

No. J-17011/681/2026-KID
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports
Khelo India

Hall No. 109, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
Date: 29th September, 2026.

To

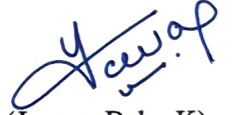
Principal Secretary / Secretary in-charge of Sports Department of State/UT Governments
Director General / Secretary of Sports Authority of India
Director General of Sports Authority / Sports Council of States/UTs

Subject: Operational Guidelines of the Khelo India Scheme (2026-27 to 2030-31) – reg.

Sir/Madam,

The undersigned is directed to state that the Operational Guidelines of the Khelo India Scheme (2026-27 to 2030-31) is hereby circulated to all States/Union Territories, Sports Authority of India and other stakeholders. The Operational Guidelines provide the framework for implementation of the various components of the Khelo India Scheme. All are requested to take necessary action for the implementation of the Scheme in accordance with the provisions of the Operational Guidelines.

2. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Jeevan Babu K)
Director (Khelo India)
Tel: 011-24368244

Copy to: -

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
2. PS to Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
3. PSO to Secretary, Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
4. O/o JS (Policy), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
5. PPS to JS (Governance), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
6. PPS to JS (Khelo India), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
7. Dir/DSS/USs/SOs of all Sections of Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

Copy also to: -

1. NIC Team, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (to be uploaded on website of the Department of Sports)
2. Chief of Media & Communications (CMC), Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (to give wide publicity to the Operational Guidelines through all modes of communication)



युवा कार्यक्रम और खेल मंत्रालय
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports



KHELO INDIA SCHEME

(2026-27 to 2030-31)

OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES







सत्यमेव जयते

युवा कार्यक्रम
एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS**





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1. Introduction

1.1. Aims and Objective

- 1.1.1. The Vision of the scheme is “to transform India’s Sports Landscape”.
- 1.1.2. Khelo India Scheme (2026-27 to 2030-31) focuses on achieving Nation’s Excellence on the Global Stage by enhancing infrastructure, talent identification & development, and international competitiveness. It aims to strengthen India’s sports ecosystem through world-class infrastructure, structured competitions, nationwide training facilities, scientific talent identification, coaching excellence, competitive pathways, fitness promotion, and measures across initiatives to create a robust, inclusive and globally competitive sports culture that positions India as a leading force in the international sporting arena.
- 1.1.3. Aligned with Khelo Bharat Niti-2025 and National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the scheme integrates sports with education to nurture holistic development and life skills in students, youths, promoting both academic and athletic excellence. Leveraging technology and data-driven governance, the scheme positions sports as a catalyst for national pride, social integration, and economic growth.
- 1.1.4. The Khelo India Scheme aims to operationalise the components of the scheme with convergent use of various schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. The Scheme envisages innovation at the local level keeping in view the broad national perspective of making sporting a mass movement and promoting excellence in sports. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.

1.2. Scheme Components

- 1.2.1. The Khelo India Scheme shall comprise the following nine components:
 - a. Sports Infrastructure for Medal Strategy
 - b. Strengthening Strategic Sports Assets

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- c. State Action Plan for Sports Infrastructure Development
 - d. Sports Competitions & Leagues
 - e. Talent Identification and Development
 - f. Coach & Support Staff Development
 - g. Khelo India Training Facilities
 - h. Fit India Movement
 - i. Sports Technology
- 1.2.2. All 9 components of Khelo India Scheme (2026-27 to 2030-31) will be implemented through Sports Authority of India/any other body/organisation designated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

1.3. Priority Disciplines

1.3.1. As part of the Scheme, all the major sports disciplines under Olympics/Asian Games/Other Major international competitions shall be considered for broad-basing of talent. However, the following 18 Sports disciplines shall be considered as Priority Sports:

- a. Aquatics
- b. Archery
- c. Athletics
- d. Badminton
- e. Boxing
- f. Canoeing
- g. Cycling
- h. Gymnastics
- i. Hockey
- j. Judo
- k. Rowing
- l. Shooting
- m. Squash
- n. Table Tennis
- o. Taekwondo
- p. Tennis

- 
- q. Weightlifting
 - r. Wrestling

1.4. Approval Mechanism

- 1.4.1. All the proposals will be appraised by Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) from administrative, financial and utility angles along with the past performance. The recommendations of the PAC will be placed before the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) chaired by the Secretary, Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), Government of India, for the final decision.





2. Sports Infrastructure for Medal Strategy

2.1. Introduction

- 2.1.1. The Component of Sports Infrastructure for Medal Strategy under Khelo India Scheme aims at providing support for creating and upgrading training-centric sports infrastructure required for augmenting the medal prospects in sports disciplines which are part of Olympics/Asian Games/ Other Major international competitions.

2.2. Proposals

- 2.2.1. The component will support brownfield and greenfield projects, including fields of play, hostels, strength and conditioning facilities, sports science centres, allied support infrastructure, and repair and maintenance of underutilized assets, with dedicated operations and maintenance funding as required, equipment etc. Preference would be given to brownfield projects.
- 2.2.2. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) / Sports Authority of India (SAI) will conduct gap analysis along with relevant stakeholders including National Sports Federation (NSF) and identify facilities/regions where sports specific infrastructure needs to be upgraded/created.
- 2.2.3. Projects will be selected and prioritised through stakeholder consultation, field studies and gap analysis to address infrastructure gaps and talent potential, linking facilities with competitive pathways to support athletes from grassroots to elite levels.
- 2.2.4. Suitable entities (central/state government/other institutions) shall be identified to receive assistance for the creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure under this component. The identified entities shall be encouraged to submit proposals as per the notified norms and criteria.

2.3. Receipt of Proposals

- 2.3.1. The proposals shall be obtained in the form of a Project Report (PR) from suitable entities which shall include (but not limited to) the following details:
 - a. Application in the format prescribed by MYAS.

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- b. Estimates of cost – All costs must be as per the latest Delhi Schedule of Rates/Central Public Works Department (CPWD) rates updated with the Cost Indices of the particular State/UT.
 - c. Confirmation that the land on which the proposed project is to be executed is free from all encumbrances. Clear documentation establishing ownership/lease to be enclosed along with the proposal.
 - d. A comprehensive utilisation and O&M roadmap covering institutional arrangements, coaches/trainers and support staff, annual training and competition calendar, athlete intake and usage, equipment procurement and upkeep, boarding and lodging, eligible-user access, and measures for sustained year-round use shall be submitted by the grantee in alignment with Scheme objectives. Suitable plans may be explored by applicants for inclusion of revenue mobilization framework to offset recurring O&M costs and reduce net fiscal burden.
- 2.3.2. All the infrastructure created/upgraded shall incorporate the following mechanisms:
- a. Follow the harmonized guidelines of accessible sports complex and residential facilities for para-athletes conceptualized as per applicable guidelines issued from time to time.
 - b. Optimum utilisation of resources including measures such as usage of renewable energy, rainwater harvesting, LED lights, enhancing water use efficiency, consideration of the overall carbon footprint across the lifecycle of the facility etc., as feasible.
 - c. Good practices such as usage of local building materials, recycling of Construction & Demolition waste etc. is encouraged as far as possible.
- 2.3.3. The infrastructure created/upgraded shall be disaster resilient as per National Building Construction Standards 2026 Code (designated as SP 7:2026) and IS code 1893:2025 and/or their latest revision as applicable. It shall be mandatory to adhere to the Environmental Guidelines and/or their latest revision as applicable in the concerned State/UT.
- 2.3.4. Sports infrastructure created/upgraded under the Scheme shall be utilised in accordance with the MoU between MYAS and the grantee, ensuring alignment
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with the component's objectives. The facility shall be used judiciously ensuring optimal utilisation.

- 2.3.5. All sports infrastructure projects funded under this Scheme should mandatorily include “Khelo India” in the displayed signage and other relevant branding guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.
- 2.3.6. The suitable entities shall forward their proposals, along with additional relevant documents in a physical/hard copy to MYAS. On activation of the Khel Setu, all new proposals shall be submitted digitally.

2.4. Appraisal and Approval

- 2.4.1. All proposals shall undergo a structured appraisal process to ensure technical soundness, fiscal prudence, and alignment with scheme objectives.
- 2.4.2. Preliminary Scrutiny: MYAS shall examine completeness of documentation, eligibility of the implementing agency and conformity with infrastructure classification norms.
- 2.4.3. Only such proposals, which are complete in all respects and technically feasible, will be considered for sanction. Suitable feasibility report based on necessity will be obtained.
- 2.4.4. Technical and Financial Appraisal: Technical appraisal shall assess compliance of the Field of Play with approved standards and norms, appropriateness of ancillary facilities, and feasibility of implementation timelines. Financial appraisal shall assess cost reasonableness, proportionality of components, funding commitments, and sustainability of operations and maintenance arrangements.
- 2.4.5. Appraisal by Project Appraisal Committee (PAC): Proposals found suitable shall be placed before the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), which shall examine the proposal in totality and record its recommendations. The PAC may recommend approval, approval with modifications, or rejection.
- 2.4.6. Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC): Recommendations of the PAC shall be placed before the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) headed by the Secretary (Sports) for approval. DPAC may consider technical, financial, utilisation and strategic aspects before according approval.



DPAC may periodically review the utilisation and performance of the facilities sanctioned.

- 2.4.7. The detailed approval and monitoring mechanism shall be as per Chapter 12 of the Operation Guidelines of the scheme.
- 2.4.8. Administrative and Financial Sanction: Upon approval by DPAC, a formal administrative approval shall be issued in alignment with the provisions of the MoU.
- 2.4.9. Wherever feasible convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.

2.5. Release of Funds

- 2.5.1. Upon issuing of sanction order/administrative approval and signing of MoU between the Ministry and Grantee, the release of funds may be guided by the following modalities:
 - a. The first tranche of 30% will be released as per the extant guidelines of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) only after the acceptance of Administrative Approval by the Grantee and submission of documents as described below:
 - i. MoU between the Grantee and the Executing Agency, like CPWD/PWD/Central PSU etc. Further, in case the grantee and executing agency are same, the grantee shall issue a certificate stating that grantee itself is the executing agency of the project and mentioning the team of engineers etc. employed on the project as well as the estimated date of completion of the project.
 - ii. A copy of the Award Letter issued to the Contractor selected through a competitive tendering process by the Executing Agency i.e., CPWD/PWD/Central PSU etc.
 - b. The second tranche of 30% shall be released after at least 75% of the first tranche has been financially utilised and duly certified, supported by geo-



tagged pictorial evidence indicating the physical progress on the Khel Setu Platform, and accompanied by the Utilisation Certificate.

- c. The third tranche of 30% shall be released after at least 75% of the second tranche has been financially utilized and duly certified, supported by geo-tagged pictorial evidence on the Khel Setu Platform, and accompanied by the Utilisation Certificate.
- d. The final tranche of 10% shall be released after completion, submission of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) readiness, final expenditure statement and onboarding of the asset on the Khel Setu Platform.
- e. Releases may be withheld for non-compliance, diversion, or milestone slippage. Unutilized balances are recoverable as per the existing GFR and extant rules of GFR.
- f. In case the project does not commence within six months from the date of sanction, the sanction may be cancelled without creating any contractual obligation on MYAS.
- g. Submission of Utilisation Certificates (UC): The grantee(s) shall be required to upload and submit the UC in accordance with the provisions of GFR as amended from time to time along with the consolidated statement of expenditure on the Khel Setu.

2.6. Monitoring and Verification

- 2.6.1. Suitable monitoring committees may be constituted to carry out periodic joint inspections to ascertain quality and safety audits as per sanction terms and conditions.
 - 2.6.2. Submission of Completion Certificate: The grantee shall upload and submit the Completion Certificate issued by the Executing Agency, along with geo-tagged photographs of the completed sports infrastructure, handing/ taking over report containing detailed Inventory, consolidated audited statement of expenditure, complete plan for maintenance and its utilisation in accordance with MoU, etc.
 - 2.6.3. Khel Setu Platform may be used for project tracking (milestones, geo-tagged photos, issues, risk flags) and post-commissioning utilisation (athlete attendance, training days, boarding & lodging, etc.). Details of relevant projects will also be updated on OCMS portal, as applicable.
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3. Strengthening Strategic Sports Assets

3.1. Introduction

- 3.1.1. The Strengthening Strategic Sports Assets component under the Khelo India Scheme aims at strengthening, modernising and expanding nationally significant sports assets that form the backbone of India's elite athlete preparation and high-performance sports ecosystem.
- 3.1.2. The component focuses on upgradation and creation of high-performance training facilities within select strategic institutions, including centres operated by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and other key organisations, to provide training environments that meet international competitive standards.

3.2. Proposals

- 3.2.1. The objective of this component is to ensure that investments in strategic sports assets translate into measurable improvements in elite athlete performance, training quality and medal conversion, aligned with India's long-term Olympic and international sporting ambitions.
- 3.2.2. The major focus shall be on the facilities of the Sports Authority of India.
- 3.2.3. In addition to SAI, following entities may be considered to receive assistance for the creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure under this component of the Scheme:
 - a. Defence and Paramilitary Sports Institutions, including Army Sports Institute
 - b. Sports Promotion Boards
 - c. Central Universities directly funded by Government of India
- 3.2.4. Committed liabilities of the Khelo India Scheme (2021-22 to 2025-26) shall be borne through this component, as per the applicable norms and guidelines.

