

PRESS RELEASE

12.10.2022

## **Indian Bank flags off the 2<sup>nd</sup> Season of Sardar Patel National Divyang T20 Cup**

**Chennai, 12 October 2022:** Indian Bank on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022, flagged off the 2<sup>nd</sup> season of Sardar Patel National Divyang T20 Cup – a national-level cricket tournament for the differently-abled, organized by Differently Abled Cricket Council of India (DCCI) to be held at Lucknow. Shri. S.L Jain, MD & CEO, Indian Bank released the teaser along with the mascot, tagline and hashtag of the event in the presence of Executive Directors of the Bank, Shri Imran Amin Siddiqui and Shri Ashwani Kumar. Shri Mahesh Balasubramanian, Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Co. Ltd., Shri Sharad Mathur, MD & CEO, Universal Sampo General Insurance Co. Ltd. and Mr. Kamlesh Rao, MD&CEO, Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance were also present.

The eight-day spectacle will commence on October 31, 2022 at Ekana International Cricket Stadium, Lucknow to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel which is also observed as National Unity Day. Twenty teams of Divyang Cricketers from across the country, segmented in four groups, shall vie for the top prize after playing 43 matches. Winners will be declared on November 7, 2022, during the closing ceremony to be held in Lucknow.

Expressing his sentiments on the tournament, **Shri. S.L Jain** said, “The Divyang Cricket profoundly strengthens our belief that disability is not a limiting factor for success and further reaffirms our commitment to encourage talent without prejudice, bringing them to mainstream. Through Cricket, which itself is the most popular sport in India, we shall witness the determination, bravery and courage of these athletes.”

**Shri. Mahesh Balasubramanian** said, “One thing that unites all Indians across the country and globally is the sport of cricket. As sponsors of the Sardar Patel Divyang T20 Cricket Cup, we at Kotak Life are delighted to partner with the DCCI that provides a platform for differently able athletes to showcase their talent and passion for cricket. We hope to see many people join this endeavour to cheer and encourage this special group of cricketers.”

**Shri Sharad Mathur articulated,** “The Divyang T20 Cup is a celebration of the sheer grit and determination of these outstanding players who even in the face of adversity never gave up on their passion. I feel particularly inspired by their efforts and this event strengthens my belief that regardless the hurdles, talent will always find its way to glory.”

**Shri Kamlesh Rao** said, “It is a matter of great satisfaction and pride to have partnered with DCCI and others for this edition of Sardar Patel National Divyang T20 Cup. Through such partnerships we continue to look at creating opportunities for all people and enable them in having greater access to resources and opportunities that will help them improve their lives.”

With the ongoing celebration of India's 75 years of independence, DCCI shall continue to promote equality and the sport through such initiatives. DCCI (A BCCI Supported Body) is an Umbrella Body for four types of Differently Abled Cricket played in India i.e., Blind, Deaf, Physically Disabled and Wheelchair Cricket.

**Dr. Deepa Malik** (Padma Shree, Khel Ratna & Arjuna Awardee), Paralympic Medallist & Committee Member, Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, who is the Brand Ambassador of the Sardar Patel National Divyang T20 Cup, also graced the occasion along with Shri Ravi Kant, General Secretary DCCI and Sqn Ldr (Retd) Abhai Pratap Singh, Joint Secretary, DCCI.

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**DIGNITARIES FROM INDIAN BANK AND OTHER PARTNERS AT THE FLAG-OFF EVENT OF SARDAR PATEL NATIONAL DIVYANG T20 CUP ON 11.10.2022.**

