

TELANGANA SPORTS POLICY – 2025



DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
Government of Telangana



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GLOSSARY

BOT	Build-Operate-Transfer
CBF	Crucial Balance Fund
CM Cup	Chief Minister's Cup
CoE	Center of Excellence
IOA	Indian Olympic Association
KIRTI 3.0	Khelo India Rising Talent Identification 3.0
LDO	Lease-Develop-Operate
LTAD	Long-Term Athlete Development
MJPTBCWREIS	Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Telangana Backward Classes Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society
MYAS	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India
NSF	National Sports Federation
NSRS	National Sports Repository System
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OCI	Overseas Citizens of India
OPA	Out-of-Pocket Allowance
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
SATG	Sports Authority of Telangana
SHG	Self-Help Group
TMREIS	Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society
TOA	Telangana Olympic Association
TSDF	Telangana Sports Development Fund
TSWREIS	Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society
TTWREIS	Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society
YIPESU	Young India Physical Education and Sports University
YISA	Young India Sports Academy
YISU	Young India Skills University

FOREWORD



Sri A. Revanth Reddy

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana

I am a passionate sports lover. I used to be a serious football player and play the game recreationally even now. Coincidentally, within a few months of my government assuming office in Telangana, we had the Paris Olympics in which our country's performance was quite underwhelming. From my state of Telangana also, about a dozen athletes in different disciplines went to Paris but unfortunately none of them could secure a medal. When we see countries and regions far less populous than us and with far smaller economies than ours doing well, it really saddens my heart to see the sub-par performance of India. And this is not the first time that we are witnessing this underperformance - it happens Olympics after Olympics. We lament for a few months, fingers are pointed, accusations are made, explanations are given, and then everything gets back to normal.

I am of the firm belief that one of the main reasons why India hasn't emerged as a sporting nation like so many other countries, is because sports is treated like any other government department with its own bureaucratic way of administration. I want to transform sports administration in Telangana by completely freeing it from government control. Across the world, and in our own country also, there are many examples of private sector, charity foundations and eminent sportspersons with a proven track record of creating amazing success stories in the promotion of sports. I will endeavour to replicate the same in Telangana. The role of the government will be confined to supporting private initiatives to further their efforts.

My aim is to focus on all the critical elements that make up a comprehensive sports ecosystem. We will encourage private enterprises to set up world standard training academies in a hub and spoke model. To create a pipeline of talent for the state and the country, the government has decided to set up the Young India Physical Education and Sports University of Telangana (YIPESU). We will also take up a grassroots talent

scouting programme in a structured and scientific manner. The government will remain committed to encouraging our sportspersons to realize their maximum potential by giving complete support at the right time in the form of equipment, coaching, exposure to national and international competitions, etc. We will also reward our sportspersons, coaches and support staff when they bring laurels to our state.

'Telangana Rising', the state's visionary concept, aims to be fully realized by 2050, encompassing multifaceted development across all sectors. As part of this mission, improving the sports ecosystem is pivotal to laying a strong foundation for holistic growth and creating opportunities for future generations. The Telangana region, which has been a separate state since 2014 is known for its sporting excellence across many disciplines in the past. After the formation of Telangana state, sports didn't get its due from the government as it deserved. However, I am confident that the transformative reforms that I am ushering now will revive the glory of Telangana as a sporting powerhouse within a short span of time. I look forward to the wholehearted cooperation and support of all the stakeholders to make the Telangana sports policy a model for the entire world.



FOREWORD



Sri Vakiti Srihari
Hon'ble Minister for
Sports and Youth Services

I consider myself truly fortunate that within days of assuming office as the Minister for Sports and Youth Services, the new Sports Policy has been approved. It is a rare privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility of implementing such a landmark framework. I sincerely thank our Hon'ble Chief Minister for his visionary leadership, under which significant strides have already been made in strengthening the sports sector in our state. This policy marks a decisive step forward and I pledge my full commitment to its execution.

This policy is rooted in the right priorities such as talent development, athlete welfare, skilling, and coaching excellence. Often, policies get caught up in processes, sidelining the very people they aim to serve. But this document keeps the sportsperson, whether emerging or elite, at the heart of every decision. It rightly emphasizes grassroots scouting, scientific training, career pathways, and incentives that truly reward performance and effort. I believe this approach will create an environment where athletes, coaches, and institutions can all thrive.

As someone who once aspired to compete at the highest levels, I deeply understand the joys and challenges that mark an athlete's journey. During my youth, I trained relentlessly to sharpen my skills, but was compelled to leave the state in search of better facilities that simply weren't available here at that time. This experience taught me a valuable lesson: talent and dedication alone are insufficient if the systems that support them lack fairness, transparency, and a clear athlete-centric focus. As Minister, I am committed to building a system that recognizes merit, rewards hard work, and nurtures every aspiring sportsperson without bias, ensuring that Telangana becomes a state where sporting excellence thrives.

Background: Sports in Telangana

Sports play a vital role in shaping the physical, social, and economic fabric of a nation like India. It fosters individual well-being by promoting health, fitness, and personal discipline, while also creating social harmony by uniting people across diverse regions and cultures. On a broader scale, sporting success brings national pride and international recognition. The spirit of competition, teamwork, and resilience cultivated through sports not only enhances societal cohesion but also drives economic growth through infrastructure development, job creation, and tourism. Given these far-reaching benefits, it is crucial for India to nurture and promote sports at every level to create a thriving, dynamic society.

Telangana is uniquely positioned to lead the way in sports development, setting a model for other states to replicate. With its rich sporting legacy, particularly in cricket, football, badminton, and tennis, the State has established a strong foundation for future growth. Hyderabad, recognized as a hub for professional sports, has produced athletes who have excelled nationally and internationally, reflecting the State's deep-rooted passion for sports at all levels. The State has successfully hosted major events like the 2002 National Games, 2003 Afro-Asian Games, 2007 Military World Games, 2009 World Badminton Championships, 2009 IBSF World Snooker Championship, 2024 Intercontinental Cup (Football), and 2024 Santosh Trophy highlighting its capability in organizing large-scale sports events. Telangana also serves as a regular venue for international cricket and recently hosted multiple matches during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023. Furthermore, the state regularly hosts fixtures from annual flagship leagues such as the Indian Premier League (IPL), Indian Super League (ISL), and Pro-Kabaddi League (PKL), showcasing its capability to manage and promote large-scale sporting events.

The Government of Telangana has recognized the potential of sports as a tool for development, growth and pride. Through proactive investments in world-class sports infrastructure, the State is setting up the necessary platforms for both professional athletes and budding talents. The implementation of the Telangana Sports Policy (TSP) and the strategic role of the Sports Authority of Telangana along with other sports institutions will ensure that the State continues to evolve as a model in nurturing talent, promoting a robust sporting culture, and driving sustained excellence in sports.

VISION

To establish Telangana as a global sports leader by fostering sustainable all-round development across various dimensions of the sports ecosystem, nurturing talent through cutting-edge infrastructure, education, and holistic support, and producing athletes who excel and succeed on the global stage.

MISSION

To transform Telangana into a hub for national and international sports by nurturing grassroots talent through world-class infrastructure and support programmes, a sports university in Hyderabad, and elite sports academies, and developing athletes who excel at the Olympics, Paralympics, Commonwealth Games, and Asian Games by providing pathways and opportunities for training, progression, sustainable careers and global success.



