

Play India Youth Games (Khelo India): Scheme for Promotion of Sports in India

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Abstract

Sports is an extremely important component for the overall development of our nation. India in the last few years has made steady progress in the field of sports. Keeping in view the Khelo India programme has been introduced to revive the sports culture in India at the grass root level by building a strong framework for all sports played in our country and establish India as a great sporting nation. This program costing Rs. 1756 crore will be spent on 2018-20 to 2019-20 period. This game program will be used as a tool for personality development, community development, economic development and national development. Ministry of Finance on 28th October, 2015, had advised this Department to suitably restructure the Centrally Sponsored Scheme into a Central Sector Scheme and divided State Governments throughout India by dividing the states into six zones, i.e., Northern, Central, Eastern, North Eastern, Southern and Western zones. This paper explores fully the contents of Kheloindia scheme such as details of scheme, its components, infrastructure, administration, financial implications, monitoring and many more.

Keywords: Sports, centre, state, ministry, youth, development, nation, performance.

Introduction

The importance of games and sports in one's life is invaluable. Playing sports inculcates team spirit, develops strategic and analytical thinking, leadership skills, goal setting and risk taking. A fit healthy individual leads to an equally healthy society and strong nation. Sports is an extremely important component for the overall development of our nation. India in the last few years has made steady progress in the field of sports. This tremendous potential needs to be showcased at a global platform. It is a time we inspire young talent, give them top-notch infrastructure and training of the highest level. In we need to inculcate a strong spirit of participation in sports and enables players to demonstrate their true potential. Only then India realize its dreams of becoming sports super power.

Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG), formerly **Khelo India School Games (KISG)**, meaning Play India Youth Games, held annually in January or February, are the national level multidisciplinary grassroots games in India held for two categories, namely under-17 years school students and under-21 college students. Every

year best 1000 kids will be given an annual scholarship of INR 5,00,000 for 8 years to prepare them for the international sporting events.⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ The Training of Trainers (TOT) Programme will be held in December 2018- January 2019 in the first phase. Here total of 160 trainers will be trained in 4 batches of 40 each in December-January period. This TOT Programme will be carried out semi-annually or quarterly to include all the interested teachers, principals, vice-principals and physical education trainers. Small state of Haryana (102 medals including 38 golds, 26 silvers and 38 bronzes) which is considered a sports powerhouse was the top team in 2018, followed by Maharashtra (111 medals including 36 golds) and Delhi (94 medals including 25 golds).⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾

Play India or khelo India school games, which are part of khelo India programme, are held from 31st January to 8th February 2018 will be held in many places like Delhi Jawaharlal Nehru stadium, Indira Gandhi stadium complex, Major Dhyanchand National stadium, Karnisingh shooting range and SPM swimming complex. 16 sports modes- archery, athletics,

badminton, basketball, boxing, football, gymnastic, hockey, judo, Kabaddi, Kho-kho, shooting, swimming, volleyball, weight lifting and wrestling etc are included in school games.

On 31 January 2018, Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, declared open the inaugural Khelo India School Games at the opening ceremony based on Guru-shishya tradition held at Indira Gandhi Arena.^{[1][2]} from the 2019 events, Khelo India School Games were renamed to Khelo India Youth Games after Indian Olympic Association came on board earlier in September 2018. The second edition of the event was kicked off

in Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex, a sports complex situated in Balewadi, Pune, by Sports Minister, Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, and, Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis.⁽⁵⁾

Seven million for the synthetic athletics track, these 5 million for synthetic hockey field, 5 crore for synthetic turf football ground, 8 crore for multi-purpose halls, 50 million for swimming pools and construction of stadium and district head quarter. On February 27, 2019, PM Narendra Modi launched the Khelo India App at the Youth Indian Parliament in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi to promote sports and fitness.⁽⁶⁾



Figure 1.

Background of Study: The Youth represent the most dynamic and vibrant segment of the population. India is one of the youngest nations in the World, with about 65% of its population being under 35 years of age. The youth in the age group of 15-29 years comprise 27.5% of the population. At present, promotion and development of sports in the country is being carried out through following three schemes:

I. Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan: To provide infrastructure in rural areas and to encourage

sporting culture in the country through competitions.

II. Urban Infrastructure Scheme - To provide quality sports infrastructure in urban areas so as to provide facilities for talent to hone their skills. **III. National Sports Talent Search –** To identify young talent.

Origin of Scheme: Ministry of Finance on 28th October, 2015, had advised this Department to suitably restructure the Centrally Sponsored Scheme into a Central Sector Scheme. On receipt of this advice from the Ministry of Finance, wide ranging consultations

were held with State Governments throughout India by dividing the states into six zones, i.e., Northern, Central, E astern, North E astern, Southern and Western zones.

