Xavier's Daily

Challenge yourself!

You'll find me in Mercury, Earth, Jupiter but not in Neptune or Venus. What am I?

Answer - the letter 'r'

Spectrum's Corner

Thought of the Day

Happiness can be found in the darkest of times , if one remembers to turn on the light.

Word of the Day

garrulous:

excessively talkative , especially on trivial matters.
eg. "a garrulous cab driver"

DID YOU KNOW?

The original name of Field Hockey is "Shinty".

HOCKEY

Written and designed by Baisakhi Sahu   *[Sports Club]*

Hockey is an outdoor game played by two teams having eleven players in each. It has been chosen as the national game of India because India has been a world champion in hockey for many years. It is not officially declared as the national game however only considered as the national game as India had won many gold medals in hockey. It is played in many countries all over the world. It is not an expensive game and can be played by any youth. It is a game of much interest and enjoyment which involves lot of action and suspense. It is very fast game and situation changes very often in this game which creates surprise.

Importance of Hockey in India

Hockey is a game of much importance in India as it is chosen as the national game because it had made India a world champion in hockey many times. This game has a big and bright history as it was deep rooted in India by the brilliant hockey players. It is one of the oldest known sports of India however the root has been weak now because of the lack of talented hockey players and required facilities. This game is considered to be in existence for around 1200 years old before the Ancient Games of Olympia.

Earlier it was played in different variations, however currently it is played as field hockey which was developed in British Isles in 19th century. It was an English school game however brought to India by British Army regiments. Later, it was spread internationally and got worldwide popularity. In order to govern this game and standardize its rules, London Hockey Association was formed. Later, the International Hockey Federation (in 1924) and International Federation of Women's Hockey were formed.

First hockey club in India was formed in Calcutta (1885-86). Indian hockey players made their successful Olympic debut in 1928 Amsterdam Games where they won the Olympic gold medal. It happened because of a brilliant Indian hockey legend named Dhyan Chand. He really mesmerized all the Indians in front of the Amsterdam crowd. India continuously won six Olympic gold medals and 24 consecutive hockey matches during its golden era of hockey. Some of the outstanding players of golden era of hockey were Dhyan Chand, Balbir Singh Sr., Ajit Pal Singh, Ashok Kumar, Udham Singh, Dhanraj Pillay, Baboo Nimal, Mohammed Shahid, Gagan Ajit Singh, Leslie Claudius, etc.