PILLARS AND GOALS

Pillar 1: Governance and Organization

- Goal 1: Establish clear governance structures and oversight mechanisms for sports in Telangana
- Goal 2: Develop an integrated world-class eco-system in the state for holistic development of sport
- Goal 3: Enhance athlete safety, welfare and sports integrity

Pillar 2: Sports Ecosystem

- Goal 1: Develop a sustainable sports ecosystem that supports all stakeholders
- Goal 2: Drive inclusivity and accessibility in sports
- Goal 3: Integrate sports into education and community life

Pillar 3: Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD)

- Goal 1: Implement an athlete-centered long-term development framework
- Goal 2: Create a comprehensive and equitable talent identification and nurturing model
- Goal 3: Develop a performance-oriented coaching and competition system

Pillar 4: Infrastructure

- Goal 1: Build and upgrade sports infrastructure to support athlete development
- Goal 2: Integrate inclusive and active design principles

Pillar 5: Skills Development and Career Pathways

- Goal 1: Create career pathways and post-retirement support for athletes
- Goal 2: Offer upskilling and reskilling opportunities for sports professionals

Pillar 1 - Governance and Organization

- **Strengthened Sports Governance and Oversight:** Streamlined collaboration between government, sports associations, and educational institutions will ensure transparent and ethical sports management, fostering a robust governance structure.
- **Integrated World-Class Ecosystem:** Through initiatives like YISA, YIPESU, and grassroots talent identification, Telangana will build a seamless pipeline to nurture athletes and strengthen the entire sports ecosystem, under the strategic leadership of the Sports Hub of Telangana.
- **Enhanced Athlete Safety and Welfare:** A comprehensive Safe Sport Policy, grievance mechanisms, and anti-doping measures will ensure a secure, fair environment for athletes, promoting their well-being and protecting against exploitation.

1. Sports Governance is critical for managing sports with a focus on athletes' welfare. An umbrella organization, operating under the Government of Telangana, shall collaborate with stakeholders including government bodies, sports associations, NGOs, and corporations to achieve strategic objectives, monitor performance, and ensure transparency in regulation. The core values of fairness, integrity, responsibility, and respect must guide all stakeholders. The organization shall ensure compliance with a strict code of conduct and will issue clear guidelines to maintain transparency and accountability while respecting the autonomy of sports governing bodies. A strong governance framework will be established to promote sports integrity, collaboration, stakeholder representation, and effective grievance redressal, ensuring a fair and ethical ecosystem for athletes and other stakeholders.

State-level sports associations are often beset with governance challenges, including internal disputes and emergence of parallel organizations seeking affiliation and recognition through various means. To address this, the state will implement comprehensive Guidelines on Sports Governance, mandating regular compliance checks for all associations. Unrecognized associations will be encouraged to either merge with existing recognized bodies or formally affiliate through prescribed channels.

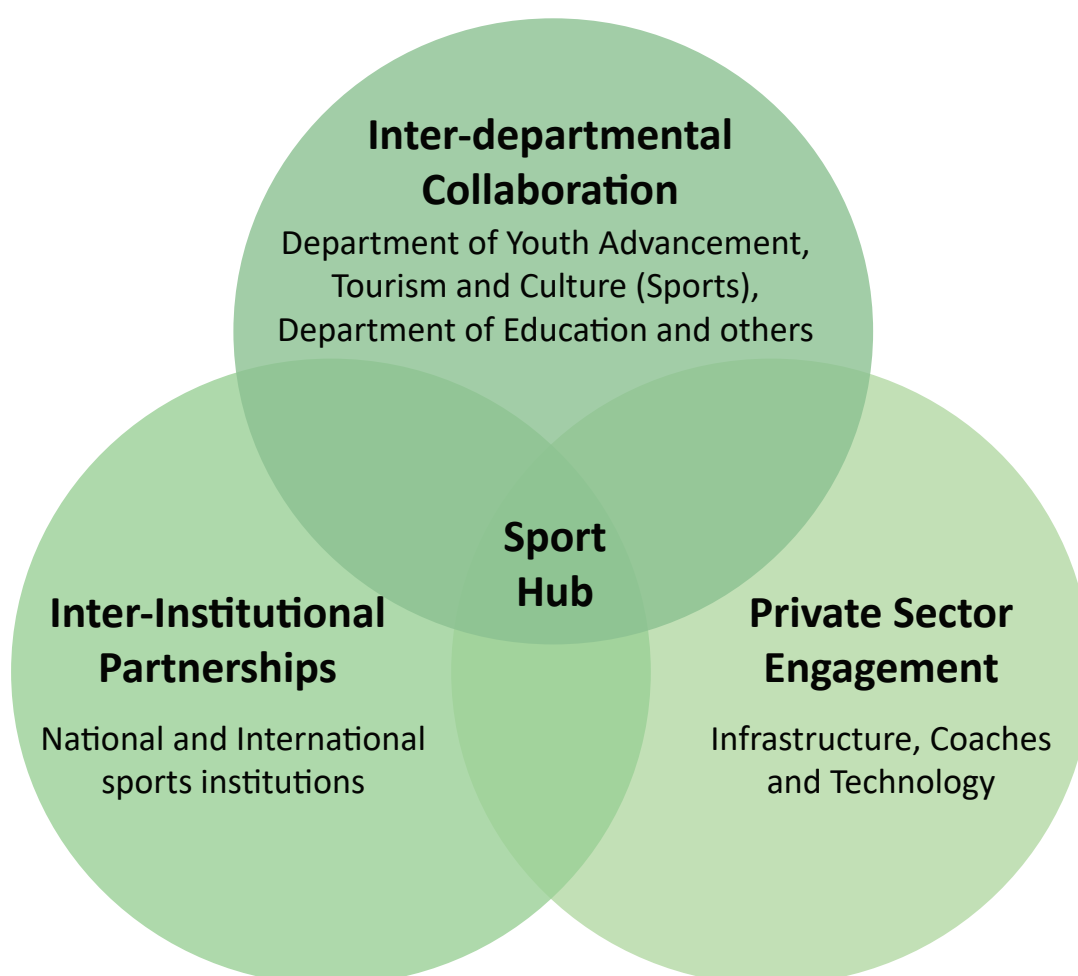
The state shall take steps towards:

- **Unified Registration:** A single registration process will be created, granting licenses only to associations that meet governance and ethical standards and are also duly recognized by the relevant national sports federation.
- **Regular Monitoring and Audits:** A state-level monitoring mechanism will be established to regularly assess the functioning and governance of all registered sports bodies. Annual audits will ensure compliance with state and national policies.

- **Integrated Sports Calendar:** The state, in coordination with the recognized sports associations, will develop a consolidated Annual Tournament Calendar, integrated with the Chief Minister's Cup (CM Cup).

2. Interdepartmental and Institutional Collaboration: The Government of Telangana will foster collaboration to advance grassroots sports and physical education. This will include:

- **Inter-departmental Collaboration:** Department of Sports and Youth Advancement, Telangana will work with the Department of Education and other departments to integrate sports into school and college curricula, organize intra-school/university competitions, establish training centers in select residential schools, track student participation through a data management system, introduce community volunteers for sports training at schools, and ensure capacity building of PETs.
- **Inter-institutional Partnerships:** The State will partner with national and international sports institutions to leverage expertise in sports science, coaching, and management, coordinated by the Sports Hub of Telangana.
- **Private Sector Engagement:** The State will engage private sector partners to upgrade sports infrastructure and recruit expert coaches and technical staff



3. **The Sports Hub of Telangana** is envisioned as a cornerstone initiative to realize the state's vision of becoming a center for champions, driven by sustainable and holistic development across all dimensions of the sports ecosystem. It will function as an umbrella organization, providing strategic leadership and policy guidance in key areas such as infrastructure development, training, sports education, and grassroots growth. This initiative aims to establish a robust sports ecosystem in the state, positioning Telangana as a leading region for sports excellence.

