

सत्यमेव जयते

Department of Sports
GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

NEW SPORTS POLICY 2015



মমতা বানার্জী
ममता बैनर्जी
ممتا بنرجی
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CHIEF MINISTER, WEST BENGAL

Dated 16th April, 2015

Foreword

Our Government has prepared a new Sports Policy 2015.

West Bengal has a very rich culture of Sports. The aim of the Policy is to lead to an all round improvement in Sports and Games in Bengal and generate a new sense of enthusiasm within the sports fraternity to achieve greater heights in national and international competitions.

I wish this unique initiative all success.


(Mamata Banerjee)

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NEW SPORTS POLICY, 2015

1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1 Sports and games are a way of life for the people of the state of West Bengal. They are also an important medium for developing human resource, fostering social harmony and inculcating discipline in the society. It also helps channelizing the vast youth demographic potential in society building.
- 1.2 This policy has been prepared to achieve improvement in the Sports eco-system within the state through well thought out initiatives in improving the sports infrastructure, enhancing competitiveness, identification of talent at the grass root level, provisioning of best facilities for promising and talented sports persons, by incentivizing participation in sports and thereby lead to achievement of all-round excellence in various Sports disciplines.



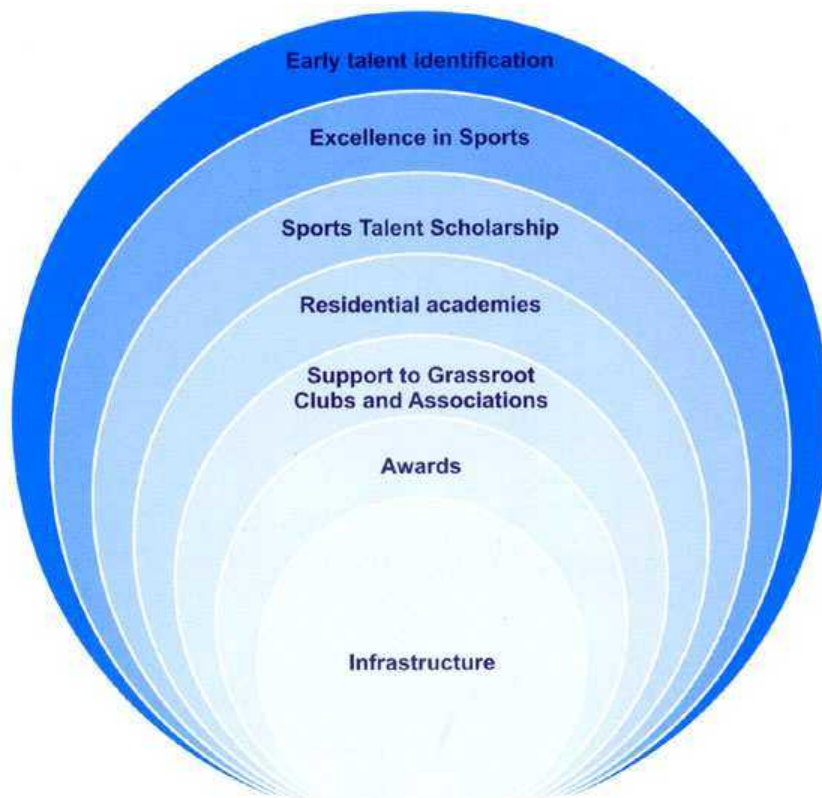
Newly renovated international standard dressing room
at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan



2. VISION

To completely transform the sports culture in the state through inculcating competitive spirit, camaraderie and sportsmanship; creation of adequate sports infrastructure; early identification of talent; nurturing and hand-holding of young talented sports persons; encouraging rural sports competitions; harmonizing sports activity within school curriculum; broad basing sports by adopting maximum Olympic disciplines yet focusing on a few medal winning one; and incentivizing sports for promoting sports as a stand-alone profession.

