# Brajesh Dwivedi: The Trailblazer who redefined divyang cricket

India's first disabled Test captain inspires a new era of confidence, respect, and change

Sports is not just a game; it is the greatest force of

self-confidence, dignity, and social change."

### Brajesh

## Our Sports Reporter INDORE

On National Sports Day, a day that honours champions of grit and glory, Brajesh Dwivedi of Indore stands tall as a beacon of courage and transformation. Overcoming 60% disability due to polio, he has etched his name in history as India's first disabled Test cricket captain, leading the nation against Nepal in a historic Test match at Agra in December 2023. That clash was not just about cricket—it was a resounding statement of resilience, breaking stereotypes and sparking new hope for Divyangjan athletes across India.

#### A JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE

Brajesh's cricketing odyssey began in 1999, when he was picked for the Madhya abled Cricket

Team. From playing for Central Railway, Mumbai, to making a mark in international tournaments, his story is one of relentless passion.

Notable milestones include his leadership in the Divas Premier League in Sharjah (2021) and representing India at the Bangabandhu Cup in Bangladesh (2022).

#### MENTOR, MOVEMENT MAKER

Beyond personal laurels, Brajesh has emerged as a mentor for Divyang cricket. Since 2019, he has: Trained over 350 Divyang players across 10 MP divisions

Organised the first Divyang Premier League (2023, Jabalpur)

Helped players from remote areas find opportunities to play nationally and internationally

With a vision to establish a state-level Disabled Cricket Academy, Brajesh dreams of creating a hub where talent meets training and hope meets opportunity.

His journey is a shining testament to the spirit of Sports Day—a reminder that true champions are defined not just by victories, but by the barriers they break.

### GLORIOUS ACCOLADES

Satna Gaurav Samman (2023) – Conferred by CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Madhya Pradesh Khel Ratna (2019)

Divyang Ratna (2018), Achievers Sports Awards (2020)

Brand Ambassador, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (2018)

