PRESS RELEASE Development Credit Bank Presents Aga Khan Hockey Tournament, 2011

The Bombay Gymkhana is pleased to announce that they will be reviving the Aga Khan Hockey Tournament from this year. This prestigious event, which also happens to the second oldest Hockey Tournament in the World, will be played at the Gymkhana ground from 15th May to 21st May, 2011. Incidentally, it were hosts Bombay Gymkhana who got the ball rolling as they beat the 10th Bombay Native Infantry in the final of the inaugural edition in the year 1896.

The tournament will conducted under the auspices of Hockey India. This year the matches will be played under floodlights, which will be erected for this tournament. This would ensure a better performance from the teams. This tournament was last conducted in 2002, which was its centenary edition wherein Air India defeated Punjab Police 2-1 in the final.

This tournament, which had its inception in 1896 has seen many legends showcasing their dribbling and all-round skills on the hallowed grass in its precincts. Even as the game has shifted to astro-turf the world over, this tournament to this day continues to be played on the well-manicured natural grass surface sticking to Bombay Gym's tradition.

Hockey enthusiasts from the city never missed an opportunity to make their way to the Gymkhana grounds to watch legends like that included former Olympians, hockey wizard Dhyan Chand, Balbir Singh Sr, Kishen Lal, R S Gentle, G Perumal, Lawrie Fernandes and Leo Pinto to name a few, who represented some of the leading teams from across the country.

Teams from Punjab, Calcutta (now Kolkata), the Military, Railways, Airlines and Bombay outfits, Lusitanians, Tata Sports Club, Bombay Customs, Mahindra & Mahindra produced the sparkle and were the leading challengers for the coveted title in the past.

Speaking on the occasion on behalf of the presenting sponsor Development Credit Bank, **Mr. Murali M. Natrajan MD & CEO** said,"We are proud to present the Aga Khan Hockey Tournament in 2011. DCB's association goes back to the centenary year of the well known tournament. It is our endeavour to contribute to the revival of India's national sport.

Mr. Ashok Rao, President Bombay Gymkhana said, "It is indeed a very proud moment for us to revive the prestigious Aga Khan Hockey Tournament this year. This event is a part of Bombay Gymkhanas initiative to bring back top class hockey back to the city.

We are very grateful to DCB who have come on-board as a presenting sponsor. We also take this opportunity to thank all our partners and stakeholders who have agreed to support us towards our goal of reviving this event. I would like to urge the city of Mumbai come to our grounds and witness some world class hockey action." (draft needs to be approved by Ashok)

The total prize-money for the event this year will be around Rs.4.50 Lakh. Each match will have a Man of Match who will receive Rs.1000 for the matches upto the Quarter finals and from Semi-finals onwards they will get Rs.3000.

The tournament director will be Shakeel Qureishi for the tournament and this year the event will be played on the exciting knock-out format.

There will be 8 outstation teams and Bombay Gymkhana in wanting to promote Bombay Hockey have invited 8 of the top hockey teams to participate in this years edition. The teams participating in the event this year are as below:

Indian Oil Karnataka XI

Indian Customs South Central Railways BEG, Pune Western Railway

RCM Mumbai Bombay Gym Presidents XI

ONGC BPCL

Indian Overseas Bank, Chennai Maharastra State Police

Abhi Foundation Central Railways RCF Kapurthala Indian Navy

Bombay Gym is also putting up a Bombay Gym Presidents XI which will be made up of a combination of former India captains Dhanraj Pillay and Viren Rasquinha, former India players such as Edgar Mascarenhas Sr., Edgar Mascarenhas Jr., Darryl D'souza and Devinder Kumar, the team will also include former Mumbai players and promising youngsters of Mumbai.

About Development Credit Bank

Development Credit Bank is a modern emerging new-generation private sector bank with 80 branches across 10 states and two union territories. It is a scheduled commercial bank regulated by the Reserve Bank of India. Professionally managed and governed, DCB has contemporary technology and infrastructure including state-of-the-art Internet banking for personal as well as business banking customers.

DCB's business segments include Retail, micro-SMEs, large SMEs, mid -Corporates, agriculture, commodities, government, public sector, Indian banks, co-operative banks and non banking finance companies (NBFC). DCB has approximately 600,000 customers.

DCB has deep roots in India since its inception in 1930's. Its promoter and promoter group the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development (AKFED) & Platinum Jubilee Investments Ltd. holds over 23% stake. AKFED is an international development enterprise. It is dedicated to promoting entrepreneurship and building economically sound companies. It has around 150 companies and employs over 30,000 people with a turnover of approximately US\$ 2 Bn. AKFED had co-promoted HDFC in India in the late 70's.

For more details please visit www.dcbl.com & http://www.akdn.org/akfed

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