

K-15012/4/2025-SP-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 29th September, 2025

To

As per list attached

Subject: Inviting applications for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, 2025 - reg.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite the applications for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2025 for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years.

2. To be eligible for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2025, the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years immediately preceding the year during which award is to be given will be considered for Award for excellence in Sports & Games at International level i.e. Olympic/ Paralympics/ Asian/ Commonwealth Games/ Championships/World Cup/World Championship and equivalent recognized international tournaments. Accordingly, sports achievements for the period from 1st January, 2021 and upto 31st December, 2024 will be taken into consideration.
3. Applications are being invited only online through a dedicated Portal i.e. **www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in**. Sportspersons eligible in accordance with the award guidelines need to self apply through online Portal **www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in** only. In case any issue is faced in online application form, the applicant may contact the Department of Sports at email **sportsawards-moyas@gov.in**, Tel. No. 011-233-87432 from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm on any working day or Toll Free No. 1800-202-5155, 1800-258-5155 (any working day between 8.00 am to 8.00 pm).
4. A copy of the latest scheme for the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awards for Outstanding performance in Sports and Games (as amended on **14.10.2024**) is attached at Annexure - I.
5. Submission of vigilance clearance is mandatory for all Government servants. If the applicant is unable to submit the same while filling the form, he/she may submit it at email **sportsawards-moyas@gov.in** before the last date. Application of Government employees without vigilance clearance will not be considered.

ba 29/9/25

6. It should be noted by all that canvassing in any form for/by an entry will render it liable to disqualification.
7. The applications of the eligible sportspersons for the award must be submitted online at the dedicated portal www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in by 11:59 PM on 28th October, 2025 (i.e. Tuesday).

Yours sincerely,



(Raj K. Gupta)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Phone No: 011-23386416

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of States for Youth Affairs & Sports
3. PPS to Secretary (Sports)
4. PPS to Secretary (Youth Affairs)
5. PPS to Joint Secretary (K), PSO to Joint Secretary (SJ), PPS to Joint Secretary (VS), PPS to Joint Secretary (YA)
6. All Directors / Deputy Secretaries in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

To:

1. Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, (All States and UTs)
2. President/Secretary General, (All recognized National Sports Federations).
3. President/Secretary General, Indian Olympic Association, B-29, Olympic Bhawan, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi 110016
4. President/Secretary, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) 4th Floor, Cricket Centre Wankhede Stadium 'D' Road, Churchgate Mumbai- 400020.
5. Secretary, Services Sports Control Board, Room No. - 716, 7th Floor, A-Block Defence Offices Complex, KG Marg, New Delhi - 110001.
6. Secretary Railway Sports Promotion Board Room no. 452, 4th Floor, Ministry of Railways, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
7. Secretary, All India Police Sports Control Board Hall No. 002(Ground Floor), IBCTS Building, Gate No. 4 , 35 Sardar Patel Marg, Near Dhawla Kuan, New Delhi-110021
8. Secretary, Petroleum Sports Promotion Board, OIDB Bhawan, 2nd floor, G+3 Block, Plot No.2 (B Block), Sector-73, Noida-201301 (Uttar Pradesh).
9. Secretary, Air India Sports Promotion Board 1st Floor, Vayudoot Building, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 110003
10. Secretary, SAIL, Sports Promotion Board, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Corporate Office, Ispat Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003.
11. Secretary, Central Civil Services Cultural & Sports Board, 36 -B Wing, 3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan New Delhi- 110003.
12. ED (Teams)/CEO TOPS/Dy CEO, TAGG Sports Authority of India, East Gate, JLN Stadium, Lodhi Road New Delhi- With the request to upload on SAI's website for wide publicity

SCHEME FOR THE MAJOR DHYAN CHAND KHEL RATNA AWARD
(Amended as on 14.10.2024)

1. DEFINITION OF RULES

The scheme may be called the “Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award in Sports and Games”.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the award is to recognize the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of Sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years immediately preceding the year during which the award is to be given. During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons upto conclusion of these Games will also be considered.

3. DEFINITIONS

In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (a) “Scheme” means the scheme for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award in Sports and Games.
- (b) “Committee” means the Selection Committee constituted under the Scheme.
- (c) “Award” means the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.
- (d) “Chairperson” means chairperson of the Selection Committee under the Scheme.
- (e) “Government” means the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
- (f) “Sports Administrator” means a person who is engaged in management/administration of national/international sports events, sports organization including private sports academies, sports programmes and delivery of sports service.
- (g) “Sports journalist/expert/commentator” means a person who is associated with sports journalism including freelancing in print or electronic media,

or a person who writes extensively on sports issues or has written books on sports, or a person who give live commentary during sports events.

(h) “Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardee” means a person who has been conferred with Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna by the Government of India.

(i) “Arjuna Awardee” means a person who has been awarded an Arjuna Award by the Government of India.

(j) “Olympian” means a sports person who participated in the Olympic Games as a member of the Indian contingent approved by the Government of India.

4. ELIGIBILITY

4.1 The spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four years immediately preceding the year during which award is to be given shall be honoured with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award for excellence in Sports & Games at international level i.e. Olympic/Asian/Commonwealth/World Games/Championships/World Cup and equivalent recognized international tournaments. During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons in these Games and other abovementioned tournaments upto the conclusion of the Olympic Games/Commonwealth Games/Asian Games, as the case may be, will also be considered.

4.2 Sportspersons who have been penalized for use of drugs/substances banned by the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) based on a sample collected by the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) or any other agency authorized by WADA and tested by National Dope Testing Laboratory or any other WADA accredited laboratory, shall be eligible to be considered for the award after completion of their sentence/penalty/suspension/ban period. The achievements during the said suspension/ punishment would not be considered. However a sportsperson against whom enquiry is pending/ongoing will not be considered.

5. APPLICATIONS

5.1 Applications for the award will be invited through online portal. Sportspersons eligible in accordance with award guidelines will be permitted to self apply without the recommendation of the authorities/persons.

5.2 Notwithstanding the above, Government reserves the right to nominate upto two nominations in deserving cases.

5.3 The Award will be made in respect of the calendar year for which the applications are invited.

5.4 In case of sportspersons employed with Central Government/State Governments/PSUs or in private organizations, the applicant should obtain a requisite report from the concerned employer that the sportsperson is clear from vigilance/disciplinary angle and is not involved in any act of criminal or moral turpitude nature. Details of chargesheet/disciplinary action taken/pending, if any, should also be mentioned by the employer. Copy of the report/certificate obtained from the employer of the sportsperson should be enclosed with the application. The applicants who are not working/self employed are required to submit an undertaking that he/she is not involved in any act of criminal and moral turpitude nature.

6. RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE APPLICATIONS

6.1 After successful application a unique registration number will be generated which can be used by the applicant for future communications.

7. SCRUTINY OF APPLICATIONS

7.1 All applications received from the applicants mentioned in para 5 above will be sent to Sports Authority of India who will verify and confirm from official records the achievements/performance of all sportspersons within a maximum period of one month of the receipt of the applications from the Ministry.

7.2 The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will seek a report from NADA about each of the sportspersons, who has been shortlisted, for verifying if any one of them has ever been found positive for doping.

8. SCREENING COMMITTEE TO SCRUTINIZE ALL THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

8.1 A Screening Committee consisting of Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports, Secretary, Sports Authority of India (SAI), Director (Sports)/Deputy Secretary (Sports) Department of Sports and Executive Director (TEAMS)/Director (TEAMS), SAI will meet for the scrutiny of the applications.

Applications of the sportspersons and reports of NSFs/SAI will be placed before the screening committee. Valid applications, which are clear from vigilance, disciplinary and doping angles, will be placed before the Selection Committee as per the prescribed eligibility criteria.

9. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION

9.1 The Award will be decided by a Selection Committee constituted by the Government of India as under:

1.	Chairperson	To be nominated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
2.	Sportspersons of eminence (Olympians or previous Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna or Arjuna Awardees)	4 members
3.	Sports Journalists/Experts/ Commentators	3 members
4.	A sportspersons of eminence/sports administrator/sports expert belonging to para sports	1 member
5.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme Secretariat	Ex-officio member
6.	Executive Director (TEAMS)/Officer in-charge of TEAMS Division, Sports Authority of India	Ex-officio member
7.	Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports	Member Secretary

9.2 There should be a minimum two years gap before a member other than ex-officio is re-nominated as chairperson or member in the Selection Committee.

9.3 Not more than one sportsperson of eminence from a particular sports discipline shall be a member of the Selection Committee to avoid any bias in favour of a particular discipline.

9.4 A statement of achievements of all those sportspersons, who fulfil eligibility criteria and whose applications have been received before last date, will be sent to the members of the Selection Committee at least a week in advance before the meeting of the Selection Committee.

9.5 The Chairperson, in consultation with Member Secretary, may constitute panels from amongst the members of the Committee to assist the Committee.

9.6 The Chairperson may seek advice of experts in specific sports disciplines wherever necessary

9.7 Shortlisted applications from team games may be sent to experts at least a week in advance for their views. The experts may also be asked to attend Selection Committee meetings to clarify the doubts of members. The evaluation criteria may include international recognition, goals scored, player of the match/player of the tournament award, etc.

9.8 Any person directly or indirectly related to a sportsperson who has applied for the Award shall not be eligible to participate in deliberations of the Selection Committee, concerning that sportsperson.

9.9 The Committee will determine its own work procedure and will keep in view the guidelines/criteria, if any, framed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. Members of the Selection Committee will give their recommendations as per the provisions of the scheme and the marks criteria of the Scheme.

9.10 The quorum for the meeting of the Committee shall be 75% of the members of the Committee and the Chairperson.

9.11 The Committee shall select the Award winners by consensus failing which by a majority decision and give its report to the Government of India within 15 days of reference.

9.12 The Executive Director (TEAMS)/Director (TEAMS), Sports Authority of India will be present at the time of deliberations of the Committee in order to provide information/clarifications, if any, required by the Committee,

9.13 All the selection proceedings will be treated as "Confidential". The Chairperson may take necessary steps in consultation with the Member Secretary to maintain strict confidentiality of the deliberations and selection made by the Committee.

10. NUMBER OF MAJOR DHYAN CHAND KHEL RATNA AWARD TO BE GIVEN IN A YEAR

10.1 There will be only one award every year to be given to an individual sportsperson. This condition will be relaxed only in exceptional circumstances.

11. GENERAL

11.1 The award will consist of the following:

- i. A cash amount of Rs. 25 lakhs exempt from Income Tax and Wealth Tax in the year in which it is disbursed. The Award will be presented to the winners at the function for the presentation of the Award to be held at a place and on a date to be determined by the Government.
- ii. A Certificate of honour to each sportsperson.
- iii. One medal to each sportsperson.

11.2 This Award will be in addition to any other award of the Department or otherwise, which may be available to sportspersons for the same achievements.

11.3 No Award will be made for a second time to the same person.

11.4 The award may be given posthumously if such an occasion arises.

11.5 In order to ensure due diligence in the selection of awardees, the Ministry will make necessary character verification prior to finalizing the names of the awardees. Ministry may ask Sports Authority of India to carry out verification of character and antecedents of the recommended awardees through its regional centres, if need be, by taking help of concerned police authorities

11.6 The Awards will be conferred in a ceremony by the President of India, ordinarily on 29th August, birth anniversary of Late Major Dhyan Chand. However, during the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, the date of award ceremony will be finalized keeping in view the closing dates of these Games and in consultation with the Secretariat of the President of India.

11.7 At the time of the presentation ceremony, the awards will be conferred upon the selected awardees, who are present. No person other than the awardees will collect the award and prize money at the ceremony. The awardees who are not able to come to receive the award during the presentation ceremony may later receive the same from the Minister-in- Charge for Youth Affairs and Sports.

11.8 The Government of India may cancel, annul the Award of any recipient for specific reasons including doping and thereupon the recipient shall be required to surrender the medal and the certificate of honour, but it shall be competent for the

Government of India to restore the Award once the cancellation and annulment has been withdrawn.

11.9 The decision of the Government of India in respect of matters covered by the scheme and of the interpretation of the scheme shall be final and no appeal shall lie against such decision.

11.10 A person who has applied for the Award shall be deemed to have accepted the provisions of the scheme.

11.11 Canvassing in any form in respect of any applicant will render that applicant liable to disqualification.

11.12 Minister-in-charge for Youth Affairs & Sports will be competent authority for relaxation of any clause, provided there are sufficient reasons (to be recorded in writing) for doing so.

Criteria for giving Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna to Sportspersons

1. 80% weightage will be given for the medals won in various International championships and sports events of the disciplines covered in Olympic Games (Summer, Winter and Paralympics), Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. Points for winning medals will be given to each eligible sportsperson for his/her performance during the last 4 years and upto conclusion of Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games during those years when these Games are held as per marks given in the table below.

S. No.	Event	Medal		
		Gold	Silver	Bronze
1.	Olympic Games/Paralympics	80	70	55
2.	World Championship/World Cup (once in 4 years)*	40	30	20
3.	Asian Games	30	25	20
4.	Commonwealth Games	25	20	15

*For World Championship/World Cup of different periodicities, proportionate marks will be given

2. Equivalence of any other sports discipline/tournament, not listed above, will be decided by the Selection Committee with reference to above-mentioned categories of sports tournaments and the points will be allotted accordingly.

3. For team events, marks will be computed taking into consideration strength of the team. If prescribed marks for an individual event are "A", in the case of team event, the marks will be computed as follows:

- (i) A team of 2 persons: $1.5 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (ii) A team of 3 or 4 persons: $2 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iii) A team of 5 to 10 persons: $3 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iv) A team of more than 10 persons: $5 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$

4. 80 marks will be given to the sportsperson getting maximum points as computed in the table above. Rest of the sportspersons will be given marks proportionately to the said sportsperson. For example, if a sportsperson 'A' has got highest points, say 85 points as per the table above and another sportsperson 'B' has got 80 points as per the table above, then 'A' will get 80 marks and 'B' will get $(80 \times 80/85)=75.30$ marks.

5. 20% weightage will be given to the marks given by the Selection Committee for assessment of the eligible sportsperson keeping in view factors like profile and standard of the sports events in which he or she has won medals.
6. For cricket and indigenous games, not included in Olympic/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games disciplines, the Selection Committee will take into consideration their individuals performances.
7. There will be only one award every year to be given to an individual sportsperson. This condition will be relaxed only in exceptional circumstances to be recorded in writing.
8. In a particular sports discipline, names of not more than 2 sportspersons (1 male and 1 female) with the highest marks as per the criteria brought out in the table above will be considered by the Selection Committee.
9. Sometimes, the Selection Committee may feel that as per the given criteria, a very deserving sportsperson in a team game may not get Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna. In such a situation, it may recommend such name giving full justification in writing.
10. Selection Committee will recommend the final list of sportsperson(s) for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna as per the marks obtained in terms of the criteria indicated above.
11. Selection Committee may not mechanically recommend Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna to the recipient of the highest marks across disciplines. But in a particular sports discipline, award will be recommended only for the recipient of the highest aggregate marks.
12. The recommendations of Selection Committee will be placed before the Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports for the final decision.

K-15012/4/2025-SP-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 29th September, 2025

To

As per list attached.

Subject: Inviting applications for Arjuna Awards and Arjuna Awards (Lifetime) 2025-reg

Sir/ Madam,

I am directed to invite the applications for the Arjuna Awards and Arjuna Awards (Lifetime) 2025 for outstanding achievements of sportspersons in the field of sports at international level.

2. (i) To be eligible for Arjuna award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance over the previous four years at the international level but also should have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. Accordingly, sports achievements for the period from 1st January, 2021 and upto 31st December, 2024 will be taken into consideration.

(ii) To be eligible for Arjuna Awards (Lifetime), a sportsperson should have had not only good performance at international level but also should have continued to contribute to promotion of sports in his or her individual capacity even after his career as a sportsperson is over. A sportsperson should also have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and sense of discipline.