New Sports Policy, 2015



3. OBJECTIVES

The New Sports Policy, 2015 seeks to achieve the following objectives in furtherance of the vision enunciated above:

- 3.1 To improve the existing sports infrastructure and develop latest state-of-the art sports infrastructure in the state.
- 3.2 To encourage sports & youth clubs to conduct sports activities.
- 3.3 To provide cash incentives, awards and employment opportunities to outstanding sportspersons.
- 3.4 To strengthen infrastructure in educational institutions including Universities.
- 3.5 To create a culture of sports by imbibing higher moral and ethical values, spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie and thereby raise the level of desire to excel among the youth of the State.
- 3.6 To make efforts to encourage adventure sports in the State.
- 3.7 To take all steps to bring about transparency in the working of the State Sports Associations.
- 3.8 To ensure sustainable financial support to all State Sport associations so as to maximize regular activity in the field of sports and at the same time encourage these associations to create their own resources to obviate total dependence on the State.
- 3.9 To take appropriate steps to encourage involvement of Private and Corporate entities in the development of sports infrastructure, training and conduct of sports competition leading to broad basing of sports in the State.
- 3.10 To recognize talent in sports and reward young women and men, who achieve excellence in Sports.



4. STRATEGY TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES

- 4.1 The sports department will conduct an analysis of the availability of sports infrastructure at different levels of administrative structure-namely block, sub-division, district, and state.
- 4.2 A shelf of schemes will be prepared at the state level so as to prioritize and allocate financial and human resources to different levels.
- 4.3 A compendium of existing infrastructure will be prepared and information uploaded on the website for easy dissemination.
- 4.4 As a first step, Sports department will take necessary steps to upgrade the existing sports infrastructure to the national level and strive to construct a sports stadium in every Sub-divisional town.
- 4.5 Basic Physical Education and Sports facility/ infrastructure would be made available in schools and colleges and sports will be made compulsory in the educational curriculum.
- 4.6 A suitable relaxation in total marks will be given for state level position holders and national level participants for admission in undergraduate and postgraduate level for inspiration.
- 4.7 Relaxation in percentage of attendance for appearing in the final examination will be allowed by the Higher Education department for Sportspersons participating in District/State /National level games and tournaments.
- 4.8 Physical fitness will be specially targeted right from the school level and at least one hour would be set apart for physical training and sports activities in the school time table.
- 4.9 Sports in schools and colleges will be promoted through regular competitions at different levels and also through institution of state level championships. Necessary funds for the same will be allotted appropriately for organizing such tournaments.



- 4.10 Incentives will be provided for the sportspersons and high achievers in national and international tournaments to motivate them to excel in sports. These incentives will be in the form of cash awards, employment opportunities, and other means of recognition for high achievers in sports.
- 4.11 District Sports Councils and the Sub-divisional Sports Councils will be re-constituted with a wider participation of the sport bodies, and will be responsible for organizing sports events in their respective jurisdiction. A detailed guideline in this respect will be issued by the Sports Department.
- 4.12 The district sports council will also organize regular coaching camps in different identified disciplines. Adequate number of coaches from the state level will also be deputed as and when required for such camps.
- 4.13 Talent identification camps will be organized regularly at district and state level for selected sports discipline. A suitable database of such identified budding sportspersons will be prepared and efforts will be made to provide them with the best available coaching facilities within the state.
- 4.14 The state level sports associations will be provided with financial resources subject to meeting their mandates as identified by the state government and the national federations. Efforts will be made to ensure regular functioning of the recognized Sports Association and strengthening of their monitoring through the West Bengal State Council of Sports (WBSCS).
- 4.15 Funds will be provided to School and College for development of playgrounds on need basis and for purchase of sports equipments.
- 4.16 Schools, colleges, universities, corporate bodies, and state public sector undertakings will be encouraged to form their own sports team and to patronize specific teams at the state level.
- 4.17 Efforts will be made to involve private sector and corporate world in patronizing sports teams and players, and supporting the sports infrastructure and related



activities within the state.

- 4.18 A state wide cadre of coaches will be created for different disciplines. Efforts will be made to arrange coaching camps in all the districts for selected disciplines.
- 4.19 Efforts will be made to ensure proper documentation of sports events having relevance to the state. A central documentation centre will be established at the state level and suitable replications will be done at the district level.
- 4.20 In order to popularize sports activity in the state, different clubs will be provided with cash grants to enable them purchase of sports equipment, organize coaching camps and competitions. Detailed guidelines are as annexed at Annexure I.