Organizational Structure:

The Sports Hub of Telangana will be governed by a Board of Governors, comprising eminent individuals from different fields. The Board will include:

- At least four distinguished sportspersons,
- At least four prominent business and corporate leaders,
- At least two eminent sports administrators or experts,
- Relevant representatives from the Government of Telangana, and
- Special invitees.

Among the appointed eminent members, one will serve as the Chairperson and another as the Co-Chairperson.

The Sports Hub will oversee the Telangana Sports Development Fund (TSDF), ensuring its effective and accountable utilization for targeted initiatives and programmes aligned with the State's sports development objectives.

Key Organizations / Initiatives under Sports Hub:

- Young India Physical Education and Sports University of Telangana
- Young India Sports Academy
- Sports Authority of Telangana

These initiatives will ensure a thriving, sustainable sports ecosystem across Telangana.

4. **The Young India Physical Education and Sports University of Telangana (YIPESU)** will be established as a premier institution for developing top-class professionals in various sport-related fields. The university will offer a range of programmes, including undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, diploma, and certificate courses, focusing on sports coaching, sports sciences, and performance enhancement. YIPESU will also undertake cutting-edge research in these areas to advance knowledge and practices in sports. The university campus shall comprise specialized schools of studies, sports academies, satellite campuses, and Centers of Excellence (CoEs), along with state-of-the-art performance enhancement facilities designed to support elite athletes.

YIPESU will be a State Government University, and its organizational structure will follow the framework of public universities in Telangana, as per the Telangana Universities Act, 1991, with modifications to reflect the unique needs of sports education and the state's vision.

Structure of YIPESU:

The University will have multiple Schools of Studies focusing on teaching, research, and training across various sports domains (such as School of Physical Education and Sport Sciences, School of Sport Management, School of Sport Technology and Analytics, School of Sport Medicine, and School of Sport Psychology), and Centers of Excellence (CoEs) focusing on advanced research and development in sports. In addition, Satellite Campuses will be set up across the state in future, extending the university's reach. Further, existing as well as newly formed Sports Schools in the state will serve as feeder institutions for the University, for early identification and nurturing of talent.

The University shall be governed by authorities such as the Academic Council, Finance Committee, Planning Board, and other committees for effective administration. Operating with a General Fund, the university will source long-term funding from fees, endowments, government grants, and other contributions, aiming for self-sufficiency and sustainable growth.

Objectives of YIPESU:

- **Teaching and Learning:** The University will offer Degree, Diploma, Certificate as well as Doctoral Courses in Physical Education, Sport Sciences, Sports Medicine, Social Sciences, Sports Technology and other related disciplines, producing world-class professionals in these fields – Coaches, Managers, Sport Analysts, Physiotherapists, Sport Psychologists, Nutritionists, Sports Journalists etc.
- **Research:** YIPESU will collaborate with leading national and international institutions to undertake research in sports coaching, sports sciences, and performance enhancement, contributing to scholarly work.
- **Performance Enhancement of Elite Athletes:** The university will also act as a Centre of Excellence, providing elite athletes, including para-athletes, with state-of-the-art facilities and laboratories to enhance their performance for national and international events.

5. **Young India Sports Academy (YISA)** is envisioned as a premier high-performance sports development institution in Telangana, designed to identify, train, and nurture sports talent across multiple disciplines. YISA will operate in a hub-and-spoke model, with a central Hub and spokes across existing sports facilities throughout the State.

Objectives of YISA:

- **Talent Scouting and Development:** YISA will initially establish world-class academies in multiple Olympic sports, including Hockey, Badminton, Football, Swimming, Tennis, Shooting, Boxing, Volleyball, Wrestling, Basketball, Table Tennis, Athletics, Archery, and Gymnastics. This may be broadened to establish sport-specific academies for all recognized and prominent sports in Telangana, other Olympic sports and upcoming sports such as air sports, e-sports, pickleball etc. It will

focus on early talent identification, training, and providing an integrated residential school setting where athletes can pursue both sports and academics. YISA will also bring in world-class coaches to the state and, parallelly, provide pedagogical training to existing coaches.

- **Hosting Major Events:** YISA shall feature state-of-the-art, international-standard sports stadiums and facilities to host state, national, and international sporting events in Hyderabad. Additionally, it will serve as a venue for training camps for both state and national teams across various sports within the academies.
- **Data Management and Athlete Tracking:** YISA, with the support of SATG, will maintain a State Sports Repository with detailed performance profiles and data for athletes, coaches, and other personnel across all levels, from grassroots and school level to professional. This comprehensive data will support data-driven decision-making and policy development, while also enabling tracking of athletes' progress and statistics over time. This repository will also be regularly synchronized with the National Sports Repository System (NSRS) to ensure standardization and data consistency at the national level.

Operating Model of YISA:

It will operate under a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) model, with a national or international-level integrator engaged to run the academy as per a viable business model. The private integrator will bring in much-needed innovation, funding and expertise to the ecosystem, while also proving athletes with better exposure. The integrator will have complete autonomy, covering operational and capital expenditures, while the state government will provide land at a nominal fee and necessary infrastructure. The overall masterplan would be jointly approved by the integrator, the state government, and the Sports Hub of Telangana Board of Governors.

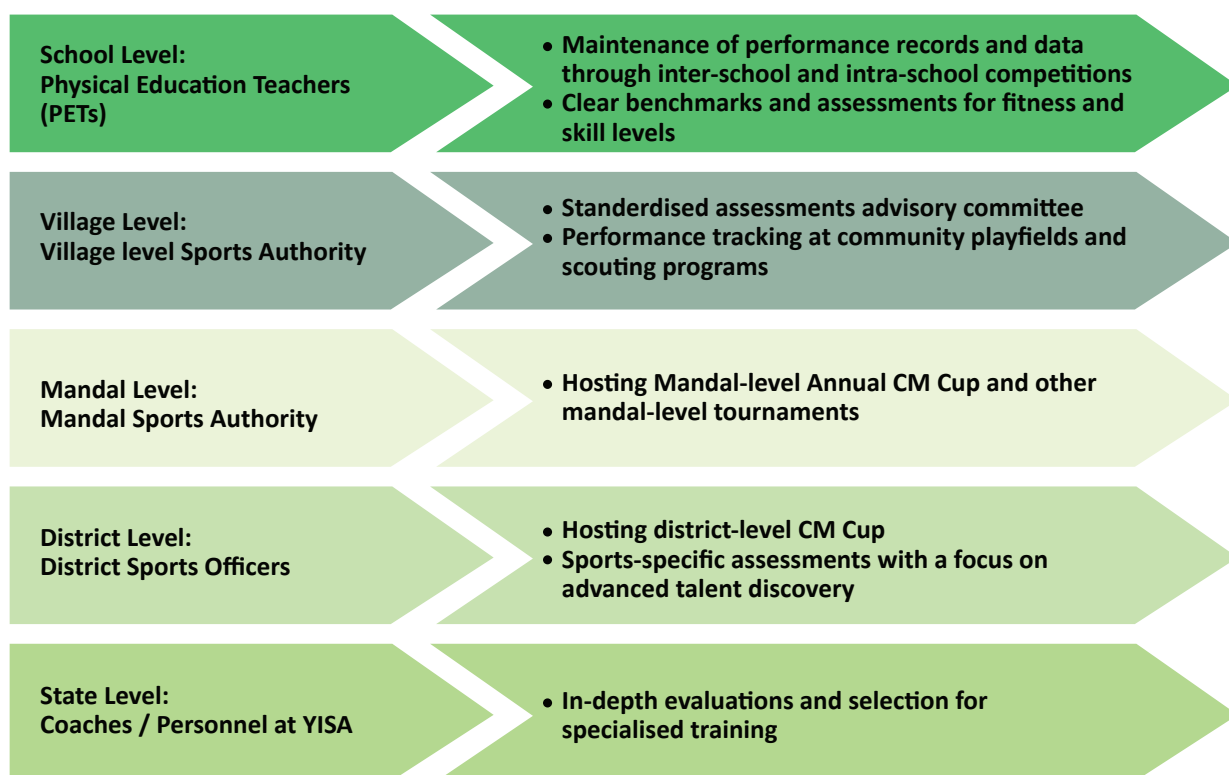
The integrator will sponsor state teams for national/international events, support grassroots talent scouting through local competitions organized by SATG, and organize international training camps with expert coaches. Further, YISA will aid the state in hosting major sports competitions and promote inclusivity for para-athletes and special athletes.

