

SCHEME RELATING TO AWARDS

1. Background

The scheme of 'Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and Their Coaches' was introduced in the year 1986 primarily to compensate the medal winners of International Sports events for the expenses incurred on diet, training, preparations and for the deprivations suffered by them due to their devotion and service to sports. The Special Awards are also the expression of appreciation and gratitude of the nation to the medal winners for winning laurels for the country and for holding aloft the Indian flag in the field of international sports. The scheme of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award was launched in 1991-92 with the objective of honouring the sportspersons to enhance their general status and to give them greater dignity and a place of honour in society. This Ministry has decided now to amalgamate these two Award schemes into a single scheme called the "Scheme relating to Awards."

2. Objectives

Objectives of the scheme relating to Awards are :-

- (i) To encourage and motivate the outstanding sportspersons for higher achievement and to attract the younger generation to take to sports as a career.
- (ii) To help rehabilitate the medal winners with honour, dignity and comfort after the conclusion of their active sports career which is generally of a very short duration.
- (iii) To honour the sportspersons to enhance their general status in society and also to give them greater dignity and a place of honour in society.
- (iv) To motivate the sportspersons to give their highest performance in sports events.
- (v) To intensify the spread of sports culture throughout the country.
- (vi) To encourage the Universities/Colleges for development of Sports.

3. Awards

Under the scheme, three types of awards will be given.

- (A) Special Awards to Medals Winners in International Sports Events and Their Coaches,
 - (B) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award.
-

(A) SPECIAL AWARDS TO MEDALS WINNERS IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENTS AND THEIR COACHES

- ✓4. The Special Awards will be given for winning medals and titles in prestigious international sports events held during the preceding year (from 1st January to 31st December) of the year of the Award.

ELIGIBLE SPORTS DISCIPLINES.

4.1 The Awards will be given in the following disciplines :-

- (i) Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games disciplines;
- (ii) Chess.

AMOUNT OF SPECIAL AWARDS AND ELIGIBILITY

4.2. The Special Awards have been graded and are linked to the standard and status of the achievements. The details are as follows :-

Olympic, Asian and Commonwealth Games Disciplines.

4.2.1 Individual Events :

Name of The Game/ Championship	Amount		
	Gold Medal/ First Position	Silver Medal/ Second Position	Bronze Medal/ Third Position
For Winning			
(i) Olympics Games	Rs. 30 lakhs	Rs. 18 lakhs	Rs. 12 lakhs
(ii) Asian Games/ World Championship/ Commonwealth Games	Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 5 lakhs	Rs. 3 lakhs
(iv) Asian and Commonwealth Championships	Rs. 3 lakhs	Rs. 2 lakhs	Rs. 1.5 lakhs

Note :- The term World Championship under sub clause (ii) above shall include. All England Championship of Badminton.

4.2.2 Team Events : These are the events where competition is among the teams. Each team has more than one person as member.

(i) The amount of Special Award will be determined as under :-

*Strength of 'Team' on the ground	: Number of times, the Award amount mentioned in para 4.2.1. above for the corresponding event and medal
-----------------------------------	--

(i) A team of two persons	: 1 ½ times
(ii) A team of 3 or 4 persons	: 2 times
(iii) A team of 5 to 10 persons	: 3 times
(iv) A team of more than 10 persons	: 5 times

(ii) The actual prize money determined as above will be shared equally among the team members. However, no member of team would get less than 50% of the award amount mentioned in para 4.2.1 for the corresponding individual event and medal.

4.2.3. The format of events, in which medals have been won in case of world championships, should be the same followed in the preceding Olympics; for the Asian Championships, Commonwealth Games and Commonwealth Championships, should be the same as followed in the preceding Asian Games. The medals awarded outside the above format will not be eligible for Special Awards. For example, in case of Weightlifting the Award will not be available for the medals won separately for 'snatch' and 'jerk' lifts unless the medals for these were given in preceding Olympics or Asian Games as the case may be.

