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GAME CHANGERS

Shifting spotlight to T20 football now

The Thyagraj Stadium, is all set to host the national finale of the T20 football league that was recently organized in seven major Indian cities. Adding to the thrill, all the city finalists will be seen combating each other just to conquer the champion's spot.

The attempt is to popularize another sport in this cricket-crazy nation, while the main focus remains on youth. To give a straight competition to these seven teams, one other team will also be brought in as a wild card entry.

This eighth team is being selected though a digital contest in which all the participants will get to showcase their football skills by uploading their videos.

The upcoming event is already generating huge excitement among youth as the footballing legend Didier Drogba will be visiting the country for the first time.

He is the Ivory Coast and Chelsea striker and his

cities are now gearing up for the national finale scheduled to take place on June 17 in the Capital."

According to the organisers, Drogba will be present at the national finale, boosting the confidence of all the playing teams. The ace footballer will coach the national winners of the tournament as promised by the organisers. All the players of winning team will get a change to interact with Drogba and understand the tactics of the

game better.

The national finale will also be played inside the cage in a shorter, 20 minute format of the game where each team will comprise 7 players each.

The winning team, to be trained under Drogba will be facing the Indian Cricket team soon in a game of football. Dhoni, Raina, Harbhajan and Virat are already a part of this campaign aimed at popularising football and many other players are expected to join this jamboree soon. Promoting the spirit of sportsmanship, such initiatives by other sportspersons must also be taken in a country like India to popularise other sports.

Raghav Jaitly



ability to retain the possession of the ball has made him Chelsea's fourth highest goal scorer of all time.

"To take the excitement, around our grassroots initiative T20 Football, to the next level, we are proud to bring one of the world's most exciting footballers Drogba to India. His visit is testimony to our ultimate objective of popularizing the game of football in the country," says Homi Bhattiwala, an organiser of the event.

He further added, "The response that we've received for our on-ground initiative has been very encouraging. The winning teams across

SOCCER MANIA Didier Drogba