6. Sports Authority of Telangana (SATG) will focus on grassroots development and sports programme execution through several key initiatives:

- **Promoting Sporting Culture:** SATG will foster a robust sporting culture in Telangana by encouraging youth participation, promoting community sports programmes, and offering world-class sports facilities. It will cultivate a vibrant sporting environment, focusing on health and fitness, while fostering holistic community development and instilling a passion for sports in the children of the state.

- **Grassroots Development and Programme Execution:** SATG, in collaboration with the Education Department, will foster a culture of sports and physical activity in schools and colleges across the state. In addition to strengthening the network of sports schools in the state, select residential schools will be developed into Training Academies for specific sports with state-of-the-art facilities. Students from across the state identified to have potential in the select sport will be moved to these schools, where dedicated training will be provided to the identified students (Further detailed in Pillar 3 of the document).

SATG will also drive statewide youth sports growth through talent identification and regular annual events like the CM Cup. SATG along with YISA, will develop and maintain a comprehensive State Sports Repository of all athletes, coaches, and other personnel, across all levels from grassroots and school level to professional.



SATG will also reactivate the District Level Sports Authority/District-level committees to strengthen local governance and talent scouting. This effort will be spearheaded by the District Collector. The governance structure shall be similar to the Sports Hub of Telangana Board of Governors structure to support and oversee local sports initiatives. The committees shall comprise eminent sports personalities, local business personalities and entrepreneurs as well as representatives from social clubs. Additionally, sport-specific playfields will be established at village- and community-level for both training and recreation of residents. The local committees may take the support of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) for managing community-level activities and maintaining the playfields.

- **Liaison with Sports Associations/Federations:** SATG will collaborate with recognized sports associations and National Sports Federations (NSFs) to develop a consolidated Annual Tournament Calendar for the state, integrating with the Chief Minister's Cup (CM Cup) and aligning it with national and regional event schedules. It will also support the enhancement of training programmes at YISA by partnering with sports associations. Additionally, SATG will facilitate the participation of state athletes in national camps, trials, and competitions organized by various NSFs, ensuring they have access to top-tier training and exposure. Through these efforts, SATG will strengthen the sports ecosystem in Telangana, improving both the quality and reach of training programmes and helping athletes gain valuable experience at the national level.
- **Hosting Major Events and Competitions:** SATG will bid for and host national and international sports events in Telangana, positioning the state as a key hub for sports and tourism. It will collaborate with global sports organizations to bring world-class events to the region, enhancing its reputation on the international stage. These efforts will establish Telangana as a prime destination for sports, attracting major tournaments and boosting its profile as a leader in sports event management and tourism.

7. Sports Integrity will be upheld by the Sports Hub of Telangana through anti-fraud measures, including doping control, age verification, and anti-corruption protocols. A robust framework with regional testing, digital systems, and regulatory oversight will ensure fair and transparent sports governance.

8. Safe Sports and Good Governance will be ensured through a robust Safe Sport Policy in Telangana, including zero tolerance for any kind of harassment including sexual harassment and bullying, confidential grievance redressal, POSH-compliant training, and emergency response systems. These measures will protect all stakeholders and foster a fair, transparent, and accountable sporting environment.



Pillar 2 - Sports Ecosystem

- **Resilient Sports Ecosystem Driving Economic Growth:** A sustainable and collaborative sports environment will be built by enabling partnerships across government, private sector, and civil society - facilitating investment, innovation, and coordinated action at all levels of sport development.
- **Inclusive and Equitable Access:** Focused initiatives for women, para-athletes, and underrepresented communities - alongside simplified access schemes and dedicated support - will ensure that sports are accessible, equitable, and representative
- **Embedded Physical Literacy in Education and Society:** Integrating sports and values-based physical education into schools, colleges, and community programmes will foster lifelong participation, promote holistic development, and strengthen the culture of sports across the state.

The Sports Hub shall foster a thriving sports ecosystem by creating enabling conditions for diverse stakeholders to collaborate, invest, and operate across all levels of sport development in the state:

1. Promoting Social Development, Cohesion and Inclusion through Sports

Telangana will prioritize access to sports and physical activity to promote health, well-being, and social inclusion across all demographics. Citizens will be encouraged to stay active, support athletes, and participate in sports as a lifelong pursuit. As part of this, a state-wide campaign will promote at least 30 minutes of daily physical activity for every individual. A participatory framework will engage civil society, private sector, and communities to co-create flexible models aligned with the State's socio-cultural context and leveraging sports for broader socio-economic development.

2. Awareness and Outreach

The Government of Telangana will use digital platforms to promote sports participation and its benefits, organizing outreach programmes to reach remote and underserved areas. Partnerships with prominent sports figures will engage the public through statewide campaigns, encouraging participation in sports and physical activity for all. Additionally, regional sports festivals and community games will showcase local talent and foster greater community involvement, embedding a culture of active participation and appreciation for sports across Telangana.

3. Active Schools and Higher Education Institutions - Advancing Physical Literacy

The Department of Sports and Youth Advancement, in collaboration with the Department of Education and YIPESU, will embed physical literacy and sports into the core of school and college education. Sports will be mandatory for every student, regardless of background, and it will be ensured that schools prioritize physical education by providing regular classes that introduce students to a wide range of

sports. A curriculum rooted in sport pedagogy and values-based learning - aligned with the Olympic philosophy of holistic education - will be implemented to promote life skills, well-being, and lifelong participation in physical activity.

To ensure equitable access, sports kits comprising basic equipment and apparel (Sports in a Box) will be distributed to schools in socially, economically and geographically disadvantaged areas. Students demonstrating sporting excellence will be given additional tailored academic support to mitigate any learning gap. Furthermore, sports achievements will be formally recognized on students' Pass Certificates, ensuring that sports are meaningfully integrated into mainstream education.

With the support of YIPESU, measures will also be taken to improve the quality of Physical Education Teachers (PETs). Where physical education teachers are unavailable, community volunteers (from local athletes and trained youth) will be engaged to support sports activities in the schools. In case the schools do not have sports infrastructure, local playfields will be made available to them.

4. Sports Inclusivity

Inclusivity in sports will be ensured by making facilities accessible to all, regardless of age, caste, race, gender, or ability. Para-athletes and individuals with intellectual disabilities will receive focused support through dedicated training, equipment access, and competition pathways. An 'Easy Access Scheme' will simplify documentation and procedural requirements for para-athletes. Further, Women's participation will be actively promoted through media visibility, Women Sports Ambassadors, and dedicated training programmes. YIPESU will also offer leadership training to former female athletes, supporting alternate careers post-retirement.