Statue of Padmasree Gostho Pal

5. ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS

- 5.1 Winning medals in the international events like Olympics, Asian games, World Cup, Commonwealth games, etc has always occupied a place of immense pride in the international arena. A large number of countries have created very good resource base and infrastructure to support their sportspersons. These countries also spend a good amount of resources for training, coaching and providing necessary facilities to their sportsmen. It is therefore necessary that the achievers and talented sportspersons are provided the right environment and state support for ensuring their success in the highly competitive international matches.
- 5.2 The State Government will financially support individual sportsperson from West Bengal who qualify for the Olympic/ Commonwealth games/Asian Games/World Cup and similar level of continental competitions to the extent it remains uncovered from any other source.
- 5.3 The state government will concentrate on the following sports discipline to achieve excellence. This will be done with the overall objective of winning medals in the international level tournaments and sports events. These disciplines are as follows: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Weight-lifting, Football, Tennis, Gymnastics, Hockey, Table Tennis, Swimming, Kabbadi, and Wushu/Karate. This list will be reviewed on a periodic basis every five years or earlier as required.
- 5.4 For the selected disciplines, state government will set up centers of excellence and residential academies with international standard facilities and equipments. The sports department may, at its discretion, also invite Corporate/Private participation to run these academies in a professional manner.
- 5.5 The sports department will also try to tie up with reputed corporate or eminent Sportspersons for sponsoring the academies in full or in part and may also allow such bodies to manage the sports training and development for a fixed period on mutually agreeable terms.





- 5.6 A ***State Sports Institute*** will be set up which will enable the sports persons to undergo Certificate and Diploma courses in sports coaching methodology, sports medicine and nutrition, Physical education, equipment advancement, training regimen, and other allied subjects to widen the scope of employment and also to create a wider pool of coaches in the state.
- 5.7 The Sports Department will collaborate with sports associations at the state level and provide financial support, where necessary, for organizing state level league matches, organizing coaching camps, and promoting the development of sports in the state. Detailed guidelines on the financial support will be issued by the Sports Department in due course.
- 5.8 A ***Promising Sportsperson Training Scheme*** will be launched. Under this scheme, sportspersons who have secured top 4 position at the National level will be provided with the necessary international/national coaching/training, equipment, and other necessary support for enhanced and improved performance at the international and national level. Detailed guidelines will be issued later by the Sports Department.
- 5.9 An ***Early Sports Talent Scholarship Scheme*** will be started in which every year 10 sports persons will be identified in the age group 8-14 in each of the above disciplines identified for achieving excellence. This identification will be done based on performance in district and state level competitions and shall be done after due publicity. Besides, another 50 sports person will be identified in other sports discipline. These sportspersons will be provided annual scholarships for a maximum period of 5 years. Detailed guidelines will be issued later by the Sports Department.
- 5.10 Each District Sports Council will start ***Sports Nursery*** in the district stadium in at least 4 out of the above identified disciplines, where students will be admitted for training under different sports discipline. After suitable coaching, these students will be screened further for intensive training in the sports academies to be set in the state.

- 5.11 In order to provide the right environment for excellence in international and national competitions, the Sports Department will set up residential academies in different disciplines. To begin with, such academies will be started for Football, Table Tennis, Archery, Badminton, Volley Ball, Athletics, Gymnastics and Swimming immediately. These academies will have state of the art equipments and other facilities at par with the international levels. Each academy will have suitable staffing to ensure its efficient management.
- 5.12 To the extent possible, profit making State Government Public Undertaking will be requested to adopt a sports academy in the state as part of their CSR activity.



