



LEGENDS OF INDIA PRIDE OF INDIANOIL



MEET OUR SPORTS STAR

Ms Ambika Radhika Suresh
Chief Manager (Lubes), Kerala State office

One of the finest Table Tennis players and an Olympian

The achievements of A Radhika, Olympian and former National champion, stand out loudly. And undoubtedly her glittering career remains the best chapter of Kerala table tennis to date. Born into a family of table tennis players, Radhika watched her elder brother, R Rajesh (a former State champion) play and inspired by the deeds of her late father K R Pillai, a former Tamil Nadu and Kerala State champion.

She started playing at the age of eight, and won the State sub-junior title at the age of ten and then continued to hold sway until 2001 when she gave up serious table tennis. She had traversed quite a distance, picking up the top prize in National sub-junior at Muzaffarpur in 1986, the junior crown at Indore in 1989 and the women's title at Pondicherry in 1995.

Glorious moments in Sports

- Gold Medal at National Sub Junior Title, Muzaffarpur in 1986.
- Gold Medal at National Junior's Title, Indore in 1989.
- Gold Medal at National Women's title at Pondicherry in 1995.
- Represented India at Atlanta Olympics 1996.
- Two time Gold Medalist at SAF Games Individual event – Colombo and Dhakka.
- Bronze Medal at Commonwealth Table Tennis, Nairobi in 1991.
- Silver Medal at World Railway Games in 1992 Paris Games.
- Represented India and ranked as World No. 1 player between 1991-1996 at three world championships, two Asian champion ships, Commonwealth and SAF games.
- Remained as India number 1 between 1991-1995 winning several national ranking tournaments including Inter institutions and Zonal competitions.

Radhika tastes success as coach:

In 2011, Ms Radhika associated with Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) coaching several young peddlers. Being Olympian and National Champion, she was known all over India especially Kerala that helped her to contribute as coach and administer. She has coached National both National and Senior players for the National as well as International tournaments. She has been committee member of Sports Authority of India coach selection panel and member of the TTFI governing council.

Describing her transition from being a star table tennis player to being a coach, Ms Radhika says “It takes patience. Sometimes, a lot of it when you are dealing with kids. It was not altogether easy in the beginning. But once I immersed myself in it, I started enjoying it.”

Fueling success at IndianOil & beyond

Ms Radhika joined IndianOil in 1993. She represented IndianOil at various events and was re-designated as mainstreamed player in 2001 in retails. She handled various position during her career at IndianOil.

She says “Initially it was difficult to cope with the regular work, however with support from her colleagues and esteemed seniors, she used her skills acquired from sports and performed well throughout her career and continues to shine. Currently, Ms Radhika is posted as Chief Manager at Lubes, Kerala State Office.

Even in her current role, Ms Radhika is actively involved with IndianOil's ‘Nayi Disha’ - 'Smile for Juvenile' at Care Home Center, Kakkanad, Kochi and making the best of her sporting talent for the betterment of the juveniles.

IndianOil has supported me a lot in the pursuit of excellence in games. I would not have reached the best milestones in my career without the whole hearted support of the organization as well as my colleagues and superiors at work. Even after my de-designation, IndianOil has been ever supportive of my coaching and other initiatives. I feel organization has been able to recognize my skill sets as a former sports star and how that can benefit the business objectives of the company. I mention a special thanks to the management for supporting sports persons contributing back to their game through coaching assignment. IndianOil has always supports to perform National duties as a coach. I am proud to be a part of IndianOil, most prominent supporter of Sports in this country.

