

Government of Himachal Pradesh
Department of Youth Services & Sports.

No. YSS-F(1)-1/2019

Dated Shimla-2 the 20th January, 2022.

Notification

The Governor, Himachal Pradesh, is pleased to notify "Himachal Pradesh Swarnim Jayanti Sports Policy 2021" to create an environment that encourages participation and excellence in sports for all leading to a healthy society as per Annexure-A.

By order

(Dr. S.S. Guleria)

Secretary (Youth Services & Sports),
to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.

**Directorate of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh.**

(Physical Education Branch)

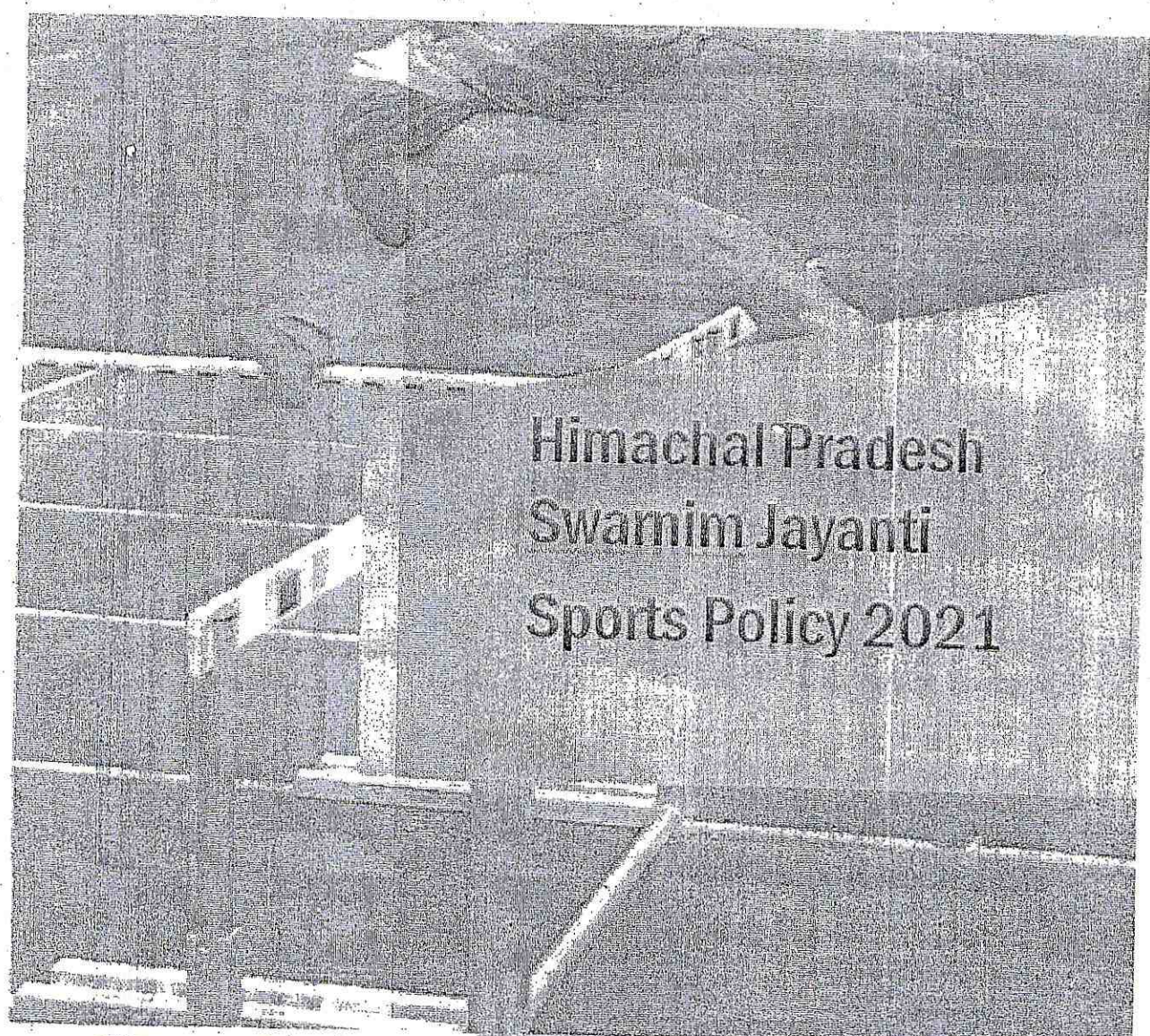
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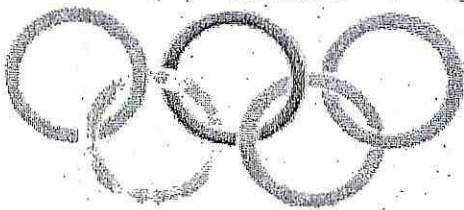
1. The Director Elementary Education Himachal Pradesh.
2. All the Deputy Directors of Higher Education Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Superintendent E-1 Branch / College Branch/Plus Two Branch. (Internal)
4. The Technical Officer, IT Cell (Internal) with the direction to upload on Departmental website.
5. Guard file.



(Dr. Amarjeet K Sharma)
Directorate of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla.



Himachal Pradesh
Swarnim Jayanti
Sports Policy 2021



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1. Introduction

Sports, games and physical fitness play vital role in shaping human personality, behaviour and overall development. Blending sports with culture and education creates an environment of social harmony, wellness, high moral values, national integration, participative management, unity and joy. The planning system plays active roles in shaping our environments. Aim of working with planning system in sports is to provide maximum opportunities for sports and physical activity for all, enabling the already active to be more so and the inactive to become active. Sports planning should aim at ensuring respect for fundamental ethical practices and to recognize sport as a human right to which every individual must have access without discrimination.

The existing Sports policy was framed in 2001. Since then, there have been several developments including state players successfully competing in various international events like Olympics, Commonwealth and Asian Games. The State government has taken various initiatives in developing modern sports infrastructure, promoting sports in the state and honouring outstanding State sportspersons, who brought laurels not only for the state but to the nation as well. Many Himachal State players from different sports have donned Indian colours during the 19th Asian Games in 2018 at Jakarta-Palembang. These achievements don't imply that challenges of sports promotion have been overcome. Policy accepts that:

- Access to sport and physical education opportunities still remains highly inadequate, especially in the far flung rural areas because of the geographical constraints.
- The levels of participation in sport and physical education at home, school, college, the community level and the work place are abysmally low.
- The participation of girls and women in physical education and sports activity is far below that of boys and men.
- Access to sporting facilities of Persons with disability needs to be improved with considerable sensitivity.
- Indigenous sports and games needs to be promoted to a great extent.
- Education remains highly academic-centric with leading sad trend and ignorance of school sports and extra-curricular sports.
- Lack of adequate sports infrastructure & environment in educational institutions especially private Schools and universities.
- Inadequate sports infrastructure and lack of encouragement for promoting adventure sports.
- The proportionate sports training and coaching institutions including sports hostels are highly inadequate in the state.
- The role of sports associations in the promotion of sports needs to be revamped and clearly defined.
- There is need to popularize medal intensive individual sports such as athletics, gymnastics and swimming.
- The scientific and technical support system for high performing athletes is still on to do list.
- Need for vocational trainings and counselling for the sportspersons in career progression.

To address the unaddressed challenges, to let the sporting culture percolate in the state, to scale newer heights, rejuvenate, train and equip sportspersons and propel a better sport environment, there is an imperative of a new Sports Policy. The policy aims at consolidating the progress made so far, espousing new initiatives that shall enable the State Government to promote sports with a renewed resolve and fresh vigour. The policy also aims at providing state of art facilities, excellent opportunities for emerging and promising sportspersons.