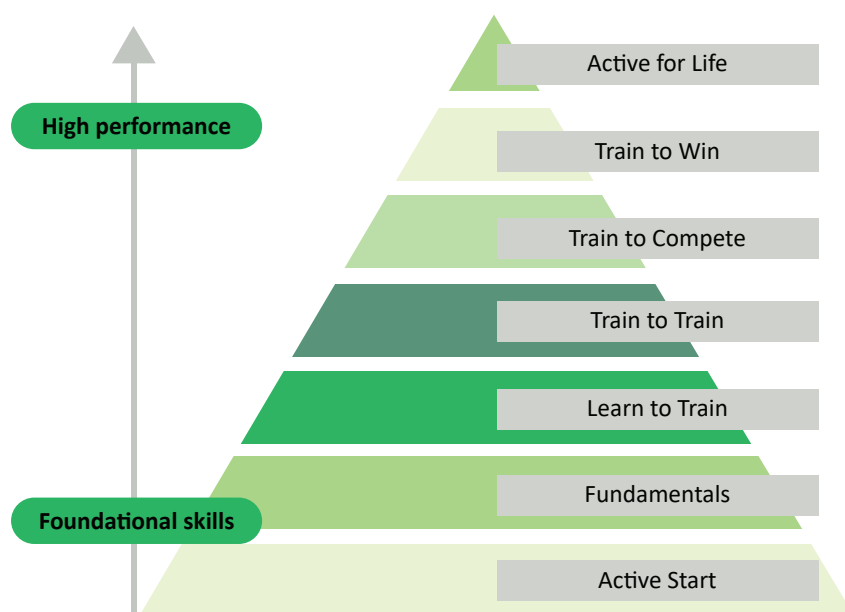
5. Sports Industry – Manufacturing, Technology, Medicine and Tourism

Telangana aims to become a national leader in sports manufacturing, technology, medicine, and tourism. To support this vision, the state will establish a manufacturing special zone for sports goods in the state. Telangana will also foster sports-tech innovation by supporting startups developing cutting-edge solutions in performance analytics, biomechanics, fan engagement, broadcasting, and other relevant fields. Parallely, the state will also create a comprehensive ecosystem for sports medicine in partnership with hospitals and medical colleges. Additionally, local sports and adventure tourism will be promoted through regular events, startup incentives, tax benefits, and strategic public-private partnerships.

Pillar 3 - Long-Term Athlete Development (LTAD)

- **Personalized long-term athlete development:** Stage-specific LTAD programmes with regular assessments will deliver age-appropriate and skill-based training, supporting structured athlete growth.
- **Comprehensive and equitable talent identification and nurturing:** A phased expansion of residential sports schools and introduction of specialized residential school sports academies will enable early development of talent
- **Performance-oriented coaching and competition system:** Programmes like the Chief Minister's Cup at various levels will identify high-potential athletes, who will be supported by high-performance training and sports science integration.

The Long-Term Athlete Development Model(Image below)offers a structured, stage-wise approach to training aligned with an athlete's physical, mental, emotional, and social development. It supports progression from early childhood (Active Start, Fundamentals) through competitive stages (Train to Train, Train to Compete, Train to Win) and into lifelong activity (Active for Life). Each stage includes age-appropriate guidance on training, competition, and recovery to optimize performance.



A seamless transition from grassroots to elite levels is critical to building a sustainable sports ecosystem. It ensures talented athletes receive the coaching, resources, and opportunities needed to compete at higher levels – creating a pipeline for national and international representation, while fostering a culture of excellence and inclusion.

1. Wylleman, P. (2005). The career development of elite athletes: A sport psychological perspective. In Proceedings of 4th International Scientific Conference on Kinesiology, Opatija, Croatia (pp. 622-627).

2. Athletics Canada. (n.d.). Long term athlete development (LTAD) model. https://athletics.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/LTAD_EN.pdf

3. Varghese, M., Ruparell, S., & LaBella, C. (2022). Youth Athlete Development Models: A Narrative Review. *Sports health*, 14(1), 20–29. <https://doi.org/10.1177/19417381211055396>

4. Bailey, R., Ford, P., MacNamara, A., & Pearce, G. (2010). Participant development in sport: An academic review (pp. 19-24). Leeds: Sports Coach UK.

In Telangana, the LTAD model is adapted to broaden access and participation, with equal focus on encouraging girls and women to enter, stay, and thrive in sports. Focus will be given to identifying and developing proven talent as well as potential talent. It also integrates academic and career support to help athletes balance education with training. Regular fitness and skill assessments will personalize training based on each athlete's stage, skill level, and goals. Additionally, a State Sports Repository, to be developed and maintained by SATG and YISA, will track progress and guide athletes through each LTAD stage.

Key Components of LTAD Framework in Telangana include:

1. Sports Schools:

Currently, there are three government-run residential sports schools in Telangana that play a critical role in the early identification and nurturing of athletic talent: the Telangana Government Sports School in Hakimpet, the Telangana Government Sports School in Adilabad, and the Regional Sports School in Karimnagar. These institutions cater to children aged 6 to 17 and provide an integrated model of education and sports training. Students follow a structured routine with sports sessions in the morning and evening, and academic classes during the day. They are trained in identified sports disciplines and provided with a protein-rich diet to support their physical development. Selection to these schools is based on a rigorous process that includes a battery of technical tests to ensure that only those with high potential are admitted.

To expand access and enhance the state's athletic development ecosystem, it is proposed that one sports school be established in each erstwhile district in a phased manner, including a dedicated sports school for encouraging tribal students. These new and existing schools will serve as feeder institutions to YIPESU, with a focus on identifying and developing high-potential athletes from a young age. Collaboration with YIPESU will be initiated for the development of a sports-related curriculum and provision of high-performance training modules. Each student will be trained in two sports - one individual and one team sport - allowing for flexibility and specialization as they progress. To enable this vision, increased funding will be allocated to both current and proposed schools to support advanced training, recruitment of top-tier coaches and faculty, and expansion of training and residential infrastructure.

2. School-level Talent Identification and Residential School Sport Academies:

Schools are the most effective starting point for cultivating a culture of sporting culture among children. They offer a natural setting to introduce sports early, promote well-being, and identify young talent. The state believes in the principle that every student should have the opportunity to play, and those with aptitude will be supported further.

SATG, in collaboration with the Education Department, will establish specialized residential school sport academies at select existing institutions under the Telangana Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions (TSWREIS), Telangana Tribal Welfare Residential Educational Institutions (TTWREIS), Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Telangana Backward Classes Welfare Residential Educational Institutions (MJPTBCWREIS), and Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions (TMREIS). These academies will be equipped with qualified coaches, dedicated training schedules, and upgraded sports infrastructure tailored to the identified sport disciplines.

There will be a school-based physical assessment (battery of tests) conducted for all school going children in the state using common measuring parameters, in line with Khelo India Rising Talent Identification 3.0 (KIRTI 3.0). Students from across the state showing potential in specific sports will be relocated to these schools, where they will receive focused training and development support. These selected students will form institutional teams and regularly participate in matches and tournaments to build competitive experience. Special emphasis will be placed on nutrition and fitness, with a separate budget allocated for balanced diets, scientific training regimes, and participation in district, state, and national-level events. To ensure that students do not fall behind academically, they will also receive supplementary academic coaching customized to their learning needs. This holistic model aims to create an environment where talented students can thrive both on the field and in the classroom, laying the foundation for future sporting and academic success.

To ensure regular evaluation of infrastructure quality, sports facilities, coaching standards in Residential School Sports Academies, and levels of student participation across educational institutions, a dedicated monitoring committee will be established.

3. Centers of Excellence (CoEs):

The state shall also aspire to establish Center of Excellences (CoE) for key sports with support from Khelo India scheme, Government of India and respective national sport federations.

