



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 21, 2023

Misrepresentation of Facts Regarding visit of President, Indian Olympic Association to Paris, France for CDM Seminar

Dear Members of the Press and General Public,

We, at the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), wish to address a recent newspaper article that has come to our attention. The said article, published in The Times of India, Hyderabad on 21 Jul 2023, has misinterpreted and misrepresented facts regarding our esteemed President, Dr PT Usha and the Joint Secretary Sh. Kalyan Chaube.

The article, titled "Football could missout on Asian Games due to Usha – Chaubey infighting," contains misleading information and baseless allegations, suggesting an intention to tarnish the image of our President and the organization as a whole. As the apex body responsible for the promotion and development of sports in India which is committed to transparency and integrity, we feel compelled to clarify the inaccuracies and set the record straight.

First and foremost, the claims made in the article regarding any financial impropriety or misuse of power by the claims made in the article with respect to Dr PT Usha visiting Paris, France during 14 – 17 Jul 23 to attend the Chef de Missions' seminar, accompanied by her husband at IOA's cost are entirely unfounded and untrue. Our organization has brought in a comprehensive framework of checks and balances to ensure the highest

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standards of governance and accountability. Any allegations suggesting otherwise are without merit and are a disservice to the hard work and dedication put forth by our President and the entire IOA team.

Furthermore, we emphasize that the newspaper article in question has failed to seek clarification from our organization before publication, violating the fundamental principles of responsible journalism. We would like to remind the media of its responsibility to verify facts with reliable sources to maintain the integrity and credibility of their reporting.

The IOA encourages constructive criticism and welcomes inquiries from the press to foster a healthy dialogue and transparency. We are always open to providing accurate information to address any concerns or doubts that may arise regarding our operations or leadership.

We, therefore, urge The Times of India, Hyderabad to rectify the inaccuracies by issuing a prompt correction and apology for the harm caused to the reputation of our organization and President Dr PT Usha.

As an organization committed to fair and impartial reporting, we will continue to work closely with the media to ensure that factual and accurate information is disseminated to the public.

We thank the public and the press for their continuous support and understanding. Should you have any further queries or require additional information, please feel free to reach out to us at ioa@olympic.ind.in