The proposed State Sports Policy 2021 through a robust Vision, coherent set of objectives and Strategies seeks to address these issues to promote state wide sports culture, ensure excellence in sports at National, international level and further making state as a sports training destination. Thrust of the sports policy is to build a culture of sports, where sportspersons of the state shall be inculcated with higher moral and ethical values, spirit of comradeship and the desire to excel. This can be done by channelizing vibrant youth energy for sports activities and physical fitness, and by nurturing upcoming sports talent in the State to an optimum level by motivating them to serve their State.

Vision, Mission, Principles, Values and Objectives

1.1 Vision

'To create an environment that encourages participation and excellence in sports for all leading to a healthy society'.

1.2 Mission

- a) To facilitate access of all to quality sports infrastructure and making the State as sports training destination
- b) To collaborate and co-ordinate with government departments, educational institutions, and sports associations and guide them in matters of common interest and concern
- c) To encourage and support sportspersons irrespective of their social and economic background.
- d) To introduce schemes for promotion of fitness and development of sports as a career option among youngsters by involving coaches and community participation.

1.3 Principles

For attainment of its vision, following principles need to be undertaken which shall boost upcoming sports activities in the State:

- a) Sports with ethics
All sports activities intend to increase ethical conduct among sportspersons and instil intrinsic worth within the sports activities
- b) Grass Root approach
Flourishing opportunities to sports enthusiasts would be provided at Grass Root level.
- c) Long term sportsperson development
The focus would be for the long-term development of sportspersons by providing them hi-tech facilities and scientific techniques.
- d) Ensuring participation of different sectors
Sports is an important part of various other sectors, most importantly education and health, which needs to be developed through linkages with sports clubs, sports associations, and private sector.
- e) Objective based and result oriented outcome
Well defined Sports programs to be devised to accomplish aspirations of enthusiastic sportspersons of state to achieve the desired goal.

- f) Monitoring mechanism and impact assessment
For achieving continuous improvement, innovation and accountability, regular monitoring and evaluation of various sports programmes and policies is an imperative part to strengthen and establish result oriented initiatives.

1.4 Objectives

- a) To lay special emphasis on developing, maintaining and optimally utilizing high quality sports infrastructure
- b) To encourage public-private partnership in creating sports infrastructure
- c) To coordinate with educational institutions for promotion of sports
- d) To encourage, train and support sportspersons for participation and excellence in national and international championships with high standards of ethics
- e) To introduce scientific research in training for long term sports development
- f) To recognize and honour talent in sports and reward young women and men, who achieve excellence in sports
- g) To recognize special needs of women and differently-abled to facilitate and encourage their participation in sports
- h) To educate and create awareness amongst people of the State to participate in active sports and make sports an integral part of their day to day life.

2. Approach

- a) The promotion of sports shall be a collaborative effort of all stakeholders, especially various departments and organizations of the State Government, educational institutions, sports bodies, Local bodies, sportspersons and other persons actively involved in sports thus making it an effort of one and all.
- b) On ground level, the promotion of sports shall be a varying combination of an outreach, bottom-up approach. It shall involve use of local facilities, building on existing structures and traditions, involving local people, adopting a 'need-based' sports development approach.

3. Strategies

3.1 Expansion of Infrastructure

- a) Development of infrastructure at Panchayat, block, district and State level including educational institutions.
- b) Building of sports training framework involving sports hostels, sports academies and coaching centres for nurturing sports talent in scientific environment. Region specific strengths shall be developed in different categories of sports activities.

3.2 Promotion of Sports

- a) Provide facilities in terms of employment and other related benefits to outstanding sportspersons to retain them within the State
- b) Ensure participation of promising sportspersons from Himachal Pradesh in sports activities at National/International level

- c) Encourage sports in educational institutions through improvisation of educational curriculum, provision of sports scholarships etc.

3.3 Dissemination of Sports Information

- a) Media plays a key role in dissemination of information, popularization and promotion of sports amongst masses. Efforts shall be made for proper coverage in print, electronic and social media on important sports tournaments to be organised in the State
- b) Sufficient publicity budget and a well-planned communication strategy shall be devised for advocacy of sports, encouraging active participation in sports among masses and popularising State's sports tournaments.
- c) Public representatives, printed literature and functionaries of various Departments and Educational institutions may also be partnered for this purpose as a joint effort.

4. STAKE HOLDERS IN SPORTS AND THEIR ROLE IN STATE SPORTS POLICY:

Sports are a multidimensional sphere of human activity. In modern context it implies the physical fitness culture of a society apart from its craving for excelling in competitive sports. List of stake holders is extensive, for the purpose of ensuring optimum outcome of policy these are: youth, Parents and community, Local bodies, State Government, State Sports council, Department of Education, Department of Health, State Olympic association/ other sports associations, youth Sports clubs and other government departments.

Whereas physical and mental well being of youth, parents and community participation is the very purpose of formulating a sports policy, they are the active players in realisation of policy objectives.

4.1 ROLE OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT:

The Government will administer the Sports Policy through the Youth Services and Sports Department. The Government will provide financial support towards the implementation of the policy. The Government will also be responsible for the development of sporting infrastructure as per the requirements across the state.

The Government will setup a well defined framework and working committee that will monitor and implement the sports policy of the state. Working committee on sports policy will meet bi-annually to formulate, assess and review the action plan. The Directorate of Youth Services and Sports along with the District Youth services and Sports Officers of the respective districts will play a productive role in the implementation of the Policy in the state.

4.2 ROLE OF THE STATE SPORTS COUNCIL:

The State Sports Council has been constituted as an apex body to regulate and evaluate sports promotion efforts. The State Sports Council will work in collaboration and co ordination with sports associations, State Olympic association and private sports promotion investors for upliftment of sports.

State sports council will assist state sports associations in their endeavours by providing financial assistance based on categorisation of sports.

State sports council will mobilise resources through corporate and philanthropic contributions apart from financial assistance from the government.

4.3 ROLE OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The Education Department plays a pivotal role in ensuring that Sports & Physical Education are implemented in the school and college curriculum of the state with qualified technical personnel. Since talent pipelines are primarily coming out of schools, active children will have experience of improved health, better grades in schools, better fitness, strong physique, more happiness and improved self-confidence apart from obtaining fundamental skills through at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical and Sports activities a day.

It is equally important that schools implement physical training along with the appointment of a physical training instructor that will help develop the students and sporting talents in the right perspective.

Development of sports infrastructure at institutional level in collaboration with local bodies and YSS will be the responsibility of Education department.

4.4 ROLE OF THE STATE OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION AND SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS

It is recognized that the management and development of Sports are the function of the State Olympic Association and the State Sports Associations, which are Autonomous Bodies and which in turn, have affiliated District Level Associations. The Government and other concerned agencies and the Associations must, therefore, work together harmoniously and in a coordinated manner to fulfil the objectives of the State Sports Policy, 2021.

The role of the State Olympic Association is very crucial to ensure the effectiveness of the policy in development of sports environment in the state. The State Olympic Association is required to coordinate with the Government and the State Sports Associations and ensure that the policy is implemented in entirety.

The State Olympic Association is also required to handhold the State Sports Associations in preparing plans for the development of sporting talent in the state.

The State Olympic Association will regularly monitor the development of the Sports Associations and submit reports to the Government on a regular basis.