4. Sports Science Integration:

The state aims to use sports science in talent development, with a focus on athlete performance, health (including mental health), nutrition, injury prevention and recovery. Sports Science Centers/ Laboratories (in YIPESU and other institutions in the state) will offer specialized services across sports medicine, rehabilitation, biomechanics, nutrition, and psychology, accessible to top athletes throughout their development. These will include:

- Exercise Physiology and Sports Nutrition Lab will study human physiology and nutrition, optimizing training, recovery, and performance for athletes.

- Sports Psychology Lab will focus on mental skills training, including anxiety, concentration, and confidence, enhancing rehabilitation and performance.
- Biomechanics Lab will use motion capture, EMG systems, and force plates to analyze athletes, identifying strengths and suggesting corrective measures.
- Computer Centre will support sports analytics research with advanced statistical tools and provide general computer education for other courses.

Partnerships with research institutions and other organizations will introduce technology and innovation in training, injury prevention, and athlete monitoring. Additionally, workshops will be offered to athletes, coaches, and parents on mental conditioning, nutrition, and injury management, embedding sports science knowledge throughout Telangana's athletic programmes.

5. International Training Programmes for Elite Athletes:

Under the current operating model, international coaches will be brought in to conduct sports camps at frequent intervals, providing valuable exposure to top athletes. These camps will offer elite athletes access to world-class training, allowing them to enhance their skills and performance. Regular international training camps will also be organized and participation in international events in other countries will be facilitated, ensuring athletes are exposed to advanced coaching methods and competitive environments, helping them reach their full potential for national and international events. Additionally, special camps and mentorship programs from former athletes will be implemented to boost female representation in competitive sports.

6. Medical Support and Mental Health Awareness:

Sports Insurance and Mediclaim Support will be provided to athletes and staff in the state, for injuries, setbacks and emotional distress, securing them against any major financial distress. The state shall also provide free medical care to national and international level players from the state and support their recovery and future participation. This shall be implemented by establishing partnerships between SATG and top hospitals.

Telangana will also promote mental health awareness and provide psychological support to help athletes manage pressure and stay engaged in sport.

7. Competitions and Events:

SATG will organize grassroots-level programs and competitions, including the annual Chief Minister's Cup (CM Cup), to cultivate a vibrant sports culture across Telangana. These events will provide a structured platform for young athletes to showcase their talent, while expanding regional competitions to promote wider participation and visibility. The CM Cup, along with other local tournaments, will be instrumental in scouting proven young talent as well as strengthening grassroots sports development statewide.

The CM Cup will follow a structured five-tier competition framework, beginning at the Mandal level and progressing through District, State, National, and International levels. Regular feeder community tournaments and inter-school level competitions will be actively encouraged at the village and institutional levels. The State Level Winners of the CM Cup will be eligible for reservations for meritorious sportspersons (sports quota) in the state.

SATG will also organize state-wide inter-school and inter-college competitions to further broaden the talent identification pipeline and enhance institutional-level participation.

Blueprint of Chief Minister's Cup Tournament (CM Cup)



In addition, SATG will provide monetary assistance to recognized sports associations for organizing competitions at all levels. This support will help facilitate events in accordance with the regulations of the National Sports Federations (NSFs), Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), further promoting sports development in the state. Incorporating traditional sports in the state, such as kabaddi into formal competitions will help preserve local culture and add diversity to sports engagement across the State.



Pillar 4 - Infrastructure

- **Infrastructure Growth for Athlete Development:** Phased and balanced expansion of network of sports institutions to support athlete development from grassroots to elite levels, using PPP models for long-term sustainability and efficient management.
- **Enhanced Accessibility and Inclusivity:** Establish state-of-the-art facilities following inclusive and active design principles, ensuring universal accessibility and safety.

Infrastructure development is a central priority for the State to realize its vision of sporting excellence and foster a vibrant sports culture. The planned infrastructure includes stadiums, training facilities, athlete-centric educational institutions, sports complexes, and community playfields. These facilities are essential to expanding access to sports, providing world-class training environments, and enabling the hosting of competitions at various levels across the State.

High-quality sports infrastructure will be established across various regions in Telangana, aligning with the government's vision of positioning the state as a national leader in sports. These modern facilities aim not only to enhance the quality of infrastructure but also to establish Telangana as a premier destination for hosting national and international sporting events. In addition to upgrading existing facilities, the Sports Hub of Telangana will create new infrastructure in phases, based on the popularity of specific sports across the State.

1. Development and Integration of Institutions for Structured Athlete Development

The State will implement an integrated and regionally balanced plan to optimize core sports infrastructure across the State. This plan will ensure alignment, accessibility, and efficient utilization of facilities to support athlete development at all levels. Key infrastructure components will include YIPESU, YISA Hub and Spokes, Sports Schools, Residential School Sport Academies, Sports Science Centers / Laboratories, Centers of Excellence, as well as various village- and community-level facilities.

Mini stadiums are being developed in all 119 Assembly Constituencies in the state for development of sporting culture across all regions, some of which have already been constructed. These facilities will serve as local hubs for community engagement, youth participation, and grassroots talent development. In urban centers, especially Hyderabad, the government will prioritize renovation of existing as well as development of new high-quality, multipurpose stadiums to meet the growing demand for professional and spectator-friendly infrastructure.

2. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) for Sustainable Infrastructure Development

Existing sports facilities across the State face several persistent challenges, including inadequate maintenance, budgetary limitations, underutilization, absence of premium

services, ageing technology, as well as unsustainable operating models. To address these issues comprehensively, the State will adopt PPP as a strategic mechanism to enhance and expand sports infrastructure. PPP models offer the opportunity to leverage private sector expertise, investment, and operational capabilities, while safeguarding public ownership, and long-term community benefit. Two primary models will be adopted based on the nature and scale of the facility:

- **Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Contracts** will enable private entities to manage existing facilities for a fixed duration, with the government retaining ownership. This will improve efficiency, enhance service quality, and reduce the administrative burden on the public sector. This model suits mini stadiums and mid-scale infrastructure that require streamlined management and better upkeep.
- **Lease-Develop-Operate (LDO) Infrastructure Model** will allow a private partner to lease the government-owned facilities, undertake necessary infrastructure upgrades or new development, and operate the facility over a concession period. The private entity will assume responsibility for development, maintenance, and revenue generation, while the government maintains ownership and oversight. This model will primarily be used for capital-intensive projects including world-class stadiums in Hyderabad.

To enhance financial sustainability and encourage private participation, all PPP-developed venues will be granted preferred venue status for hosting government and official events. For commercial viability, up to 30% of the site potential will be allocated for non-sporting or commercial activities. It will be ensured that all facilities developed under these models remain accessible to a wide range of users, from grassroots to elite athletes.

3. Accessible and Inclusive Infrastructure

All facilities will be developed based on principles of sustainability, with attention to environmental impact, safety, universal accessibility, and adaptability to both multi-sport and sport-specific training needs. Measures such as flexible operating hours, improved security, and lighting will enhance usability among diverse user groups. Additionally, dedicated time slots will be reserved in facilities for training of para-athletes.

4. State Sports Infrastructure Repository

SATG, in collaboration with technology partners and aggregator platforms, will establish and maintain a State Sports Infrastructure Repository (similar to the State Sports Repository for athletes, coaches, and personnel). This system will leverage Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to visually map all sports facilities across the state, including stadiums, mini-stadiums, training centers, and multipurpose halls. The platform will feature real-time booking capabilities to streamline facility usage, prevent overbooking, and promote equitable access. In addition, the repository will support facility condition monitoring, including maintenance tracking and accessibility checks.