Jhargram Sports Academy



Gorkha Stadium at Labong, Darjeeling



6. AWARDS AND INCENTIVES TO SPORTSPERSONS

- 6.1 In order to recognize the contribution of sportspersons from the state, the sports department will confer four categories of awards every year. The awardees will be selected from among nominations received by the committee constituted for this purpose. These are:



Hon'ble Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee felicitated Swapna Barman, Gold medal winner of 35th National Games

- 6.1.1 **Lifetime achievement award:** This award will be given to a maximum of two sportsperson every year, who have contributed immensely towards the promotion of sports and will be granted for exceptional performance at international level. This award will carry a cash incentive along with a citation.
- 6.1.2 **Banglar Gourab Award:** This award will be given to veteran sportspersons, who have contributed to the popularization and promotion of sports in the state. This award will carry a cash incentive along with a citation.
- 6.1.3 **Krira Guru Samman:** This award will be given to eminent Coaches and trainers, who have devoted themselves for the cause of coaching and training in sports. This award will carry a cash incentive along with a citation.
- 6.1.4 **Khel Samman:** This award will be given to sportspersons who have brought laurels to the state in any sports discipline. This award will carry a cash incentive along with a citation.
- 6.1.5 Detailed guidelines for these awards including eligibility are as per annexure II.

- 6.2 In order to encourage and recognize the contribution of coaches for enabling excellence at the international level, a suitable cash award scheme will be adopted.
- 6.3 Similarly, the players achieving medals at the international competitions will also be given cash incentives as per the guidelines appended in the annexure II.
- 6.4 Players who have received Arjun Award, Khel Ratna Award, Dronacharya award, Lifetime achievement award, Khel Samman award, Khel Guru Award, and Banglar Gourab award will be allowed free travel in the state transport buses including deluxe buses, state run waterways, and trams. The players attending state level tournaments will be provided 75% concession on their bus tickets.
- 6.5 The state government provides 30% reservation in vacancies of posts falling under purview of the West Bengal Regulation of Recruitment in State Government establishments of Public Undertakings, Statutory Bodies, Government Companies and Local Bodies Act, 1999 (West Bengal Act XIV of 1999) for persons belonging to "Exempted Categories". As per the policy of the government, all sportspersons who have secured 1st, 2nd, or 3rd position at the National level championship or 1st position at the State level championship in respect of events included in the Olympic Games are considered in the "Exempted Category". Besides this 30% reservation under Exempted category, as per extant rules, reservation may also be made for meritorious non-professional sportspersons. The sports department will take suitable steps for ensuring that the benefits of this policy are made available to the sportspersons:
 - 6.5.1 A dedicated cell will be established in the Sports Department to monitor the filling up of vacancies meant for Sportspersons under the State government.
 - 6.5.2 This cell will regularly invite applications from Eligible sportspersons and would keep regular liaison with the Exempted Category cell in the directorate of Employment, Labour Department,





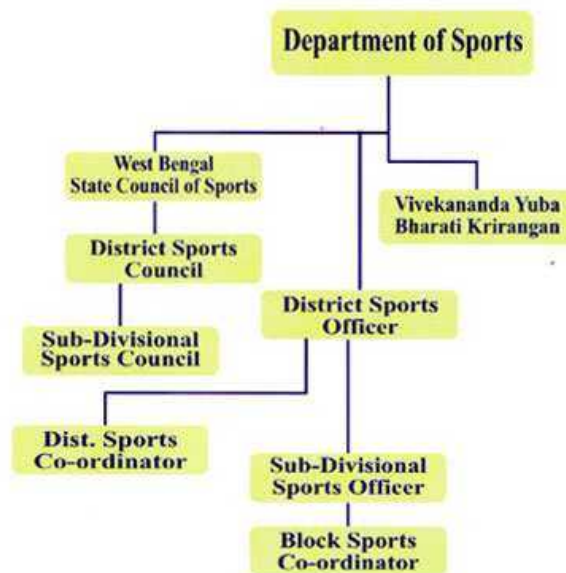
Govt. of West Bengal.