3.3. Receipt of Proposals

- 3.3.1. The proposals shall be obtained in the form of Project Report (PR) from suitable entities which shall include (but not limited to) the following details:
 - a. Estimates of cost – All costs must be as per the latest Delhi Schedule of Rates/Central Public Works Department (CPWD) rates updated with the Cost Indices of the particular State/UT.

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- b. Confirmation that the land on which the proposed project is to be executed is free from all encumbrances. Clear documentation establishing ownership/lease to be enclosed along with the proposal.
 - c. Detailed gap analysis may be furnished along with the Project Report.
- 3.3.2. All the infrastructure created/upgraded shall incorporate the following mechanisms:
- a. Follow the harmonized guidelines of accessible sports complex and residential facilities for para-athletes conceptualized as per applicable guidelines issued from time to time.
 - b. Optimum utilisation of resources including measures such as usage of renewable energy, rainwater harvesting, LED lights, enhancing water use efficiency, consideration of the overall carbon footprint across the lifecycle of the facility etc., as feasible.
 - c. Good practices such as usage of local building materials, recycling of Construction & Demolition waste etc. is encouraged as far as possible.
- 3.3.3. The infrastructure created upgraded shall be disaster resilient as per National Building Construction Standards 2026 Code (designated as SP 7:2026) and IS code 1893:2025 and/or their latest revision as applicable. It shall be mandatory to adhere to the Environmental Guidelines and/or their latest revision as applicable in the concerned State/UT.
- 3.3.4. All sports infrastructure projects funded under this Scheme should mandatorily include “Khelo India” in the displayed signage and other relevant branding guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.
- 3.3.5. All eligible entities shall forward their proposals, along with additional relevant documents in a physical/hard copy to MYAS. On activation of the Khel Setu Platform, all new proposals shall be submitted digitally.

3.4. Appraisal and Approval

- 3.4.1. All proposals shall undergo a structured appraisal process to ensure technical soundness, fiscal prudence, and in alignment with Scheme objectives.
- 3.4.2. Preliminary Scrutiny: MYAS shall examine completeness of documentation, eligibility of the implementing agency, conformity with infrastructure classification norms, and adequacy of gap analysis. Only such proposals, which are complete in all respects and technically feasible, will be considered for sanction. All such proposals shall be vetted by the Engineering Division of the SAI.
- 3.4.3. Technical and Financial Appraisal: Technical appraisal shall assess compliance of the Field of Play with approved standards and norms, appropriateness of ancillary facilities, and feasibility of implementation timelines. Financial appraisal shall assess cost reasonableness, proportionality of components, funding commitments, and sustainability of operations and maintenance arrangements.
- 3.4.4. Appraisal by Project Appraisal Committee (PAC): Proposals found suitable shall be placed before the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), which shall examine the strategic proposal in totality and record its recommendations. The PAC may recommend approval, approval with modifications, or rejection.
- 3.4.5. Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC): Recommendations of the PAC shall be placed before the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) headed by the Secretary (Sports) for approval. DPAC shall consider technical, financial, utilisation and strategic aspects before according approval. DPAC may periodically review the utilisation and performance of the facilities sanctioned.
- 3.4.6. The detailed approval and monitoring mechanism shall be as per Chapter 12 of the Operation Guidelines of the scheme.
- 3.4.7. Administrative and Financial Sanction shall be issued upon approval by DPAC.
- 3.4.8. Wherever feasible convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly



disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.

3.5. Release of Funds

3.5.1. Upon issuing of the sanction order, the release of funds may be guided as per the following modalities:

- a. The first tranche of 30% shall be released after issuing of the sanction order.
- b. The second tranche of 30% shall be released upon achievement of at least 75% of the first tranche has been utilised and duly certified, supported by geo-tagged evidence on the Khel Setu Platform, and accompanied by the UC.
- c. The third tranche of 30% shall be released upon achievement of at least 75% of the second tranche has been utilised and duly certified, supported by geo-tagged evidence on the Khel Setu Platform, and accompanied by the UC.
- d. The final tranche of 10% or balance funds within the sanctioned amount shall be released after completion of the project and mandatory onboarding of the asset on the Khel Setu Platform.

3.5.2. Any additional cost beyond the sanctioned amount arising out of unforeseen circumstances to be duly vetted by the Engineering Division of SAI, submitted to PAC for appraisal, to DPAC for final decision/approval. This may be allowed only in exceptional cases and in alignment with the overall objectives of the component.

3.5.3. Submission of Utilisation Certificates: The grantee(s) shall be required to upload and submit the UC as per the existing GFR norms along with the consolidated statement of expenditure on the Khel Setu Platform and the physical copy of the same shall be forwarded to MYAS.

3.6. Monitoring and Verification

3.6.1. Close monitoring shall be done through the Engineering Division, SAI and Regional Centers of SAI to carry out periodic joint inspections to ascertain quality and safety audits as per sanction terms and conditions. Periodic reports on the progress and asset utilisation shall be submitted. Other detailed suitable



mechanisms of monitoring may be designed by Engineering Division of SAI along with the ministry.

- 3.6.2. Submission of Completion Certificate: The grantee shall upload and submit the Completion Certificate issued by the Executing Agency, along with geo-tagged photographs of the completed sports infrastructure, handing/taking over report containing detailed Inventory, consolidated audited statement of expenditure, complete plan for maintenance and its utilisation in accordance with the objective of the component.
- 3.6.3. Khel Setu Platform may be used for project tracking (milestones, geo-tagged photos, issues, risk flags) and post-commissioning utilisation (athlete attendance, training days, boarding & lodging etc.). Details of relevant projects will also be updated on OCMS portal, as applicable.





4. State Action Plan for Sports Infrastructure Development

4.1. Introduction

- 4.1.1. The State Action Plan for Sports Infrastructure Development is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) component under the Khelo India Scheme, designed to establish a robust, inclusive, and decentralized network of sports infrastructure across the country. The component aims to bridge the gap between grassroots participation and elite athlete pathways by ensuring access to quality training facilities even in regions not directly covered under primary national medal-focused infrastructure strategies.
- 4.1.2. The component functions as a partnership between the Central Government and the State/UT Governments, enabling balanced national sports development while respecting state-specific priorities and ownership.
- 4.1.3. The planning and proposal formulation process shall be State-led, with Central support provided to encourage ownership, accountability, and optimal utilisation of assets. States/UTs shall prepare infrastructure proposals based on assessed needs, existing gaps, and local sports development priorities

4.2. Proposals

- 4.2.1. State/UT shall be eligible to receive assistance for the creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure under this Scheme.
- 4.2.2. To promote fiscal discipline and shared responsibility, funding under this component shall follow a differentiated contribution model:
 - a. **General Category States (60:40)** – The Central Government shall provide 60% of the approved project cost, with the remaining 40% contributed by the State Government, ensuring long-term State commitment to asset management and utilisation.
 - b. **Special Category States (90:10)** – For North-Eastern States and Himalayan States (Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand), the Central Government shall provide 90% funding, and State Government shall contribute 10% of funding.

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- c. **Union Territories (UTs) (100%)** – For all UT, with or without legislatures, 100% Central funding shall be provided to ensure uniform sports infrastructure development across strategic territories.
- 4.2.3. The focus is on development of Sports Infrastructure in regions not currently covered under primary national medal strategies. The objective is to ensure the availability of quality training facilities across a wider geographic spread to support grassroots development and regional talent identification, including facilities required for athlete preparation, coaching, and developmental training.
- 4.2.4. The Scheme envisages providing support to a wide variety of sports infrastructure projects, both brownfield and greenfield, provided such projects are training-oriented and aim at bridging critical gaps in the availability of quality sports facilities across a wider geographic spread, thereby supporting grassroots development and regional talent identification. Priority shall be given to brownfield projects.

4.3. Receipt of Proposals

- 4.3.1. The proposals shall be obtained in the form of a Project Report (PR) from States/UTs which shall include (but not limited to) the following details:
- a. Application in the format prescribed by the MYAS.
 - b. Estimates of cost – All costs must be as per the latest Delhi Schedule Rates/Central Public Works Department (CPWD) rates updated with the Cost Indices of the particular State/UT.
 - c. Confirmation that the land on which the proposed project is to be executed is free from all encumbrances. Clear documentation establishing ownership/lease to be enclosed along with the proposal.
 - d. A comprehensive utilisation and O&M roadmap covering institutional arrangements, coaches/trainers and support staff, annual training and competition calendar, athlete intake and usage, equipment procurement and upkeep, boarding and lodging, eligible-user access, and measures for sustained year-round use shall be submitted by the concerned State/UT in alignment with Scheme objectives. Applicants should include a revenue



mobilization framework to offset recurring O&M costs and reduce net fiscal burden.

- 4.3.2. The concerned States/UTs shall forward their proposals, along with additional documents in a physical/hard copy to MYAS. On activation of the Khel Setu Platform, all new proposals shall be submitted digitally.
- 4.3.3. Considering the component is implemented as Centrally Sponsored Scheme, confirmation of the State/UT with regards to the share of the state in the overall project cost to be enclosed in the proposal as per the modalities at para 4.2.2.
- 4.3.4. All the infrastructure created/upgraded shall incorporate following mechanisms:
 - a. Follow the harmonized guidelines of accessible sports complex and residential facilities for para-athletes conceptualized as per applicable guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.
 - b. Optimum utilisation of resources including measures such as usage of renewable energy, rainwater harvesting, LED lights, enhancing water use efficiency, consideration of the overall carbon footprint across the lifecycle of the facility etc., as feasible.
 - c. Good practices such as usage of local building materials, recycling of Construction & Demolition waste etc. is encouraged as far as possible.
- 4.3.5. The infrastructure built to be disaster resilient as per National Building Construction Standards 2026 Code (designated as SP 7:2026) and IS code 1893:2025 and/or their latest revision as applicable. All the relevant clauses required for disaster resilient building to be considered while formulating estimates and drawing. It shall be mandatory to adhere to the Environmental Guidelines and/or their latest revision as applicable in the concerned State/UT.
- 4.3.6. Sports infrastructure created/upgraded under the Scheme shall be utilised in accordance with the MoU between MYAS and the State/UT, ensuring alignment with the component's objectives. The facility shall be used judiciously ensuring optimal utilisation.
- 4.3.7. All sports infrastructure projects funded under this Scheme should mandatorily include "Khelo India" in the displayed signage and other relevant branding guidelines issued by the Ministry from time to time.

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- 4.3.8. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) executed between MYAS and State/UT shall ensure that the created infrastructure is used effectively and judiciously for sports development purposes. During periods of non-utilisation, the infrastructure shall be made available to State Sports Associations, schools, colleges, and other eligible users, either free of cost or at nominal charges, in accordance with the extant policy, provided such usage contributes to the advancement of sports development objectives.
- 4.3.9. All proposals shall be sent through Khel Setu Platform upon its operationalisation. The eligible entity should submit project report, drawings, certificates, and undertakings in physical format/hard copy.

4.4. Appraisal and Approval

- 4.4.1. All proposals shall undergo a structured appraisal process to ensure technical soundness, fiscal prudence, and in alignment with Scheme objectives.
- 4.4.2. Preliminary Scrutiny:
- a. The Ministry shall examine completeness of documentation, eligibility of the implementing agency, conformity with infrastructure classification norms, and adequacy of gap analysis. Only such proposals, which are complete in all respects and technically feasible, will be considered for sanction. Suitable feasibility report based on necessity will be obtained.
 - b. This scrutiny may include consideration of whether:
 - i. Demonstrated need, quality of planning, feasibility, and the capacity of the State/UT to implement and sustain the proposed sports infrastructure effectively.
 - ii. The proponent has taken appropriate steps to implement the previous project(s) funded by the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (within appropriate time frames).
 - iii. The proponent has overdue projects funded by the Department of Sports, Government of India, and whether they have requested a variation.

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- iv. The proponent has completed projects funded by the Department of Sports, Government of India, and whether they have submitted the requisite Utilisation Certificate with details of physical and financial progress supported by documentary and photographic evidence.

- 4.4.3. Technical and Financial Appraisal: Technical appraisal shall assess compliance of the Field of Play with approved standards and norms, appropriateness of ancillary facilities, and feasibility of implementation timelines. Challenge based model will be encouraged as feasible. Financial appraisal shall assess cost reasonableness, proportionality of components, funding commitments, and sustainability of operations and maintenance arrangements.
- 4.4.4. Appraisal by Project Appraisal Committee (PAC): Proposals found suitable shall be placed before the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), which shall examine the proposal in totality and record its recommendations. The PAC may recommend approval, approval with modifications, or rejection.
- 4.4.5. Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC): Recommendations of the PAC shall be placed before the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) headed by the Secretary (Sports) for approval. DPAC shall consider technical, financial, utilisation and strategic aspects before according approval. DPAC may periodically review the utilisation and performance of the facilities sanctioned.
- 4.4.6. The detailed approval and monitoring mechanism shall be as per Chapter 12 of the Operation Guidelines of the scheme.
- 4.4.7. Administrative and Financial Sanction: Upon approval by DPAC, a formal sanction/administrative approval shall be issued in alignment with the provisions of the MoU.
- 4.4.8. Wherever feasible convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly



disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.