Pillar 5 - Skills Development and Career Pathways

- **Sustainable Career Pathways:** Establishing structured career pathways and post-retirement support for athletes and coaches, ensuring long-term employment and opportunities in sports.
- **Professional Excellence and Skill Advancement:** Tailored upskilling and reskilling programmes to equip current as well as retired athletes for diverse career opportunities.

The State envisions skill development within and through sports. The government is committed to fostering a skilled sports workforce by providing specialized training, upskilling and reskilling opportunities for sports personnel. Additionally, the government aims to create sustainable career pathways in sports through targeted employment initiatives, incentives, and support for career transitions, especially for retired athletes.

1. Upskilling and Re-skilling of Athletes:

As athletes invest most of their time in training and taking part in competitions, they often fall behind in terms of achieving the same level of skills as non-athletes in the general workforce. To bridge this gap and enable the athletes to pursue a second/alternative career, the State will establish a structured framework for upskilling and re-skilling. This will include different programmes for current as well as retired athletes based on their background, including:

- **Career-Ready Skill Development:** Industry-aligned training programs to build functional, technical, and soft skills relevant to the wider workforce. This includes communication, leadership, and personality development. Tailored skilling tracks will be provided at the Young India Skills University (YISU), with dedicated employment drives for program graduates.
- **Pathways for Continued Education and Certification:** Bridge courses and flexible academic entry points along with fee incentives will be offered for athletes who wish to re-enter formal education. Degree programs at YISU and YIPESU will cater to different backgrounds, varied learning needs, including separate options for elite athletes and those previously deprived of formal education.
- **Post-Retirement Integration into Sports Ecosystem:** Veteran sportspersons will be encouraged to pursue roles such as coaches, instructors, or technical staff. YIPESU will offer specialized practical and refresher courses to prepare them for these roles, ensuring their continued contribution to the sports ecosystem.

2. Livelihoods and Career Pathways:

SATG will create and update guidelines to provide employment opportunities for athletes who have achieved significant success in the Olympics, World Championships, World Cups, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, and other similar competitions, on a

case-by-case basis. This also includes recipients of prestigious awards like the Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Dronacharya Award, Khel Ratna, and Arjuna Award.

A sportsperson-oriented recruitment scheme will be introduced by the Government. A sportsperson-oriented scheme for admissions in Higher Educational Institutions will also be introduced.

Provisions for Special Casual Leave / On Duty will be enhanced for sportspersons, coaches, support staff, technical officials, and selectors.

3. Pension for Retired Athletes and Coaches:

Pension support will be provided to veteran meritorious athletes and coaches. Such veterans will also be encouraged and supported to transition into various sport related assignments, mentor and share their knowledge, experiences, and insights with younger athletes, and contribute to the development of a strong coaching ecosystem.



Resource and Monitoring Plan

The Resource and Monitoring Plan establishes a sustainable framework for financing, managing, and evaluating Telangana's sports initiatives. Through diversified funding mechanisms, private sector partnerships, and a strong emphasis on accountability, the State will support both grassroots and high-performance sports while ensuring that resources are transparently allocated. This plan includes provisions for dedicated athlete support, community engagement, and recognition of contributors, fostering an inclusive and robust sports ecosystem across the State. Emphasis is given to simplifying procedures and leveraging technology to enhance transparency.

The Sports Hub of Telangana will oversee the implementation process of the policy, and the allocation and utilization of funds. It will, itself, or through the constitution of appropriate Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) committee conduct reviews at the 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year milestones, and amendments to the policy will be made accordingly based on the outcomes of these reviews. The Sports Hub and the State will aim to also host regular conclaves, summits, and stakeholder consultations to ensure ongoing dialogue among sports experts, administrators, athletes, and policy makers. These events will review policy progress, gather insights on emerging challenges, and allow for periodic updates, ensuring the policy remains aligned with current needs and global best practices.

1. Mobilizing Funds for Sports Development

1.1. Telangana Sports Development Fund (TSDF)

The fund will receive contributions from various sources, including State government grants, funding from Overseas Citizens of India (OCI), MP/MLA Local Area Development (LAD) schemes, rental fees on sporting infrastructure in the state, Central government funds through programmes like Khelo India and other related schemes, as well as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funding. This diversified funding approach will ensure the sustainability and growth of the Sports Hub of Telangana's objectives. The Sports Hub of Telangana will oversee the fund.

1.2. Sports Fund at District-level

10% of the Crucial Balance Fund (CBF) available with District Collectors will be earmarked for sports development in the respective districts every year henceforth.

A digital platform will be developed to track TSDF fund inflows and disbursements, ensuring transparency and accountability. Each contribution will be mapped to specific initiatives, including infrastructure, scholarships, and grassroots programmes, to provide clear oversight of fund utilization.

2. Support for Competitive and High-Performance Sports

2.1. Support to Elite Athletes and Coaches

The Government of Telangana will provide financial and non-financial support to elite athletes, including para-athletes and special athletes, as well as their coaches.

The government will establish the following committees to manage the allocation of financial support:

- **Scrutiny Committee (5-member):** Chaired by the MD of SATG, with representatives from the Technical Division, Associations, Administration, and Telangana Olympic Association (TOA). This committee will conduct initial scrutiny and evaluation of applications.
- **Approval Committee (12-member):** Chaired by the Hon'ble Minister for Sports, this committee includes the Chairman of SATG, Secretary of Sports, MD of SATG, a Finance Department representative, four association representatives (on rotation), President / Secretary of TOA, and two eminent sportspersons. This committee is responsible for approving cash incentives, Out-of-Pocket Allowance (OPA), and scholarships.

The committee shall be mandated to authorize and make guidelines for financial assistance to all established athletes and teams in the state. Athletes will be classified into performance-based tiers based on results in national and international competitions, enabling tailored incentives for each level. Financial assistance shall include two components: Allowance for diet, kit (including apparel and equipment), training (including international training in select cases), participation in national and international events, travel and sustenance, along with an additional component based on the individual's performance. The Approval Committee will also decide on any employment to be provided to top athletes, on a case-by-case basis.

Alongside established performers, the Government will ensure that emerging talent is also systematically identified and supported. The SATG, in coordination with respective sports associations, will compile a list of potential athletes in each sport, with the number of such players set at approximately 30% of the established talent pool. These identified athletes will receive proportionate financial and administrative support to nurture their development. Winners of the CM Cup (State Level), Khelo India Youth Games, and Khelo India School Games will be rewarded for a minimum of one year following their medal achievement. The continuation of incentives will be performance-based and subject to annual review, ensuring sustained support for consistent performers.

Additionally, out-of-pocket allowances and scholarships will be provided for athletes pursuing education, in collaboration with YIPESU and other universities, supporting both their athletic and academic growth.

A three-tier structure – with Elite, Emerging, and Foundation Categories – will be created for coaches based on qualification, experience, results delivered, past awards etc. Rewards and financial incentives will be accordingly provisioned for the three categories of coaches.

2.2. Assistance to Recognized State Sports Associations

The State will provide financial assistance to recognized state sports associations to support their efficient operation and promote sports development at all levels. Funding will support the organization of competitions, grassroots programmes, and talent development initiatives across taluka, mandal, district, state, national, and international levels. Only associations recognized by their respective National Federations and compliant with the National Sports Development Code 2011 will qualify for assistance. This decentralized funding approach will build local sports capacity and encourage regional engagement.

3. Incentives and Felicitation of Athletes and Coaches

The Government of Telangana will implement a comprehensive framework offering structured incentives and recognition for athletes and coaches. This approach is designed to encourage athletic excellence, provide security, and celebrate contributions at all stages of an athlete's career.



