



Football4Schools Initiative

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Education has signed an MoU with [Federation Internationale de Football Association \(FIFA\)](#) and All India Football Federation (AIFF) for the '**Football4Schools**' initiative in India.

What is Football4Schools Initiative?

▪ About:

- The Football4Schools program is a step towards translating Prime Minister's vision of making sports a **way of life as well as creating well-rounded citizens**.
- It aims to empower 25 million young boys and girls in India through sports-integrated learning.
- It espouses the spirit of [National Education Policy \(NEP\), 2020](#).

▪ Objectives:

- **Empower learners (boys and girls)** with valuable life skills and competencies.
- Empower and provide **coach-educators with the training to deliver sport and life-skills activities**.
- Build the capacity of stakeholders (Schools, Member Associations and public authorities) **to deliver training in life skills** through football.
- **Strengthen the cooperation** between governments and participating schools to enable partnerships, alliances and intersectoral collaboration.

What is FIFA?

▪ About:

- FIFA is **the highest governing body of football in the world**.
- It is the international governing body of association football, futsal, and beach soccer.
- FIFA is a **non-profit organisation**.
- Founded in 1904, FIFA was launched to oversee international competition among the national associations of Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland. FIFA now comprises 211 member nations.
- It is **headquartered in Zurich, Switzerland**.

▪ Objectives:

- The primary objective of FIFA is to **spread football internationally and promoting integrity and fair play**.
- It is responsible for the organization and promotion of international tournaments, including the men's **World Cup, which started in 1930, and the women's World Cup, which began in 1991**.
- It is **affiliated with the International Olympic Committee** and is also a member of the **International Football Association Board**, which is responsible for setting the rules of football.
- **Six Regional confederations affiliated with FIFA:**
 - The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) is the governing body for Asia and Australia.
 - Confederation of African Football (CAF),
 - Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football

(CONCAF),

- Confederation Sudamericana de Fútbol (CONMEBOL) is the South American federation,
- Oceania Football Federation (OFC) has 14 members including New Zealand,
- Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) is the governing body for Europe.

What is AIFF?

- The AIFF is the **organization that manages the game of association football in India.**
- It administers the running of the India national football team and also controls the I-League, India's premier domestic club competition, in addition to various other competitions and teams.
- The **AIFF was founded in 1937, and gained FIFA affiliation in the year 1948**, after India's independence in 1947.
- Currently, it has an office in Dwarka, New Delhi. India was one of the founding members of the Asian Football Confederation in 1954.

Source: [PIB](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/football4schools-initiative>