Sports associations too play an active role in promotion of sports and the State Government will continue to collaborate with them in creating a sports friendly environment in the State. The State Government will engage different sports associations constructively for the betterment of the sports. They will be further encouraged to professionalize their working and synchronize their activities with the government programs and schemes to achieve even better results. It will be the endeavour of the State Government to have effective coordination with various sports related agencies, such as:

- a) Prior to National Games and National Championships, the State Government shall assist in organising coaching camps by State Sports Associations.
- b) Financial assistance shall be provided for organizing Championships. The focus shall be on organizing Championships at District and State level on regular basis.
- c) An Annual Championship in various disciplines in all categories viz. Senior, Junior and Sub Juniors (for both Men and Women) at District and State levels. Each State Association would draw an Annual Calendar of these events sufficiently in advance

every year. The Sports Department shall notify the scheme of financial assistance to Sports Associations separately especially grant in aid for prestigious and medal winning events.

- d) Clearly defined criterion for determining priority categories for government assistance; a discipline specific project approach to be adopted in processing cases for financial assistance.
- e) An emphasis on professionalizing and upgrading the administrative and financial management of associations.
- f) An effective grievance red dressal mechanism.
- g) Recognition of the role of Sports promoters, particularly in the event management of sports activity.
- h) An important perspective in this exercise is to help associations attain financial self-sufficiency over a period of time, thereby reducing their dependence on the government and be self sustaining.

Associations will be working with the Government to monitor the progress of the specific sports disciplines and prepare the roadmap in consultation with the National Federation. Government shall create facilities by defining specific terms and conditions for the Sports Associations.

4.5 ROLE OF LOCAL BODIES:

Panchayati raj institutions and urban bodies have a proactive and leading role to play in creation of sports infrastructure as well as promotion of sports culture in the community. Annual development plan of these bodies must include sports as a special segment.

4.6 ROLE OF SPORTS CLUBS

Sports clubs have a rich history of promoting sports in India. The Sports club culture in the state is evolving. Contribution of these clubs in promoting the sports and creating a sports environment and culture need recognition. Activities of these clubs should be primarily carried out under the aegis of the different Sports Associations. In an endeavour to encourage and support setting up of sports clubs in rural and urban areas, with an emphasis on poorer localities through youth development institutions i.e Nehru Yuva Kendra and other Youth and Sports clubs will be engaged in providing a suitable playing environment to meet their playing needs. The efforts of the Department shall be to strengthen the existing sports clubs at each Gram Panchayat level and form new clubs where there is no such club at Gram Panchayat level. Focus shall be on formation of cluster of 5 to 9 youth clubs so that they can effectively take up creation of sports infrastructure and its management. It shall be the endeavour of the Department of YSS to assist these cluster in formation of their annual programmes/calendar of activities which will prominently include sports and social awareness programmes against various ills like drug abuse.

These sports clubs shall create their own facilities or provide an access to public of their private facilities through suitable 'Pay and Play' or 'Come and Play' schemes for their members. They can avail of State Government programmes and schemes for providing requisite facilities, equipment and technical support.

There are many clubs or private coaching institutions run by private coaches. The department shall provide need-based guidance and assistance. Club culture shall be promoted to create a competitive sporting environment in the state. For this purpose, a committee shall be set up to suggest a detailed action plan.

The State Government as well as the Sports Federations/Associations will endeavour to promote a "club culture" for the speedier development of sports in the State. Government may provide performance based financial assistance. Criteria for the same will be arrived at by a Committee consisting of eminent sports persons, sports associations and retired army officers with distinguished sports career. These criteria may be reviewed periodically. Sports clubs shall pick up and adopt one or more sports discipline

Efforts would be made to set up a Sports museum and library for promotion and inculcation of sports culture in the State.

4.7 ROLE OF THE OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

All Government Departments and Authorities engaged in creating and developing Sports Infrastructure and related sporting activities shall explore convergence of their Programmes/ Schemes with Sports Department as envisaged in the Policy.

4.8 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Department of Youth Services and Sports shall be the custodian of all the funds provided by the State and Central Government, the custodian of all the infrastructures created either out of the State or Central fund.

5. Development of Infrastructure

The creation and availability of sports infrastructure equipped with all the modern-day facilities throughout the State is a basic ingredient for development and broad-basing of sports. To provide access to sports and physical education to all classes of citizens, in all segments of society, across all age groups for physical well being, mental health, recreation, personal and community development, adequate and well equipped sports infrastructure including trained coaches is pre-requisite. Himachal Pradesh is mostly a hilly terrain. Topographical conditions of the state keeps suitable land scarce for development of any sports infrastructure and also the investment is very high as compared to most of the other states. Lack of sufficient community playfields in rural areas and especially in the school does not provide ample opportunities to the youth and students in the sports and physical activities. Majority of the schools, public or private, do not have playfields for the students. In view of the above the major focus of this policy is attributed to development of sports infrastructures in rural areas, schools, colleges and universities by assuring public and private investments. While creating and upgrading the sports infrastructure the broader objectives shall be:

- Endeavor to make basic sports infrastructure available at Panchayat level.
- To provide for minimum five games sports facility at Block level/ Municipalities
- Development of Fully equipped District level sports complexes and Super speciality sports complexes.
- Creation of High Altitude sports training destination to reap the geographical dividend in National and international context.
- Creation and up gradation of water sports, winter games and adventure sports infrastructure by exploring vast potential of tourism.
- Effectiveness of Sports infrastructure development plan at all levels to be ensured by inbuilt guidelines on applicant agencies, funding sources, executing agencies and custodian/regulator of the such facility created.
- To make sports infrastructure facilities specially abled friendly and create category specific sports facilities on the demand of organizations working with specially abled.

5.1 Gram Panchayat level sports Infrastructure

Every Gram Panchayat will have one new/upgraded mini stadium with an open air gym as per the availability of local potential and open space. Panchayat level sports facility will be developed at the initiation of educational institution, youth clubs and Panchayat as applicant agencies in all cases.

Panchayat level sports infrastructure will be developed through department of YSS schemes like Minor playfields under SCSP, Major sports grounds under SCSP and Mukhaymantri Yuva Khel Protsahan yojna, Panchayati Raj, Education and Rural development's relevant schemes in phased manner as per the availability of funds individually or in convergence mode with the requirements of concerned scheme/schemes. Executing agencies for development of sports facilities at Gram Panchayat and village level may Gram Panchayat, Youth clubs, Educational Institutions & sports associations which will be selected by the Department of Youth and Sports. The executing/applicant agency for particular sports facility shall be responsible for its maintenance, out of their own resources, financial assistance from state/central government, private/personal contributions and ensuring its optimum uses. Such facilities/infrastructure shall have access to general public.

5.1.1 Block Level sports Infrastructure:

One block/Zonal level sports complex will be developed/upgraded along with both indoor and outdoor facilities in each block of the State in phased manner as per availability of land around 1 hectare and funds. In these complexes, adequate sports facilities along with sports equipment of requisite quality would be provided by convergence of resources under different schemes, like Mukhyamantri Yuva Khel Protsahan Yojana, Rural Development, Urban Development, Education, Forest and central assistance. Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Department, Urban Development and Education Department in consultation with Youth and sports Department will play pivotal role in creation of sports complexes in each Block. For proper management, maintenance and ensuring optimum utilization of these complexes, there will be a Block level Committee under the chairmanship of concerned Sub Divisional Officer (Civil). The other members of the committee will consist of Block Development Officer, Chairman BDC, President MC/NAC, Principal of the nearby School/College, Pradhan Gram Panchayat and prominent Sportspersons (not more than 3) to be nominated by the concerned Sub Divisional Officer & Representative of the sports Department. The Education Department, Urban/rural local body as the case may be (according to the ownership of the land) shall be the nodal agency. The Block level Committee can mobilize resources at its level for sustainability of the sports complex. Coaching facility would be provided through mobile camps where there is potential of sports talent. The committee shall also hire the services of coaches on part time basis by outsourcing their services temporarily for sports training.