- 6.5.3 The sports quota posts lying vacant in different departments, Semi government bodies like Corporations and Boards, would be identified to provide jobs to eligible sports persons of the State.
- 6.6 Indigent Olympians or national champions from the state will be awarded a monthly pension depending on their financial condition. Suitable norms for the same will be formed in consultation with the finance department.
- 6.7 Recognized State Sports Associations will be provided a lump sum grant for participation in the national level tournaments. This grant will include the train fare and some pocket money for the participant players, coaches and two representatives of the association. The grant will be decided based on the number of players being sent and the location of tournament.
- 6.8 A lump sum grant will be provided annually for organizing state level tournaments to the recognized State Sports association and the District Sports Council where the tournament is being held. The sports associations will submit to the sports department a month wise calendar of sports activities/competitions planned by them by 31st January every year.
- 6.9 A lump sum grant will be provided to the District Sports Council annually to organize the annual district sports meet. Similarly, a lump sum grant will be provided to the School sports directorate of the School Education department for organizing the school sports competition at the state level.
- 6.10 Higher Education Department will take necessary measures to set up a Universities Sports Board in consultation with the Sports Department.
- 6.11 Universities which perform well in the Moulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy will be provided with suitable cash awards.



7. ADMINISTRATION

- 7.1 Each District will have a designated District Sports Officer (DSO) from among the deputy magistrates posted at the district headquarters. The DSO will function as the member-secretary of the District Sports Council. In order to assist the DSO in discharging his duties, District and Block level Sports Coordinators (who shall be Sportsperson or other eminent persons) will be recruited on contractual basis in each district. Detailed recruitment guidelines will be framed in consultation with the Finance Department. A few coaches may also be deputed on temporary or permanent basis from the WBSCS to the district sports office.

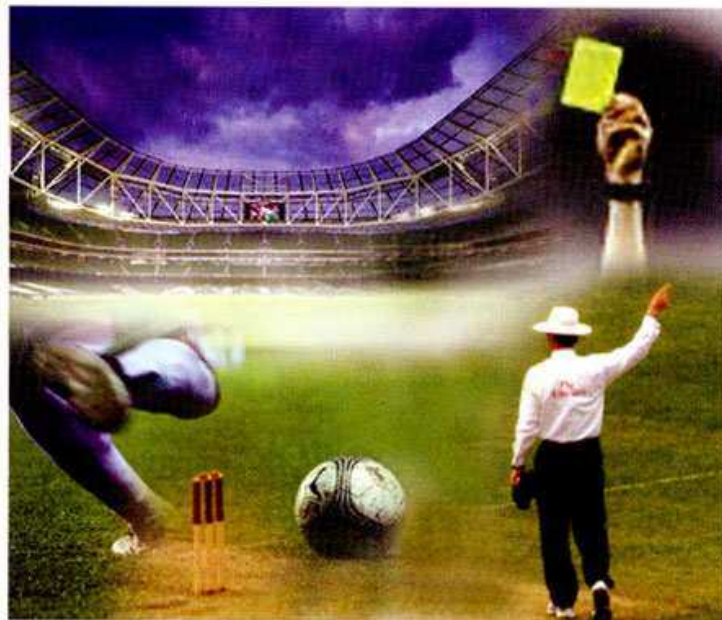


- 7.2 Similarly, each sub-division will have a designated Sub-divisional Sports Officer (SDSO) from among the deputy magistrates posted at the sub-divisional headquarter. The SDSO will function as the member-secretary of the Sub-divisional Sports Council. A few coaches may also be deputed on temporary or permanent basis from the WBSCS to the sub-divisional sports office.
- 7.3 The Sports department will set up a sports Museum and a state sports library.
- 7.4 A suitable cadre of Coaches will be formed within the state. Coaches with ten years of coaching experience and relevant credentials will be allowed to be promoted as Senior Coaches after conducting a suitability interview by the Sports Department.





- 7.5 A database of Referees, umpires, and judges will be created and suitable rates will be fixed for different events so as to motivate and systematize this important part of the sports fraternity. Sports department will take necessary steps to raise their professional competence and also help in their national and international accreditations.
- 7.6 The State Sports Associations will be required to adhere to utmost transparency in their functioning for being eligible for financial support from the state government.
- 7.7 For this purpose, the sports associations will be required to hold regular elections every 4 years and the office bearers shall not hold a position continuously for more than 3 terms.
- 7.8 A *Players Committee* with not more than 12 members will also be formed by each sports association, which will have at least 50% members as the current players. This committee will hold office for a maximum of 2 years after which a fresh committee will be formed. The State Sports Department and The Bengal Olympic association will nominate 2 members each on this committee from among the current and veteran players in the respective field.