3. Applications are being invited only online through a dedicated Portal i.e **www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in**. Sportspersons eligible in accordance with the award guidelines need to self-apply through online Portal **www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in** only. In case any issue is faced in online application form, the applicant may contact the Department of Sports at email **sportsawards-moyas@gov.in**, Tel. No. 011-233-87432 from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm on any working day or Toll Free No. 1800-202-5155, 1800-258-5155 (any working day between 8.00 am to 8.00 pm).

4. A copy of the latest scheme for the Arjuna Awards for Outstanding performance in Sports and Games (as amended on **14.10.2024**) is attached at Annexure - I.

5. Submission of vigilance clearance is mandatory for all Government servants. If the applicant is unable to submit the same while filling the form, he/she may submit it at email **sportsawards-moyas@gov.in** before the last date. Application of Government employees without vigilance clearance will not be considered.

29/9/25

6. It should be noted by all that canvassing in any form for/by an entry will render it liable to disqualification.

3. The applications of the eligible sportspersons for the award must be submitted online at the dedicated portal dbtyas-sports.gov.in by 11:59 PM on 28th October, 2025 (i.e. Tuesday).

Yours sincerely,



(Raj K. Gupta)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Phone No: 011-23386416

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of States for Youth Affairs & Sports
3. PPS to Secretary (Sports)
4. PPS to Secretary (Youth Affairs)
5. PPS to Joint Secretary (K), PSO to Joint Secretary (SJ), PPS to Joint Secretary (VS), PPS to Joint Secretary (YA)
6. All Directors/Deputy Secretaries in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

To:

1. Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, (All States and UTs)
2. President/Secretary General, (All recognized National Sports Federations)
3. President/Secretary General, Indian Olympic Association, B-29, Olympic Bhawan, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi 110016
4. President/Secretary, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) 4th Floor, Cricket Centre Wankhede Stadium 'D' Road, Churchgate Mumbai- 400020.
5. Secretary, Services Sports Control Board, Room No. - 716, 7th Floor, A- Block Defence Offices Complex, KG Marg, New Delhi - 110001.
6. Secretary Railway Sports Promotion Board Room no. 452, 4th Floor, Ministry of Railways, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
7. Secretary, All India Police Sports Control Board Hall No. 002(Ground Floor), IBCTS Building, Gate No. 4, 35 Sardar Patel Marg, Near Dhaua Kuan, New Delhi-110021
8. Secretary, Petroleum Sports Promotion Board, OIDB Bhawan, 2nd floor, G+3 Block, Plot No.2 (B Block), Sector-73, Noida-201301 (Uttar Pradesh).
9. Secretary, Air India Sports Promotion Board 1st Floor, Vayudoot Building, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 110003
10. Secretary, SAIL, Sports Promotion Board, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Corporate Office, Ispat Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003.
11. Secretary, Central Civil Services Cultural & Sports Board, 36 -B Wing, 3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan New Delhi- 110003.
12. ED (Teams)/CEO TOPS/Dy. CEO, TAGG, Sports Authority of India, East Gate, JLN Stadium, Lodhi Road New Delhi- With the request to upload on SAI's website for wide publicity

SCHEME FOR THE ARJUNA AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN SPORTS AND GAMES

(Amended as on 14.10.2024)

1. PREAMBLE

The Scheme may be called the "Scheme for Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games".

2. OBJECTIVE

(i) The objective of the Awards is to recognize outstanding achievements of sportspersons in the field of sports at international level.

(ii) To honour and motivate those sportspersons who have contributed to sports by their performance and continue to contribute to promotion of sports even after their retirement from active sporting career.

3. DEFINITIONS

In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (a) "Scheme" means the scheme for the Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games.
- (b) "Committee" means the Selection Committee constituted under the Scheme.
- (c) "Award" means the Arjuna Awards.
- (d) "Chairperson" means Chairperson of the Selection Committee under the Scheme.
- (e) "Government" means the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- (f) "Sports Administrator" means a person who is engaged in management/ administration of national/international sports events, sports organizations including private sports academies, sports programmes and delivery of sports services.
- (g) "Sports journalist/expert/commentator" means a person who is associated with sports journalism including freelancing in print or electronic media, or a person who writes extensively on sports issues or has written books on sports, or a person who gives live commentary during sports events.
- (h) "Major Dhyani Chand Khel Ratna Awardee" means a person who has been conferred with Major Dhyani Chand Khel Ratna by the Government of India.
- (i) "Arjuna Awardee" means a person who has been awarded an Arjuna Award by the Government of India.
- (j) "Olympian" means a sports person who participated in the Olympic Games as a member of the Indian contingent approved by the Government of India.

4. ELIGIBILITY

4.1 Arjuna Awards

4.1.1 To be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance over the previous four years at the International level but also should have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline.

4.1.2 During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons in these Games and other international tournaments upto the conclusion of the Olympic Games/Commonwealth Games/Asian Games, as the case may be, will also be considered.

4.1.3 The Government will only consider conferring Arjuna Award in the disciplines falling under following categories:-

- a) Olympic Games/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games/ World Cup/ World Championship disciplines and cricket or any equivalent recognized International Tournament.
- b) Indigenous Games.
- c) Sports for physically challenged.

4.2 Arjuna Awards (Life Time)

4.2.1 To be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance at international level but also should have continued to contribute to promotion of sports in his individual capacity even after his career as a sportsperson is over. A sportsperson should also have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and sense of discipline.

4.3 Sportspersons who have been penalized for use of drugs/substances banned by the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) based on a sample collected by the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) or any other agency authorized by WADA and tested by National Dope Testing Laboratory or any other WADA accredited laboratory, shall be eligible to be considered for the award after completion of their sentence/penalty/suspension/ban period. The achievements during the said suspension/ punishment would not be considered. However a sportsperson against whom enquiry is pending/ongoing will not be considered.

5. APPLICATION

5.1 Applications for the award will be invited through online portal. Sportspersons eligible in accordance with award guidelines will be permitted to self apply without the recommendation of the authorities/persons.

5.2 Notwithstanding the above, Government reserves the right to nominate upto three nominations in deserving cases.

5.3 The Award will be made in respect of the calendar year for which the applications are invited.

5.4 In case of sportspersons employed with Central Government/State Governments/PSUs or in private organizations, the applicant should obtain a requisite report from the concerned employer that the sportsperson is clear from vigilance/disciplinary angle and is not involved in any act of criminal or moral turpitude nature. Details of chargesheet/disciplinary action taken/pending, if any, should also be mentioned by the employer. Copy of the report/certificate obtained from the employer of the sportsperson should be enclosed with the application. The applicants who are not working/self employed are required to submit an undertaking that he/she is not involved in any act of criminal and moral turpitude nature.

6. RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE APPLICATIONS:

6.1 After successful application a unique registration number will be generated which can be used by the applicant for future communications.

7. SCRUTINY OF APPLICATIONS

7.1 All applications received from the applicants mentioned in para 5 above will be sent to Sports Authority of India who will verify and confirm from official records the achievements/performance of all sportspersons within a maximum period of one month of the receipt of the applications from the Ministry.

7.2 The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will seek a report from NADA about each of the sportspersons, who has been shortlisted, for verifying if any one of them has ever been found positive for doping.

8. SCREENING COMMITTEE TO SCRUTINIZE ALL THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

A Screening Committee consisting of Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports, Secretary, Sports Authority of India (SAI), Director (Sports)/Deputy Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports and Executive Director (TEAMS)/Director (TEAMS), SAI will meet for the scrutiny of the applications. Applications of the nominated sportspersons, reports of NSFs/SAI will be placed before the screening committee. Valid applications which are clear from vigilance, disciplinary and doping angles will be placed before the Selection Committee as per the eligibility criteria prescribed.

9. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION

9.1 The Award will be decided by a Selection Committee constituted by the Government of India as under:-

1.	Chairperson	A retired judge of Supreme Court/High Court
2.	Sportspersons of eminence (Olympians or previous Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna or Arjuna Awardees)	4 members
3.	Sports Journalists/Experts/Commentators	3 members
4.	A sportsperson of eminence/sports administrator/sports expert belonging to para sports	1 member
5.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme Secretariat	Ex-officio member
6.	Executive Director (TEAMS)/Officer in-charge of TEAMS Division , Sports Authority of India	Ex-officio member
7.	Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports	Member Secretary

9.2 There should be minimum two years of gap before a member other than ex-officio is re-nominated as chairperson or member in the Selection Committee.

9.3 Not more than one sportsperson of eminence from a particular sports discipline shall be a member of the Selection Committee to avoid any bias in favour of a particular discipline.

9.4 A statement of achievements of all those sportspersons, who fulfil eligibility criteria and whose applications have been received before last date, will be sent to the members of the Selection Committee at least a week in advance before the meeting of the Selection Committee.

9.5 The Chairperson, in consultation with the Member Secretary, may constitute panels from amongst the members of the Committee to assist the Committee.

9.6 The Chairperson may seek the advice of experts in specific sports disciplines, wherever necessary.

9.7 Shortlisted applications from team games may be sent to experts at least a week in advance for their views. The experts may also be asked to attend Selection Committee meetings to clarify the doubts of members. The evaluation criteria may include international recognition, goals scored, player of the match/player of the tournament award, etc.

9.8 Any person, directly or indirectly related to a sportsperson (who applied for the Awards), shall not be eligible to participate in deliberations of the Selection Committee, concerning the sportsperson.

9.9 The Committee will determine its own work procedure and will keep in view the guidelines/criteria, if any, framed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. Members of the Selection Committee will give their recommendations as per the provisions of the scheme and the marks criteria of the scheme.

9.10 The quorum for the meeting of the Committee shall be 75% of the members of the Committee and the Chairperson.

9.11 The Committee shall select the Award winners by consensus failing which by a majority decision and give its report to the Government of India within 15 days of reference.

9.12 The Executive Director (TEAMS)/Director (TEAMS), Sports Authority of India will be present at the time of deliberations of the Committee in order to provide information/clarifications, if any, required by the Committee.

9.13 All the selection proceedings will be treated as "Confidential". The Chairperson may take necessary steps in consultation with the Member Secretary to maintain strict confidentiality of the deliberations and selection made by the Committee.

10. NUMBER OF AWARDS TO BE GIVEN IN A YEAR

10.1 ARJUNA AWARDS

10.1.1 Ordinarily not more than one award will be given in each discipline in a particular year subject to deserving sportspersons being available. However, at least one award is to be given exclusively for sports for physically challenged. Further, the principle of one award per discipline may be relaxed in case of team sports and across gender. That is to say that, the Selection Committee may recommend, in deserving cases with proper justification, more than one sportsperson in respect of team sports and sportspersons of both the genders.

10.1.2 Normally not more than 15 awards could be given in any calendar year. However, keeping in view the performance of Indian sportspersons in the Commonwealth, Asian Games and Olympic Games during a particular year and for the reasons given in para 10.1 above, Arjuna Awards exceeding 15 in number may be allowed with proper justification and approval of Minister-in charge for Youth Affairs & sports.

10.2 ARJUNA AWARDS (LIFE TIME)

10.2.1 Not more than three awards will be given in a particular year subject to deserving sportspersons being available.

11. GENERAL

11.1 The Award consist of a statuette, a certificate, ceremonial dress, and a cash Award of ₹15.00 lakh which will be presented to the winners in a function to be held at a place and on a date to be decided by the Government of India.

11.2 No Award will be made for a second time to the same person.

11.3 The Award may be given posthumously if such an occasion arises.

11.4 In order to ensure due diligence in the selection of awardees, the Ministry will make necessary character verification prior to finalizing the names of the awardees. This may be done through the regional centres of SAI, if need be, by taking help of concerned police authorities.

11.5 The Awards will be conferred in a ceremony by the President of India, ordinarily on 29th August, birth anniversary of Late Major Dhyan Chand. However, during the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, the date of award ceremony will be finalized keeping in view the closing dates of these Games and in consultation with the Secretariat of the President of India.

11.6 At the time of the presentation ceremony, the awards will be conferred upon the selected awardees, who are present. No person other than the awardees will collect the award and prize money at the presentation ceremony. The awardees who are not able to come to receive the award during the presentation ceremony may later receive the same from the Minister-in-Charge for Youth Affairs and Sports.

11.7 The Government of India may cancel, annul the Award of any recipient for specific reasons including doping and, thereupon, the recipient shall be required to surrender the statuette and the certificate of award but it shall be competent for the Government of India to restore the Award once the cancellation and annulment has been withdrawn.

11.8 The decision of the Government of India in respect of matters covered by this Scheme and of the interpretation of the provisions of this scheme shall be final and no appeal shall lie against them.

11.9 A person who is nominated for the Award shall be deemed to have accepted the provisions of the scheme.

11.10 Canvassing in any form in respect of any nominee will render that nominee liable to disqualification.

11.11 Minister-in-charge for Youth Affairs & Sports will be competent authority for relaxation of any clause, provided there are sufficient reasons (to be recorded in writing) for doing so.

I. Criteria for giving Arjuna award to Sports persons

1. 80 % weightage will be given for the medals won in various International championships and sports events of the disciplines covered in Olympic Games (Summer, Winter and Paralympics), Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. Points for winning medals will be given to each eligible sportsperson for his/her performance during the last 4 years and upto conclusion of Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games during those years when these Games are held as per marks given in the table below:

S. No.	Event	Medal		
		Gold	Silver	Bronze
1	World Championship/World Cup (once in 4 years)*	40	30	20
2	Asian Games	30	25	20
3	Commonwealth Games	25	20	15
4	Asian Championship (once in two years i.e. biennial)*	15	10	7
5	Commonwealth Championship (once in two years i.e. biennial)*	15	10	7

* For World Championship/World Cup/Asian Championship/Commonwealth Championship of different periodicities, proportionate marks will be given.

2. Equivalence of any other sports discipline/tournament, not listed above, will be decided by the Selection Committee with reference to above-mentioned five categories of sports tournaments and the points will be allotted accordingly.

3. For team events, marks will be computed taking into consideration strength of the team. If prescribed marks for an individual event are 'A', in the case of team event, the marks will be computed as follows:

- (i) A team of 2 persons: $1.5 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (ii) A team of 3 or 4 persons: $2 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iii) A team of 5 to 10 persons: $3 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iv) A team of more than 10 persons: $5 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$

4. 80 marks will be given to the sportsperson getting maximum points as computed in the table above. Rest of the sportspersons will be given marks proportionately to the said sportsperson. For example, if a sportsperson 'A' has got highest points say 45 points as per the table above and another sportsperson 'B' has got 40 points as per the table above, then 'A' will get 80 marks and 'B' will get $(80 \times 40 / 45) = 71.11$ marks.

5. 20 % weightage will be given to the marks given by the Selection Committee for assessment of the eligible sportsperson keeping in view factors like profile and standard of the

sports events in which he or she has won medals and qualities like leadership, sportsmanship, team spirit, fair play, sense of discipline.

II. Criteria for giving Arjuna award (Life-time Achievement)

1. 70% weightage will be given for the medals won in various International championships and sports events of the disciplines covered in Olympic Games (Summer, Winter and Paralympics), Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. Points for winning medals will be given to each eligible sportsperson for his/her performance during his entire sporting career as per marks given in the table below.

S. No.	Event	Medal		
		Gold	Silver	Bronze
1.	Olympic Games/Paralympics	80	70	55
2.	World Championship World Cup (once in 4 years)	40	30	20
3.	Asian Games	30	25	20
4.	Commonwealth Games	25	20	15

*For World Championship/World Cup of different periodicities, proportionate marks will be given

2. Equivalence of any other sports discipline/tournament, not listed above, will be decided by the Selection Committee with reference to above-mentioned categories of sports tournaments and the points will be allotted accordingly.