5.1.2 District level and Multipurpose sports Infrastructure

At present there are multipurpose sports complexes at majority of district headquarters. These sports complexes are being maintained and run by the department of Youth Services & Sports. There is a proposal for construction of more super speciality Sports complexes with the assistance of Govt. of India and proposal for construction of indoor and outdoor game specific facilities is also under consideration. All the existing Sports complexes will be upgraded and remodelled to accommodate more sports activities. For Speedy construction of the new sports complexes new construction technology i.e. Pre engineered and pre-fabricated structures will be introduced. This will considerably reduce the construction time besides technology will be cost effective and suitable for the state in view of the seismic vulnerability. These sports complexes will be placed at the disposal of the District Sports Council for making themselves sustainable. The District sports council will levy usage fee and devise its own operational norms for the purpose.

District level stadiums would be created/upgraded having facilities for minimum ten sports disciplines including Volleyball, Hockey, Football, Athletics etc. with area of more than 1 hectare at the initiation of Department of Youth Services and Sports with clear land titles even at places other than district headquarters. The department of Youth and Sports will provide couches at District Headquarter and coaching centres will also function each district in the District Sports complexes.

5.1.3 Creation or adoption of High-Altitude Sports Infrastructure

The State Government is keen to promote Himachal Pradesh as a Sports Training Destination for the Indian sportspersons prior to their international commitments. For accomplishing this goal, proposals of 'State of Art' sports facilities would be submitted to the Government of India. The State Government will also solicit involvement of agencies like Local Bodies, educational institutions, sports federations/associations, clubs and industrial establishments for creation, utilization and maintenance of sports infrastructure. Private investment for creation of Sports infrastructure and even for its maintenance will also be encouraged through PPP mode.

As we need to make the State sports training destination, creation of high altitude sports infrastructure is required, taking advantage of the unique high altitude geography of Himalayas in the State. For creation of high altitude training centres, the Department of Youth and Sports will work in collaboration with Forest Department. The Forest Department will explore possibilities of identification and development open training camping playfields beyond altitude above 8000Ft. For organising high altitude sports camps forest Department in consultation with YSS will prepare proposals and send to the Government of India/Sports Authority of India for optimum utilization of high altitude sports facilities. It would also provide opportunity for young sportspersons to adapt to climatic conditions of various temperate regions. The concept of developing sports villages shall be accorded priority. A proposal shall be submitted to GOI for setting up a 'State of Art' Sports City. YSS will also devise a master plan to develop high altitude training destinations in PPP mode.

5.1.4 Creation and up gradation of water, winter and adventure sports infrastructure:

Potential of winter and water sports shall be utilised to its optimum level by creating and developing sports infrastructure relevant to these activities. Fast growing winter sports in Himachal like Ice Hockey shall be promoted. ABVIMAS Manali in collaboration with department of tourism will prepare a detailed plan in a time bound manner. *To harness tourism potential, Ice Skating rinks of International standards will be developed at Shimla, Manali and Dharamshala in public private partnership mode. A committee under the chairman ship of Director YSS will be constituted to ensure co-ordinated approach in all type of sports.*

5.1.5 Promotion and Creation of sports infrastructure to attract tourism

Recreational sports events and facilities, which attract tourists and can be added as an extra activity for them, shall be encouraged in consultation with Department of Tourism at all the tourist destinations. These are also proposed to be run under PPP mode by inviting private sector participation, thereby, minimising the financial burden on the state Govt. Exchequer.

5.1.6 Financial arrangement for the infrastructure

To increase the funds for the sports development, the State Sports Council has been registered under section 80 G of the Income Tax Act. Efforts shall also be made to avail FCRA clearance from the Union Home Ministry so that funding for the Sports Council from foreign parties could also be availed.

PPP model for development of sports infrastructure

Lack of sufficient financial resources has been a major constraint in promoting sports. While the State Government would need to make higher budgetary provisions, special efforts are equally required to approach corporate Houses for encouraging them to adopt and support sport disciplines (as well as sportspersons) in the longer term, for this purpose.

The PPP model shall also be used to mobilize additional resources for development and maintenance of sporting infrastructure as approved by State Government. Various commercial aspects, such as selling the Naming Rights and Branding inside the stadia will be done to make these facilities financially sustainable. Inputs from the directorate of Mountaineering and Allied Sports will also be invited and solicited in this regard.

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports GOI's assistance in sports infrastructure creation and up gradation will be sought and utilised to the optimum. The Department shall outreach various investors for the development of sports infrastructure "equipped with all modern-day facilities" in the State.

6. Sports promotion and disciplines to be supported

It shall be the endeavour of the Government to promote all sports disciplines which are regularly featuring in Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. The Youth Services and Sports department shall maintain a list of games to be supported by the government.

There shall be a standing committee on sports disciplines (to be constituted by the state government) to recommend games to be included or deleted from the list and categorise the sports disciplines as high priority, priority, general or others.

OLYMPIC GAMES

1.	Archery	15.	Judo
2.	Athletics	16.	Triathlon
3.	Badminton	17.	Rowing
4.	Basket Ball	18.	Swimming
5.	Boxing	19.	Sailing(Yachting)
6.	Canoeing	20.	Shooting
7.	Cycling	21.	Table Tennis
8.	Equestrian	22.	Tae-Kwan-do
9.	Fencing	23.	Tennis
10.	Football	24.	Volley Ball
11.	Golf	25.	Weight Lifting
12.	Gymnastics	26.	Wrestling
13.	Handball	27.	Winter Games
14.	Hockey		

NON OLYMPIC GAMES

1.	Base Ball	10.	Skating
2.	Billiard	11.	Snooker
3.	Chess	12.	Soft Ball
4.	Cricket	13.	Squash
5.	Kabaddi (National Style)	14.	Throw Ball
6.	Karate	15.	Yoga
7.	Kho Kho		
8.	Korf Ball		
9.	Net Ball		

In addition to these games effective measures will be taken to promote winter and rural games and games which are likely to be included in future Olympics/Asian Games. Marathon race would also be promoted.

6.1 Promotion of Indigenous Sports

The State of Himachal Pradesh has an array of indigenous sports (e.g. Chhinj, Thoda etc.) which have been part of civilization inheritance. Promotion of these sports would enhance community pride and self-confidence. Expertise and training facilities are locally available where local spectator participation is assured. These sports can generate international rural tourism and can get international recognition as well. These games shall promoted with the active participation of Gram Panchayats and Urban Local bodies especially through local Fairs and Festivals. The Department of Youth and Sports shall Identify and recognise t traditional sports to be supported and promoted.

6.2 Promotion of adventure Sports

The State of Himachal Pradesh has been bestowed with lofty mountain ridges with snow clad peaks, high passes, beautiful valleys, gushing white water streams, clean water rivers, waterfalls displaying a splendid degree of beauty and uniqueness. There are huge opportunities for adventure sports including paragliding, rafting, trekking, snow-trekking, skiing, hiking etc. There is dedicated institute for promotion of adventure sports – Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (ABVIMAS) at Manali in District Kullu. Efforts shall be made to nurture sports organisations, promoters and sportspersons of international repute to promote adventure tourism to new heights. For effective coordination, implementation of government schemes, development of infrastructure and training, the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports shall function under the control of Directorate of Youth Services and Sports.

