

**Rahul Bhatnagar, IAS**  
Secretary



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08<sup>th</sup> February, 2018

The information pertaining to important issues / developments in respect of the Department of Sports during the month of **January, 2018** is as follows:

**1) Star Sports as broadcast and production partner for Khelo India School Games:**

In a pioneering partnership, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports for its flagship initiative, Khelo India, has chosen Star Sports – India's leading sports broadcaster- as its broadcast and production partner for the forthcoming Khelo India School Games, 2018 on 1<sup>st</sup> January. Star Sports will hold the broadcast rights for the event until 2022. It is the first time that school games have been broadcast LIVE simultaneously on TV and digital platform. Star Sports and HOTSTAR, with their vision of fostering a comprehensive, multi-sports ecosystem in India will be our ideal broadcast partners to help us realize the dream of transforming India into a global sporting powerhouse in the coming years."

**2) Commencement of Academic Session in National Sports University (NSU), Imphal:**

National Sports University Society has been established under the Manipur Societies Registration Act, 1989, as finalization of NSU Bill may take some more time. Further, NSU have started functioning from its campus, namely, Khuman Lampak Sports Complex at Imphal and the Academic Session of 2017-18 has also been commenced w.e.f. 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 with two courses viz. BPES and B.Sc (Sports Coaching).

**3) Financial Assistance to Ms. Gohela Boro, Archer:**

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has, on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, sanctioned ex-gratia assistance of Rs. 2.00 lakh from the scheme 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons' to Ms. Gohela Boro, National level archer for her medical treatment. The Scheme provides for lump sum financial assistance for medical treatment to outstanding sportspersons now living in indigent circumstances.

**4) Khelo India Anthem Scores a Double Century:**

The Khelo India Anthem, which was unveiled on 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, has crossed on 17<sup>th</sup> January, an unprecedented reach of 200m across digital platforms YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. It has struck a chord with celebrities and politicians alike. Right from Sachin Tendulkar to Amitabh Bachchan, everyone took to their social media channels and praised the effort that has gone behind revamping this program.

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5) **Khelo India figures prominently as Ministry float returns to R-Day Parade:**

The National Sports Programme, Khelo India, figured prominently as the float of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports returned on 26<sup>th</sup> January to the Republic Day parade on Raj Path after four years. It drew applause not only from those present along Raj Path but also from everyone on the entire route to Red Fort. "*Khelo India, Jo Khelega Wah Khilega* (Play India! The one who plays sport is the one who blossoms)," the legend on a side of the float said. A collage of photographs of India's sporting heroes including Olympic medalists celebrated their success, inspiring millions of youngsters to take to sport.

6) **Khelo India School Games (KISG) Opening Ceremony:**

The legendary Indian tradition of 'teacher-and-student', referred to as the "Guru-Shishya Parampara" was celebrated in grand style at the Opening Ceremony of the inaugural Khelo India School Games (KISG) at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium on January 31. Depictions of numerous coach-athlete combinations in sports ranging from archery to wrestling and from across the country was the part of the spectacle. A poignant part of the ceremony was to train the spotlight on some wonderful and well-known combinations of coaches and athletes from the disciplines that form a part of the Khelo India School Games (KISG) programme. This ensured that the coaches, who teach basics to their students, and help them become elite athletes are given their due recognition.

7) **Republic Day Parade Tableau of the Ministry adjudged best among all Ministries:**

Tableau of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports for Republic Day 2018 has been adjudged as the best Tableau among all the Tableaux of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. In a ceremony in New Delhi on 28<sup>th</sup> January, Secretary (Sports) received the Trophy and Certificate for best Tableau from Hon'ble Raksha Mantri. Theme of the Tableau of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports was Khelo India.

8) **Khelo India pledge crosses one million mark:**

The Khelo India pledge, launched by the Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs and Sports, has now crossed the million mark on 30<sup>th</sup> January. This follows the hugely successful launch of Khelo India Anthem, which reached more than 200 million fans within two days of its launch. The Khelo India pledge aims to invoke the nation's sporting spirit by urging fans and followers to support and encourage sports in every way possible. It is India's pledge to become part of a revolution that will find nation's budding sport talent from the grassroots and offer them a platform to rise and shine at the global level. The flagship Khelo India School Games were held from January 31 to February 8 in 16 disciplines at five venues with more than 3,200 competing for 199 sets of medals.

9) **First gold medal of First Khelo India Games to Anu Kumar, athlete:**

Anu Kumar of Uttarakhand grabbed the first gold medal of the first Khelo India School Games, as Tamil Nadu won two of the six gold medals on offer on the opening day of the athletic programme of the Games.

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**10) Great Incentive for Junior Athletes as Khelo India School Games:**

Seldom has an Indian junior athlete had as good an incentive to perform as he or she has in the inaugural Khelo India School Games began at five different venues on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2018. The best from these Games will be identified, helped and nurtured into an Indian prospect for international games at the highest level and hopefully continue in the tradition of the likes of Milkha Singh, Gurbachan Singh, Sri Ram Singh, P.T.Usha, Anju Bobby George and the likes.

**11) Achievements:**

Sportspersons	Events	Medals		
		Gold	Silver	Bronze
Indian Athletes	International Competitions (16)	14	07	03
SAI Trainees	International Competitions (03)	01	00	00
SAI Trainees	National Competitions (44)	20	14	16

Besides, Sports Authority of India (SAI) has organized 33 National Coaching Camps.

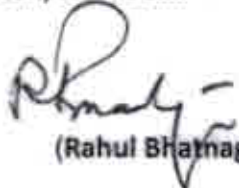
Yours sincerely,

Sd/-  
(Rahul Bhatnagar)

Shri P.K. Sinha, IAS  
Cabinet Secretary  
Cabinet Secretariat  
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CC to:

1. The Principal Secretary to PM, PMO, South Block, New Delhi
2. Adviser, Inter-State Council Secretariat, MHA, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

  
(Rahul Bhatnagar)