



SAI & IOA sensitise Indian athletes about adapting to Japanese culture in Tokyo2020

New Delhi, June 29: Sports Authority of India and Indian Olympic Association continued their efforts to sensitise the Tokyo-bound athletes with a session title 'From India with Pride' that helped them understand Japanese culture and address possible barriers besides being ideal ambassadors of the country,

Renowned media professional Joy Bhattacharjya moderated the session for which Go Sports Foundation is the knowledge partner. Tuesday's session was attended by badminton players and table tennis players like PV Sindhu, Sai Praneeth, Manika Batra, Sathiyam Gnanasekaran and others.

Joy Bhattacharjya spoke of etiquette in Japan and characteristics of Japanese culture like discipline, punctuality, respect and hard work. He cited the example of Japanese players cleaning up their dressing room after their narrow 2-3 defeat to Belgium at the 2018 World Cup. He also shared information on Japanese cuisine and climate.

"This was a wonderful session, we are all very excited about the Olympics. We will all enjoy the Olympics and give our best," said PV Sindhu, 2016 Olympic Games silver medallist. "The sessions on preparation for our travel and stay in Tokyo as well as anti-doping were informative and will help us."

Table Tennis player Sutirtha Mukherjee making her Olympics debut, was very happy with her learnings from the three session, "These have been very interesting. I learnt a lot about Japan and about the expectations once I arrive there, I am really excited as this is going to be my first Olympics," she said.

The athletes watched a video of young athletes extending India's Olympics-bound athletes their best wishes. Weightlifter Jeremy Lalrinnunga, shooters Shahu Mane and Shreyanka Sadangi, badminton player Malvika Bansod and swimmer Suvana Bhaskar are among the young athletes featured in the video.

Sports Authority of India and Indian Olympic Association are conducting the three-session sensitisation programmes for all Tokyo-bound athletes.

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