6.3 Classification of Games Based on Potential to Excel

Based on potential to excel in various games at international and national level the games would be grouped in three categories so as to deploy resources with a view to achieve optimum outcome. The list of the sports to be supported in terms of financial assistance and infrastructure creation/up gradation shall be reviewed every four years, by a committee duly constituted for the purpose, as per the performance of the sportspersons in the National and International recognised tournaments so that benefits can be passed on to the deserving sportspersons/sports associations/sports disciplines which in turn will lead to promotion of sports in the State.

6.3(A) High Priority Games

Sports, which are included in Olympic, Commonwealth and Asian Games can be listed as High priority games in which the current standards are at or close to international competitive levels; and where the teams or individuals are likely to win medals in future. High priority games shall be, where the athletes from the State have performed exceedingly well in the national and international competitions. The strategy in these games would be to maintain and upgrade achievements by making use of sports management techniques, use of science and technology and other advance techniques.

6.3(B) Priority Games

Sports, which are included in Olympic, Commonwealth and Asian Games, and where there is a proven aptitude but not yet close to national competitive levels. Priority games shall be where the athletes from the State has potential to win medals in national and international competitions. The strategy in these games would be to improve game specific skills and techniques of the players and to upgrade infrastructure and strengthen coaching facilities. The efforts would be directed towards ensuring a substantially better performance at national level.

6.3(C) Other/general Games

In this category such Sports shall be listed which are not covered under high priority games and priority games categories. Other/general games where the athletes from the State have not performed fairly well but substantial number of players have shown interest and game is also popular in the state. The strategy in these games would be to focus on improvement through quality coaching and vigorous efforts.

6.3.1 RECOGNITION OF STATE SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS:

The purpose of this is to ensure that State Sports Associations maintain certain basic standards, norms and procedures with regard to their functioning, which conform to the high principles and objectives laid down for voluntary sports bodies under Olympic mandate.

Recognition to H.P. Olympic Association and State Sports Associations will be provided by H.P. Sports Council. While considering the proposals for recognition of State Sports Associations, the H.P. Sports Council will be guided by the following:

- The current legal status of the State sports association.
- Recognition of State Sports association by the National Sports Federation of concerned game.
- Recognition by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of concerned NSF.
- Undisputed status as an Apex Body of concerned discipline in Himachal
- Minimum six functional district units which must have conducted district tournaments across age groups and gender.
- Affiliation of State Sports Association with H.P. Olympic Association.
- The role and contribution of the organization in promoting and developing Sports in Himachal.
- Conduct of State championships across age groups and gender
- Financial and managerial accountability.
- Fair, transparent and democratic elections.
- Protection and promotion of players' interests and welfare.

For determining the eligibility for recognition of State Sports Associations dealing with disciplines which are not included in Olympics, Commonwealth Games or Asian Games, Government will further notify additional conditions. Now while considering the proposal of such disciplines following criteria will be taken into consideration:-

1. Popular Indigenous Games with All State spread
2. Popularity and induction in School, College and University Sports

3. Likelihood of inclusion in major international games like Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games, etc.
4. Availability of required infrastructure
5. Affordability of the game
6. Availability of coaches

For State Sports Associations to be eligible for financial assistance and sponsorship, organizations must maintain their recognized status with the State Sports Council, should comply and submit the documents such as annual report, audited accounts, details of State championships held, utilization certificate in respect of Government grants on year-to-year basis. Formation of a State selection committee to finalise the State teams in recognized National Championship and National Games shall be made by including a representative of H.P. Sports Council/ Department of YSS.

Detailed guidelines/ Rules on recognition of State Sports Associations, Grant in aid rules for release of annual grants, coaching camp assistance and other tournament grants shall be notified through H.P. Sports Council.

7. Talent Hunt through Sports Competitions

7.1 Promoting sports competitions:

Tournaments are essential not only for developing competitive spirit amongst the sportspersons but also for strengthening involvement of public and for creating sportsman spirit. Various sports associations, Department of Education and sports clubs conduct various sports tournaments for individual based events or for team-based games in different age groups. These tournament, especially the junior and sub junior age groups, are the appropriate stage for talent identification. Such sports tournaments shall be monitored for quantum, quality of participation and talent identification. The Education department through College/School sports competitions shall prepare the list of high performing sports persons annually and furnish it to the Department of Youth and Sports for admissions in the sports hostel, coaching centres and providing appropriate scholarships. Coaching camps for the players selected for representing State, especially in sub junior segment, to ensure enhanced performance at National level and talent identification at state level for further grooming will be conducted by YSS and education department.

Sports being a vital part of the educational curriculum, it shall be ensured that large-scale participation of students from various educational institutions takes place in all sports competitions, hidden talent is exposed to competitive spirit and the best stuff of sports persons come forward to participate in all National and International levels.

Every year a sports calendar shall be formulated where in a systematic schedule of all the annual events will be planned with the help of various sports associations, Education Department. The Department of Sports will include only approved and recognized championships in the sports calendar.

7.2 FIT India Movement :

Various activities for creating awareness towards fitness under FIT India Programme shall also be organized in accordance with calendar devised by GOI from time to time. Awareness towards fitness, mainly in rural areas, shall be achieved through revival & promotion of traditional sports and even by organising "Prabhat Pheris" in the morning hours when most of the public is out for their daily walks and other physical activity. Provisions for proper documentation of traditional sports shall also be made.

7.3 Gender specific competitions:

The Sports department may organise separate tournaments for both men and women. As competitions for men has been there since time immemorial, but participation of women athletes is comparatively less. With this viewpoint, sporting spirit can be encouraged specially amongst women in the State. Therefore, women sports competitions shall be organised in various disciplines at village, district, state and national level every year in collaboration with Departments of WCD, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj.

7.4 District championship & state championships:

Every year district and state championships shall be organised for recognised sports disciplines by the respective sports associations like athletics, volleyball, hockey, Kabaddi etc. Separate budget provisions will be kept for proper planning, organisation and management of all events. Coaches and other officials shall be assigned duties and responsibilities in a well defined manner for the smooth functioning of all events and identification of budding talent.

State level inter indoor sports complexes/sports training centre tournament shall be organised to provide additional competition opportunity to regular trainees and assess their potential and progress by a select committee. These tournaments shall be synchronised with the celebration of National sports Day, the birthday of Major Dhyani Chand i.e. 29th August, along with Hockey tournament to popularize Hockey and raise awareness amongst masses about multi-faceted benefits of sports. The District Sports Council shall organize high visibility sports events in their respective districts. Private individuals, Corporate, PSUs etc. would be encouraged to sponsor these tournaments.

7.5 Inter-departmental tournaments:

Sports competitions shall also be organised for employed sector in different games like Volleyball, Kabaddi, Badminton, Cricket and T.T. etc. This shall be promoted in collaboration with concerned departments so that sportsman spirit and feeling of unity can be inculcated in the employed class of various departments of the State. Such extra activities for employees also enhance their working capabilities in the long run.

8. Integrating sports with education; Sports in Educational institutions

This policy reiterates the critical importance of sports and games in educational institutions for the achievement of sports policy's objectives. The integration of sports and physical education with educational curriculums mandatory.