After these consultations, consensus emerged that the above three schemes should be merged into one scheme –“Khelo India” - National Programme for Development of Sports, which also draws inspiration in respect of organization of competitions from Khel Mahakumbh which is organized annually by Government of Gujarat. The programme takes care to develop sports infrastructure in both rural and urban areas and provides for not only identification of talent but guiding and nurturing of the talent through assistance to SAI Training Centres and Academies and State Government training centres/academies and setting up of new academies both in public and PPP Mode⁽⁸⁾.

Details of Scheme:

Objective of Scheme: a) Mass participation of youth in annual sports competitions through a structured competition; b) Identification of talent c) Guidance and nurturing of the talent through existing sports academies and new set up either by the central Government or State Government or in PPP mode. d) Creation of Sports Infrastructure at mofussil, tehsil, District, State levels, etc.

Components of Scheme:

Competition: Competition structure should cover the whole of India. The competition will be held at Block/District/State and National level. The games/sports which are popular in a particular area shall be played as part of the competition at Block/District/State level. The competitions will be conducted in respect of five distinct age groups, namely, age above 6 -under 12, above 12 -under 18, above 18- under 36, above 36-under 50 and above 50. The competitions above the age group of 36 are proposed keeping in mind the general health and wellbeing of adult population so that overall economy of the country gets a boost due to reduction of lifestyle and other diseases like obesity, diabetes etc. by adopting the physical activities and participation in these sports competitions.

Talent hunt and scholarship: The talented sports persons from amongst the participants of the competition for the age group of above 6 -under 12 and above 12 -under 18 at, District, State and National level will be identified through the competition. On conclusion of the competitions, the organizing Committee of

the respective level of Competitions will prepare a discipline-wise list of talented candidates separately for boys and girls keeping in view gender sensitivity and representation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and weaker sections of society. To identify the talent at grass root level, each sports has a dedicated talent hunt committee, who will identify top 2 sports person for each sports and they will be given an annual scholarship of INR 500,000 for 8 years⁽⁷⁾.

Infrastructure: The existing USIS scheme has been in vogue since the year 2010-11. An Independent Agency was engaged to evaluate the performance of the scheme. The agency made inter-alia the following suggestions for improvement of the scheme:-(i) Development of sports facilities at International level, National level and District level. (ii) Swimming pools may be developed under this scheme.

After taking into account the evaluation report, it is proposed to merge the USIS Scheme on a pilot basis to a full-fledged Central Sector Scheme of Khelo India. The guiding scale (these will be maximum caps) for infrastructure assistance shall be as follows:-

Stadia Complex will be funded subject to availability of adequate funds only and may include the following:- (i): Construction of multi-purpose indoor halls for indoor games (ii): Indoor stadium including Swimming Pool Complex in the Stadium (iii): Outdoor Stadium with spectator galleries and elite facilities (iv): Courts for sports like Tennis, Squash, Basket Ball, Volley Ball etc. (v): Provision of FIFA standard Natural Turf in Football Grounds

Operationalization of the Scheme: The administrative system of the Scheme will be as follows :i. General Council (GC) headed by Union Minister in charge of Sports, ii. National Executive Committee –headed by Secretary (Sports). iii. At State level, the State Level Executive Committee (SLEC) chaired by Chief Secretary of the State iv. District Level Executive Committee (DLEC).

The General Council (GC) of the scheme being chaired by Minister in charge of Youth Affairs & Sports is the highest policy making body for the Mission. The GC will be empowered to decide all policy and other matters of the scheme. Further, GC shall give overall guidance, including policy guidelines and direction to the Mission Directorate as well as to the States/UTs and will also review the performance of the scheme.

The State level Executive Committee (SLEC) will be empowered to approve the State Plan under the Scheme which will then be sent to the National Executive Committee and Annual Action Plans for creation of sports infrastructure; reallocate resources from the State budget within the overall mission guidelines; appoint State level Technical Consultant; give overall guidance and directions on implementation of the scheme; nominate additional members/invitees; and monitor the programme within the State.

The District level Executive Committee (DLEC) will be empowered to recommend Annual Action Plan of the District for creation of sports infrastructure and organizing competitions; and exercise such other powers as may be assigned to it by the SLEC⁵.

Technical Support and Capacity Building Services: An initial corpus fund of Rs. 30 crore will be placed with Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports for providing technical support and capacity building services (TSCBS) to the scheme at the national level. General Council may decide further allocation to this fund depending upon the requirements.

This fund shall be known as Technical Support and Capacity Building Services (TSCBS) Fund. This fund will be non-lapsable and will be utilized exclusively for the purposes providing technical and other support to the Mission Directorate, including mission campaign activities.

