



HIGHLIGHTS

**2nd Indian Delegation to SOCCEREX European Forum
10-11 Apr, 2013, Manchester, United Kingdom**

**Rajpal Singh
Director and Head
Sports and Youth Affairs
FICCI**

**Sukhvinder Singh
Managing Director
Libero Sports India**



FICCI & LIBERO SPORTS INDIA LEAD INDIAN DELEGATION TO SOCCEREX EUROPEAN FORUM 2013

FICCI and Libero Sports India led a delegation of 30 members to the Soccerex European Forum 2013 in Manchester, held over April 10th and 11th, 2013. Members of the delegation represented the Indian Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs, corporates, educational groups, industry, agencies, vendors, grassroots programs, media, professional players and international football organizations.

The FICCI – Libero Sports India delegation hosted a successful panel discussion entitled “Awakening Football’s Sleeping Giant,” on day two of the Soccerex European Forum in Manchester, UK. Members of the panel included:

- Vivek Narayan (Director Sports – Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports)
- Rajpal Singh (Director Sports and Youth Affairs – FICCI)
- Shirish Kulkarni (Executive Director – DSK Group)
- Kunal Dua (Sports Marketing Head – Panasonic India)
- Sukhvinder Singh (Managing Director – Libero Sports India)

Panel Highlights

- A filled to capacity room of around 100 people participated in the discussion
- Attendees in the India session included FC likes Liverpool and Manchester City
- During the session, FICCI and Libero Sports released their 4th knowledge report, “The Rising Billion”





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Key topics which were discussed during the one and a half hour session included the tremendous potential for football to flourish in India, the importance of India hosting the 2017 U-17 FIFA World Cup, human resource opportunities within the Indian football landscape and existing challenges for the development of the sport.

Government of India Sports Director, **Vivek Narayan**, impressed the audience sharing the Indian government's plans to set up more than 700 schools at the district level with state of the art infrastructure and world class sports staff. He also reiterated the government's support of India's bid to host the 2017 U-17 FIFA World Cup. FICCI Head of Sports, **Rajpal Singh**, focused on the importance of the organization's role as the interface between government and industry and the need to uncover India's "hidden football talent" through knowledge and strategic partnerships. Panasonic Head of Sports Marketing, **Kunal Dua**, discussed the reason behind his organization's choice to invest in Indian football and the type of money can't buy experiences corporate houses are looking for to ensure more investment from their side. Finally, DSK Group Executive Director, **Shirish Kulkarni**, focused on his long term plans to build a world class Academy and football club in his 250 acre Pune based residential township and the impetus behind DSK Group's commitment to Indian football.

The panel was moderated by **Sukhvinder Singh**, Managing Director, Libero Sports India. The session was attended by delegates representing many different global organizations including top Premiership Clubs Manchester City Football Club and Liverpool Football Club.



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Manchester City FC further served as the host club to the Indian delegation and invited the members to the Etihad Stadium for breakfast, a business presentation and private stadium tour.

Manchester City FC representatives included:

- Tom Glick – Chief Operating & Commercial Officer
- Omar Berrada – Head of International
- Gavin Rhodes – Soccer Schools Manager
- Pete Bradshaw – Head of Infrastructure Development/Corporate Responsibility
- Mike Summerbee – Football legend & Club Ambassador





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Members of the Indian delegation for the Soccerex European Forum 2013 at the Etihad Stadium, Manchester



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The Soccerex European Forum 2013 brought together over 200 club representatives from around the world, 90 different Leagues and Federations including FIFA, UEFA, AFC, the FA, Russian 2018 LOC, and the EPFL.

Football legends such as Sir Bobby Charlton, Eusebio, Roy Hodgson, Gordon Strachan, Ossie Ardiles, Bryan Robson, Phil Thompson, Kevin Keegan, Gary Neville, Edwin van der Sar, Edu Gaspar, Gaizka Mendieta, Dennis Law, Mike Summerbee, Steven Gerrard, Joe Hart, Michael Owen, Ledley King, Ali Al-Habsi, Joe Jordan and Gordon McQueen, amongst others too attended the Forum.





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PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE INDIAN DELEGATION TO SOCCEREX EUROPEAN FORUM 2013

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
- AJ Consulting
- All India Council of Physical Education
- Altius Sports & Leisure
- Arunava About Football
- Chris Punnakkattu Daniel
- DSK Group
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry
- IL&FS
- Libero Sports India
- Panasonic India
- Say Sports
- Sports & Education Promotions Trust
- Team Up
- The Football Link
- University of Glamorgan
- Upper 90 College
- WMG