An action plan for fitness would be introduced in all schools. Steps will be initiated to augment the availability of infrastructure, including play fields, sports equipment and action may be taken to provide sufficient manpower with main emphasis on competitive sports. This process will fetch good results at school, college and university level and improve the performance of those who have the potential to excel in sports. The State Sports Policy 2021 seeks to:

- a) Make physical education and sports as an integral part of the curriculum in all educational institutions up to higher secondary level. Participation of the each student in any physical sport/activity will be ensured. Weekly duration/hours for physical activities/sports will be required to be fixed
- b) Suitable amendments will be carried out by the education department to introduce yoga and physical activities in their curriculum at Primary education level.
- c) Guidelines may be put in place for recruitment of physical education teachers, instructors right from primary level in providing recognition of schools and colleges by education department.
- d) Encourage the management of educational institutions in both public and private sectors to allocate adequate resources in a time-bound manner for infrastructure, equipment and trained staff whereby ensuring each student with a minimum prescribed standard of facilities for a minimum number of selected sports and games.
- e) Encourage educational institutions at local level will identify popular sports and indigenous games for which special facilities will be provided. While providing special facilities for these games the requirements of girls and physical challenged will also be kept in mind. Special sports competitions for physical challenged students should be encouraged.
- f) Expedite the sports infrastructure creation/up gradation in all schools in the State. At least one Outdoor game facility in elementary schools, two outdoor games facilities in secondary schools and three outdoor games facilities in senior secondary schools would be encouraging and may attract the students more towards physical or sports activities. In colleges, at least five outdoor games facilities would be provided. Multipurpose halls in colleges would be remodelled for use as indoor stadium for indoor games, wherever feasible. Financial requirements and provisions shall be worked out jointly by the department of YSS, Education, Panchayati Raj and urban development as envisaged in policy guidelines on sports infrastructure development.

- g) To augment and strengthen sports infrastructure in all universities in the State. National level sports facilities in at least five games may be created/upgraded in universities. The State Government may support universities in up-gradation of their sports infrastructures either from its own sources or making funds available from Government of India. Each university would have high quality infrastructure such as Astroturf, synthetic track etc. The department of physical health and sports sciences may be created as an independent department in universities. Sports labs would also be setup in the universities, wherever feasible.
- h) Create intensive residential sports training provision for fifty boys and girls under 'One theme - One centre' initiative in colleges in one priority discipline of the area. Provision of qualified staff and other facilities to optimize outcomes will be made.
- i) Encourage the institution management to optimally utilize sports facilities by making them available on commercial terms during off-hours or week-ends or vacations to local communities/youth/sports clubs for regular practice, or for reputed players/organizations to run coaching academies or conduct tournaments.
- j) Ensure participation of every School and College in sports competition at appropriate level. Supporting environment and facilities to be available at schools to enhance athletes' performance. Special attention should be given to introduce medal intensive individual events in these competitions.
- k) Conduct Intra - School, College and institution level competitions. It is suggested that every 4th Saturday be fixed for sports competitions at School level up to 12th standard. Sports Calendar for all the Schools and educational institutions depicting sports activities competitions will be prepared and strictly adhered to.
- l) Education Department will formulate procedure/rules for awarding special marks in internal assessment for students who excel in sports activities at different competitions.
- m) To relax attendance norms for athletes performing at district, divisional, state and national level competitions.
- n) Crash courses on weekends to cover syllabus missed on account of participation in sports competitions
- o) A scheme of scholarship may be introduced for students at school, college and university level bringing laurels to the State at various national/international sports events for further academic/vocational studies should be explored.

9. Training for Sportspersons, human resource and up gradation of coaching techniques:

Training in competitive sports is core to overall concept of sports promotion. All the initiatives and investments made into developing sports infrastructure, mass awareness and tournaments are dependent on a well structured sports training mechanism to make it result oriented.

Training in competitive sports is developing game specific competencies and skills, well qualified, versed and committed coaches are the backbone of system and can contribute to norishand grow a well established system.

Availability of proportionate number of competent human resource at grass root level and regular upgradation of skills is paramount.

Consistent monitoring and analysis of ongoing training inputs by qualified persons is mandatory to keep up the momentum and generate a sense of competitive spirit and zeal.

In order to address the issues in training and provide for a co-ordinated approach State Sports Institute(SSI) is proposed to be set up in the state, on the lines of National Institute of Sports except offering diploma and academic degrees in sports coaching. SSI will optimally utilize the available infrastructure and manpower to provide intensive training to talented sports persons and ensure up gradation of skills of human resource available at grass root level. The main scope of SSI will be:

- To conduct certificate course in sports disciplines to physical education teachers in coordination with department of Education in order to enhance the availability of quality coaching at institution level.
- To conduct refresher courses to qualified NIS coaches for keeping them updated on modern developments in sports training.
- To conduct seminars and conferences on sports issues with national and international perspectives to regularly devise and update roadmap for sports promotion in the state.
- To conduct special courses for certification of referees in collaboration with state sports associations.
- To plan, organize and monitor the special sports training schemes of the government like Sports Hostels, Coaching centers etc. To draft a commonly agreed set of SOPs for sports hostels to ensure uniformity in training to budding champions.
- To setup scientific backup infrastructure in sports training for ensuring availability of all modern facilities to budding sports persons in the state.
- To set and evaluate annual targets for coaches. The performance will be tracked bi-monthly. They will be reviewed and selected for training sessions and workshops based on their performances.
- To organise short term coaching camps prior to national competitions and long term coaching camps for high performing sports persons and high priority disciplines
- To hire experts in coaching and scientific training backup like physiotherapist, medical experts, Sports scientist and trained masseur etc.

- To set up a certification mechanism for infusing professionalism in sports activities e.g. UIAA certification needed to be developed for ABVIMAS Manali.
- To advise government on raising the strength of coaches and disciplines in commensurate with the potential to excel at national/international level.
- To co-ordinate and collaborate with by National Institute of Sports Authority of India at Patiala or LNCP Gwalior.
- Sports Academies in each district, in priority sports discipline of District, will be established, which will initially function in the existing sports infrastructure and facilities available the district. The existing infrastructures will upgraded for sports specific requirement. These academies shall also be run and operated by the State Sports Institute.

State Sports Institute will be headed by a Joint Director rank officer of the department of Youth Services and sports in the rank of Principal. A special committee shall be constituted by the government to draft the detailed project proposal on venue, organisational setup funding pattern and other terms of references for SSI.

10. Creation of Sports databank by Information Technology Tools

Department of Sports shall make extensive use of information technology tools for dissemination of relevant information on matters relating to sports to the various stakeholders, media and public at large. Himachal State Sports Council and Directorate of Sports shall setup and maintain an interactive website that shall contain necessary updated information on matters relating to GOI, State schemes, sports infrastructure, coaches, athletes, club, district sports associations, state associations and the annual event calendars at all levels. The website shall inter alia host information relating to the rules of the various sports disciplines and sports infrastructure. Efforts shall be made to establish an information system to communicate frequent changes in rules in concerned games, regulations of sport. This shall also enable State coaches to be abreast with latest techniques and tactics being followed. SSI will operationalize the concept in practice and maintain a computerised databank of all uniquely identified sports persons above district level along with their performance log updated on regular basis. There shall be periodical analysis and evaluation and updating of the data in order to find out gaps and provide support which in turn will enhance the sports training quality and resultant performance at National/International level.

11. Recognition of Sportspersons and Coaches

11.1 Incentives and Rewards for Sportspersons

A provision of incentives provides recognition, encouragement, self respect and financial security to distinguished sportsperson, during and after their sporting careers, and motivates youth in serious pursuit of sports activities. Social recognition, conferment of awards and honours at national and international level, incentives in form of cash awards and avenues of employment will be important elements of the State Sports Policy, 2021. Sportspersons Welfare Fund already introduced will further be rationalized to extend benefits.