Chess

4.2.4. In Chess apart from awarding medals or positions in Championships, certain titles are also awarded for creditable performances in standard events, which is something unique in Chess. Therefore, Special Awards will be available not only for winning the international championships, but also for winning the titles given by FIDE (International Chess Federation). Quite often in Chess there is a tie between two or more persons or teams even on first, second and third positions. In such a situation, the overall award amount, including that of the team, determined according to rules that follow in this paragraph will be reduced to half. The Cash Awards will not be given for the achievements in Rapid Chess.

- (A) Individual Event – Championships :
- (i) Official Open World Championships : Same rates as prescribed in para 4.2.1 (ii) for World Championships.
 - (ii) Asian and Commonwealth Championships : Same rate as prescribed in para 4.2.1 (iii) above.

(B) TEAM EVENTS – CHAMPIONSHIPS

Name	Amount
(i) Official Chess Olympiad	This will be treated at par with the official

World Championships and the scale and amount of Special Award and distribution thereof will be the same as given in para 4.2.2.

- (ii) Official Asian and Commonwealth Games : The scale and amount of Award and its distribution will be the same as prescribed for Asian Championships/Commonwealth Championships in para 4.2.2. above

(C) Titles :	
Name	Amount
(i) International Grand Master (IGM) :	Rs. 3 lakhs
(ii) International Master (IM) :	Rs. 1 lakhs
(iii) International Women Master (IWM) :	Rs. 1 lakhs

The women chess players will be eligible for the Special Award either for the title of IWM or IM but not both.

Title of 'International Grand Master' will be given to both men chess players and women chess players.

SPECIAL AWARDS FOR JUNIORS & SUB -JUNIORS

4.3 The purpose of introducing these awards is to provide motivation and incentive to Junior and Sub-Junior sportspersons to prepare hard to maintain an improving trend in their performance sufficiently to enable a smooth graduation to the open events, when they come of age.

4.3.1. The rates of the Special Awards as prescribed in para No. 4.2.1. above will be changed as follows for junior & Sub - Junior events :-

Name of event	Gold Medal/ First Position	Silver Medal/ Second Position	Bronze Medal/Third Position
1	2	3	4

(a) World Championships

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|
| (i) Juniors | Rs. 2 lakhs | Rs. 1.5 lakhs | Rs 1.00 |
| (ii) Sub-Juniors | Rs. 1 lakh | Rs. 80,000 | Rs. 60,000 |

(b) Asian and Commonwealth Championships

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| (i) Juniors | Rs. 1 lakh | Rs.80,000 | Rs. 60,000 |
| (ii) Sub-Juniors | Rs. 50,000 | Rs. 40,000 | Rs. 30,000 |

4.3.2. Save the above rates, all the other parameters like disciplines of sports events, their format, sharing the award for winning medals in team events etc., will be identical to that prescribed in the preceding paras above for the open events.

4.3.3. The above championships and events should have been conducted by the corresponding international sports body.

UNDEFINED EVENTS

4.4. The Olympics, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games are fairly well defined sports events. However, there may be some ambiguity in determining as to which official world/regional championships should be eligible for the Special Awards. For there may be many kinds of tournaments, cups and championships all organised officially but only one and the best of them may be listed as the official World/Asian/ Commonwealth Championships in each eligible discipline for the purpose of these awards. Its periodicity should not be more than once a year. Therefore, a list of the official World, Asian and Commonwealth Championships and their periodicity in all the disciplines covered under the scheme should be prepared in advance in consultation with the National Sports Federations. IOA and SAI, both for Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior. Once finalised, the medals won in these championships only shall be eligible for awards. The Government of India shall have the rights to amend the list from time to time as per requirement.

NON-ELIGIBLE EVENTS

4.5 The Special Awards will not be available for winning medals in closed events like Para-Olympics, Special Olympics, Championships for Handicapped, Paraplegics, Deaf, Dumb, Blind, Veteran events, events for different age groups (except for junior as above), etc.

4.5.1 Special Awards will not be given just for breaking the existing world/Asian/ Commonwealth records or the Olympic/Asian/ Commonwealth Games records.

4.5.2 The above awards as per the revised pattern as mentioned above will be available for the medals won on or after 1st January, 2002. In other words, revised Special Awards will not have any retrospective effect.

INCENTIVE TO COACHES

4.6 The coaches who have trained the medal winners for at least 240 days immediately preceding the game will be eligible for cash award under the scheme. The amount of the cash award for the coaches will be as under :-

(i) Award money to a coach will be 50% of the award money given to the sportspersons to whom he had coached. In case, there will be more than one coach associated with a coach the award money will be distributed to them equally.

4.6.1 The Special Awards will be given regardless of the fact whether he is the Coach, Assistant Coach or Personal coach subject to the condition that the coach should have been associated with the training of the athlete/team on a regular basis for at least a minimum period of 240 days. For more than one coach associated with a sportsperson, the award money will be equally distributed to them.

4.6.2 The eligible international events for award to coaches will be Olympics/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games/World Cups/World Championships/Official Asian Championships and Official Commonwealth Championships.

SPONSORING FOR THE AWARD

- ✓ 4.7 The applications for the Special Awards will be invited by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports once in a year. Only the National Sports Federations shall be eligible to sponsor the medal winners for the Special Awards. The proforma for sponsoring is given in the Annexure – I. This must be signed either by the President or Secretary (Honorary Secretary, Secretary General as the case may be) of the Federation. The attested Xerox copies of the certificates of winning medals/positions/titles given by the corresponding International sports body should be enclosed invariably along with the proforma for the sponsorship : the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, however, reserves the right to give the Special Awards even if the case is not sponsored by any Federation, if it is satisfied about the eligibility of the events and the medals for the awards.

ELIGIBILITY

- 4.8 The Special Awards may be given in the shape of Saving Certificates, Insurance Policy, UTI Units, Shares of Mutual Funds, Government Securities etc., or cash, or partly in both, or otherwise as may be decided by the Government, from time to time. The Cash Awards will not be treated as income liable for the payment of Income Tax.

- 4.9. The Special Awards are meant for the welfare of the sportsperson. Therefore, utilization of the Award amount for the purposes other than the welfare of the sportspersons themselves will not be favoured. In other words, the pre-mature encashment of Special Awards given in the form of units, certificates, bonds etc. will not be permitted unless the Government is convinced that such encashment is in his/her personal interest and welfare.

(B) RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD

SCHEME FOR THE RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD

5. DEFINITION OF RULES

The Scheme may be called the "Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award" in Sports and Games".

6. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the award is to recognize the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports a sportsperson in a year.

7. DEFINITIONS

In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (a) "Scheme" means the scheme for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in Sports and Games.

- (b) "Committee" means the Selection Committee constituted under the Scheme.
- (c) "Award" means the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award
- (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, sports programmes & delivery of sports services.
- (g) "Arjuna Awardee" means a person who has been awarded an Arjuna Award by the Government of India

- (h) "Olympian" means a sports person who participated in the Olympic Games as a member of the Indian contingent approved by the Government of India.

8. ELIGIBILITY

- 8.1 The spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson in a year shall be honoured with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award for excellence in Sports & Games at international level i.e. Olympic/Asian/Commonwealth/World Games/Championships/World Cup or any equivalent recognized international tournament.
- 8.2 Sports persons found positive for use of drugs banned by the International Olympic Committee, in any laboratory accredited by International Olympic Committee will not be eligible for the Award

9. NOMINATIONS

- 9.1 The nominations for the Award will be invited by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports from all recognized National Sports Federations recognized by the Government of India, Indian Olympic Association and State/UT Governments in the month of January each year. Last date for the receipt of nominations will be 31st May of the same year. The National Sports Federations recognized by the Government of India, the Indian Olympic Association and the State/UT Governments may nominate more than one and upto three names in a particular discipline/sport in a particular year.
- 9.2 The Award will be made in respect of the calendar year for which the applications are invited.
- 9.3 The nominations will be sent to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in the prescribed proforma attached with the application form giving the past performance of the nominated sportspersons in International competitions.

10. SCRUTINY OF NOMINATION

All nominations received from the organizations mentioned in para 9.1. will be sent to the Executive Director (Teams), Sports Authority of India and concerned National Sports Federations by 15th June who will verify and confirm from official records the achievements/performance of all nominated sportspersons within a maximum period of one month of the receipt of the nominations from the Ministry.

11. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION

11.1 The Award will be decided by a Selection Committee constituted by the Government of India. The Selection Committee will be constituted every year by the Government. The Committee will be comprised of a Chairperson and twelve members distinguished in the field of sports as indicated below. The Chairperson must be a sportsperson of eminence. The Director/Deputy Secretary (Sports), Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports will be the Member –Secretary of the Selection Committee.

- | | | |
|--|---|------------------|
| 1. Sportsperson of eminence | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Olympians of eminence from different disciplines | - | 5 Members |
| 3. Arjuna Awardees from different disciplines | - | 4 Members |
| 4. Sports Administrators | - | 2 Members |
| 5. Director General, Sports Authority of India | - | Member |
| 6. Joint Secretary (Sports), Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports | - | Member |
| 7. Director/Deputy Secretary (Sports) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports Government of India | - | Member Secretary |

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

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

11.4 Any person directly or indirectly associated with a sportsperson nominated for the Awards shall not be eligible to serve on the Committee.

11.5 The Committee will determine its own work procedure.

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

11.7 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 one month of reference.

11.8 The Executive 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.

11.9 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.

12. NUMBER OF RAJIV GANDHI KHEL RATNA AWARD TO BE GIVEN IN A YEAR

12.1 There will be only one award every year to be given to an individual sportsperson. The Selection Committee will have no discretion to select only a few members of the team for the Award.

13. GENERAL

13.1 The award will consist of the following:

- (i) A cash amount of Rs. 5 lakhs exempt from Income Tax and Wealth Tax in the year in which it is disbursed. This award will be only for the individual players who had excelled in performance and not for team events or a team). 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 scroll of honour to each sportsperson.
- (iii) One medal to each sportsperson.

14. This Award will be in addition to any other award of the Department or otherwise, which may be available to sportspersons for same achievements
15. No Award will be made for a second time to the same person.
16. The Award may be given posthumously, if such an occasion arises.
17. 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 medal and the scroll of honour but it shall be competent for the Government of India to restore the Award once the cancellation and annulment has been withdrawn.
18. 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.
19. A person who is nominated for the Award shall be deemed to have accepted the provisions of the scheme.
20. Canvassing in any form in respect of an entry will render that entry liable to disqualification.

(C) MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD (MAKA) TROPHY

21. Inter-University tournaments are an integral and important part of games and sports in universities and colleges. The top overall winner university in the Inter-University Tournaments will be given the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy, which is a rolling trophy. A small replica of the MAKA Trophy shall also be awarded for retention by the University.

21.1 The award of the MAKA Trophy shall be recommended by a Committee constituted by AIU. AIU will recommend to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports by 31st October of each year the names of 4 Universities in order of merit giving their score and the calculation sheet. The Government shall finally decide the winner(s) and the decision of the Government shall be final.

21.2 The criteria for determination of ranks of overall winners is given in Annexure – III

21.3 This amount shall be spent by the universities on the development of games and sports only.

21.4 The cash awards shall be disbursed through A.I.U.

21.5 The first, Second and third overall winner universities shall receive prize of Rs. 2 lakhs, Rs. 1 lakh and Rs. 50,000/- respectively.

21.6 Registrar/Representatives of the University selected for the award will be reimbursed TA/DA at the rates decided by the Ministry for coming to Delhi to receive the Award ceremoniously.

21.7 This award will be in addition to any other award of the Ministry or otherwise, which may be available to it for same achievements.

21.8 The Government of India reserves the right to cancel/annul/withdraw the Award in case it is found that it has been obtained by practice of fraud or misrepresentation or annulled/withdrawn for valid and sufficient reasons.

21.9 The Government shall have the right to restore the Award after the annulment/cancellation/withdrawal, if it so deems fit.

21.10 The decision of the Government in respect of matters covered under the scheme and of the interpretation of these rules shall be final.

EVALUATION OF THE SCHEME :

22. The Government may get the scheme evaluated once every five years /to see whether it is meeting the objective for which it was formulated by an appropriate agency. Since none of the component of the revised scheme has so far not been evaluated, first evaluation of the scheme may be under taken next year. The expenditure if any on the account would be met from the budgetary provision of the scheme
