



Press Release - Union Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur visits SAI's Patiala and Sonipat Centres, inaugurates multiple infrastructure projects worth 85 crores

Patiala/Sonipat, 17th December: Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur on Saturday visited Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) in Patiala and inaugurated a new 300 bedded Hostel which has cost Rs. 26.77 Cr in construction.

The ministers also inaugurated hostels dedicated to India's legendary hockey player Major Dhyanchand and sprinter PT Usha, which have been renovated and upgraded at a total cost of 5.25 crore.

Speaking during the inauguration Shri. Thakur said, "It is the endeavour of the government to provide the best possible facilities to athletes. Honourable Prime Minister Shri. Narendra Modi ji has always harped on the importance of keeping athletes at the centre of all policies. The launching of this 300 bedded hostel and the upgradation of the old hostels is yet another step in this direction so that athletes training at this prestigious centre have improved lodging facilities."

Shri. Thakur also inaugurated a Sports Performance Analysis course, a first-time addition to the academic courses at NSNIS Patiala. While interacting with the first batch of students of this course, Shri. Thakur said, "Inclusion of sports science and sports performance analysis is very important to assess the actual potential of an athlete, which can go a long way in improving the overall performance of India in international competitions."

During their visit, the ministers also interacted with over 400 athletes and trainees and motivated them to continue focusing on sports and to make the country proud. He sought inputs from athletes about the facilities available to them at the centre and improvements that they want in the current set up.

Later in the day, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur along with Minister of State, Shri Nisith Pramanik visited Sports Authority of India's National Centre of Excellence in Sonipat and the laid foundation stone for the new Integrated High-Performance Centre (HPC) which will cost approximately Rs. 48 Cr.

During their visits, the ministers also inaugurated the new refurbished synthetic Hockey Field, which has cost approximately Rs 5 Cr to refurbish and upgraded.

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