

AIFF discusses on importance of football development at grassroots

Recommends an annual inter-school tournament at the State, national levels for boys and girls in age group of 9-10 and 11-12; appoints Bibiano as head coach of U-20 national men's team; former India goalkeeper Paul named national football team director

PTI, NEW DELHI: The Technical Committee of All India Football Federation (AIFF) discussed at length on the importance of football development at the grassroots, and recommended an annual inter-school tournament at the State and the national levels for boys and girls in the age group of 9-10 and 11-12.

To evaluate the performance of the national team in both the men's and women's categories, the Technical Committee also recommended the constitution of a four-member study group with Sajid Dar, Jeddy Almeida, Shakti Chauhan and Gumpo Rime as the members.

Technical Committee named former India goal-

keeper Subrata Paul as the national team director, which also recommended Bibiano Fernandes as the men's U-20 side head coach.

The decisions were taken in a Technical Committee meeting chaired by former India captain IM Vijayan and attended by Shabbir Ali, Victor Amalraj, Climax Lawrence, Harjinder Singh and Santosh Singh.

AIFF Secretary General Anilkumar Prabhakaran and Treasurer Kipa Ajay, along with Technical Director Syed Sabir Pasha, were also present in the meeting here.

Vijayan said his committee and the technical department has proposed modifications in the development programme,

which will help in producing quality players in the country.

"At present we have a large number of players playing at the grassroots and youth level. However, our performance with the national team has not reached the desired level," said Vijayan.

"At present, we need to have a quality players pool. The new development pathway and the modification of the new development programme will definitely produce quality players."

Anilkumar said the technical committee recommended

a pathway for the development of boys and girls at the youth level.

"Starting from the age of nine, the committee recommended introducing the inter-school grassroots level competition from the State level at the preliminary stage and the final round at the national level," he said.

"In this competition, the players will be scouted for the U-13 at youth academies which are participating in the national youth league present with the AIFF. Then,

they will move to the next U-15 and U-17 category. After that, we plan to modify it based on the recommendation of the committee.

"Next year it will be the 14, 16 and 18 years age group, which will align with the qualifying matches of U-13 in the State level so that the qualified players can participate next year in the U-14 category of the National Youth League."

For U-15 players, Anilkumar said once they qualify this year, they can continue to play the National League in the U-16 category next year.

"This will help us to scout better players for the national

team as well as for the AIFF and FIFA academy projects in various parts. At present we are running one project in Odisha. The second one is about to start in Telangana.

"Most likely, the other three will be launched within six months of time provided we receive the FIFA approvals in time. These players can join these academies and continue for the next three years so that India can produce better talent within a short span of three years of time so that we can perform better in the under-17 World Cup qualifiers."

"The Technical Committee confirmed the appointment of former India international Subrata Paul as the Director, National Team," the AIFF said in a release.

"The committee recommended the appointment of Bibiano Fernandes, head coach of the U-20 national men's team."



Abhishek, Yasmin steal the limelight at Borim badminton tournament

INACIO NORONHA



The winners along with the dignitaries at the Kalmamoll badminton court, Borim, recently

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RAIA: Abhishek Swami and Yasmin Sayeed emerged champions in the All Goa Men's and Women's Singles category of 22nd All Goa Outdoor Badminton Tournament organised by Star Sports and Cultural Club, at the Kalmamoll badminton court, Borim, recently.

In the men's final, Abhishek outplayed Avdhut Nadaf 15-7, 15-13. The winner was awarded with Aai Navdurga Rolling Trophy and a cash prize, while in the women's final, Yasmin Sayeed outplayed Minoshka Pereira 15-13, 15-11. The

winner was awarded with trophy and a cash prize.

In the U-19 singles category final, Siddharth Hazra defeated Ansh Velingkar 15-8, 17-16 to emerge champion. The winner was awarded with cash prize and trophy.

In doubles category, Sarvesh Bhat and Harshad Naik outplayed Zidane Shaikh and Mustafa Shaikh 17-15, 15-9 to emerge champion. The winners were awarded a cash prize and trophy.

In the U-14 Borim panchayat final, Anuj Gayakwad outsmarted Aaditya Naik 15-6, 15-7 to emerge champion. Anuj

was awarded a cash prize and trophy.

In Shiroda constituency men's doubles category, Ansh Velingkar and Vigdesh Gauda defeated Shrawan Prabhu and Rahul Borkar 16-14, 4-15, 15-9 to emerge champion.

In men's doubles category, Avdhut Saptoji and Mohammad Nadaf beat Manav Shetgaonkar and Asif Khan by 15-13, 8-15, 14-16 to emerge champions.

In the veterans men's doubles, C K Shamsuddin and Nitin Mayekar defeated Wilson D'Souza and Viraj Shrivast 15-7, 15-11 to emerge champions.

In the Ponda taluka

men's doubles category, Prathamesh Naik and Chetan Naik outsmarted Vedang Naik and Jatish Naik 15-8, 15-12 to emerge champions.

In All Goa mixed doubles category final, Manish Pankhania and Ketki Naik lost to Mohammad Nadaf and Jahnvi Virnodkar 14-16, 15-11, 5-15.

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Kendriya Vidyalaya, OL of Perpetual Succour HS emerge boys, girls champs

HERALD PIC



Chicalim Sarpanch Kamla Prasad Yadav, Goa Football Association President Caitano Jose Fernandes, River Fleet Shipping Division, Sesa Goa, CEO Nitesh Samant, CEO of Sesa Football Academy Melroy Moura, Sesa Football Academy Coach Charles Dias, Technical Director of Sesa Football Academy Gavin Araujo, Forca Goa Foundation Head of Grassroots Nathaniel D Costa, football coaches Peter Vales and Raymond Carvalho and Chicalim Secretary Rajat Parsekar with the winners

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PANJIM: Kendriya Vidyalaya School, Varnapuri, outplayed Navy Children's School, Chicalim, to clinch the first U-12 Grassroots Football Festival for Boys and Girls promoted by Vedanta-Sesa Football Academy at the Chicalim panchayat ground, recently.

In the girls section, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour School, Cortalim, defeated Regina Mundi School, Chicalim, to emerge Champions.

Twelve teams from Mormugao taluka took part, which saw 120 school children participating in the league tournament.

Player of the finals was awarded to Ansh from Navy Children School (boys) and Shanaya Colaco from Regina Mundi School (girls). Player of the Tournament was awarded to Chanda Yadav from Our Lady of Perpetual

GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL FESTIVAL

Succour School (girls) and Aaradhya from Kendriya Vidyalaya School (boys).

Chicalim Sarpanch Kamla Prasad Yadav, Goa Football Association President Caitano Jose Fernandes, River Fleet Shipping Division, Sesa Goa, CEO Nitesh Samant, CEO of Sesa Foot-

ball Academy Melroy Moura, Sesa Football Academy Coach Charles Dias, Technical Director of Sesa Football Academy Gavin Araujo, Forca Goa Foundation Head of Grassroots Nathaniel D Costa, football coaches Peter Vales and Raymond Carvalho and Chicalim Secretary Rajat Parsekar, were amongst those who were present.

SMRC Hospital provided the medical cover for the school children.

Earlier, the tournament was kicked off by GFA Executive Committee Member, Mormugao, Francisco Nunes in the presence of Organising Secretary Allan Gonsalves.