3. For team events, marks will be computed taking into consideration strength of the team. If prescribed marks for an individual event are "A", in the case of team event, the marks will be computed as follows:

- (i) A team of 2 persons: $1.5 \times \text{'A'}/\text{number of persons in the team}$
- (ii) A team of 3 or 4 persons: $2 \times \text{'A'}/\text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iii) A team of 5 to 10 persons: $3 \times \text{'A'}/\text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iv) A team of more than 10 persons: $5 \times \text{'A'}/\text{number of persons in the team}$

4. 70 marks will be given to the sportsperson getting maximum points as computed in the table above. Rest of the sportspersons will be given marks proportionately to the said sportsperson. For example, if a sportsperson 'A' has got highest points, say 45 points as per the table above and another sportsperson 'B' has got 40 points as per the table above, then 'A' will get 80 marks and 'B' will get $(70 \times 40/45)=62.22$ marks.

5. 30% weightage will be given to the marks given by the Selection Committee for assessment of the eligible sportsperson for contribution made for promotion of sports after retirement from active sports career e.g. as a coach, sports manager, etc. and for qualities of sportsmanship, leadership and sense of discipline.

General

1. Winners of medals in Olympics and Paralympics will automatically be considered for Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna or Arjuna Awards, depending on the type of medal won, if they have already not been conferred with either of the two Awards. This provision will not be applicable in the case of Life-time Achievement category of Awards.
2. For cricket and indigenous games, not included in Olympic/ Asian Games/ Commonwealth Games disciplines, the Selection Committee will recommend the number of awards, (not exceeding two), to be given for Cricket/Indigenous Games and recommend the sportspersons taking into consideration their individuals performances and qualities of sportsman spirit, leadership, sense of discipline etc.
3. Ordinarily, not more than one award will be given in each discipline in a particular year subject to deserving sportspersons being available. Adequate representation would be insured for physically challenged and women.
4. The principle of one award per discipline will not be applicable in case of team sports and across gender. That is to say that, the Selection Committee may recommend, in deserving cases with proper justification, more than one sportsperson in respect of team sports and sportspersons of both the genders.
5. Normally not more than 15 awards could be given in any calendar year. However, keeping in view the performance of Indian sportspersons in the Commonwealth, Asian Games and Olympic Games during a particular year and for the reasons given in para 7 above, Selection Committee may recommend more than 15 sportspersons for Arjuna Award.
6. In a particular sports discipline, names of not more than 4 sportspersons (2 male and 2 female) with the highest marks as per the criteria brought out in the table above will be considered by the Selection Committee.
7. Sometimes, the Selection Committee may feel that as per the given criteria, a very deserving sportsperson may not get Arjuna Award. In such a situation, it may recommend such name giving full justification in writing.
8. Selection Committee will recommend the final list of sportspersons for Arjuna Awards as per the marks obtained in terms of the criteria indicated above.
9. Selection Committee may not mechanically recommend Arjuna Award to the recipient of the highest marks across disciplines. But in a particular sports discipline, award will be recommended only for the recipient of the highest aggregate marks.
10. The recommendations of Selection Committee will be placed before the Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports for the final decision.

K-15012/4/2025-SP-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 29th September, 2025

To

As per list attached

Subject: Inviting applications for Dronacharya Award and Dronacharya Awards (Lifetime) 2025- reg

Sir/ Madam,

I am directed to invite the applications for Dronacharya Awards and Dronacharya Awards (Lifetime) 2025 for outstanding coaches in sports and games.

2. To be eligible for the award, coach at Grassroot/Development/Elite level whether he/she works full time or part time as coach, he/she should have produced outstanding achievement over a period of four years immediately preceding the year in which the award is to be given. Accordingly, achievements for the period from 1st January, 2021 and upto 31st December, 2024 of the sportspersons imparted coaching by the coach will be taken into consideration. For 02 awards earmarked for lifetime contribution in coaching, achievements of the coach including Grassroot/Development level should have been associated with an athlete for more than 5 (five) years.

3. Applications are being invited only online through a dedicated Portal i.e **www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in**. Sportspersons eligible in accordance with the award guidelines need to self- apply through online Portal **www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in** only. In case any issue is faced in online application form, the applicant may contact the Department of Sports at email **sportsawards-moyas@gov.in**, Tel. No. 011-23387432 from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm on any working day or Toll Free No. 1800-202-5155, 1800-258-5155 (any working day between 8.00 am to 8.00 pm).

4. A copy of the latest scheme for the Dronacharya Award for Outstanding coaches in Sports and Games (amended as on 14.10.2024) is attached at Annexure - I.

5. Submission of vigilance clearance is mandatory for all Government servants. If the applicant is unable to submit the same while filling the form, he/she may submit it at email **sportsawards-moyas@gov.in** before the last date. Application of Government employees without vigilance clearance will not be considered.

Net 29/9/25

6. It should be noted by all that canvassing in any form for/by an entry will render it liable to disqualification.

7. The applications of the eligible sportspersons for the award must be submitted online at the dedicated portal www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in by 11:59 pm on 28th October, 2025 (i.e. Tuesday).

Yours sincerely,



(Raj K. Gupta)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Phone No: 011-23386416

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of States for Youth Affairs & Sports
3. PPS to Secretary (Sports)
4. PPS to Secretary (Youth Affairs)
5. PPS to Joint Secretary (K), PSO to Joint Secretary (SJ), PPS to Joint Secretary (VS), PPS to Joint Secretary (YA)
6. All Directors/Deputy Secretaries in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

To:

1. Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, (All States and UTs)
2. President/ Secretary General (All recognized National Sports Federations).
3. President/Secretary General, Indian Olympic Association, B-29, Olympic Bhawan, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi 110016
4. President /Secretary, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) 4th Floor, Cricket Centre Wankhede Stadium 'D' Road, Churchgate Mumbai- 400020.
5. Secretary, Services Sports Control Board, Room No.97 , G Block, Armed Forces, Headquarters, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi 110011
6. Secretary, Railway Sports Promotion Board Room no. 452, 4th Floor, Ministry of Railways, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
7. Secretary, All India Police Sports Control Board Hall No. 002(Ground Floor), IBCTS Building, Gate No. 4 , 35 Sardar Patel Marg, Near Dhoola Kuan, New Delhi-110021
8. Secretary, Petroleum Sports Promotion Board, 1012, Surya Kiran Building, 19, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi- 110001
9. Secretary, Air India Sports Promotion Board 1st Floor, Vayudoot Building, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 110003
10. Secretary, SAIL, Sports Promotion Board, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Corporate Office, Ispat Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003
11. Secretary, Central Civil Services Cultural & Sports Board, 36 -B Wing, 3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan New Delhi- 110003
12. ED (Teams)/CEO TOPS/Dy CEO, TAGG, Sports Authority of India, East Gate, JLN Stadium, Lodhi Road New Delhi – With a request to upload on SAI's website for wide publicity.

SCHEME FOR DRONACHARYA AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COACHES IN SPORTS AND GAMES (As amended on 14.10.2024)

1. PREAMBLE

The scheme may be called the "Scheme for Dronacharya Award for Outstanding Coaches in Sports and Games".

2. OBJECTIVES

The Award is intended to:

- (i) Honour coaches who have done outstanding and meritorious work on a consistent basis and enabled sportspersons to excel in international events; and
- (ii) Motivate coaches to dedicate themselves with a singularity of purpose of raising the standard of sportspersons to highest performance in international events and thus bring glory to the country.

3. DEFINITIONS

In this scheme, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (a) "Scheme" means the Scheme for the Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches in sports and games.
- (b) "Committee" means the Selection Committee constituted under the Scheme.
- (c) "Award" means the Dronacharya Award.
- (d) "Chairperson" means chairperson of the Selection Committee under the Scheme.
- (e) "Government" means the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- (f) "Olympian" means a sportsperson who participated in the Olympic Games as a Member of Indian Contingent approved by the Government of India.
- (g) "Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardee" means a person who has been conferred with Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award by the Government of India.
- (h) "Arjuna Awardee" means a person who has been awarded an Arjuna Award by Government of India.
- (i) "Sports Administrator" means a person who is engaged in management/ administration of national/international sports events, sports organizations including private sports academies, sports programmes and delivery of sports services.
- (j) "Sports Journalist/expert/commentator" means a person who is associated with sports journalism including freelancing in print or electronic media, or a person who writes extensively on sports issues or has written books on sports, or a person who gives live commentary during sports events.