4.5. Release of Funds

- 4.5.1. Upon approval by DPAC, a formal sanction/administrative approval order shall be issued specifying approved scope, cost, funding pattern, phasing, timelines, reporting requirements, and conditions precedent to fund release. Only components explicitly approved in the sanction order and as per the conditions of the MoU shall be eligible for assistance.
- 4.5.2. Upon issuing of sanction order and signing of MoU the release of funds may be guided by the following modalities:
- a. The first tranche of 30% of the central share will be released as per the extant guidelines of the Ministry of Finance (MoF) only after the acceptance of Administrative Approval by the Grantee, submission of documents and fulfilment of conditions as described below:
 - i. MoU between the Grantee and the Executing Agency, like CPWD/PWD/Central PSU, etc. Further, in case the grantee and executing agency are same, the grantee shall issue a certificate stating that grantee itself is the executing agency of the project and mentioning the team of engineers etc. employed on the project as well as the estimated date of completion of the project.
 - ii. A copy of the Award Letter issued to the Contractor selected through a competitive tendering process by the Executing Agency i.e., CPWD/PWD/Central PSU, etc.
 - iii. Subject to the concerned State Government providing its entire share (as prescribed under this component) through the Single Nodal Account (SNA)/SNA-SPARSH mechanism on a Just-in-Time basis, fulfilment of all readiness requirements by the state, and in accordance with the extant instructions of the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.
 - b. The second tranche of 30% shall be released after at least 75% of the first tranche has been financially utilised and duly certified, supported by geo-



tagged pictorial evidence on the Khel Setu Platform, and accompanied by the Utilisation Certificate.

- c. The third tranche of 30% shall be released after at least 75% of the second tranche has been financially utilized and duly certified, supported by geo-tagged pictorial evidence on the Khel Setu Platform, and accompanied by the Utilisation Certificate.
 - d. The final tranche of 10% shall be released after completion, submission of the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) readiness, final expenditure statement and onboarding of the asset on the Khel Setu Platform.
 - e. Releases may be withheld for non-compliance, diversion, or milestone slippage. Unutilized balances are recoverable as per the sanction terms.
 - f. In case the project does not commence within six months from the date of sanction, the sanction may be cancelled without creating any contractual obligation on MYAS. Separate guidelines may be issued in this regard.
 - g. Submission of Utilisation Certificates (UC): The grantee(s) shall be required to upload and submit the UC in accordance with the provisions of GFR as amended from time to time along with the consolidated statement of expenditure on the Khel Setu Platform.
- 4.5.3. The cost of the project over and above the grant admissible under this scheme shall be borne by the concerned State/UT.
- 4.5.4. The asset generated from out of this grant shall be maintained by the concerned State/UT. An action plan for maintenance, including the source(s) of funds for the purpose will be submitted by the applicant along with the application form/proposal.
- 4.5.5. Interest and other earnings, if any, against the grants-in-aid released to the concerned State/UT should be mandatorily remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India as per GFR and extant guidelines of Ministry of Finance.

4.6. Monitoring and Verification

- 4.6.1. Suitable monitoring committees including representative from SAI HQ/SAI Regional Centers to be constituted to carry out periodic joint inspections to ascertain quality and safety audits as per sanction terms. The committee shall



prepare periodic reports on the progress and asset utilisation as per the conditions of the MoU.

- 4.6.2. Submission of Completion Certificate: The concerned State/UT shall upload and submit the Completion Certificate issued by the Executing Agency, along with geo-tagged photographs of the completed sports infrastructure, handing/ taking over report containing detailed Inventory, consolidated audited statement of expenditure, complete plan for maintenance and its utilisation in accordance with MoU etc.
- 4.6.3. Khel Setu Platform may be used for project tracking (milestones, geo-tagged photos, issues, risk flags) and post-commissioning utilisation (athlete attendance, training days, boarding & lodging etc.). Details of relevant projects will also be updated on OCMS portal, as applicable.



5. Sports Competitions and Leagues

5.1. Introduction

- 5.1.1. Sports Competitions and leagues will support talent identification, athlete monitoring, performance benchmarking, and progression to national and international excellence. The initiative will also strengthen officiating, technical expertise, Games management, and institutional coordination while expanding participation across all States and UTs, with special emphasis on increasing participation and performance opportunities for women, para-athletes, and athletes from tribal, remote border, North-Eastern regions, and others.
- 5.1.2. Sports that are part of Olympics/Asian Games/other major international competitions shall be considered for the Games under this component. In addition to this other sports/indigenous sports shall also be considered based on their popularity.
- 5.1.3. The competitions will be organised in collaboration with concerned National Sports Federations (NSFs), Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Association of Indian Universities (AIU), and other relevant stakeholders.
- 5.1.4. The framework for the strengthening of the domestic competition structure is as follows:
 - a. Flagship Games – Competitive National level events focused on funnelling India's best talent to international standards.
 - b. Thematic Games – Competitions designed to promote regional/coastal community and culturally significant games, ensuring inclusivity and diversity in sport.
 - c. Leagues –School/University/Regional/Sports-Specific Leagues to provide regular competitive exposure, early talent identification, aligning education and sports, encouraging sports specific leagues and alignment with annual sports calendars.
- 5.1.5. The framework will also include ASMITA Leagues to expand women's participation, Sports for Peace and Development in disturbed and border areas to engage youth constructively, promotion of rural, indigenous and tribal games to facilitate main-streaming of the concerned sports, and dedicated support for



persons with disabilities to strengthen para-sports participation and performance.

5.2. Implementation Mechanism

5.2.1. Flagship Games

- a. Flagship (National Level) Competitions: These events shall be conducted periodically, including Khelo India Youth Games, Khelo India University Games, and other such national events are envisioned to reflect India's preparation for future Olympic (Summer & Winter) and Paralympic Games. The flagship Games shall be conducted periodically depending upon the requirements. Further, accessibility shall be considered for aforesaid competitions, especially for Para Sports.
- b. The games shall be conducted in association with a State/UT Government for which an MoU will be signed indicating the broad areas of responsibilities. The concerned State/UT Government will take care of Host city infrastructure, Sports infrastructure, Sports Equipment, Venue Readiness, Branding, etc. wherever required. Other stakeholders will be involved in the smooth conduct of the games.
- c. Organising Committee (OC) will be constituted at national level for direction and guidance for the successful conduct of the Games. The composition of the committee shall include the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports as the Chairperson, with the Hon'ble Chief Minister and Sports Minister of the respective State/UT Government. Representatives of SAI, relevant NSFs, and Host State/UT, etc. will be included. The Chairperson may co-opt any additional members as deemed necessary for the event being organised.
- d. Additionally, an Executive Committee (EC) will be constituted for the smooth conduct of the Games and will supervise and monitor different activities of the Games chaired by the Secretary (Sports), MYAS and Co-Chaired by Chief Secretary/Administrator of State/ UT Government and members from representative MYAS/SAI, State/UT Government and National Sports Federation. The Chairperson may co-opt any additional members as deemed necessary for the event being organised.

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- e. Further, the Host State/UT shall also constitute additional committees as per requirement for the conduct of the Games, including an Organising Committee and an Executive Committee with ex-athlete, sports administrators, and educational institutions representation encouraged.
 - f. A separate Games Technical Conduct Committee (GTCC) may be constituted for all relevant competitions/events with members of Sports Authority of India, a subject expert of the concerned sports discipline, representative of the NSF, host State/UT, CBSE/SGFI/AIU/PCI/IOA, other relevant stakeholders. GTCC shall have the mandate for the technical conduct of the relevant competitions/events.

5.2.2. Thematic Games:

- a. These competitions include Khelo India Beach Games, Khelo India Water Sports, Khelo India Tribal Games, Khelo India Swadeshi Games, Khelo India North-East Games, and the Khelo India Martial Arts Games and other such events.
- b. The competitions shall follow similar organisation mechanisms as flagship events, including the signing of MoUs with host State/UT, formation of OC/EC, GTCC and others.

5.2.3. Khelo India Leagues

- a. The inclusion of structured league systems will be implemented to support the conduct of regular competition exposure for athletes and supplement the efforts of the flagship/thematic events. A circuit of leagues including School League, University League, Regional/Sport-specific league and others will be developed aligning with academic calendars, strengthening school/university competition ecosystem and suit custom requirements of sports respectively.
 - b. Regional/Sports specific leagues may be conducted through SAI Regional Centres/State sports departments/NSF/various Khelo India Training Facilities to ensure custom needs of each sport are met.
 - c. Leagues will be organized in partnership with the NSFs/ Sports Bodies and Central/State education bodies, progressing from local and district levels to state/national stages.
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5.2.4. Achieving Sports Milestones by Inspiring women Through Action (ASMITA)

- a. While all the components of the Khelo India Scheme are gender neutral and afford opportunities to women for participating in sporting activities, dedicated competition mechanisms have been created to support women participation.
- b. Through ASMITA, emphasis will be laid on such sports disciplines where there is less participation of women so that a greater number of women will participate in such sports disciplines. Preference may be given to sports disciplines which are part of Olympic/Asian Games and other major international competitions.

5.2.5. Sports for Peace and Development

- a. The Khelo India Scheme envisages the usage of sports for the promotion of peace and development in terrorism and extremism-affected areas as well as other disturbed areas and areas along the international land border to promote confidence-building among the local populace and bringing the youth into the mainstream and engaging them in healthy and constructive activities.
- b. The sporting activities/sports competitions in eligible States/UTs/districts shall be organised in collaboration with various organisations under Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Defence.

5.2.6. Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games (PRITG)

- a. The PRITG sub-component aims to promote rural, indigenous and tribal games/sports by raising awareness, engaging young people, and encouraging wider participation to support their mainstreaming.
- b. The list of games/sports to be included under this sub-component shall be issued from time to time.
- c. Proposals shall be submitted by States/UTs, NSFs, and other suitable entities.

5.2.7. Promotion of Sports among Persons with Disabilities

- a. Competitions for Persons with Disabilities (Para, Deaf and others) shall be organised in collaboration with the concerned NSF wherever feasible.
- b. Proposals shall be submitted by States/UTs, NSFs, and other suitable entities.

5.3. Operational Framework

- 5.3.1. A structured competition calendar will ensure regular access to quality events, promote integration with NSF rankings and selection systems, encourage youth engagement through internships, volunteerism and spectatorship, and adopt sustainable and inclusive event practices. Events will be hosted across States and UTs to maximize the use of existing sports infrastructure and enhance the capacity of host regions to organise major sporting events.
- 5.3.2. Efforts may be made to align the Khelo India events calendar with the Annual Calendar for Training and Competition of concerned NSFs.
- 5.3.3. This component shall be executed by associating with specialized organisations like NSFs, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), Association of Indian Universities (AIU)/University Sports Board, State/UT Governments and other stakeholders as will be required. A system may be developed for managing results, records and others which shall be synchronized with all stakeholders. All Stakeholders may maintain the data for all level competitions i.e. grassroots, pre-district, district, zonal, state, national and others.
- 5.3.4. Integration of technology for Timing, Scoring and Results (TSR), and Games Management System (GMS), as well as other areas shall be explored and implemented with all the concerned stakeholders across all levels (grassroot, pre-district, district, zonal, state, national and others). Integration with other platforms of Khel Setu will be ensured.
- 5.3.5. All events under the Khelo India Scheme may follow a standardized structure with participation from stakeholders at district, zonal, state, and national levels. The competition framework will serve as a key pathway for talent identification and progression into Khelo India Training Facilities.
- 5.3.6. Suitable Khelo India branding guidelines to be followed across all events, as applicable.
- 5.3.7. A suitable mechanism may be devised to ensure doping awareness workshops before competitions for athletes and coaches keeping in view the inclusion of the spirit of fair play and integrity in sports.
- 5.3.8. Necessary anti-doping awareness and testing to be taken up across various competitions.



5.3.9. Mechanisms for convergence with other components of the scheme may be explored to map sports talent with regional and demographic characteristics. Further, efforts may be undertaken to integrate talent identification and competition structures.

5.3.10. Selection of Participants

- a. The competitions organised by NSF/AIU/CBSE may act as avenues for the identification of athletes across sports disciplines for participation in Khelo India Games/Leagues. If required, separate selection trials may be conducted to ensure optimal participation in Khelo India Games/Leagues.

5.4. Appraisal and Approval Mechanism

5.4.1. All proposals will be appraised by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) and placed before the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) for final decision/approval as detailed in Chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanism - of the Operational Guidelines

5.5. Funding and Monitoring Mechanism

- 5.5.1. An appropriate budget will be earmarked for the conduct of all competitions/leagues/events under this component.
- 5.5.2. Wherever feasible, convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.
- 5.5.3. The competent authority may establish an administrative mechanism to periodically monitor the progress and preparation for each event, learnings, quality of conduct and outcome of the event.