8. Implementation Plan

As with all policy documents this policy has been prepared keeping the implementation plan into two parts - short term (Two Years) and Medium Term (Five Years). It is envisaged that the initiatives mentioned in the policy will be acted upon in the following manner:

SHORT TERM	MEDIUM TERM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up of state level academies for football, swimming, archery, volleyball, gymnastics & athletics • Guidelines for cash incentives for position holders in national/international sports events • Starting sports nursery in all districts • Launching of promising sportsperson training scheme • Reconstitution of district and sub-divisional sports council • Instituting awards for recognition of talented sportspersons and for national/international achievements • Establishing a dedicated cell for monitoring employment under sports quota • Concession in state transport for sports-persons and awardees • Relaxation in attendance and admission for talented sports persons in higher education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of a sports stadium in every sub-division • Starting of early sports talent scholarship scheme • Setting up of a state level sports museum and sports library • Setting up of state sports institute • Setting up of university sports board by higher education department • Setting up of state level and district level documentation centres • Adoption of state level residential academies by state PSUs and corporate bodies • Constitution of a state-wide cadre of coaches in various sports discipline • Creation of a database of referees, judges and umpires • Lump sum grant to sports associations and district councils for organizing sports meet

9. This policy issues with the approval of the cabinet and shall be reviewed periodically after every 3 years or as and when required.

By order of the Governor

Sd/-
(Rajesh Pandey)
Secretary
Department of Sports





1. COACHING CAMPS :

In order to provide necessary support for sports coaching and competitions at the district level and the state level, the following guidelines will be followed:



- 1.1 So far, the West Bengal State Council of Sports has been organizing non-residential Coaching Camps of different disciplines through various Clubs/Organizations in the Districts and Kolkata. It is proposed that henceforth all such Coaching Camps will be held in the stadiums at District, Subdivision or Municipal level, wherever available.
- 1.2 Camps will be organized jointly by the West Bengal State Council of Sports, the District Sports Council, and the concerned State Association at the existing Government infrastructure and not through any Club/Organization.
- 1.3 The entire expenditure of these camps will be borne by the Sports department at the rates to be decided from time to time.
- 1.4 Each District Sports Council will send to the WBSCS a detailed calendar of training camps proposed to be organized at the different stadiums/sports academy within the district by 15th January every year.

2. CLUB GRANTS :

- 2.1 It will be mandatory for all Clubs/Organizations receiving cash grants from the state government to arrange Coaching Camp of at least two disciplines with the help of local coaches or under guidance of coaches of the WBSCS.
- 2.2 Selected trainees of such camps shall have to mandatorily participate at the coaching camp being organized directly by WBSCS and the concerned State Association as proposed at 1.1 above.
- 2.3 The residual amount of the grant can be used by the Clubs/Organizations for development of infrastructure and purchase of sports equipments.
- 2.4 Failure to organize such coaching camps or submission of Utilization Certificate shall make these Clubs/Organizations non-eligible to receive further grants.

3. GRANTS TO STATE ASSOCIATION :

State Associations of sports disciplines recognized in the Olympic will be provided monetary assistance to hold different levels of Championship.

- 3.1 For participation in sports meets at National/International Level being held in other states/country, the participating team will be provided actual 3 tier train fares for return journey and cost of kit, if required, and a daily allowance for each member of team. The daily allowance will be as decided by the finance department. For international journeys, economy class airfares with the shortest route will be reimbursed.
- 3.2 The concerned state association will submit a proposal to the Sports department for this purpose in the requisite form well before the teams leave for such tournaments.
- 3.3 In case of State Tournaments / Championships where both food and lodging is provided by the State Government, participants will be eligible for re-imbursement of actual fares for travelling beyond 8 KM.
- 3.4 The Sports Department will periodically revise the quantum of grants for organizing championships/ tournaments at different levels as well as the daily allowance for participation in National/International meets.



1. ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS FOR AWARDS TO BE GRANTED TO EMINENT SPORTSPERSONS :

In order to become eligible for receiving the awards instituted under para 6.1 of this policy, the following matrix of points for participation under different category of tournaments will be followed. The sportspersons, who earn a cumulative minimum of 40 points in the last 5 years immediately preceding the award, would become eligible for the Khel Samman award as per criteria mentioned below:-

S. No	Name of Tournament	Gold Medal	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Participation
1.	Olympic Games	100	90	80	25
2.	World Cup Championship (4 years)	80	70	60	20
3.	Paralympic	70	60	50	15
4.	Asian Games	60	50	40	15
5.	Commonwealth Games	60	50	40	15
6.	Asian/Commonwealth Championship/Cup (2 years)	40	30	20	10
7.	World Junior Championships	40	30	20	10
8.	SAF games	20	15	10	10
9.	World Universities	20	15	10	5
10.	National Games/National Championships	15	12	10	5

- 1.1 For team events, each member of the team will get the points as mentioned in the matrix above.
- 1.2 The minimum requirement for the awards are as follows:
 - 1.2.1 Khel Samman - 40 points
 - 1.2.2 Banglar Gourab - 80 points
 - 1.2.3 Lifetime achievement - 120 points
 - 1.2.4 Krira Guru Samman - 80 points taken together for all the trainees.
- 1.3 A person who has been awarded a Krira Guru samman, or a Banglar Gaurab samman, can only be awarded Lifetime achievement award on achievement of minimum requirement as mentioned above.
- 1.4 A person who has been awarded Khel Samman can be awarded Krira Guru award or Banglar Gourab award or Lifetime achievement award subject to achievement of minimum requirements mentioned above.

- 1.5 Awardees of Lifetime achievement award cannot be given any other award in this category.
2. The Sports Department will notify constitution of a Committee for considering nominations for these awards. This committee will recommend conferment of awards strictly as per the matrix of eligibility given above. The committee may also interpret the admissibility of various tournaments / cups / championships in different sports disciplines for treating them as National / International event. The committee will also give suitable weightage to the prestigious national awards like Arjun award, Khel Ratna Award and Dronacharya award.

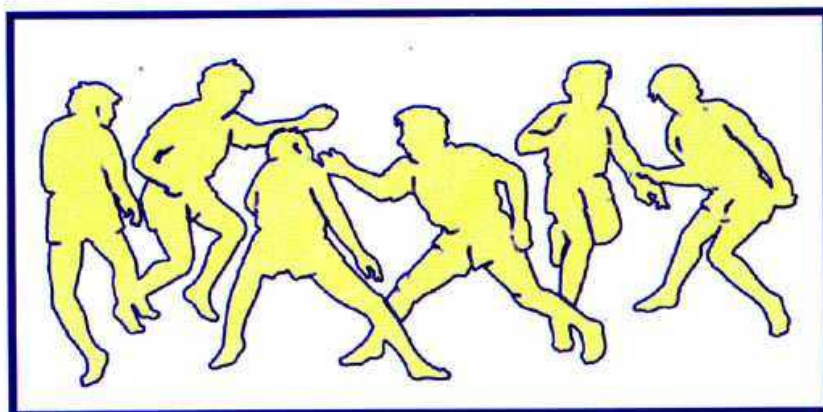
3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR CASH INCENTIVES TO SPORTSPERSONS :

- 3.1 The Cash incentives shall be presented to the players who have represented West Bengal in the National Championships. The applications on a prescribed Proforma for cash award will be invited by the Department of Sports once in a year. The application must carry the attested copies of the certificates of winning/medals/positions/titles given by the official International Sports Body or Indian Olympic Association.
- 3.2 Applications for consideration of award would be received in the Department of Sports.
- 3.3 In team events, the amount of cash award for each member will be equivalent to the amount to be given to position holder of individual events.
- 3.4 In junior category, players will get 50% of the above amount.
- 3.5 Cash awards shall be given only to the medal winners and not just for breaking the existing records in the competitions mentioned above.

4. CASH INCENTIVES FOR ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE AT NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL LEVEL :

- 4.1 Cash incentives shall be given to the sportspersons of West Bengal who win First, Second and Third positions in National/International competitions conducted by recognized /authorized sports bodies. Detailed guidelines for the same will be issued by the Sports Department.





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