As sportspersons get injuries during practice sessions or important sports events, adequate assistance is imperative for insurance cover and medical treatment in the event of such eventuality. An insurance scheme shall be formulated to insure sports persons in such emergency situations. All the State Level athletes of high priority and priority disciplines will be insured with cover money of ₹ 5 lakh for any injuries.

Suitable incentives will be provided to Coaches for developing skills and enriching experience. Post of coach/Junior coach will be upgraded and present anomaly of coach/Jr.coach scale lower to less qualified sports staff in other government departments will be rectified.

11.2 Awards and Cash Incentives

Incentives through cash rewards are one of the best ways to motivate and promote excellence in sports. The cash rewards on winning medals and Nation/International level and awards are being revised to align it more towards enhancing performance of the sportspersons. Sportspersons embark on intensive trainings and spend precious time of their youth while ignoring or pursuing other career options.

A special committee will be constituted by the government annually to recommend the cash awards on the basis of established parameters and merit of the case.

11.3 State Parshuram Award

State Parshuram Award is the highest award of the State government for outstanding players of Himachal Pradesh. The award is provided under the rules for awards to outstanding sports persons of State Sports Council. The award is provided once in lifetime to sportspersons who represent Himachal continuously for five years and have won Gold or Silver Medal in individual Olympic disciplines in the National Games and Senior National Championship in addition to other notified international performances. Where as in team events and other sports disciplines participation at international level of the individual athletes with at least once in Olympic, Asian games or Common wealth will be mandatory. The criteria for the award will remain through a rationalised and transparent selection procedure under the rules.

State Parshuram award winner who are without any social security pension scheme at the age of 60 years will be provided with monthly pension cover. Such incentives for the outstanding sportspersons will work as a positive reinforcement for many other upcoming talented youths of the state.

11.4 Introduction of New Awards/Scholarships

To promote the sports culture and recognition of sportsperson in Himachal Pradesh, Government of Himachal Pradesh has planned to introduce some new awards.

11.4.1 Special sports scholarship for national medallists out of Residential schemes:

When a player representing Himachal at its own level without assistance of any residential sports training scheme of govt., semi govt. or PSU, wins a medal at recognised national championship, he/she will be offered selection in residential sports training facility or a special monthly scholarship to exemplify and sustain sports training for next three years.

11.4.2 State Guru Vashisth Award for coach

This award will be given to one outstanding coach working in the State for exemplary service rendered for excellence in sports by producing players in the recognised games in National and International championships. The award will be given once to the Coach in his/ her lifetime.

Cash awards to medal winners

The cash award and other incentives to be given to the medal winners of national and international competition by the Sports Department will be enhanced. The awards would be given to sportspersons for their outstanding performance in sports. State sports associations, university administration and department of Education will submit detail of medal winners at National & International level annually in the month of December.

While recommending the cash award for coach of high performing athletes committee will take into cognizance training period, performance coach and basic coach for the sports person.

Now the cash award to medal winners will be given as per the details given below.

S.No.	Tournament/ Championship	Medal	Cash Award for Sports Person	Cash Award for Coaches
1.	Summer Olympics/Winter Olympics/ Paralympics Games	Gold	3,00,00,000	1,00,00,000
		Silver	2,00,00,000	60,00,000
		Bronze	1,00,00,000	40,00,000
		Participation	15,00,000	7,50,000
2.	Asian Games/ Para Asian Games	Gold	50,00,000	25,00,000
		Silver	30,00,000	15,00,000
		Bronze	20,00,000	10,00,000
		Participation	03,00,000	01,50,000
3.	Commonwealth Games/ Para Commonwealth Games	Gold	50,00,000	25,00,000
		Silver	30,00,000	12,50,000
		Bronze	20,00,000	10,00,000
		Participation	3,00,000	01,50,000
4.	World Cup / World Championship/ Para World Games once in 4 years)	Gold	50,00,000	10,00,000
		Silver	30,00,000	07,50,000
		Bronze	20,00,000	05,00,000

Note:- Only Olympic events

5.	World University Games/ Championship	Gold	10,00,000	02,50,000
		Silver	06,00,000	01,50,000
		Bronze	04,00,000	01,00,000
6.	Youth Olympic Games	Gold	10,00,000	02,50,000
		Silver	06,00,000	01,50,000
		Bronze	04,00,000	01,00,000
7.	Youth Asian Games	Gold	05,00,000	02,50,000
		Silver	03,00,000	01,50,000
		Bronze	02,00,000	01,00,000
8.	Asian/ Commonwealth Championship/ Cup <u>Note:-Only Olympic events.</u>	Gold	05,00,000	02,50,000
		Silver	03,00,000	01,50,000
		Bronze	02,00,000	01,00,000
9.	Youth Commonwealth Games	Gold	05,00,000	01,50,000
		Silver	03,00,000	01,00,000
		Bronze	02,00,000	50,000
10.	SAF Games	Gold	06,00,000	03,00,000
		Silver	04,00,000	02,00,000
		Bronze	03,00,000	01,25,000
11.	Sr. National Championship /National Games/ Para National Championship <u>Note:-Only Olympic events.</u>	Gold	05,00,000	02,50,000
		Silver	03,00,000	01,50,000
		Bronze	02,00,000	01,00,000
12.	National School Games/kheloindia (U-19)	Gold	1,00,000	25,000
		Silver	60,000	15,000
		Bronze	40,000	10,000
13.	National Youth Games	Gold	1,00,000	50,000
		Silver	60,000	30,000
		Bronze	40,000	20,000
14.	All India Inter University/kheloindia university Tournaments/ Championship	Gold	01,00,000	50,000
		Silver	60,000	30,000
		Bronze	40,000	20,000
15.	National Women Sports Festival	Gold	1,00,000	25,000
		Silver	60,000	15,000
		Bronze	40,000	10,000
16.	All India Rural Sports Tournament/U_17/Jr national/National School Games	Gold	1,00,000	25,000
		Silver	60,000	15,000
		Bronze	40,000	10,000
17.	National School Games (U-14) /sub jr.	Gold	50,000	25,000
		Silver	30,000	15,000
		Bronze	20,000	10,000
18.	Whenever a sports person representing Himachal qualifies for Olympics	Special grant for training Aids	Rs. 5,00,000	

19.	Whenever a sportsperson participates in any recognized international sports Competition in Olympic sports as a member of the Indian contingent he or She shall be entitled to Cash Prize	Participation	02,00,000	01,00,000
20.	Non Olympic/Non priority disciplines Sr. National	Gold Silver Bronze	3,00,000 1,50,000 1,00,000	25,000 15,000 10,000
21.	Non Olympic/Non priority disciplines Jr. National	Gold Silver Bronze	50,000 30,000 20,000	15,000 10,000 05,000
22.	Special Olympic- World Games (international) for mentally Challenged	Gold Silver Bronze	10,00,000 7,50,000 5,00,000	
23.	Special Olympic (national) for mentally Challenged	Gold Silver Bronze	3,00,000 2,00,000 1,00,000	
24.	Whenever any sportsperson establishes a new world record in any individual Olympic event, he /she shall be entitled to cash prize	----- --	1,00,00,000	50,00,000
25.	Whenever any sportsperson establishes a new Asian/Commonwealth Record in any individual Olympic event, he/she shall be entitled to a cash prize.	----- --	50,00,000	25,00,000
26.	Whenever any sportsperson establishes a new National record in any individual Olympic event, he/she shall be entitled to a cash prize.	----- -	05,00,000	02,50,000
27.	Parshuram / Guruvashist Award	Award	05,00,000	05,00,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Above mentioned cash prizes are for medal winners in individual events. For team events individual players will be paid 30% amount meant for individual medal winning players. • Prize Money meant for Coaches will be divided between coaches involved at various levels as per guidelines fixed by SAI from time to time and modified with state perspective. 				