6. Talent Identification & Development

6.1. Introduction

- 6.1.1. The Talent Identification and Development (TID) component targets to strengthen the process through harmonized protocols, coordinated implementation, and advanced sports science and digital platforms. The initiative ensures that talent is identified early and channelled into structured training programs. This approach creates a seamless pipeline from grassroots to elite performance, reflecting global best practices where nations significantly improved medal tallies through early talent identification coupled with world-class infrastructure and scientific training and monitoring.
- 6.1.2. The number of athletes supported under this component shall be significantly increased with emphasis on priority sports.
- 6.1.3. The TID component will drive convergence among State/UTs, NSFs, institutions, and private entities for coordinated talent development.

6.2. Implementation Mechanism

- 6.2.1. To cater to the convergence requirement and to bring more athletes under a structured monitoring and nurturing system, the TID framework shall operate through a tiered athlete development structure comprising four stages:
 - a. Foundation Level:
 - i. Foundation level includes beginners and young children starting their sports journey
 - ii. Training is undertaken to introduce basic skills, physical fitness, and interest in sports
 - iii. Foundation level will be catered through active collaboration with the Ministry of Education for integrating school ecosystem with sports.
 - b. Grassroots Level:
 - i. Grassroots level includes Athletes who show potential at the school or community level. This potential talent may be identified through schools, school leagues or other interventions by the department.
 - ii. For the identified talent, training to be undertaken to provide early-stage coaching.

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- iii. Training centres include Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalayas, Khelo India Feeder Schools and Khelo India Centres.

c. Intermediate Level:

- i. Intermediate Stage athletes are categorised as Emerging Khelo India Athletes (E-KIA) or Khelo India Athletes (KIA) based on the age-appropriate protocols and benchmarks.
 - ii. Training is undertaken in the facilities of Sports Authority of India Training Centres (STC), SAI National Centre of Excellence (NCoE), Khelo India Accredited Academy (KIAA), Khelo India Centre of Excellence (Including Universities), Youth Sports Companies (in collaboration with Armed Forces) and other suitable academies.
 - iii. KIA shall include:
 - A. Athletes currently designated as Khelo India Athletes;
 - B. Athletes training in NCoEs shall be deemed to be KIA upon rollout of the scheme and given transition time (with sports wise flexibility as recommended by TIDC and as approved in HPC) to meet the appropriate benchmarks; and
 - C. Athletes who meet the approved protocols and benchmarks.
 - D. Athlete recommended by TIDC and approved by HPC as per suitable criteria in sports specific protocols.
 - iv. E-KIA shall include:
 - A. Athletes training in STCs shall be deemed to be E-KIA upon rollout of the scheme and given transition time (with sports wise flexibility as recommended by TIDC and as approved in HPC) to meet the appropriate benchmarks.
 - B. Athletes who meet the approved protocols and benchmarks.
 - C. Athlete recommended by TIDC and approved by HPC as per suitable criteria in sports specific protocols.
 - v. E-KIAs shall be expected to transition to KIAs and beyond, in due course.
- d. Elite Level:
- i. Elite level includes Top-performing athletes preparing for international competitions.
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- ii. The elite athletes are supported through Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)/Training of Elite Athletes and Management Support (TEAMS) division and suitable mechanisms evolving from time to time.
 - iii. Training facilities include designated SAI/other facilities supporting Olympic Training/preparation for international competitions.

6.2.2. Support to Athletes and Talent Development Pathway:

- a. The process of identification and development is driven by science, global best practices, digital solutions, include battery of tests, assessment camps, performance monitoring, athlete management system, Talent scouts, STIC/UTIC, TIZC, TIDC etc. In addition, various other innovative approaches may be adopted for carrying out a scientific evaluation at remote places for better identification of talented sportspersons.
- b. The suitable protocols and benchmarks, induction, transition mechanisms shall apply to all facilities under pan India network of Khelo India Training Facilities (KITFs). Efforts shall be made to enhance adoption of these mechanisms by facilities outside KITF.
- c. Each KIA/E-KIA shall be eligible for training, competition, boarding and lodging, sports kit, sports science, equipment, education, medical & insurance support etc. as per approved funding norms and suitable Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA). Incentivising performance of the athletes may be considered. Moreover, dual career pathway may be facilitated for holistic development of athletes.
- d. The athletes shall train at various Khelo India Training Facilities and other suitable central/state/regional academies. Academies with better athlete transition, medals and other parameters may be supported with additional incentives to ensure conversion of potential into medals.
- e. All the athletes in Khelo India Training Facilities shall be mandatorily registered on Khel Setu. Efforts shall be made to bring all the athletes of the country, including those outside the purview of KITF under Khel Setu.

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- f. Athlete induction under KIA and E-KIA categories shall progressively expand by optimising existing institutional capacities, expanding facilities over the next five years, strengthening coaching capabilities, etc.
 - g. Structured assessment camps shall be organised for athletes at the foundation, grassroots and intermediate levels, including those training in Khelo India Accredited Academies, Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalayas, Khelo India Feeder Schools, Khelo India Centres, STCs, NCoEs and other approved centres, as per sports specific protocols and benchmarks.
 - h. Periodic assessment of KIA/E-KIA shall be carried out as per protocols approved by HPC.
 - i. Athletes supported under the Scheme shall be reviewed periodically to assess progress, suitability for continued support and eligibility for advancement.
 - j. A digital athlete tracking and monitoring system shall be utilised for the TID component to ensure evidence-based decision-making and continuity across levels.
 - k. Information regarding assessment camps, especially for those at grassroots and foundational level, may be disseminated widely through appropriate media and outreach channels to ensure broad participation.

6.3. Operational Framework

6.3.1. The institutionalised operational structure for implementation and governance of the TID component includes:

- a. Talent Scouts to identify Athletes from competitions and other sources at the grassroots.
 - b. State / UT Talent Identification Committee (STIC / UTIC) to facilitate Talent identification and development in the concerned States/UTs.
 - c. Talent Identification Zonal Committee (TIZC) to facilitate Talent identification and development in the concerned zones.
 - d. Talent Identification and Development Committee (TIDC) is a National-level committee for each sport. They oversee induction, transition, performance monitoring, etc of the athletes of the concerned sport.
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- e. High-Performance Directors (HPDs) shall drive the strategy for concerned sport and execute it with the help of High-Performance Managers (HPMs).
 - f. High Powered Committee as the apex body for Talent Identification and Development.

6.3.2. High Powered Committee (HPC)

a. The composition of the High-Powered Committee is as follows:

S. No.	Designation of Officer	Role
i.	Director General, SAI	Chairperson [#]
ii.	Eminent sportspersons (3)	Member
iii.	Eminent coaches (3)	Member
iv.	Representative of Indian Olympic Association (IOA)	Member
v.	Sports Science Expert	Member
vi.	Joint Secretary (Khelo India), MYAS	Member
vii.	Director / Deputy Secretary (Khelo India), MYAS	Member
viii.	DDG, Operations, SAI	Member
ix.	CEO, TOPS, SAI	Member
x.	Regional Director of SAI Regional Centre (on rotation basis)	Member
xi.	ED, Finance, SAI	Member
xii.	ED Khelo India/Officer in charge of Khelo India Talent Identification & Development component*	Member Secretary

[#]The Chairperson may co-opt or invite any other individual as deemed fit for the committee.

*The Division handling the concerned components shall function as secretariat of High-Powered Committee.

b. The functions of the HPC are:

- i. Manage, monitor and ensure effective implementation of the TID component, including all matters necessary for talent identification and development through the LTAD framework.
- ii. Decide the sports disciplines, event-wise categories, gender-wise athlete numbers and target age groups to be supported across elite, intermediate, grassroots and foundation levels.
- iii. Decide the avenues, modalities, criteria and mechanisms for talent identification, athlete selection, transition and progression under the Scheme.
- iv. Review and approve innovative mechanisms, outreach activities to improve talent identification and athlete development.
- v. Recommend guidelines and norms of funding, including consumables, equipment, coaching, education, logistics, national/international exposure, sports science support and injury management, holistic development of athlete, performance incentives, etc., along with modes of delivery. Periodic review of funding norms shall be taken up.
- vi. Approve accreditation guidelines, grant accreditation and establish monitoring mechanisms for academies, training institutes, sports science institutions, injury management institutions and other relevant organisations.
- vii. Approve the list of athletes to be supported and review recommendations made by TIDCs, TIZCs, STIC/UTIC and talent scouts.
- viii. Approve and review protocols for Assessment Camps, selection trials, etc.
- ix. Approve the engagement of HPD, HPM, coaches, support staff, personnel and experts required for successful implementation of the TID component. HPC may take the recommendations of suitable committees in engaging experts.

- x. Approve grading norms, criteria for various Khelo India Training Facilities and recommend suitable additional incentives in funding, convergence, engagement of academies, etc.
- xi. Monitor and guide the regular functioning of TIDC, TIZC, STIC/UTIC, Talent Scouts, HPDs, and HPMs.
- xii. Approve the composition, tenure, review mechanism and incentive norms for TIDC, TIZC members, talent scouts and other stakeholder involved in talent identification.
- xiii. Any other task as approved in DPAC.

6.3.3. Talent Identification and Development Committee (TIDC)

- a. The composition of the TIDC is as follows:

S. No.	Designation of Officer	Role
i.	ED Khelo India/Officer in charge of the component	Chairperson*
ii.	Lead Regional Director, SAI (wherever applicable)	Member
iii.	Eminent Coaches (2)	Member
iv.	Eminent Athletes (2)	Member
v.	Representative of National Sports Federation (NSF)	Member
vi.	Sports Science Expert	Member
vii.	High-Performance Director	Member
viii.	High-Performance Manager (on rotation basis)	Member
ix.	Officer handling the specific sport at KITD (Assistant Director or above)	Member Secretary

**With the approval of HPC, the number of members in a TIDC may be increased suiting the requirements of the sport. TIDC membership for eminent coaches and athletes may be periodically reviewed and refreshed in line with the rotation policy to ensure continued effectiveness and objectivity.*

b. The functions of the TIDC are as follows:

- i. Prepare and periodically update a comprehensive talent identification protocol, including methodology, age groups, performance parameters, benchmarks, transition thresholds/protocols, and innovative scouting methods across various levels.
- ii. Oversee athlete selection, progression, continuation, transition, temporary discontinuation, and removal from the Scheme based on approved criteria.
- iii. Recommend age-appropriate protocols and benchmarks for athlete identification, continuation, and transition.
- iv. Establish standardized athlete management systems, including data management, periodic performance reviews, and assessment mechanisms.
- v. Promote convergence of sports science, innovation, and knowledge sharing across regions, stakeholders, and disciplines.
- vi. Conduct gap analysis, identify talent clusters, and recommend improvements in sports disciplines, infrastructure, manpower, tracking tools, partnerships, and priorities.
- vii. Recommend comprehensive athlete support components, including equipment, consumables, tournament exposure, sports science support, injury management, education, travel, lodging, boarding, and holistic development.
- viii. Facilitate coordination with TIZCs and stakeholders through periodic reviews, alignment, and continuous improvement inputs.
- ix. Strengthen the Khelo India ecosystem, including KITFs, athlete transition protocols, and athlete development pathways.
- x. Support the development of standardized training and coaching protocols.
- xi. TIDC will be supported by High Performance Directors and High-Performance Managers.

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- xii. Supervise induction and sensitisation sessions for athletes and parents, and
 - xiii. To undertake any other task assigned by the HPC.

6.3.4. Talent Identification Zonal Committee (TIZC)

- a. For each concerned sports discipline, the TIZCs shall be constituted in a phased manner based on the need of the sports, as recommended by the TIDC and as approved in HPC. The TIDC may recommend the number and demarcation of the zones in line with the evolving demands for the sport and regions. This shall further be approved by the HPC.
- b. Composition of TIZC: Each TIZC will include representatives from SAI Regional Centres, State Sports Departments, eminent coaches, athletes, sports scientists and State Associations. As a general norm, the number of members shall be up to 10 members per sport per zone. The Committee will be constituted as follows:

S. No.	Designation of Officer	Role
i	SAI Regional Head (Sports dividing among the regions in that zone)	Chairperson*
ii	State Sports Department Representative (one from each State in the Zone)	Member
iii	Representative of NSF in the Zone	Member
iv	Eminent Sports Persons/Coaches	Member
v	High Performance Manager	Member
vi	Sports Science Expert (one)	Member
vii	AD/DD of the concerned Regional Centre, SAI handling the component	Member Secretary

**With the approval of HPC, the number of members in a TIZC may be increased suiting the requirements of the sport. TIZC membership for eminent coaches and athletes may be periodically reviewed and refreshed in line with the rotation policy to ensure continued effectiveness and objectivity.*



The Member Secretary (TIZC) shall be responsible for convening meetings, maintaining records of proceedings, ensuring implementation of TIDC recommendations, and facilitating coordination between the State Governments and SAI Regional Centres.