3.1. Graded Incentives for Athletes

A Graded Incentive System will be established to categorize athletes and coaches based on achievements at national and international levels, ensuring that top performers receive higher support while also motivating amateur and semi-professional athletes to advance.

Cash incentives will be awarded to athletes achieving success in the following key events, with specific amounts pre-declared by the State for each medal category:

Competitions	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Participation
Olympics/ Paralympic Games	6Cr	4Cr	2.5Cr	15L
Youth Olympics	1Cr	65L	40L	2.5L
Commonwealth / Para Commonwealth Games	1.5Cr	75L	50L	7.5L
Youth Commonwealth Games	25L	12.5L	8L	-
Asian / Para Asian Games	3Cr	1.5Cr	75L	7.5L
Youth Asian Games	50L	25L	15L	-
Special Olympics	50L	30L	20L	5L
Deaflympics	1.2Cr	80L	40L	2.5L
World Cup/Championship, Para World Games /Para World Cup/Para World Championship (once in 4 years cycle)	1.5Cr	75L	50L	10L
World Cup/Championship, Para World Cup/Para World Championship (once in 2 years cycle)	75L	50L	30L	-
World Cup/World Championship/ Para World Game/Para World Championship/Cup (annual)	50L	30L	20L	-
SAF Games	7L	5L	3L	-
SAF Jr Games	7L	5L	3L	-
National / Para National Games	5L	3L	2L	-
Khelo India	2L	1.50L	1L	-
IBSA World Games	60L	40L	20L	-
World University Games/ Championship	7L	5L	3L	-
Asian/Commonwealth Championship/Cup	25L	15L	10L	-
4-year Blind Cricket World Cup	25L	15L	10L	-

Additional events for open, junior and sub-junior categories as per guidelines to be periodically issued by the Approval Committee to align with evolving priorities.

Additional cash awards, land parcels for sports academies, and house sites may be awarded to top achievers, with eligibility determined by constituted Approval Committee.

3.2. State Sports Awards for Contributions to Sports

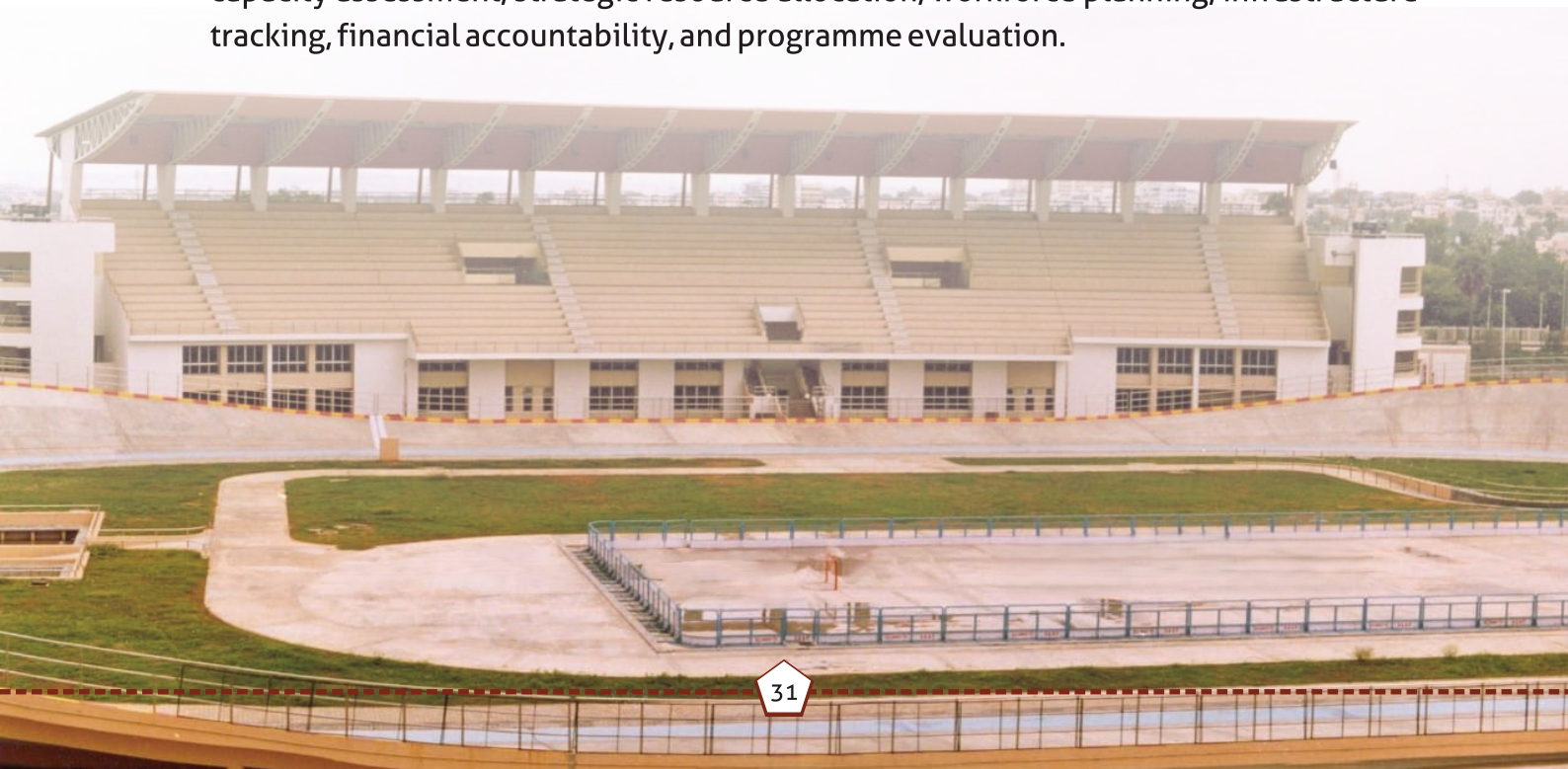
The State will celebrate excellence across its sports ecosystem through an annual awards programme, recognizing athletes, coaches, journalists, schools, and corporate partners who make significant contributions to sports development in the State. The following is a tentative list of awards to be presented:

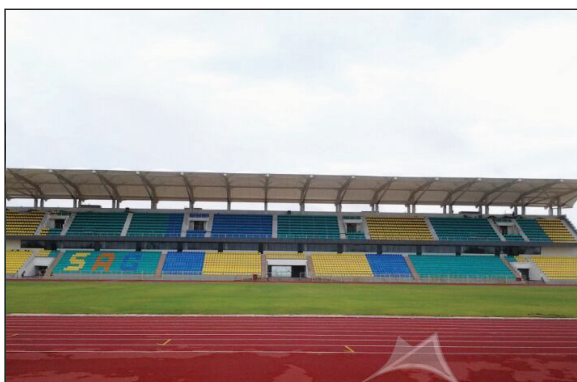
- Outstanding Performance in Sports – Male
- Outstanding Performance in Sports – Female
- Outstanding Performance in Para-Sports / Special Games
- Excellence in Coaching
- Excellence in Sports Journalism
- Promotion of Sports – School / Department
- Promotion of Sports – Corporate
- Lifetime Achievement in Sports / Promotion of Sports

All awards, including cash prizes and State recognitions, will be presented on the proposed State Sports Day, with clear guidelines on award eligibility, and applications reviewed by a Scrutiny Committee.

4. Capacity Monitoring and Resource Optimization Systems

A Capacity Monitoring and Resource Optimization System will form a core component of the policy to support a sustainable and responsive sports development framework. This system will evaluate and optimize resources, with key objectives including capacity assessment, strategic resource allocation, workforce planning, infrastructure tracking, financial accountability, and programme evaluation.







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