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INDIAN FOOTBALL.
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NOTICE

Date: 22nd September 2026

Subject: Extension of deadline for submission of applications for Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit

Dear All,

The All India Football Federation (AIFF) had invited applications from eligible retired football players in its (i) roster of male Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs) (“**Roster of Male SOMs**”); and (ii) roster of female SOMs (“**Roster of Female SOMs**” and together with the Roster of Male SOMs, the “**SOM Rosters**”) via notice dated 16 July 2026.

The deadline for submission of applications was 13 September 2026. AIFF has now decided to extend the deadline for submission of applications **until 27th September 2026**.

It is further clarified that the Roster of Male SOMs and the Roster of Female SOMs shall comprise of twenty (20) SOMs each. The twenty (20) SOMs shall be identified by way of application of the order of priority of the tiers prescribed under the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 (“**Rules**”), from the highest tier downwards. For example, in the event AIFF receives thirty (30) applications from males SOMs to be listed in the Roster of Male SOMs, where fifteen (15) SOM applicants are eligible under Tier 8 prescribed under the Rules and the remaining fifteen (15) SOM applicants are eligible under Tier 9 prescribed under the Rules, then the fifteen (15) SOM applicants eligible under Tier 8 will occupy fifteen (15) out of the twenty (20) slots in the Roster of Male SOMs. The fifteen (15) SOM applicants eligible under Tier 9 shall be ranked in descending order of their international appearances for India in football, and the five (5) SOM applicants who are ranked the highest shall complete the Roster of Male SOMs consisting of twenty (20) male SOMs. In the event of a tie in the number of international appearances between two (2) or more SOM applicants, the AIFF Executive Committee shall determine the ranking on the basis of such criteria as it deems appropriate.

For All India Football Federation

M. Satyanarayan
Deputy Secretary General