- c. The functions of the TIZCs are as follows:
 - i. To support the TIDC in implementation of the TID component within the concerned zone.
 - ii. Recommend E-KIAs to the TIDC
 - iii. To scout and shortlist talent by attending local/major sports competitions in the zone.
 - iv. To identify and recommend Talent Scouts for the concerned sports discipline in each State/UT within the zone.
 - v. To assist in conducting competition-based evaluations, scientific assessments and field scouting in accordance with prescribed protocols.
 - vi. To support induction and sensitisation sessions for athletes and parents.
 - vii. To assist in identification and evaluation of academies/ institutes/ training centres for athlete placement and support.
 - viii. To assist in periodic review of athlete performance and maintenance of the monitoring system.
 - ix. To ensure adherence to standard protocols and timely reporting to the TIDC.
 - x. Any other task as approved in HPC

6.3.5. State /UT Talent Identification Committee (STIC / UTIC)

- a. STIC / UTIC shall be constituted at State / UT level to cater the Talent identification and development in the concerned State / UT.
- b. Composition of STIC / UTIC: As a general norm, the number of members shall be up to 10 members per State / UT. The Committee will be constituted as follows:

S. No.	Designation of Officer	Role
i	Secretary/ Commissioner/ Director, State / UT Sports Department	Chairperson
ii	Representative from State / UT Education Department	Member
iii	Representative of State / UT Olympic Association	Member
iv	Representative of CBSE / KV / JNV and Other such institutions of Government of India in State / UT	Member
v	Eminent Sports Persons/Coaches	Member
vi	Sports Science Expert (one)	Member
vii	Representative of SAI Regional Centre (AD and above)	Member Secretary

The Member Secretary (STIC / UTIC) shall be responsible for convening meetings, maintaining records of proceedings, and facilitating coordination between the State Government and SAI Regional Centres.

- c. The functions of the STIC / UTIC are as follows:
 - i. To facilitate the implementation of the TID component within the concerned State/UT.

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- ii. To facilitate the induction of the athletes in KIFS and KICs or any similar training facilities in alignment with the TID protocols issued from time to time.
 - iii. To facilitate scouting of talent from sports competitions in the State/UT.
 - iv. To facilitate conducting competition-based evaluations, scientific assessments and field scouting in accordance with prescribed protocols.
 - v. To support induction and sensitisation sessions for athletes and parents.
 - vi. To facilitate periodic review of athlete performance and maintenance of the monitoring system.
 - vii. To facilitate capacity building of Physical Education Teachers and Coaches in the State / UT.
 - viii. To recommend Talent scouts.
 - ix. To facilitate school engagement initiatives.
 - x. Any other tasks assigned from time to time.

6.3.6. Talent Scouts

- a. Talent Scouts shall support STIC / UTIC, TIZC and TIDC. The talent scouts shall be recommended by STIC / UTIC, TIZC (TIDC in the absence of TIZC). The number of talent scouts will vary from state to state on the basis of state size, popularity of sport, technical requirements of sports and availability of talent pool.
- b. Indicative list of talent Scouts: The criteria for identification of talent scouts shall be approved by HPC. The list may include:
 - i. Qualified coaches
 - ii. Physical Education teachers
 - iii. Eminent former athletes and
 - iv. Other suitably qualified field-level personnel, as per approved criteria
- c. Functions of the talent scouts include:

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- i. To assist the STIC / UTIC, and TIZC in implementation of the TID component in the concerned State/UT.
 - ii. To scout and shortlist talent by attending local sports competitions and conducting field visits.
 - iii. To submit structured scouting reports based on standardised evaluation criteria.
 - iv. To support athlete and parent sensitisation sessions.
 - v. To assist in identifying suitable training centres, academies and development environments.
 - vi. To support data collection, athlete registration and integration with digital athlete tracking systems.
 - vii. Development of local networks and insights of respective areas and sports to deepen knowledge of local talent pool
 - viii. Leverage innovative methods to support talent identification
 - ix. Any other task as approved in HPC

6.3.7. Engagement of High-Performance Directors and High-Performance Managers for each sport discipline

- a. High-Performance Directors (HPDs), and High-Performance Managers (HPMs) are responsible for ensuring technical excellence and consistency across the talent development pathway. Their mandate includes developing and harmonising standardised coaching protocols, integrating sports science into athlete performance monitoring, and assisting in the formulation of sport-specific assessment and athlete transition criteria/protocols. They shall work in close coordination with the stakeholders.
- b. The functions of HPDs are as follows:
 - i. Technical Oversight
 - A. Design and recommend overall strategy and execution for the sport in the country.
 - B. Lead high-performance planning for their respective discipline.

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- C. Design and facilitate standardised training methods, recovery patterns and long-term athlete development frameworks.
 - D. Review and validate AMS, NSRS, sports science and competition data.
 - E. Devise systems to arrive at Key Result Areas (KRA) for athletes and monitoring them.
 - F. Continually monitor new developments in the sport around the globe and facilitate suitable knowledge transfer to coaches in the ecosystem.
- ii. Alignment & Quality Control
 - A. Facilitate periodic review of gaps, performance of various facilities in KITF to ensure uniformity of training methodologies across KITF.
 - B. Work closely with TIDC, TIZC, NSF, KITD, TOPS/TEAMS, Lead SAI Regional Centre (as applicable for the sport), elite coaches, sports scientists and HPMs, Talent Scouts, etc., as required.
 - C. Recommend suitable avenues, innovative methods for talent identification including leagues, assessment camps, etc.
 - D. Strengthen application of sports science in the sport, in collaboration with designated Sports Science Division.
 - E. Observe planning and periodisation plans prepared by coaches and HPMs.
 - F. Provide knowledge updates and recommend workshops for coaches and support staff.
 - G. Any other task as approved in HPC.
- c. The functions of HPMs are as follows:
 - i. Support HPD in execution of strategy for talent identification and development for the sport.
 - ii. Talent Identification Support
 - A. Propose tournament calendars for scouting in consultation with HPDs/TIZC.

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- B. Prepare lists of shortlisted athletes for induction, retention, transfer or transition.
 - C. Coordinate updating athlete data and zonal assessments on Khel Setu.
 - D. Work with Talent Scouts for cluster-wise scouting.
 - E. Coordination with designated Sports Science Division and KITFs for Age Verification Testing (AVT)
- iii. Talent Development Functions
- A. Develop scientific ranking lists for selection trials and assessment camps.
 - B. Generate periodisation plans in consultation with coaches.
 - C. Curate testing batteries for E-KIA and KIA camps.
 - D. Manage athlete performance statistics, analytics dashboards, and updates on specified digital portal.
 - E. Counselling of athletes in consultation with Sports Science Team
 - F. Any other task as approved in HPC

6.4. Appraisal and Approval Mechanism

- 6.4.1. All suitable proposals regarding talent identification and development protocols, benchmarks, and all technical matters shall be submitted before the High-Powered Committee for approval. HPC shall function within the overall financial norms and delegations as approved by DPAC. All the financial norms shall be placed before DPAC for approval at the beginning of the scheme and after periodic review, as required from time to time.
- 6.4.2. All proposals will be appraised by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) and approved by the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) as detailed in chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanisms of the Operational Guidelines.

6.5. Funding and Monitoring Mechanism

- 6.5.1. An appropriate budget shall be earmarked under the Scheme for implementation of the TID component, including but not limited to:

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- a. Out-of-Pocket Allowance for KIAs and E-KIAs;
 - b. Allowed expenses incurred by HPC, TIDC, TIZC, STIC / UTIC members and Talent Scouts towards monitoring, scouting, field visits, meetings and assessment activities, etc.
 - c. Organisation of assessment camps, innovative methods of identification;
 - d. Sports science support, testing, monitoring and injury management;
 - e. Remuneration/fees/honorarium of HPDs/HPMs, specialised coaches, experts and technical personnel; and
 - f. Any other expenditure approved by the competent authority under the Scheme.
- 6.5.2. Funds may be released through one or more of the following modes, depending on the nature of expenditure:
- a. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT): Out-of-Pocket Allowance (OPA) for the athletes, remuneration of the coaches and support staff engaged under this scheme and other admissible athlete-centric support, wherever feasible, shall be released directly into the bank accounts of the concerned through DBT or any other approved digital payment mechanism.
 - b. Institutional Release: Funds for training, boarding, lodging, competition exposure, sports science support, injury management, assessment camps and similar activities may be released to approved institutions, SAI, or service providers as per sanctioned norms.
 - c. Advance / Instalment / Reimbursement Basis: Funds may be released in advance, instalment or reimbursement basis, depending on the nature of activity and financial approval, subject to such conditions as may be specified by the competent authority.
- 6.5.3. Wherever feasible, convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.
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7. Coach and Support Staff Development

7.1. Introduction

- 7.1.1. Systematic expansion of elite coach and Development coach capacity, aligned with international standards and supported by world-class training infrastructure, will ensure medal athletes and emerging talents receive scientific, high-performance guidance.
- 7.1.2. This component will implement a multi-tier framework to strengthen coaching capacity from grassroots to elite levels, aligned with India's long-term medal goals. A National Coach Accreditation Board (NCAB) under SAI will standardize coach certification, quality benchmarks, and career progression through a four-level system covering community, developmental, performance, and elite/high-performance coaches.

7.2. Implementation Mechanism

- 7.2.1. The National Coach Accreditation Board (NCAB) as part of SAI shall be established as the apex authority, bringing together the country's highest expertise in coaching to set national standards, approve coaching pathways, accredit institutions, and ensure the long-term sustainability of the coaching ecosystem.
- 7.2.2. Indicative functions of the NCAB:
 - a. Curriculum Design and Updates: Developing and periodically updating a unified coaching curriculum (including vernaculars) for all certification levels, in consultation with experts and aligning with international best practices.
 - b. Standards and Examinations: Setting entry standards for various coach certification levels and conducting centralised examinations/assessments to ensure uniform competency nationwide.
 - c. Create a weighted scorecard to capture different dimensions of the coach's performance.
 - d. Accreditation of Training Providers: Accrediting institutions and academies to deliver coach education programs as per the NCAB's curriculum and guidelines.

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- e. Promoting Online Learning: Operationalizing e-Khel Pathshala to provide standardised online courses, modular certifications and continuous professional development opportunities for coaches nationwide.
 - f. Regional Centres of Coaching Excellence: Increasing the number of SAI NSNIS sub-centres by facilitating academic courses in suitable SAI regional centres. Convergence may be explored with State Institutes/Universities, and other suitable entities to expand access and increase sport-specific training capacity.
 - g. Promote safeguarding of student-athletes and ensure inclusive coaching.
 - h. Coach Developers' Network: Establish a national network of certified coach developers (tutors, mentors, assessors) who are trained to educate and mentor upcoming coaches, maintaining standardised quality in coach training.
 - i. Digital Coach Registry: Introduce a digital coach registry system to track coach's qualifications, achievements, certifications, continuous professional development (CPD) credits, and background checks. This secure, privacy-by-design database will facilitate portability and verification of credentials across India.
 - j. Encourage and drive development of women coaches and para-sports coaches, including classifiers and support staff.
 - k. Coach Grievance Cell: A Coach Support System/National Coach Grievance Cell may be established to handle grievances related to coach education and accreditation.

7.2.3. Composition of the NCAB

- a. The National Coaching Accreditation Board (NCAB) shall be chaired by the Secretary, Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- b. The Chairperson may, as required, appoint additional members and representatives from relevant institutions to the NCAB Governing Council, including but not limited to:
 - i. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
 - ii. Sports Authority of India (SAI)
 - iii. Indian Olympic Association (IOA)

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- iv. Ministry of Education
 - v. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
 - vi. National Sports Federations (NSFs)
 - vii. Existing sports universities and academic institutions
 - viii. Eminent professionals from sports science, coaching, sports medicine, and allied fields
- c. NCAB may establish a dedicated Secretariat to support its day-to-day administration, coordination, and operational activities. A CEO may be appointed through a selection process determined by the competent authority to oversee the implementation and management of NCAB secretariat.
 - d. NCAB may constitute Technical Expert Committees comprising subject matter experts from relevant disciplines to provide technical guidance, undertake assessments, and support accreditation-related functions.
 - e. The Chairperson shall prescribe the operational norms and procedures of NCAB, which shall be binding on all members and associated stakeholders.

