

Press Release

SAI, IAAF and AFI join hands to establish Centre of Excellence

New Delhi:6th October,2015: Sports Authority of India (SAI), Athletic Federation of India (AFI) & International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) joined hands today to establish a **SAI-AFI-IAAF High Performance Academy [SAIHPA]** in athletics at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi. An Expression of Intent (EOI) for this purpose has been signed today in the chamber of Secretary, Sports at Shastri Bhawan among DG SAI, Sh. Injeti Srinivas, President AFI, Sh. Adille J. Sumariwalle and President IAAF, Sh. Sebastian Coe.

The SAIHPA envisages to provide excellent coaching, integrated support services, mental skills and to create extremely focused and professional atmosphere to develop elite athletes for International championships. The academy will primarily focus on IAAF Youth & Junior world championships, Youth Olympics Games and Olympic games 2020 and 2014.

Whereas SAI will be responsible for funding & making available the necessary Sports infrastructure like stadium, strength training gymnasium, Sports science backup and hostel facilities etc., IAAF will provide specialists in sprints, Jump, heptathlon and Decathlon etc. AFI will assist in the management of the academy and will manage athletes jointly with SAI. IAAF will also provide specialists who will visit the SAIHPA twice a year at the time of Athletics conditioning period and during transition to competition period. They will also share their expertise and knowledge with Indian coaches through seminar during their stay in India.

Sh. Rajiv Yadav, Seceretary (Sports) welcomed this joint move and expressed his satisfaction. "Such type of joint efforts are essential to scale up the level of Indian sports at international forum" he added. DG SAI believes that this initiative will bring far reaching changes in the progression of athletics in India.

This tripartite agreement provides a general framework for creating a professional atmosphere by bringing in the best practices to develop future champions in athletics.
