

Indian Olympic Movement

The seeds of the Indian Olympic Movement were first sown by *Sir Dorabji J. Tata* towards the end of 1919. Though there was no Olympic Body formed in India, he managed to get a few athletes to Antwerp in 1920 for the Olympic Games. During that time this benevolent donor was elected member of the International Olympic Committee for India and he became India's first member on that body. After his arrival in India, Sir Dorabji Tata with the help of Dr. A. G. Noehren, the then Chief Director of Y. M. C. A. in India, made nation-wide attempts to explore the possibilities of, and to discover talent in athletics. These two gentlemen roused the athletic interest of the country and steps were taken to promote control, organise and conduct track and field events in all provinces and also on All-India basis.

In February 1924 an Inter-Provincial Track and Field Meet was organised at

Delhi and on its results a team was sent to participate at the Paris Olympiad.

About this time the Indian Olympic Association was formed with Sir Dorabji Tata as its first president and Dr. Noehren as secretary. In 1926 when Dr. Noehren retired, Mr. G. D. Sondhi, was elected the Honorary Secretary of the Indian Olympic Association. Sir Dorabji continued to be member of the International Olympic Committee for India till his death in 1931.

After the demise of Sir Dorabji Mr. G. D. Sondhi has been elected member of the International Olympic Committee for India in 1932. Mr. Sondhi is also India's representative on the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

By 1927 the Indian Olympic Association decided to hold regularly the Inter-Provincial Games bi-annually and ever since then the India Games have been held in various cities of India.