12. Career counselling and progression for Sports persons:

It has been observed that sportspersons after getting distinction in various sports/games do not have sufficient opportunities for career progression. Academically, sportspersons do not have an edge over other students. As such after certain stage of career, they need appropriate job opportunities. There is need to counsel such sportspersons at school and college level to pursue professional and job oriented courses, so that after completion of studies they are suitably employed.

The State Government understands that there is an urgent need for combining practical and vocational training to prepare State's sportspersons for a secondary career or a higher education in the Sports related areas. The Department of Sports & Youth Affairs, Government of Himachal Pradesh plans to tie-up with training service providers registered with Sports, Physical Education, Fitness & Leisure Skill Council (SPEFL-SC) to impart vocational education through various certificate courses. This would enable a secondary career option for those who opt out of sports due to injury, age and various reasons. A plan to introduce vocational courses for up-skilling athletes has been envisaged. In sports area, Vocational courses for men and women can be for Sports Coach/ Ayurvedic Sports Massage/ Fitness Trainer or Coach/ Gym Trainer/Sports Masseur / Sports Massage Therapist/ Sports Nutritionist/ Sports Turf/ Field Maintenance Worker. The District Sports Offices will be provided training to act as counselling officers though youth coordinators. Efforts will also be made to mobilize resources to provide financial support to the needy sportspersons for pursuing vocational training courses.

12.1 3% Reservation in Direct Recruitment

Recommendations under 3% reservations for eminent sports person in govt. jobs are made by employment cell in the department of YSS, H.P. in accordance with guidelines notified by department of Personnel on the requisition of the department concerned. It will be an endeavour that these posts are filled in transparent and time bound manner through the use of Information Technology. Implementation of 3% job reservation quota has provided certain feedbacks, which demand adaptations. Required amendments in the existing rules, if needed, shall be carried out.

There is policy of 3% reservation in direct recruitment of posts in Class-III and IV categories in all the State Government departments, Boards and Corporations, other than High Court, Governor's Secretariat, Himachal Pradesh Public Service Commission & Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha to sports persons. 3 % reservation has been provided to the defined categories with respect of Class-I & II posts in five departments of Himachal Pradesh. It will be extended to other departments as well?

Minimum eligibility for availing 3% sports quota will be enhanced to five senior National participation in recognised tournaments.

Sports persons from all sports disciplines will be continued to be covered. Priority will be provided to Olympics, Asian games, commonwealth and other sports disciplines respectively in that order.

It has been observed that present system of providing 3% job reservation is working as a post sports career settlement package. During active sports career budding sports persons are allured and offered jobs by national and other state bodies. As a result sports talent is moving out of state and performing for other entities at peak of career. Departments will be advised to recruit performing athletes at youth and early senior stage with a condition of active sports participation for minimum five years in order to provide additional incentive and performance booster.

13. Taking care of 'Divyangjan'

Sports Department will take effective steps to facilitate sporting needs of 'Divyangjan' sportspersons. The Government considers this aspect as an essential component of the State Sports Policy. Department will further boost their efforts in providing them barrier-free access at all sports stadiums/complexes, enabling them also to take advantage of the latest sports training facilities in the State. District and state level tournaments with even better facilities for the different categories of Divyangjan shall be organized every year. Adequate opportunities will be provided to them for their participation in Para Olympics events. The Department also proposes to organize need based coaching camps for the Divyang sportspersons in the state.

Special efforts shall be made to adapt different sports disciplines in collaboration with the department of Empowerment of Schedule Castes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Specially Abled to meet their needs. The state sports associations representing sports for Divyangjan (differently-abled) will be treated at par with other associations. Award scheme has been formulated for them, at par with other sports, to promote sports among them.

14. Ethics and Sports Development

The Department shall, all along, promote fairness and ethics in sports. All steps shall be taken to check malpractices such as under reporting of age, doping, nepotism, favouritism, dilution of standards etc. Those found indulging in malpractices shall be debarred to get any facility from the State Government including awards, scholarship, honours or any other incentive.

Efforts shall be made to notify Anti-doping code, introduce recognition of Sports associations to ensure transparency and accountability, bringing sports associations under purview of Right to Information Act, measures to ensure free, fair and transparent selection of State teams, measures to combat age frauds and guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports.

15. Mass Communication

The Government will put in place a communication strategy to raise level of awareness of sports among masses. It would include impact of sports on personality development, preventive healthcare, drug Addiction social inclusion and inculcation of constitutional ideals.

Publicity and media plays an important role in dissemination of information with respect to sports among masses. A magazine of suitable title such as Khel Himachal would be started by the department of sports bi-annually.

16. Implementation Mechanism

To realise the goals, set forth in ensuring objective based outcomes, monitoring impact of initiatives undertaken on mass participation in sports and long-term sports person development, implementation mechanism has to be all inclusive and vibrant. Department of YSS will act as nodal agency with its own sports policy implementation cell, working committee that will monitor and implement the sports policy of the state. Working committee on sports policy will meet bi-annually to formulate, assess and review the action plan.

A high level co-ordination committee of all stake holders like department of education, sports federations, private & public promoters and eminent sports persons will meet annually to ensure consistent and co-ordinated action by all.

17. Sports Policy Review

Sports Policy aims to achieve targeted growth and evolution of conducive conditions for aspiring sports enthusiasts. It demands for a dynamic and ever adapting policy document. Sports Policy will be reviewed every five years to assess the progress made, plan for challenges ahead and setting new milestones to achieve.

18. Conclusion

Sports play a key role for inculcating national pride not only in sports enthusiasts but also amongst society. The Sports Policy has been upgraded with latest requisites and resource facilitations for the ever-growing aspirations of people of Himachal. The new policy aims at consolidating the progress made so far, espousing new initiatives and making adjustments that shall enable the State Government to promote sports with a renewed resolve and fresh vigour and to provide excellent opportunities to emerging and promising sportspersons.

The new Sports Policy is an outcome of discussions with the stakeholders for intensification of sports culture within sports lovers as well as in whole community. Discussions were held reflecting on current scenario of sports in the State and how to bring about the change as envisioned in the policy.

This policy has undertaken latest sports principles with integrated sports related policies and programmes like undertaking of grass root approach, long term sportsperson development, ensuring participation of clubs and obtaining sustainable sports achievements.

This policy upholds the idea of highest ethical standards and moralistic sportsmanship for impartial outcomes. Increased participations of all sports persons can be achieved through incorporating it as an integral part of education also. Various fitness programmes shall be introduced in all schools in the State. Steps have been initiated to augment the availability of infrastructure, including playfields, sports equipment. The Physical Education Teachers (PETs) and Demonstrators of Physical Education (DPEs) also shall be provided with skill learning techniques so that they also impart skill teaching to the enthusiastic sports persons in the Schools.

Incorporation of various sports associations also plays a crucial role in promotion of sports and shall continue to support them in every manner. Sports talent will be identified, and training will be provided according to their strengths and capabilities. This will be done with the help of introduction of suitable mechanisms to achieve co-ordination between Coaches and athletes. Not only this, many new awards and incentives have been introduced to entice many sports personnel so that they actively participate for achieving laurels for the State.

With the dynamic and dedicated efforts of the State Government and other stakeholders, the State will certainly achieve the New Sports Policy's Vision with the active participation and involvement of one and all.