4. SPORTS DISCIPLINES COVERED BY DRONACHARYA AWARD

The Dronacharya Awards shall be given to eligible coaches who produce outstanding results in:

- a) Different Olympic sports disciplines
- b) Such non-Olympic sports disciplines as are recognized by the Government of India in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; and
- c) Such Indigenous sports as are recognized by Government under extant rules.

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1 To be eligible for the award, coach at Grassroot/Development/Elite level, whether he/she works full time or part time as coach, he/she should have produced outstanding achievement over a period of four years immediately preceding the year in which the award is to be given. During the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, achievements of the sportspersons, who have been imparted coaching, upto conclusion of these Games will also be considered. The coach will have to submit details of periods for which he/she coached the disciple(s) in question against whose performance he/she is seeking the Award. The Ministry reserves the right to seek affidavit from the sportsperson concerned where it is found that more than one coach is claiming credit for achievements of a sportsperson.

5.2 For 2 awards earmarked for lifetime contribution in coaching, achievements of the coach (including coach at Grassroot/Development/Elite level) in producing outstanding sportspersons over a period of 20 years or more will be taken into account. The coach at Grassroot/Development level should have been associated with an athlete for more than 5 (five) years out of these 20 years.

5.3 A coach found encouraging the use of drugs/substances banned by the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) based on a sample collected by the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) or any other agency authorized by WADA and tested by National Dope Testing Laboratory or any other WADA accredited laboratory, by a sportsperson whom he/she coaching, will be eligible for the Dronacharya Award after completion sentence/penalty/suspension/ban period. The achievement during the said suspension/ punishment would not be considered. However, if enquiry is pending/ongoing against coach and the sportsperson whom he/she is giving coaching will not be considered.

5.4 Sportspersons who have already been conferred with Arjuna Award (Lifetime) (erstwhile known as Dhyan Chand Award) will not be eligible to apply for Dronacharya Award.

6. APPLICATIONS

6.1 Applications for the award will be invited through online portal. Sportspersons eligible in accordance with award guidelines will be permitted to self apply without the recommendation of the authorities/persons.

6.2 Notwithstanding the above, Government reserves the right to nominate upto two nominations in deserving cases.

6.3 The Award will be made in respect of the calendar year for which the applications are invited.

6.4 In case of sportspersons employed with Central Government/State Governments/PSUs or in private organizations, the applicant should obtain a requisite report from the concerned employer that the sportsperson is clear from vigilance/disciplinary angle and is not involved in any act of criminal or moral turpitude nature. Details of chargesheet/disciplinary action taken/pending, if any, should also be mentioned by the employer. Copy of the report/certificate obtained from the employer of the sportsperson should be enclosed with the application. The applicants who are not working/self employed are required to submit an undertaking that he/she is not involved in any act of criminal and moral turpitude nature.

7. RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE APPLICATIONS:

7.1 After successful application a unique registration number will be generated which can be used by the applicant for future communications.

8. SCRUTINY OF APPLICATIONS

8.1 All applications received from the applicants mentioned in para 5 above will be sent to Sports Authority of India who will verify and confirm from official records the achievements/performance of all coaches within a maximum period of one month of the receipt of the applications from the Ministry.

8.2 The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports will seek a report from NADA about each of the applicants, who has been shortlisted, for verifying if any one of them/ sportsperson coached by them has ever been found positive for doping.

9. SCREENING COMMITTEE TO SCRUTINIZE ALL THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

9.1 A Screening Committee consisting of Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports, Secretary, Sports Authority of India (SAI), Director (Sports)/Deputy Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports and Executive Director (TEAMS)/Director (TEAMS), SAI will meet for the scrutiny of the applications. Applications of the coaches and reports of NSFs/SAI will be

placed before the screening committee. Valid applications, which are clear from vigilance, disciplinary and doping angles, will be placed before the Selection Committee as per the prescribed eligibility prescribed.

10. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION

10.1 The Awards will be decided by a Selection Committee constituted by the Government of India as under:

1.	Chairperson	To be nominated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
2.	Sportspersons of eminence (Olympians or previous Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardees or Arjuna Awardees)	2 members
3.	Previous Dronacharya Awardees from different disciplines	3 members
4.	Sports Journalists/Experts/ Commentators	2 members
5.	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme Secretariat	Ex-officio member
6.	Executive Director (TEAMS)/Officer in-charge of TEAMS Division, Sports Authority of India	Ex-officio member
7.	Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports	Member Secretary

10.2 There should be a minimum two years gap before a member other than ex-officio is re-nominated as chairperson or member in the Selection Committee.

10.3 Not more than one sportsperson of eminence or previous Dronacharya Awardee from a particular sports discipline shall be a member of the Selection Committee to avoid any bias in favour of a particular discipline.

10.4 A statement of achievements of all those coaches, who fulfil eligibility criteria and whose applications have been received before last date, will be sent to the members of the Selection Committee at least a week in advance before the meeting of the Selection Committee.

10.5 The Chairperson, in consultation with Member Secretary, may constitute panels from amongst the members of the Committee to assist the Committee.

10.6 The Chairperson may seek advice of experts in specific sports disciplines wherever necessary.

10.7 Shortlisted applications from team games may be sent to experts at least a week in advance for their views. The experts may also be asked to attend Selection Committee meetings to clarify the doubts of members. The evaluation criteria may include international recognition, goals scored, player of the match/player of the tournament award, etc of the trainees of the coach.

10.8 Any person directly or indirectly related to a coach for the Awards shall not be eligible to participate in deliberations of the Selection Committee, concerning that sportsperson.

10.9 The Committee will determine its own work procedure and will keep in view the guidelines/criteria, if any, framed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. Members of the Selection Committee will give their recommendations as per the provisions of the scheme and the marks criteria of the Scheme.

10.10 The quorum for the meeting of the Committee shall be 75% of the members of the Committee and the Chairperson.

10.11 The Committee shall select the Award winners by consensus failing which by a majority decision and give its report to the Government of India within 1 month of reference.

10.12 The Executive Director (TEAMS)/Director (TEAMS), Sports Authority of India will be present at the time of deliberations of the Committee in order to provide information/clarifications, if any, required by the Committee.

10.13 All the selection proceedings will be treated as "Confidential". The Chairperson may take necessary steps in consultation with the Member Secretary to maintain strict confidentiality of the deliberations and selection made by the Committee.

11. NUMBER OF DRONACHARYA AWARDS TO BE GIVEN IN A YEAR

11.1 Ordinarily not more than 5 awards could be given in any calendar year. Out of these, 2 will be earmarked for lifetime contribution in coaching.

12. GENERAL

12.1 The Award shall comprise of a statuette, a certificate, ceremonial dress and a cash prize of Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten lakh) for Dronacharya Award (Regular) and Rs. 15,00,000/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh) Dronacharya Award (Lifetime) which will be presented to the winners at the function for the presentation of the Award to be held at a place and on a date to be decided by the Government.

12.2 No Award will be made for a second time to the same person.

12.3 The award may be given posthumously if such an occasion arises.

12.4 In order to ensure due diligence in the selection of awardees, the Ministry will make necessary character verification prior to finalizing the names of the awardees through the regional centres of SAI, if need be, by taking help of concerned police authorities.

12.5 The Awards will be conferred in a ceremony by the President of India, ordinarily on 29th August, birth anniversary of Late Major Dhyan Chand. However, during the years when Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games are held, the date of award ceremony will be finalized keeping in view the closing dates of these Games and in consultation with the Secretariat of the President of India.

12.6 At the time of the presentation ceremony, the awards will be conferred upon the selected awardees, who are present. No person other than the awardees will collect the award and prize money at the presentation ceremony. The awardees who are not able to come to receive the award during the presentation ceremony, may later receive the same from the Minister-in-Charge for Youth Affairs and Sports.