7.3. Operational Framework

7.3.1. Coach Career Progression Pathway:

- a. A four-level certification system will be introduced:
 - i. Level 1: Community Coaches including Physical Education Teachers for foundational and grassroots engagement.
 - ii. Level 2: Developmental Coaches for intermediate and school-level competitive pathways.
 - iii. Level 3: Performance Coaches for state and national-level athletes.
 - iv. Level 4: Elite and High-Performance Coaches for Olympic and international competition standards.
 - b. Stakeholders from NSFs, Educational Institutions, and other relevant institutions will be invited to collaborate on development of the progression pathway.
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- c. A cascading training model will be adopted to train Master Trainers and Community Coaches through blended learning and regional workshops, leveraging existing school networks and sports institutions.
 - d. A short-term community coaching development programme will be devised and identified Physical Education Teachers will be trained as Master Trainers.
 - e. A digital learning platform (e-Khel Pathshala) will be operationalised to provide standardised online courses, modular certifications and continuous professional development opportunities for coaches nationwide.
 - f. Online courses for community coach development will also be developed at primary and advanced levels. There will be a system of coach accreditation based upon the level of proficiency. The e-Khel Pathshala shall be used extensively to train Community Coaches and PE Teachers.
 - g. e-Khel Pathshala shall cater to Physical education teachers, teachers, Coaches, athletes etc. for their technical knowledge enhancement. The primary aim of the project is to ensure grassroots talent development. If required, necessary inputs and execution paths may be finalised in consultation with the Ministry of Education. e-Khel Pathshala shall primarily include digital content creation and Learning Management System. Multiple stakeholders like Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education (LNIPE), Lakshmibai National College for Physical Education (LNCPE) Thiruvananthapuram, National Institute of Sports (NIS) Patiala, National Sports University, Manipur, CBSE, NCERT, NSFs, etc. may be included in the strategy and implementation of the program. Suitable support may be requested from the Ministry of Education.
 - h. Structured international exposure programs and advanced certification courses may be offered to Performance and Elite Coaches, including short-term and long-term training at global sports universities and training centres.

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- i. Diploma programs in sports coaching will be expanded through new sub-centres under NSNIS Patiala, covering major Olympic disciplines and ensuring decentralised access to advanced coaching education.
 - j. Efforts to ensure gender equity and inclusion shall be made through targeted programs for female coaches and officials, ensuring balanced representation across all tiers.
 - k. All certifications and credentials will be integrated into a national digital registry, enabling real-time verification, portability across states, and linkage with athlete development outcomes.
 - l. Safe Sport, Anti-doping awareness, and awareness on relevant matters shall be included in all coach training and development programs wherever feasible.
 - m. Coaches/PETs/Support Staff to be trained/upskilled under this component may be identified in collaboration with States/UTs/NSF/other relevant stakeholders.
 - n. Suitable measures to be taken for integrating coaching with sports science, technology, digital tools.

7.3.2. Human Resource Development in Sports (HRDS)

- a. Human Resource Development in Sports (HRDS) will serve as a residuary mechanism, catering to deserving capacity-building proposals not covered under other sports promotion schemes, thereby augmenting the overall sports ecosystem.
- b. HRDS aims to provide financial assistance for capacity building initiatives such as short and long-term courses, workshops and training in sports; professional development of match officials, coaches and support personnel; participation in seminars, clinics and conferences in India and abroad; engagement of foreign experts for knowledge and skill enhancement; sports-related research and publications; re-skilling and up-skilling of sportspersons for better employment opportunities; and development of multilingual online learning resources for wider dissemination of sports knowledge, techniques etc. and such other initiatives.

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- c. Detailed operational guidelines of HRDS will be issued separately.

7.4. Appraisal and Approval Mechanism

- 7.4.1. All proposals shall be appraised by the PAC and approved by the DPAC as detailed in chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanism – in Operational Guidelines.

7.5. Funding and Monitoring Mechanism

- 7.5.1. An appropriate budget shall be earmarked under the Scheme for implementation of the “Coach and Support Staff Development” component.
- 7.5.2. Monitoring will be done at National, State, and District levels through appropriate stakeholders as assigned by MYAS/SAI.
- 7.5.3. Wherever feasible, convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.

8. Khelo India Training Facilities

8.1. Introduction

8.1.1. A unified, scalable and integrated national training ecosystem shall be established to strengthen grassroots, intermediate, and elite sports development in India and bridge the gap between foundational sports exposure and elite athlete training.

8.1.2. KITF Infrastructure Categories

The Khelo India Training Facilities (KITF) framework shall comprise the following categories of institutions for athlete development across Foundation, Grassroots, Intermediate and Elite levels:

- i. Olympic Training Centres (OTCs)
- ii. National Centres of Excellence (NCoEs)
- iii. Khelo India Accredited Academies (KIAAs)
- iv. Khelo India Centres of Excellence (KICoEs)
- v. SAI Training Centres (STCs)
- vi. Youth Sports Companies (YSCs)
- vii. Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalayas (KIUVs)
- viii. Khelo India Feeder Schools (KIFS)
- ix. Khelo India Centres (KICs)

8.1.3. All KITFs may be organized on a cluster basis to optimize infrastructure use, coaching synergies, sports science deployment, and capital efficiency.

8.1.4. Standardized financial norms with flexibility to meet sport specific needs, digital solutions for identification, monitoring, management, etc., standardized testing, and linkage with Khel Setu Platform will ensure transparent funding, longitudinal tracking, and effective athlete development. The components of funding for various facilities in various levels shall be as approved by the DPAC.

8.2. Operational Framework

8.2.1. Olympic Training Centres (OTCs)

- a. An OTC is a high-performance centre supporting the training of elite athletes preparing for international competitions.
- b. OTCs are Olympic-standard facilities, with expert coaching, sports science and sports medicine support, competition planning, recovery and



rehabilitation services, comprehensive support and conditions matching international competition conditions.

- c. Sports Authority of India facilities and other suitable state/central/regional/private academies shall be designated as OTCs as per approved criteria.
- d. The identification and operations of OTCs may be supported through convergence with Central/State Governments initiatives, NSFs, CSR initiatives in sports, etc.
- e. Athletes training under OTCs shall be supported through Assistance to NSF Scheme, NSDF, and similar schemes. Any gap funding required will be evaluated and undertaken under the Khelo India Scheme.

8.2.2. National Centres of Excellence (NCoE)

- a. NCoEs shall function as single sport/ multi-sport training centres.
- b. Existing and upcoming NCoEs shall be established, managed and operated by the Sports Authority of India.
- c. All NCoEs shall provide residential facilities, qualified coaching staff, sports science and medicine support, standard Field of Play infrastructure, gymnasiums and other athlete support amenities and services.
- d. Minimum operational and infrastructure standards shall be defined for all NCoEs to comply with.
- e. Select NCoEs may also serve as centres for coach education and support staff development initiatives.
- f. New NCoEs may be established from time-to-time based on athlete talent pool availability, region-specific gaps and other approved criteria
- g. A detailed gap analysis of the existing NCoEs may be taken up with regard to manpower, equipment, etc., to ensure all the NCoEs are standardised and additional incentives to better performing NCoEs may be considered through various initiatives/schemes.
- h. SAI, in collaboration with State Governments/UT Administrations, Defence Forces, Railways and other institutions, shall expand NCoEs by



establishing new centres and each NCoE will cater to clusters of similar sports disciplines to create specialised ecosystems.

- i. NCoEs may be strengthened to function as model centre in Intermediate level and to support training of KIA. As per feasibility, NCoEs may support conduct of assessment camps, rehabilitation and recovery services, coach and support staff workshops, leagues etc.
- j. Funding for establishment, upgradation and operations of NCoEs shall be supported under the Khelo India Scheme as per approved norms. Support includes funding for equipment (Consumable, Non Consumable for both sport specific and sport science), manpower, funding towards KIA, etc. for both existing and new NCoEs.

8.2.3. Khelo India Accredited Academies (KIAAs)

- a. Khelo India Accredited Academies serve as a key Public Private Partnership in the scheme, enabling sports ecosystem to leverage investment and expertise in the private sector.
- b. Implementation Agency for KIAAs are the respective operators of the academy/school/institution, etc.
- c. The academies are accredited as per the criteria approved by HPC and funded as per the norms approved in DPAC.
- d. KIAAs will train both KIA and E-KIA categories. Funds for Khelo India Accredited Academies shall be based on various factors such as sport, number of KIA/E-KIA, economy of scale, etc. and as approved by DPAC.
- e. Following support may be given in order to revitalise the sports academy ecosystem in the country:
 - i. Supporting New Academies, including encouraging retired/retiring athletes to begin academies with funding from CSR, other schemes of the Ministry, etc.
 - ii. Identification and assessment of promising academies may be taken up to expand the coverage of KIAAs.

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- iii. Suitable academies may be engaged as partners in conduct of sports specific leagues, support in assessment camps, conduct of coach workshops/courses, etc. as per norms approved.
 - iv. Developing standardised parameters to rank and support growth of best performing academies.
 - v. Provide incentives to best performing academies, including additional grants, recognition, etc.

8.2.4. Khelo India Centres of Excellence (KICoEs)

- a. KICoEs are academies at state/regional level, transitioning athletes towards elite level. Through this initiative, critical gaps are filled in terms of equipment, manpower and sports science engagement through these centres.
- b. Financial support includes Sports science support, engagement of coaches and support staff, sports equipment etc. based on norms.
- c. Sport-wise protocols and benchmarks of Khelo India Talent Identification and Development shall apply in KICoE.
- d. All the existing Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) shall be designated as KICoE.
- e. As part of deepening the coverage of this scheme, more than one KICoE may be established per State considering medal potential, geographical coverage, talent clusters etc. KICoEs may also be considered to be set up in universities as per approved criteria.
- f. Additional funding may be given to KICoEs towards training of KIA/E-KIA as per norms.

8.2.5. SAI Training Centres (STCs)

- a. STCs shall primarily serve as training centres for E-KIAs and act as feeder centres for NCoEs and higher levels of athlete progression.
 - b. STCs may function as single-sport or multi-sport training centres.
 - c. Existing and upcoming STCs shall be established, managed and operated by SAI in collaboration with State/UT Governments.
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- d. Establishment, upgradation, maintenance and operations of STCs shall be supported under the respective components of the Khelo India Scheme as per approved norms
 - e. Establishment of new STCs shall be based on gap analysis and regional talent development requirements.
 - f. A detailed gap analysis of the existing STCs may be taken up with regard to manpower, equipment, etc., to ensure all the STCs are standardised and additional incentives to better performing STCs may be considered through various initiatives/schemes.
 - g. State Governments/UT Administrations shall be encouraged to support establishment of STCs through provision of suitable land parcels, existing sports infrastructure and convergence with State/UT-level schemes and programs.
 - h. Minimum infrastructure, manpower, operational and athlete service standards shall be defined and for the compliance by all STCs.
 - i. Support to STCs include funding for equipment (Consumable, non-consumable for both sport specific and sport science), manpower, funding towards E-KIA etc.

8.2.6. Youth Sports Companies (YSCs)

- a. YSCs are residential training centres under the armed forces and similar agencies. This includes Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSCs), Army Girls Sports Companies (AGSCs), etc.
- b. Support for YSCs includes boarding, education, competition exposure, kits, medical and insurance, sports equipment, etc, as per approved norms.
- c. Induction/transition/monitoring of athletes for support shall be as per criteria approved by HPC.

8.2.7. Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalayas

- a. KIUVs are residential training facilities for athletes with structured training programs and academic continuity. These may be academic institutions



with existing sports infrastructure, history of promotion of sports, past record of producing talented athletes etc. as per suitable criteria.

- b. The KIUVs are primarily aimed at strengthening convergence between education, sports and as evolving models for excellence in sports. To begin with, limited number of KIUVs shall be established.
- c. KIUVs are multi-sport facilities where each athlete may be trained across multiple sports. The induction, transition and performance monitoring shall be as per the criteria approved by HPC.
- d. Support may include (but not be limited to) infrastructure development, engagement of coach and support staff, diet, training, equipment, competition, medical assessment, kit etc. as per norms approved in DPAC.

8.2.8. Khelo India Feeder Schools (KIFS)

- a. KIFS are schools/academies/institutions with multiple sports accommodated under their training program where each athlete may be encouraged to train in multiple sports.
- b. KIFS may include central/state/PSU/private facilities, etc. as per approved criteria. Schools with residential facilities may be preferred.
- c. Institutional collaborations may be explored with Eklavya Model Residential Schools, PM SHRI Schools, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas and other such institutions.
- d. Promising athletes identified through KICs, schools, and district-level systems, etc. may be admitted into KIFS.
- e. Support for KIFS may include and not limited to - one time grant for infrastructure upgradation, equipment, consumables, manpower, competition exposure, kit etc., as per approved norms.

8.2.9. Khelo India Centres (KICs)

- a. In order to augment the utilisation of existing sports infrastructure available at State, PSU, autonomous bodies, Schools, Universities (including Private universities) and other organisations, KICs may be set up to strengthen the



sports ecosystem. Sports infrastructure tagged to educational institutions may be preferred.

- b. To promote equitable access and strengthen the sports ecosystem, the KIC network shall be expanded considering regional balance, medal potential and sporting culture enabling the notification of multiple KICs within a district, as per approved criteria.
- c. The State/UT Governments shall implement KIC operations across their respective State/UT with funding support from MYAS/SAI.
- d. KICs will serve as grassroots-level talent identification and training nodes, to promote early physical literacy and sports skills.
- e. The existing centres may be encouraged to attach KIC with a school. States may be sensitised periodically.
- f. Support for KIC may include (but not be limited to) equipment, consumables, manpower, competition exposure, kit, etc. as per approved norms.
- g. Suitable guidelines may be issued regarding qualification of coaches to be onboarded in KICs.

