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INDIAN FOOTBALL.
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NOTICE

Date: 6th October 2026

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

Dear All,

The All India Football Federation (AIFF), vide notice dated 16 July 2026, had invited applications from eligible retired football players for inclusion 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"). The AIFF has received thirty five (35) applications to be included in the Roster of Male SOMs and nine (9) applications to be included in the Roster of Female SOMs. As per the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the rules thereunder, the AIFF is required to maintain a Roster of Male SOMs and a Roster of Female SOMs consisting of twenty (20) players each. Thereby, the applications for the Roster of Male SOMs are hereby closed.

In the AIFF Special General Meeting and AIFF Executive Committee meeting held on 04 October 2026, it was resolved to include an additional tier of eligibility, in addition to the eligibility criteria prescribed under Rule 2 of Schedule I of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026. Accordingly, the AIFF has decided to introduce the following additional criterion for inclusion in the SOM Rosters:

Tier 11:

Applicants who have participated in 5 or more matches in the National Games, National Football Championships (NFCs), any age group matches representing member associations in competitions organized under the aegis of AIFF and the Indian Women's League & Indian Women's League 2.

The deadline for submission of applications to be included in the Roster of Female SOMs is now extended **until 10 October 2026**.

All other terms and conditions specified in the notice dated 16 July 2026 shall remain unchanged.

For All India Football Federation

M. Satyanarayan
Deputy Secretary General