12.7 The Government of India may cancel, annul the Award of any recipient for specific reasons including doping and thereupon the recipient shall be required to surrender the medal and the certificate of honour, but it shall be competent for the Government of India to restore the Award once the cancellation and annulment has been withdrawn.

12.8 The decision of the Government of India in respect of matters covered by the scheme and interpretation of the provisions of this scheme shall be final and no appeal shall lie against them.

12.9 A person who is applying for the Award shall be deemed to have accepted the provisions of the scheme.

12.10 Canvassing in any form in respect of any applicant will render that applicant liable to disqualification.

12.11 Minister-in-charge for Youth Affairs & Sports will be competent authority for relaxation of any clause, provided there are sufficient reasons (to be recorded in writing) for doing so.

Criteria for giving Dronacharya awards to coaches

1. 80% weightage will be given for the medals won in various International championships by the sportspersons, trained by the coach for at least 180 days immediately preceding the tournament. The International Championships and sports events will be in respect of the discipline covered in Olympic Games (Summer, Winter and Paralympics), Asian Games and Commonwealth Games. Points for winning medals by trainees will be given to each eligible coach during the last 4 years and upto conclusion of Olympic Games, Commonwealth and Asian Games during those years when these Games are held as per marks given in the table below.

S. No.	Event	Medal		
		Gold	Silver	Bronze
1.	Olympic Games/Paralympics	80	70	55
2.	World Championship/World Cup (once in 4 years)*	40	30	20
3.	Asian Games	30	25	20
4.	Commonwealth Games	25	20	15

*For World Championship/World Cup of different periodicities, proportionate marks will be given.

2. Equivalence of any other sports discipline/tournament, not listed above, will be decided by the Selection Committee with reference to above-mentioned categories of sports tournaments and the points will be allotted accordingly.

3. For team events, marks will be computed taking into consideration strength of the team. If prescribed marks for an individual event are "A", in the case of team event, the marks will be computed as follows:

- (1) A team of 2 persons: $1.5 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (ii) A team of 3 or 4 persons: $2 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iii) A team of 5 to 10 persons: $3 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$
- (iv) A team of more than 10 persons: $5 \times 'A' / \text{number of persons in the team}$

4. 80 marks will be given to the coach getting maximum points as computed in the table above. Rest of the coaches will be given marks proportionately to the said coach. For example, if a coach 'A' has got highest points, say 45 points as per the table above in his/her sports discipline and coach 'B' has got 40 points as per the table above, then 'A' will get 80 marks and 'B' will get $(80 \times 40/45) = 71.11$ marks.

5. 20% weightage will be given to the marks given by the Selection Committee for assessment of the eligible coach keeping in view factors like profile and standard of the sports events in which he or she has won medals.

6. For cricket and indigenous games, which are not Olympic/Asian Games/ Commonwealth Games disciplines, the Selection Committee will recommend the coach(es) taking into consideration the performance of the sportspersons, coached by them.
7. Normally not more than 5 awards could be given in any calendar year. Out of these, 2 will be earmarked for lifetime contribution in coaching. This condition can be relaxed only in exceptional circumstances to be recorded in writing. Further, not more than 1 award will be given in each discipline in either of the two categories of Dronacharya Award.
8. In a particular sports discipline, names of not more than 2 coaches with the highest marks as per the criteria brought out in the table above will be considered by the Selection Committee.
9. Selection Committee will recommend the final list of coaches for the awards as per the marks obtained in terms of the criteria indicated above.
10. Selection Committee may not mechanically recommend Dronacharya Award to the recipient of the highest marks across disciplines. But in a particular sports discipline, award will be recommended only for the recipient of the highest aggregate marks.
11. The making criteria will not apply to coaches to be selected on the basis of lifetime contribution in coaching. Selection Committee will give its recommendations for such two coaches taking into consideration the contribution made by them over a period of 20 years or more in terms of producing outstanding sportspersons.
12. The recommendations of Selection Committee will be placed before the Union Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports for the final decision.

K-15012/4/2025-SP-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated 29th September, 2025

To

As per list attached.

Subject: Inviting applications for Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar (RKPP) for year 2025-reg

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to invite the applications for the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar for 2025:

2. To be eligible for the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar Award, any corporate entity, public or private and non-governmental organization (NGOs), which has played a visible role in any or more than one area of sports promotion and development will be eligible to be considered for Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar:

- (a) Identification and nurturing of budding/young talent, or
- (b) Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility, or
- (c) Employment of sports persons and sports welfare measures, or
- (d) Sports for Development

3. The Sports Departments of the State Governments and the Central Government mandated specifically for promotion and development of sports will not be considered for the Puraskar, as the main objective of Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar scheme is to encourage and promote corporate involvement in promotion and development of sports in the country and recognizing the efforts of corporate entities in promotion and development of Sports.

4. Applications are being invited only online through a dedicated Portal i.e **www.dbtyas-sports.gov**. Entities eligible in accordance with the award guidelines need to self- apply through online Portal **www.dbtyas-sports.gov** only. In case any issue is faced in online application form, the applicant may contact the Department of Sports at email sportsawards-moyas@gov.in, Tel. No. 011-2338-7432 from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm on any working day or Toll Free No. 1800-202-5155, 1800-258-5155 (any working day between 8.00 am to 8.00 pm).

5. A copy of scheme for the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar (as amended on 14.10.2024) is attached at Annexure -1.

La 29/9/25

6. It should be noted by all that canvassing in any form for/by an entity will render it liable to disqualification.

7. The applications of the eligible entities for the award must be submitted online at the dedicated portal www.dbtyas-sports.gov.in by 11:59 pm on 28th October, 2025 (i.e. Tuesday).

Yours sincerely,



(Raj K. Gupta)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Phone No: 011-23386416

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of States for Youth Affairs & Sports
3. PPS to Secretary (Sports)
4. PPS to Secretary (Youth Affairs)
5. PPS to Joint Secretary (K), PSO to Joint Secretary (SJ), PPS to Joint Secretary (VS), PPS to Joint Secretary (YA)
6. All Directors / Deputy Secretaries in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

To:

1. Secretary, Department of Youth Affairs & Sports, (All States and UTs)
2. President/Secretary General, (All recognized National Sports Federations).
3. President/Secretary General, Indian Olympic Association, B-29, Olympic Bhawan, Qutub Institutional Area, New Delhi 110016
4. President/Secretary, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) 4th Floor, Cricket Centre Wankhede Stadium 'D' Road, Churchgate Mumbai- 400020.
5. Secretary, Services Sports Control Board, Room No. - 716, 7th Floor, A- Block Defence Offices Complex, KG Marg, New Delhi - 110001.
6. Secretary Railway Sports Promotion Board Room no. 452, 4th Floor, Ministry of Railways, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi- 110001.
7. Secretary, All India Police Sports Control Board Hall No. 002(Ground Floor), IBCTS Building, Gate No. 4 , 35 Sardar Patel Marg, Near Dhaula Kuan, New Delhi- 110021
8. Secretary, Petroleum Sports Promotion Board, OADB Bhawan, 2nd floor, G+3 Block, Plot No.2 (B Block), Sector-73, Noida-201301 (Uttar Pradesh).
9. Secretary, Air India Sports Promotion Board 1st Floor, Vayudoot Building, Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi 110003
10. Secretary, SAIL, Sports Promotion Board, Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Corporate Office, Ispat Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi -110003.
11. Secretary, Central Civil Services Cultural & Sports Board, 36 -B Wing, 3rd Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan New Delhi- 110003.
12. ED (Teams)/CEO TOPS/ Dy CEO, TAGG Sports Authority of India, East Gate, JLN Stadium, Lodhi Road New Delhi- With the request to upload on SAI's website for wide publicity

SCHEME FOR THE 'RASHTRIYA KHEL PROTSAHAN PURASKAR'

(As amended on 14.10.2024)

1. DEFINITION OF RULES

The Scheme may be called the "Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar".

2. OBJECTIVES

The objective of the award is to encourage and promote involvement of corporate entity (Public/Private), non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the promotion and development of sports in the country.