8.3. Appraisal and Approval Mechanism

- 8.3.1. All funding approvals shall be evaluated as per the approved norms in the facilities of KITF.
- 8.3.2. New facilities shall be processed for approval in close coordination with the stakeholders including Operations Division of SAI (for STC, NCoE), Khelo India Talent Development Division, TOPS/TEAMS in order to facilitate prioritisation of sports, strengthening of talent clusters. This will ensure convergence and consolidation of efforts.
- 8.3.3. The technical matters pertaining to KITFs shall be handled by HPC and decided as per the delegation powers.
- 8.3.4. All proposals will be appraised by the PAC and approved by the DPAC as per chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanism – in the Operational Guidelines.

8.4. Funding and Monitoring Mechanism

- 8.4.1. An appropriate budget shall be earmarked under the Scheme for implementation of the Khelo India Training Facilities component.
- 8.4.2. Periodic sensitisation of all the relevant stakeholders will be done by the ministry/SAI to ensure effective delivery of the scheme.
- 8.4.3. All KITF facilities shall be mandatorily registered on Khel Setu Platform to ensure close monitoring and evidence-based decision making.
- 8.4.4. Wherever feasible, convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.
- 8.4.5. A grading mechanism for all categories of Khelo India Training facilities shall be developed by SAI/MYAS based on quality parameters, athlete throughput and programme outcomes, and published periodically. The grading shall be monitored and reviewed by HPC and periodic reports are placed before PAC for appraisal and before DPAC for overall monitoring and direction/course correction.
- 8.4.6. A Joint Monitoring Committee shall be constituted for each State/UT, comprising the Head of the SAI Regional Centre, a designated representative of the State/UT Sports Department, and representatives of other relevant stakeholders, as required. The Committee shall facilitate the timely processing of proposals and release of funds, ensure the timely induction of athletes and engagement of approved manpower, and address bottlenecks affecting implementation.

9. Fit India Movement

9.1. Introduction

- 9.1.1. The Fit India Movement, launched on 29 August 2019, aims to make physical activity a part of daily life and build a nationwide fitness culture.
- 9.1.2. The component promotes behavioural change by encouraging citizens to adopt simple, regular and accessible fitness practices such as walking, running, cycling, yoga, indigenous games, traditional fitness activities and other forms of physical activity.
- 9.1.3. The campaign message “Fitness ki Dose, Aadha Ghanta Roz” guides the promotion of at least 30 minutes of daily physical activity among citizens.
- 9.1.4. The component focuses on:
 - a. promoting awareness of fitness, active living and preventive health;
 - b. encouraging mass participation at national, State, District and community levels;
 - c. engaging schools, colleges, universities, Panchayats, RWAs, workplaces, youth clubs, fitness clubs and community institutions;
 - d. promoting inclusive participation of women, youth, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and citizens from different socio-economic backgrounds;
 - e. using digital platforms for outreach, participation tracking, reporting and dissemination of campaign material.

9.2. Implementation Mechanism

- 9.2.1. National Level
 - a. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports shall provide overall policy direction and oversight for the Fit India Movement.
 - b. Campaign themes, operational instructions, IEC material, branding norms, reporting formats and monitoring mechanisms may be issued from time to time.
 - c. SAI shall support implementation of approved national-level activities and coordinate with SAI Regional Centres, States/UTs and other stakeholders.

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- d. Convergence with other ministry initiatives like Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan and others may be actively explored.

9.2.2. State/UT District and Local Level

- a. States/UTs may prepare annual and monthly Fitness Action Plans aligned with national priorities and local requirements.
- b. States/UTs, in coordination with SAI Regional Centres and District Administrations, may organise, supervise and report approved activities.
- c. States/UTs may facilitate participation of schools, colleges, universities, Panchayats, RWAs, youth clubs, fitness clubs, civil society organisations and other local stakeholders.
- d. District Administrations and local implementing institutions may conduct approved activities at district, block, urban local body, village and community levels.

9.3. Operational Framework

9.3.1. Promotional and Publicity Activities

- a. Mass media and digital campaigns through television, radio, print, outdoor media, social media and other approved communication channels.
- b. Development and dissemination of IEC material, fitness advisories, posters, videos, campaign toolkits and other awareness material.
- c. Engagement of Fit India icons, champions, ambassadors, athletes, influencers and public figures for wider outreach.
- d. Awareness drives in schools, colleges, universities, workplaces, community spaces and public institutions.
- e. Approved branding and visibility at campaign venues, public places and major events.

9.3.2. National Flagship Events and Campaign Calendar:

- a. Fit India Movement/Department of Sports may issue an annual campaign calendar indicating approved national campaigns, themes, timelines, reporting formats and branding norms.
 - b. National-level activities may include:
 - i. National Sports Day activities;
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- ii. Fit India Freedom Run, Unity Run, plog runs and related editions;
 - iii. “Sundays on Cycle”, national cyclothons and World Bicycle Day activities;
 - iv. International Day of Yoga, International Women’s Day and other wellness-linked campaigns;
 - v. Fit India Carnival, Fit India Week, conclaves, influencer meets, expos and knowledge-sharing events;
 - vi. NaMo Fit India Youth Clubs, NaMo Fit India Cycling Clubs and other approved community club formats;
 - vii. Fit India School Certification and school fitness assessment initiatives.

9.3.3. States/UT and Community-Level Campaigns

- a. States/UTs, District Administrations and local institutions may organise regular fitness activities based on local requirements, terrain, culture and available infrastructure.
- b. Activities may include Sundays on Cycle, cyclothons, walkathons, runs, freedom / plog runs, yoga sessions, wellness activities, Fit India Week, Fit India School Week, school/community fitness events, indigenous games and traditional fitness practices.
- c. Fitness activities may also be linked with approved national observances and thematic campaigns to improve public participation and visibility.
- d. The Fit India Portal, Fit India Mobile Application and other approved digital platforms may be used for registration, activity listing, participation tracking, e-certificates, campaign material, event reporting and dashboards.
- e. Reporting formats may capture event type, date, location, participating institutions, number and category of participants, distance covered where applicable, photographs/videos, media coverage and expenditure details.
- f. Digital reporting supports monitoring of outreach, participation, inclusivity, geographic coverage and performance of States/UTs, districts and participating institutions.



9.4. Appraisal and Approval Mechanism

- 9.4.1. Proposals seeking support shall include the objective, activity design, target group, location, implementation timeline, budget estimate, outreach plan, safety arrangements, convergence support, expected outcomes and reporting mechanism.
- 9.4.2. All proposals will be appraised by the PAC and approved by the DPAC as chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanisms – in the Operational Guidelines.

9.5. Funding and Monitoring Mechanism

- 9.5.1. A suitable budget shall be earmarked under the scheme for implementation of the component Fit India Movement.
- 9.5.2. Financial support may be provided to SAI, including its Regional Centres, and to Central/State Government organisations, PSUs, Paramilitary Forces, NSFs and other approved Government or institutional entities for conducting Fit India events and campaigns.
- 9.5.3. Wherever feasible, convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.



10. Sports Technology

10.1. Introduction

10.1.1. The Sports Technology component aims to create a unified, data-driven digital ecosystem for India's sports sector through the Khel Setu (Khelo India Digital Ecosystem). It will support athlete development, governance, performance analytics, competition management, and transparent administration, while integrating national digital frameworks such as APAAR, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, and DigiLocker etc.

10.2. Implementation Mechanism

10.2.1. Khel Setu will comprise various platforms including National Sports Repository System, Athlete Management System, Games Management System, NSF portal etc. and shall make use of AI-driven analytics, mobile applications, and API-based integrations.

10.2.2. National Sports Repository System (NSRS)

- a. The National Sports Repository System (NSRS) system functions as a federated database architecture with state-level nodes synchronized to the national repository, featuring comprehensive data validation, blockchain-enabled integrity verification, and real-time synchronization capabilities.
- b. It covers data around:
 - i. Athlete profiles with unique Khel ID (linked to Aadhaar)
 - ii. Coach and official registries with certification tracking
 - iii. Training records and performance metrics
 - iv. Competition history and results
 - v. Health and medical records (with consent)
 - vi. Educational qualifications (linked to APAAR)
 - vii. Financial assistance and scholarship records
 - viii. Infrastructure and facility registries
 - ix. Equipment and asset inventories
 - x. Post Athletic Career Support

10.2.3. Athlete Management System (AMS)

- a. The Athlete Management System (AMS) provides comprehensive lifecycle management for athletes from identification through development, elite performance, and career transition.
- b. It covers data around:
 - i. Digital onboarding with identity verification
 - ii. Comprehensive athlete data repository
 - iii. Day-to-day training operations
 - iv. Data-driven performance insights
 - v. Athlete support and well-being
 - vi. Event participation and results

10.2.4. Games Management System (GMS)

- a. The GMS serves as the standardized platform for competition management at all levels from district championships to international events hosted in India.
- b. It covers data around:
 - i. Calendar management, venue allocation, draw generation, official assignment
 - ii. Online athlete/team registration, credential management, eligibility verification
 - iii. Real-time scoring, live leaderboards, timing system integration, results management
 - iv. Live streaming integration, statistics generation, media accreditation
 - v. Post-event analysis, performance insights, talent identification from results
 - vi. Testing coordination, WADA ADAMS integration, compliance tracking

10.2.5. National Sports Federation Portal (NSF Portal)

- a. The National Sports Governance Portal (NSF) enables transparent governance and efficient administration of National Sports Federations (NSFs) and State Sports Associations.

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- b. It covers data around:
 - i. Digital constitution and bylaws repository
 - ii. Compliance tracking against National Sports Code
 - iii. Transparency dashboards for public accountability

10.2.6. AI-Driven Analytics Platform

- a. The AI-Driven Analytics Platform provides advanced intelligence capabilities for performance forecasting, performance optimization, and evidence-based policy formulation and decision making. The system will use machine-learning models trained on athlete profiles, supported by explainable AI, continuously updated with new data, integrated with wearables and video analytics, and designed with privacy-preserving techniques such as differential privacy.
- b. It will provide:
 - i. Multi-variate prediction models using anthropometric, performance, and contextual data
 - ii. Trajectory prediction based on training data and competition results
 - iii. Risk assessment models using workload, biomechanics, and historical data
 - iv. Load management and periodization recommendations
 - v. Program effectiveness evaluation and resource optimization

10.3. Operational Framework

10.3.1. Digital Public Presence:

- a. Create a comprehensive digital footprint of the Indian sporting ecosystem to promote a culture of sports at the grassroots level, increase participation, and engage a wider audience across the country.
 - b. Develop an integrated information and grievance redressal framework that serves as a one-stop platform for addressing sports-related queries, concerns, and grievances of citizens, athletes, and other stakeholders.
 - c. Establish a Learning Management System (LMS) to enable continuous learning and skill development for athletes and coaches, ensuring alignment
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with international standards, best practices, and modern training methodologies.

- d. Organize hackathons and innovation challenges to engage startups, educational institutions, and technology innovators in developing effective solutions to challenges within the sporting ecosystem, while fostering innovation and advancing the spirit of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

10.3.2. Special Provisions

- a. Para Sports Integration: All platforms will be fully accessible, support para-athlete classification and performance tracking, integrate with Paralympic systems, and provide dedicated analytics dashboards.
- b. Gender Equity: The system will enable gender wise data analysis, women specific dashboards, safety and harassment reporting, optional menstrual health tracking with privacy, and career transition support for women athletes.
- c. Regional Language Support: Multilingual access will be provided from day one through Bhashini integration, supporting all 22 scheduled Indian languages.
- d. Rural and Low Connectivity Support: The platform will work in low internet areas using offline enabled apps, low bandwidth interfaces, SMS and USSD services, and automatic data sync when connectivity is available.

10.4. Appraisal and Approval Mechanism

- 10.4.1. All proposals will be appraised by the PAC and approved by the DPAC as indicated in Chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanisms – in the Operational Guidelines.
- 10.4.2. Considering the requirements under this component, suitable norms as per GFR will be used to onboard relevant organisations/agencies to undertake the development of Khel Setu.

10.5. Funding and Monitoring Mechanism

- 10.5.1. A suitable budget shall be earmarked under the scheme for implementation of the component Sports Technology.

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- 10.5.2. Considering the magnitude of materialising the mandate of Khelo Bharat Niti and the overall medal strategy of the Ministry, it is imperative to strengthen the administrative structures not only at the Ministry and Sports Authority of India, but also the States/UTs to ensure effective implementation, active monitoring and coordination of the above-mentioned initiatives.
- 10.5.3. The system will follow the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, 2023, ensuring lawful data use, consent-based collection, data minimisation, secure storage, accuracy, accountability, and defined retention.
- 10.5.4. A dedicated Program Management Unit will be set up at SAI HQ. Monitoring will occur at three levels: automated 24/7 system monitoring, weekly/monthly operational reviews, and quarterly/annual strategic reviews.
- 10.5.5. Wherever feasible, convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.



