ICC. DCS is completely dependent on arrangement of funds from corporate sponsors. Successfully organized 2nd T-20 Asia Cup in March 2017 at Dhaka, Bangladesh & T-20 Indian Deaf Premier League in April 2017.

Website: deafcricketsociety.com

Twitter handle: deafcricket_ind

Facebook: DeafCricketSociety

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Deaf-International Cricket Council - was instituted to provide an opportunity, inclusion and pathway for Deaf cricketers to represent their country on the global stage. The inaugural Deaf-ICC AGM took place in Dubai, UAE, in March 2013 when it was attended by the following countries; Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Pakistan, South Africa and Sri Lanka. The 50 overs DICC Championship 2016 followed at ICC Academy in Dubai Sports City. Four teams participated with Pakistan beating England, in the final, at the famous Sharjah Cricket Stadium with South Africa and India making up the rest of what was a successfully run tournament with thanks to the hosts; ICCA.

This is in line with a 10-year program starting in 2016 with bi-annual tournaments taking place on even-numbered years; 2018, 2020, 2022, 2024, 2026 etc. The T20 & 50 overs Deaf ICC World Cups will alternative accordingly.

Website: www.deaficc.com Twitter & Facebook Deaf ICC

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