3. DEFINITIONS

In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires,

(a) "Scheme" means the scheme for "Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar

(b) "Committee" means the Selection Committee constituted under the Scheme.

(c) "Award" means the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar.

(d) "Chairperson" means chairperson of the Selection Committee under the Scheme.

(e) "Government" means the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

(f) "Sports Journalist/expert/commentator" means a person who is associated with sports journalism including freelancing in print or electronic media, or a person who writes extensively on sports issues or has written books on sports, or a person who gives live commentary during sports events.

(g) "Sports body" means sports organizations both governmental and non-governmental, sports federations, sports promotion boards which are engaged in promotion and development of sports in the country.

4. ELIGIBILITY

4.1 Any corporate entity, public or private and non-governmental organization (NGOs), which has played a visible role in anyone or more than one of the following areas of sports promotion and development will be eligible to be considered for Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar:

(a) Identification and nurturing of budding/young talent, or

(b) Encouragement to sports through Corporate Social Responsibility, or

(c) Employment of sports persons and sports welfare measures, or

(d) Sports for Development

4.2 In the area of Identification and nurturing of budding/young talent, the entity should have identified and nurtured at least 50 young and budding sportspersons each year during the last three years.

4.3 In the area of "Encouragement to sports through corporate social responsibility, the entities should have contributed a minimum of 5% of their gross profit or an amount not less than Rs. 2 crore in the preceding three financial years towards sports promotion and development. Outlays meant purely for commercial purposes will not be counted towards this contribution. Only contributions of non-commercial of corporate social responsibility will be considered for assessing the contribution made by the corporate concerned, towards the promotion and development of sports in the country. Copies of audited statement of accounts for the last three years should be submitted along with application.

4.4 In the area of 'Employment of sportspersons and sports welfare measures', the entity should have recruited at least 50 sportspersons during last three years.

4.5 In the area of 'Sports for Development', only entity, which has been working for promotion and development of sports at least for the last three years would be eligible to apply. Memorandum of Association, Rules and Regulations, Bye-laws, etc. under which applicant has been established and documents indicating the source of funds for its functioning and activities should also be submitted along with application.

4.6 The Sports Departments of the State Governments and the Central Government mandated specifically for promotion and development sports should not be considered for the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar.

5. APPLICATIONS

5.1 Applications for the award will be invited through online portal. Any corporate entity, public or private, non governmental organizations which has made contribution towards sports promotion and development eligible in accordance with scheme guidelines will be permitted to self apply without the recommendation of the authorities/persons.

5.2 Notwithstanding the above, Government reserves the right to nominate any corporate entity, public or private, non-governmental organization in deserving cases where their applications have not been received.

5.3 The Award will be made in respect of the calendar year for which the applications are invited.

6. RECEIPT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE APPLICATIONS

6.1 After successful application a unique registration number will be generated this can be used by the applicant for future communications.

7. SCRUTINY OF APPLICATIONS

All applications received from the organizations mentioned in para 5 above will be scrutinized in the Ministry and Sports Authority of India, if required, for verification of statements/claims made by the entities, on the basis of its own records or from other sources.

8. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION

8.1 Constitution of a Selection Committee: The Awards will be recommended by a Selection Committee constituted by the Government of India as under:

1.	Secretary, Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	Chairperson
2.	Previous awardees of Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar	2 members
3.	Nominee of Industry associations, viz, Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Associated Chamber of Commerce (ASSOCHEM) etc.	1 member
4.	Sports Journalists/Experts/ Commentators	1 member
5.	Secretary (Sports) (in person) of State Government	1 member
6.	Representative of Indian Olympic Association	1 member
7.	Representative of a Non-Governmental Organization, active in sports	1 member
8.	Director General, Sports Authority of India	Member (Ex-officio)
9.	Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	Member (Ex-officio)
10.	Director (Sports)/ Deputy Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports	Member Secretary (Ex-officio)

8.2 There should be a minimum two years gap before a member other than ex-officio and representative of Indian Olympic Association is re-nominated as member in the Selection Committee.

8.3 Selection criteria:

The Committee will evaluate nomination/applications on the basis of the statements/claim under the following areas as detailed below:-

a)	Identification and nurturing of budding talent	(i) Number of children identified and nurtured year-wise in last three years (ii) Details of sports infrastructure created (iii) Number of schools, colleges, universities, clubs or other such unit adopted (iv) Number of sportspersons trained (v) Equipment support and other support extended (vi) Number of competitions/tournaments held (vii) Sports achievements of identified children (viii) Any other incentive given to trainees
b)	Encouragement to sports through corporate social responsibility	(i) Funds earmarked under corporate social responsibility for sports related activities year-wise (during last three preceding financial years) (ii) Detail of sports activities (including creation and development/upgradation of sports infrastructure, procurement of sports equipments, engagement of coaches, conduct of sports competitions/tournaments, training and coaching of sportspersons and teams) funded under Corporate Social Responsibility during last preceding for three financial years.
c)	Employment to sportspersons and other welfare measures	(i) Number of sportspersons employed year-wise during last three years (ii) Level of employment along with salary structure (iii) Promotional avenues offered to sportspersons employed (iv) Sports achievements of employed sportspersons (v) other welfare measures for sportspersons
d)	Sports for development	(i) Details of activities undertaken for harnessing the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of development objectives and peace, (ii) Details of activities to ensure that communities have physical play environments that are safe and accessible, (iii) Details of activities undertaken towards enhancement of the capacity of schools and teachers to effectively deliver sports and physical education programmes. (iv) Year of coming into existence of the entity:

8.4 The Chairperson, in consultation with Member Secretary, may constitute panels from amongst the members of the Committee to assist the Committee.

8.3 The Chairperson may seek advice of experts in specific sports disciplines wherever necessary.

8.6 Any person directly or indirectly related to an entity nominated for the Awards shall not be eligible to participate in deliberations of the Selection Committee, concerning that entity.

8.7 The Committee will determine its own work procedure.

8.8 The quorum for the meeting of the Committee shall be 75% of the members of the Committee and the Chairperson.

8.9 The Committee shall make its recommendations to the Government of India within one month of reference.

8.10 The Executive Director (TEAMS), Sports Authority of India will be present at the time of deliberations of the Committee in order to provide information/clarification, if any, required by the Committee.

8.11 All the selection proceedings will be treated as "Confidential". The Chairperson may take necessary steps in consultation with the Member Secretary to maintain strict confidentiality of the deliberations and the recommendations made by the Committee.

8.12 The recommendations of the Selection Committee will be considered by the Government. The decision of the Government shall be final.

9. NUMBER OF RASHTRIYA KHEL PROTSAHAN PURASKARS

9.1 There will be only one award every year.

10. GENERAL

10.1 The award will consist of a citation and a trophy. There will be no cash award.

10.2 The Award will be presented to the winner at the function for the presentation of the Award to be held at a place and on a date to be determined by the Government.

10.3 The Award will be in addition to any other award, which the entities may have got from other organizations for the same achievements.

10.4 No Award will be made for a second time to the same entity.

10.5 In order to ensure due diligence in the selection of awardee, the Ministry and Sports Authority of India will make necessary verification prior to finalizing the names of the awardee.

10.6 At the time of the ceremony in Rashtrapati Bhavan, the award will be conferred upon only on that awardee, who is present. The award can be received by the Head/CEO of the entity or any other person authorized by the head/CEO.

10.7 The awardee who are not able to attend the ceremony to receive the award, can later receive the same from the Minister-in-Charge for Youth Affairs and Sports.

10.8 The Government of India may cancel, annul the Award to any recipient for specific reasons and thereupon the recipient shall be required to surrender the citation and trophy but it shall be competent for the Government of India to restore the Award once the cancellation and annulment has been withdrawn.

10.9 The decision of the Government of India in respect of matters covered by the scheme and of the interpretation of the provisions of the scheme shall be final and no appeal shall lie against them

10.10 An entity nominated for the Award shall be deemed to have accepted the provisions of the scheme.

10.11 Canvassing in any form in respect of an entity will render that entity liable to disqualification.
