

Haryana to host the 4th edition of Khelo India Youth Games

Delhi, July 25th: Haryana Chief Minister Shri Manohar Lal Khattar and Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju today announced Haryana as the host state for the fourth edition of Khelo India Youth Games, which is currently scheduled to take place after Tokyo Olympics. The Games will be held in Panchkula in Haryana.

The announcement was made via video conferencing on Saturday, July 25th in the presence of Shri Sandeep Singh, Sports Minister of Haryana, Shri. Ravi Mital, Secretary Sports and Shri Sandip Pradhan, Director General, Sports Authority of India.

During the announcement, Shri. Manohar Lal Khattar said, "As a state Haryana has always promoted sports in a big way and supported its athletes. Hosting the Khelo India Youth Games in Haryana will only add greater impetus to our commitment towards creating a strong sporting ecosystem. Haryana has done very well in the last few editions of the Khelo India Youth Games and many of our athletes are already training under the Khelo India Scheme. I am confident that the upcoming edition of the Games will be grand, and I welcome all of you to Khelo India Youth Games, Haryana. Panchkula is equipped with the best sporting infrastructure to host a multi-sport event like Khelo India Youth Games and there is enough lodging facilities for the large number of participants who are expected to attend."

Speaking about Haryana hosting the next edition of KIYG Sports Minister Rijiju said, "I am very happy to announce Haryana as the host state for the fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games. Khelo India Games, envisioned by our Honourable Prime Minister, has been instrumental in identifying grassroot level talent from across the country, who have represented India in international sporting events. It is the Mahakumbh of sport. Haryana already has a very strong sporting culture and has given the country some of its best athletes. I am sure that with the Games being hosted in the state, more and more aspiring athletes from Haryana will be motivated to take up competitive sport. Usually the Khelo India Youth Games take place in January of every year. However, this time owing to the pandemic, we are having to postpone it. However, I am sure by the time we host the Games the pandemic will abate and we will be able to host the Games at the same scale, with participation of all states and over 10,000 participants."

Like in the previous editions, this time too, Star Sports will be the Official Broadcast Partner of the Khelo India Youth Games. Speaking about the partnership the Sports Minister said, "Star Sports has catapulted the Khelo India Youth Games into an annual event in the country's sporting calendar. When a young athlete sees himself or herself on national television, it not just motivates the athlete, but also other youngsters watching the broadcast to take on sport as a serious career. I am very happy that the partnership is being continued."

Haryana has been consistently doing well in all three editions of KIYG. While they came second in both KIYG 2019 and 2020 editions (200 medals in 2020 and 159 medals in 2019) they won KIYG 2018 edition with 102 medals (38 gold, 26 silver, 38 bronze).

Haryana has also produced many elite athletes, such as, wrestlers Yogeshwar Dutt, Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik, and Vinesh Phogat, para-athlete Deepa Malik, athlete Neeraj Chopra, Boxer Amit

Panghal and shooters Sanjeev Rajput, Manu Bhakar, Anish Bhanwala, among others, who have represented and won medals for India at international platforms.

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