The items of expenditure will include dissemination & awareness, publicity remuneration/contract payment to Mission Directorate personnel, experts, consultants; outsourcing functions like the development and management of IT enabled Management Information Systems, the conduct of orientation programme for Coaches/Trainers website development, web enabled reporting systems; hiring of space and the procurement of office equipment; the hiring of agency services for mission campaign; audio-visual productions and media campaigns; contracting or supporting research studies, study visits, training programmes; promote international cooperation and exchange programmes in the field of sports; monitoring and evaluation; and any other activity approved by the General Council of the scheme.

The Fund shall be maintained in a separate bank account in the State Bank of India or any subsidiary of State Bank of India. Any withdrawal of funds from the accounts of the Fund shall be regulated in a manner to be

determined by the General Council. The General council shall be the final authority to decide on the overall policy of investment of monies of the Fund not required immediately.

The General Council may appoint such staff as it may consider necessary and on such terms and conditions as it may consider appropriate to operate the Fund. The administrative expenses in this regard shall be a legitimate charge on the Fund. Regular accounts shall be kept of all monies and properties and of income and expenditure of the Fund and shall be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Financial Implication: The total estimated cost of the Scheme in the year 2016-17 will be of the order of Rs. 500 crore. Details are as under:

Annual Sports Competitions Sports Competitions (including scholarships): **Rs. 230 crore** (Details of calculation at Annexure 1).

2. Talent Search and Grooming (including support to academies): **Rs. 100 crore** 3. Sports Infrastructure Scheme Infrastructure for urban areas: Rs.60 crores Infrastructure for mofussil/sub-district areas : Rs.76 crores.

Total: Rs. 136 crore 4. Sports and Games for the disabled: Rs. 4 crore 5. Dissemination & awareness, Office expenses, remuneration of staff, development of web portal, training, administrative and misc. expenses etc.: Rs 30 crore:

Total: Rs. 500 crore

Fund Flow: (Rs. in crore) Details

Details	2016-17
Non recurring	136
Recurring	364
Total	500

It is expected that as the scheme picks up, the total expenditure required will be of the order of Rs. 6000 crore per annum. This has been worked out on the basis of budget of Govt. of Gujarat. .

Maintenance: The assets created under this scheme shall be maintained by the grantees/owners of the assets which may be local and civil bodies, district administration, State Government, Sports Authority of India, sports institutions, colleges and universities from

out of their own resources. Alternatively, a nominal fee may be levied on the users of the sports facilities and the funds so generated may be utilized towards maintenance of the sports facilities.

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports may issue suitable guidelines regarding levy of user charges so as to maintain uniform up keep of assets all over the country.

Monitoring: The execution of the projects/competitions approved under the scheme will be monitored by a committee comprising of a representative each from Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS), Sports Authority of India (SAI), beneficiary State/UT/

Organization and an engineer from the construction agency/SAI Coach/Eminent sports person. Department of Sports may engage a third party monitoring agency to conduct monitoring of the scheme which will funded from TSCBS fund of the scheme.

Provision for committed liabilities: Expenditure has been incurred under the on-going RGKA and USIS schemes. There are committed liabilities where the balance instalments are required to be released to the grantees for completion of the on- going projects and/ or re-imburement of expenditure which have been committed to be borne by the Centre. The estimated cost of Rs. 500 crore includes the component of committed liability also.

Medal Tally: 2018

Figure 2

Rank	State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
01	Haryana	38	26	38	102
02	Maharashtra	36	32	43	111
03	Delhi	25	29	40	94
04	Karnataka	16	11	17	44
05	Manipur	13	13	08	34
06	Uttar Pradesh	10	24	28	62
07	Punjab	10	05	20	35
08	Kerala	07	11	10	28
09	Tamil Nadu	06	11	11	28
10	West Bengal	05	04	06	15

Medal Tally 2019:

Figure: 3

Rank	State	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
01	Maharashtra	64	51	62	177
02	Delhi	47	31	43	121
03	Haryana	37	35	38	110
04	Karnataka	28	26	18	72
05	Tamil Nadu	22	31	18	71
06	Uttar Pradesh	21	23	31	75
07	Punjab	18	14	21	53
08	Kerala	11	12	22	45
09	West Bengal	10	09	08	27
10	Gujarat	10	07	11	28

Conclusion

India in the last few years has made steady progress in the field of sports. Keeping in view the Khelo India programme has been introduced to revive the sports culture in India at the grass root level by building a strong framework for all sports played in our country and establish India as a great sporting nation. This game program will be used as a tool for personality development, community development, economic development and national development. This scheme aims on focusing the preparation of players for international level competitions. This scheme aims on focusing the preparation of players for international level competitions. In five years government gave 5000 scholarships and this will reduce the differences between potential players and medal winners. This paper also explores the contents of schemes such as financial implications, funds used or expenditure, infrastructure needed, administration involved and its components. The main aim of this scheme is focus on grass root sportsmen and to prepare them for international competitions like Olympic games, Commonwealth games, Asian games.

Ethical Clearance: Not required

Source of Funding: Self

Conflict of Interest: Nil

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