11. Administrative Expenses

11.1. Implementation Mechanism

11.1.1. For the effective and efficient implementation of the scheme, a suitable budget has been earmarked for the following activities, including (but not limited to):

- a. **Engaging professional manpower:** The manpower shall comprise a mix of consultants and professionals to support the implementation of all nine Scheme components. They shall be deployed across Ministry, States/UTs, various divisions and Regional Centres of SAI may be attached with other stakeholders as per approval by competent authority. Considering the pan-India requirement of manpower, suitable GFR norms will be used to onboard relevant organisations/agencies such as National Institute of Smart Governance, National e-Governance Division, Quality Council of India, etc. for efficient and fast deployment.
- b. **Office contingency:** Procurement of office equipment, stationery, and other essential administrative requirements. Other incidental expenditure essential for the efficient administration and implementation of the Scheme, subject to approval by the competent authority.
- c. **Promotion and Visibility:** Preparation and dissemination of information, education, and communication material relating to the Scheme. Organisation of outreach activities, sensitisation, conferences, exhibitions, consultations, and other promotional initiatives for all stakeholders.
- d. **Capacity Building:** Orientation and training of officials and personnel of MYAS, SAI, States/UTs, implementing agencies, training facilities, National Sports Federations, educational institutions, and other stakeholders. Capacity-building programmes relating to Scheme guidelines, proposal preparation, financial management, procurement, monitoring, digital reporting, athlete welfare, safeguarding, accessibility, sports science, and performance management.
- e. **Anti-Doping, and Safe-Sport Initiatives:** Anti-doping awareness and education programmes for athletes, coaches, support staff, parents, administrators, and other stakeholders.

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- f. **Evaluation, Research and Knowledge Management:** Conduct of baseline, mid-term, concurrent, thematic, process, outcome, impact, and end-line evaluations of the Scheme or any of its components may be taken up as required.

11.2. Funding and Approval:

- 11.2.1. Financial support may be provided to SAI, including its Regional Centres, and to Central/State Government organisations, PSUs, Paramilitary Forces, NSFs and other approved Government or institutional entities.
- 11.2.2. All proposals will be appraised by the PAC and approved by the DPAC as indicated in chapter 12 – Approval and Monitoring Mechanism – in the Operational Guidelines.

12. Approval and Monitoring Mechanism

12.1. Approval Mechanism

12.1.1. The proposals, which are complete in all respects, shall be placed before the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), constituted as below:

S. No.	Designation of Officer	Role
i.	Director General, SAI	Chairperson
ii.	Secretary, SAI	Member
iii.	Deputy Director General, Khelo India, SAI	Member
iv.	Deputy Director General, Operations, SAI	Member
v.	Director/Deputy Secretary, Khelo India, MYAS	Member
vi.	CEO, Target Olympic Podium Scheme	Member
vii.	Executive Director, Finance, SAI	Member
viii.	Executive Director, Khelo India and Executive Director, Engineering Division, SAI	Member(s)
ix.	Director, Khelo India Components and Director, Engineering Division, SAI	Member(s)
x.	Officer-in-charge (Khelo India Secretariat), SAI	Member Secretary

NOTE: The Chairperson may co-opt or invite any other individuals as deemed fit for the meeting.

12.1.2. The project proposals will be appraised by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), which will submit its recommendations to the Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) for final decision.

12.1.3. The Project Appraisal Committee will be authorized to formulate criteria for recommending the proposals to DPAC, as they deem fit. The criteria may also include types of proposals ineligible for funding under this scheme including (but not limited to) proposals that do not align with the scheme's objectives.

12.1.4. Composition of Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC):

S. No.	Designation of Officer	Role
1.	Secretary, Department of Sports, MYAS	Chairperson
2.	Financial Advisor, MYAS	Member
3.	Director General, SAI	Member
4.	Joint Secretary (Khelo India), MYAS	Member
5.	Joint Secretary (Governance), MYAS	Member
6.	Representative of NITI Aayog	Member
7.	Deputy Secretary/Director (Khelo India), MYAS	Member Secretary

NOTE: The Chairperson may co-opt or invite any other individuals as deemed fit for the meeting.

12.1.5. While sanctioning release of funds for various activities under different components of the Scheme, all efforts shall be made to ensure available funds are utilized optimally.

12.1.6. Only such proposals, which are complete in all respects and technically feasible, will be considered for sanction.

12.1.7. The DPAC will have an authorized mandate to formulate exceptions of criterion for sanctioning in terms of Budget Component, financial limits of the particular infrastructure, specifications, etc., with recorded reasons on a merit basis.

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- 12.1.8. The Departmental Project Approval Committee (DPAC) will have the flexibility to re-appropriate allocations across the components of the scheme, in accordance with the guidelines of the Department of Expenditure.
 - 12.1.9. The extant circulars, norms as approved in DPAC shall determine the detailed implementation within the overall operational guidelines.

12.2. Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- 12.2.1. An MoU shall be signed between Ministry and State/UTs/other entities, to ensure the successful implementation of the proposal/scheme, and to maintain engagement with the respective stakeholder.
- 12.2.2. The MoU may also mandate the formation of District-Level Committees to better implement the initiatives under the Khelo India Scheme. The Committee may be headed by the District Magistrate (DM) and include key heads of department such as Superintendent of Police (SP), District Sports/Youth Officer, and District Education Officers (DEO).
- 12.2.3. The signing of MoU is mandatory for considering proposals/request for funds from States/UTs/other entities other than SAI.

12.3. Monitoring Mechanism

- 12.3.1. Monitoring of progress of implementation of the Scheme will be done through digital and physical modes viz periodic progress reports supported by documentary evidence, random visits by representatives of the MYAS/SAI, furnishing of Utilisation Certificates, reports of the Monitoring Committees and so on.
- 12.3.2. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports may also consider carrying out monitoring, supervision, quality control and audit of the infrastructure projects financed under this Scheme as per the provisions of IS/BIS and CPWD Works Manual Guidelines.

12.3.3. A Monitoring Committee by the State Sports Department to be constituted to monitor the progress of the projects in each State/UT. The constitution of the Monitoring Committee shall be as follows:

S.No.	Designation of Officer	Role
i.	Principal Secretary/ Commissioner/ Secretary (Sports and Youth Affairs)/ of the State or UTs	Chairperson*
ii.	Representative from Sports Authority of India/Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports	Member
iii.	Deputy Secretary/Director or officer of equivalent rank from the concerned State/UT Government	Member Secretary

**The Chairperson may co-opt or invite any other individuals as deemed fit for the committee.*

12.3.4. A periodic, mid-term and post-implementation evaluation of the Scheme may be conducted by a third party / independent agency as applicable.

12.3.5. Periodic monitoring of the various initiatives under each component at national/regional/state/district level may be undertaken as applicable.

12.3.6. With the approval of the DPAC, additional monitoring committees may be constituted for specific initiatives/components.

12.4. Convergence and Coordination

12.4.1. The scheme will be driven by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) through Sports Authority of India/any other body/organisation designated by MYAS and in collaboration with various stakeholders viz National Sports Federations (NSFs), State/UT Governments, Educational Institutions, and other Ministries/departments etc.

12.4.2. Wherever feasible convergence or co-funding be undertaken with other schemes of the Ministry, other Ministries or Departments of the Government of India, States/UTs, institutions, MPLADS, MLALADS, CSR initiatives, public or private entities, PPP models, and corporate sponsorships. Such support shall be clearly



disclosed, approvals to be taken where required, and used to supplement Scheme assistance without duplication of funding for the same activity or expenditure.

- 12.4.3. Inter-component coordination shall be undertaken to ensure that similar objectives are reached efficiently and eliminate overlap of efforts.
- 12.4.4. The 'One Corporate, One Sport' initiative and corporate sports foundations may be explored as convergence mechanisms, formalised through MoUs with defined accountability structures.
- 12.4.5. Similarly, for efficient convergence with schemes of States/UTs, a State level committee may be formed, chaired by the respective Chief Secretary, and include secretaries of other relevant departments, representatives of the relevant SAI regional centres, and other stakeholders as co-opted by the chairperson.

12.5. National Executive Council (NEC)

- 12.5.1. The NEC chaired by the Minister, Youth Affairs & Sports will be the highest policymaking body for the Scheme and will be fully empowered to decide all policy matters.
- 12.5.2. The NEC will advise for effective and efficient implementation of the Scheme.
- 12.5.3. Apart from giving overall guidance, including policy guidelines and direction to the Scheme, the NEC may review the performance of the Scheme and suggest improvements.
- 12.5.4. The NEC may also evaluate and monitor implementation of the Scheme in the country and decide on course- correction measures.
- 12.5.5. The NEC may review the monitoring and redressal mechanism from time to time and advise on improvements required based on recommendations of the NEC.

12.6. Exception Clause

- 12.6.1. Exceptions/relaxations/amendments in respect of any of the clauses of the operational guidelines of the Khelo India Scheme may be made with the approval of the competent authority, i.e. Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports or authority delegated by the Minister to accord the approval.



Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Form
ABSC	Army Boys Sports Company
ACTC	Annual Calendar for Training and Competitions
AD	Assistant Director
ADAMS	Anti-Doping Administration and Management System
AGSC	Army Girls Sports Company
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AIU	Association of Indian Universities
AMC	Annual Maintenance Contract
AMS	Athlete Management System
APAAR	Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry
API	Application Programming Interface
ASMITA	Achieving Sports Milestones by Inspiring Women Through Action
AVT	Age Verification Testing
BIS	Bureau of Indian Standards
BOQ	Bill/Schedule of Quantities
CAG	Comptroller and Auditor General of India
CBSE	Central Board of Secondary Education
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
CPSU	Central Public Sector Undertaking
CPWD	Central Public Works Department
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CSS	Centrally Sponsored Scheme
DBT	Direct Benefit Transfer



Abbreviation	Full Form
DD	Deputy Director
DDG	Deputy Director General
DEO	District Education Officer
DM	District Magistrate
DPAC	Departmental Project Approval Committee
DSR	Delhi Schedule of Rates
E-KIA	Emerging Khelo India Athlete
EAT	Expenditure, Advance and Transfer
EC	Executive Committee
ED	Executive Director
FoP	Field of Play
GFR	General Financial Rules
GMS	Games Management System
GPS	Global Positioning System
GTCC	Games Technical Conduct Committee
HPC	High Powered Committee
HPD	High-Performance Director
HPM	High-Performance Manager
HQ	Headquarters
HRDS	Human Resource Development in Sports
ID	Identification
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IOA	Indian Olympic Association
IS	Indian Standard
JNV	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya





Abbreviation	Full Form
KIA	Khelo India Athlete
KIAA	Khelo India Accredited Academy
KIC	Khelo India Centre
KICoE	Khelo India Centre of Excellence
KIFS	Khelo India Feeder School
KISCE	Khelo India State Centre of Excellence
KITD	Khelo India Talent Development
KITF	Khelo India Training Facility
KIUV	Khelo India Utkrishta Vidyalaya
KRA	Key Result Area
KV	Kendriya Vidyalaya
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LMS	Learning Management System
LNCPE	Laxmibai National College for Physical Education
LNPE	Laxmibai National Institute of Physical Education
LTAD	Long-Term Athlete Development
MLALADS	Member of Legislative Assembly Local Area Development Scheme
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPLADS	Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme
MYAS	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
NBC	National Building Code
NCAB	National Coach Accreditation Board
NCERT	National Council of Educational Research and Training
NCoE	National Centre of Excellence
NEC	National Executive Council





Abbreviation	Full Form
NeGD	National e-Governance Division
NEP	National Education Policy
NITI	National Institution for Transforming India
NSDF	National Sports Development Fund
NSF	National Sports Federation
NSNIS	Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports
NSRS	National Sports Repository System
OC	Organising Committee
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
OPA	Out-of-Pocket Allowance
OTC	Olympic Training Centre
PAC	Project Appraisal Committee
PCI	Paralympic Committee of India
PE	Physical Education
PET	Physical Education Teacher
PFMS	Public Financial Management System
PM SHRI	Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PR	Project Report
PRITG	Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games
PSU	Public Sector Undertaking
PWD	Public Works Department
QA	Quality Assurance
RWA	Resident Welfare Association
SAI	Sports Authority of India





Abbreviation	Full Form
S&C	Strength and Conditioning
SMS	Short Message Service
SNA-SPARSH	Single Nodal Agency – System for Public Accounts and Reserves for Scheme Handling
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SP	Superintendent of Police
STC	SAI Training Centre
TEAMS	Training of Elite Athletes and Management Support
TID	Talent Identification and Development
TIDC	Talent Identification and Development Committee
STIC/UTIC	State / UT Talent Identification Committee
TIZC	Talent Identification Zonal Committee
TOPS	Target Olympic Podium Scheme
TPQA	Third-Party Quality Assurance
TSR	Timing, Scoring and Results
UC	Utilisation Certificate
USSD	Unstructured Supplementary Service Data
UT	Union Territory
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency
YSC	Youth Sports Company



सत्यमेव जयते

युवा कार्यक्रम
एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
**YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS**