



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
(Research Unit)
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India



National Sports Awards

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS)

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Introduction

The [National Sports Awards](#) are the pinnacle of sporting honours in the Republic of India. The awards are given annually to recognize and reward excellence in sports, highlight extraordinary performance at the national and international competitive events, encourage sportsmanship and promote nation-building by creating a sense of national pride and unity in a country as diverse as India. It promotes qualities like leadership, discipline, commitment, teamwork and a passion for health and fitness in the psyche of a nation with the world's largest youth population.

The awards are administered by the [Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports](#), Government of India.

Indian Sports: History

The history of sports in India goes back thousands of years starting from the Indus valley civilization.¹ The presence of seals and artifacts found from that era points to the fact that Indians played many forms of sports such as chess, dice, hunting and boxing. During the Vedic period, 'dehvada' also known as the body-way is defined as "one of the ways to full realisation."² Indian epics such as Mahabharata and Ramayana³ also point towards the presence of the game of dice in the India.⁴ These ancient texts also bear testimony to the fact that men of stature and competence used to engage in physical sports such as chariot racing, archery, horsemanship, military tactics, wrestling, weightlifting, swimming, swordsmanship and hunting.^{[5][6]} Furthermore, swimming, running, and ball games were immensely popular among the students of ancient Indian universities of Nalanda and Taxila.⁷

During the medieval period, a form of wrestling known as *pehlwani* developed, by combining native *malla-yuddha* with influences from Persian *varzesh-e bastani*.⁸ It is also believed that games like chess, snakes and ladders, playing cards, wrestling, polo and archery have originated in India, and it was from here that these games were transmitted to foreign countries, where they were further modernized.

¹ [Verma Kanika. Mishika Nayyar. Revolutionising Sports Training through Technology.pg 46. Kurukshetra November 2021 \(English\): A Journal of Rural Development. Publications Division](#)

² Ibid

³ https://www.indiaperspectives.gov.in/en_US/the-game-is-on/

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Ibid

⁶ *With the bow let us win cows, with the bow let us win the contest and violent battles with the bow. The bow ruins the enemy's pleasure; with the bow let us conquer all corners of the world.* – [Drews, Roberts](#) (1993). *The End of the Bronze Age: Changes in Warfare and the Catastrophe Ca. 1200 B.C.* pg 125. Princeton University Press

⁷ [Verma Kanika. Mishika Nayyar. Revolutionising Sports Training through Technology.pg 46. Kurukshetra November 2021 \(English\): A Journal of Rural Development. Publications Division](#)

⁸ [Alter, Joseph S. \(1992\). The Wrestler's Body: Identity and Ideology in North India. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN 0-520-07697-4.](#)

India's rich diversity of culture, people and tribes is beautifully reflected in the wide variety of sporting disciplines in the country ranging from indigenous games like Kho-kho, Tug of war, Sqay, Gatka, Silambam, Gilli danda, Kalaripayattu and Kabaddi⁹ to more mainstream sports such as field hockey, cricket, badminton and football.

Indian Sports on the World Stage

India was first represented by Norman Pritchard at the 1900 Olympics, making it the nation's first Olympic appearance.¹⁰ Norman won two medals - both silver – in athletics, making him the first Asian-born athlete to win a medal at the Games.^{[8][11]}

India sent its first official contingent¹² at the Summer Olympic Games in 1920, and, since then, has participated in every Summer Olympic Games. India's first Gold Medal in Olympics dates back to the 1928 Summer Olympic Games, wherein Jaipal Singh Munda's team dominated the Men's Field Hockey without conceding a single goal.¹³ The Indian men's hockey team was unbeatable from the late 1920s to the 1950s¹⁴, and hockey legends such as Dhyan Chand, Kishan Lal, K.D. Singh Baba, Balbir Singh Sr. helped popularise the sport in India.



Major Dhyan Chand along with his team mates



Captain K. D. Singh and Balbir Singh with the Indian Hockey team at the Olympics held in Helsinki in 1952

India has hosted several international sporting events including the Asian Games in 1951 and 1982; Asian Wrestling Championships in 1979, 1987, 1991, 2003, 2010, 2013 and 2017; Asian Table Tennis Championships, in 1980, 1992 and 2009; Men's Field Hockey World Cups in 1982 and 2010; South Asian

⁹ <https://fitindia.gov.in/indigenousgames>

¹⁰ <https://olympics.com/en/featured-news/india-first-participation-olympics-games-debut>

¹¹ <https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/tokyo-olympics/story/tokyo-olympicis-norman-pritchard-india-s-first-ever-olympian-medallist-at-summer-games-1829221-2021-07-17>

¹² http://164.100.47.193/Refinput/New_Reference_Notes/English/Sports_Development_in_India_20-7-2015.pdf

¹³ http://164.100.47.193/Refinput/New_Reference_Notes/English/Sports_Development_in_India_20-7-2015.pdf

¹⁴ <https://olympics.com/en/featured-news/india-olympic-games-gold-medals-won>

Games, in 1985, 1995 and 2016; Cricket World Cups in 1987, 1996 and 2011; Asian Athletics Championships in 1989, 2013 and 2017; Afro-Asian Games in 2003; ICC Champions Trophy (cricket), in 2006; BWF World Championships (badminton), in 2009; Commonwealth Games in 2010 amongst others.¹⁵

Sports Administration

In recognition of the importance of sports, a separate department was set up in 1982, as India was to host the 9th Asian Games the same year.¹⁶ The preparation for and conduct of the Asian Games created the much-needed awareness about the multidimensional character of Sports. A separate Department of Sports was created under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, which was later expanded into a Department of Youth Affairs & Sports in 1985, and upgraded to a full-fledged Ministry in 2000.¹⁷ In 1984, the Sports Authority of India was created as an autonomous registered society under the Department of Sports.¹⁸ National Sports Policy 1984 was the first move towards developing an organized and systematic framework for the development and promotion of sports in the country, and the precursor of the present National Sports Policy, 2001.¹⁹

The objective of the [National Sports Policy, 2001](#) is broad basing of sports and achievements of excellence; up-gradation and development of infrastructure; providing support to National Sports Federations and other sports bodies; strengthening of scientific and coaching support to sports; enhanced participation of women, scheduled tribes and rural youth; involvement of corporate sector in sports promotion; and promoting sports mindedness among the public at large. It also emphasised the need for making sports and physical education an integral part of the curriculum of educational institutions. This resolve has also been stated in the [National Policy of Education \(NPE\) 1986](#)²⁰, which calls for making sports and physical education an integral part of the learning process, and provided for its inclusion in the evaluation of performance.

The need for sports-integrated education is well recognized in the [National Education Policy 2020](#).²¹ Sports-integrated learning will be undertaken in classroom transactions to help students adopt fitness as a lifelong attitude and to achieve the related life skills along with the levels of fitness as envisaged in the Fit India Movement.

India achieved monumental strides in individual sports in the 21st century and won medals in weightlifting and shooting at the Olympics in 2000 and 2004. Grandmaster Vishwanathan Anand won the 2nd World Cup, 2002, at Hyderabad. India lifted the Hockey Asia Cup in September, 2003, after a gap of 21 years. In 2003, Anju Bobby George won the Bronze Medal in Long Jump event. It was the first-ever medal by an Indian in the World Athletic Championship. In 2008, shooter Abhinav Bindra became the first Indian to win an individual Gold Medal at the Olympic Games in Beijing. He shot a near-perfect 10.8m in his final shot to become the Olympic champion. Neeraj Chopra scripted history by winning the first gold medal for an Indian in track-and-field events at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

¹⁵ <http://www.iccrindia.net/sports/>

¹⁶ http://164.100.47.193/Refinput/New_Reference_Notes/English/Sports_Development_in_India_20-7-2015.pdf

¹⁷ https://niti.gov.in/planningcommission.gov.in/docs/aboutus/committee/wrkgrp12/hrd/wg_repsports.pdf

¹⁸ ibid

¹⁹ <https://yas.nic.in/sites/default/files/National%20Sports%20Policy%202001.pdf>

²⁰ https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/upload_document/npe.pdf

²¹ https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

National Sports Day

August 29th marks a [significant day in the history of sports in India](#)²² as the legendary hockey player, Major Dhyan Chand was born on this day.²³ Major Dhyan Chand – The Hockey Wizard, is India's greatest hockey player who, scored over 1000 goals between 1926 and 1948. He helped India win 3 Olympic Gold medals including the first in 1928. He redefined the Indian Sports in Hockey at the global level. To commemorate his invaluable contributions, India celebrate his birthday as the National Sports Day every year.

National Sports Awards

The National Sports Awards are the highest recognition given annually to sportspersons in the Republic of India for their performance in national and international sporting events. The objective is to encourage and motivate outstanding sportspersons for higher achievement and to attract the younger generation to take up sports as a career and strive to achieve excellence. It promotes the culture of sports in the country.

The six categories of the National Sports Awards are the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award (formerly known as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award), the Arjuna Award, the Dronacharya Award, the Major Dhyan Chand Award, the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad rolling Trophy, also called the MAKA Trophy, and the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar.

Since 2004, the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award has also been given out along with the six National Sports Awards.

National Sports Awards: Categories

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

Considered India's highest sporting honour, the Khel Ratna was established in 1991-92 as the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award before it was renamed to Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award on 6 August 2021. The PM in his tweet²⁴ had said "I have been getting many requests from citizens across India to name the Khel Ratna Award after Major Dhyan Chand. I thank them for their views. Respecting their sentiment, the Khel Ratna Award will hereby be called the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award!"



The award is named after the Indian hockey legend, Major Dhyan Chand (1905–79) who is considered to be one of the best players to have ever played the sport of hockey. He was the star of the Indian hockey team that dominated the sport in the years before World War II. He played a key role in India's three consecutive gold hauls at the Olympic Games - in 1928, 1932 and 1936. His mastery of the game and ball control was so dazzling that it earned him the epithets 'Hockey Wizard' and 'The Magician'.

²² <https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1299561083108089856?s=20>

²³ <https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=109160>

²⁴ <https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/1423538297842769921?s=20>

The award is given for outstanding performances in sports spanning over a period of four years and the Khel Ratna winners receive a medallion, certificate and a cash prize. Legendary sports figures like MC Mary Kom, S. Mirabai Chanu, PV Sindhu, Saina Nehwal, Vijender Singh, Sachin Tendulkar, Virat Kohli amongst others have received this highest sporting honour in the past.



Major Dhyhan Chand representing India for Hockey at the Olympic Games²⁵

Pistol shooter Abhinav Bindra, who won the first-ever individual gold medal for India at the Olympics at Beijing 2008, is the youngest sportsperson to win the Khel Ratna. He won the award in 2001 when he was just 18. Olympic bronze medal-winning weightlifter Karnam Malleswari was the first Indian woman to receive the Khel Ratna in 1994-95.²⁶

In 1991-1992, the first Khel Ratna award²⁷ was presented to chess grandmaster and former world chess Champion Shri Vishwanathan Anand as well as Shri Geet Sethi who dominated the English Billiards throughout the 1990s.

Arjuna Award

Named after Arjuna, the main protagonist from the ancient Indian epic Mahabharata, the **Arjuna Award** was instituted in 1961.²⁸ It was India's highest sporting honour before the Khel Ratna came into being.

It is awarded for consistent good performance over a period of four years. The winners of the Arjuna Award receive a statuette of Arjuna, a certificate and a cash prize.

The first Arjuna awards was conferred upon India's football Olympian PK Banerjee who was among the 20 recipients of the Arjuna Award in its inaugural edition in 1961. Hockey player Anna Lumsden was the first woman Arjuna Award winner.



²⁵ <https://twitter.com/WeAreTeamIndia/status/1034683845558394880?s=20>

²⁶ <https://olympics.com/en/news/national-sports-awards-india>

²⁷ https://yas.nic.in/sites/default/files/LIST%20OF%20ARAJIV%20GANDHI%20KHEL%20RATNA%20AWARDEES%2091%20to%2017_0_0.pdf

²⁸ https://yas.nic.in/sites/default/files/LIST%20OF%20ARJUNA%20AWARDEES.docx%2061%20-%2017_0_0.pdf

Dronacharya Award



The Dronacharya Award, instituted in 1985, is India's highest sports honour for coaches. It is awarded to individuals for producing medal winners at prestigious international events. This award is named after Dronacharya or Drona who was Arjuna's *guru* or coach in the Indian epic Mahabharata. Awardees receive a bronze statue of Dronacharya, a certificate and a cash prize.

The first woman to win the Dronacharya award was athletics coach Renu Kohli in 2002. This Award is given for both recent accomplishments and lifetime contributions.

Wrestling coach Bhalchandra Bhaskar Bhagwat, boxing mentor Om Prakash Bharadwaj and legendary athletics coach OM Nambiar, credited for moulding Indian sprint queen PT Usha's career, were among the first Dronacharya Award winners in 1985 when the Dronacharya Award was instituted.

Major Dhyan Chand Award

Another award named after India's hockey magician Dhyan Chand, the Major Dhyan Chand Award represents India's highest honour for lifetime achievements in sports. Presented for good performance and contributing towards the promotion of sports in an individual capacity since 2002, the winners get a Dhyan Chand statuette, a certificate and a cash prize. Olympian boxer Shahuraj Birajdar, Indian men's hockey team player Ashok Diwan and Aparna Ghosh, an accomplished player and coach with the Indian women's basketball team, were the first recipients of the Major Dhyan Chand Award.

The first Dhyan Chand award for Lifetime Achievements in Sports and Games instituted in 2002 was given to Shahuraj Birajdar for Boxing; Ashok Diwan for Hockey and Aparna Ghosh for Basketball.



Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy (MAKA)

The oldest National Sports Award in India, the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy or the MAKA Trophy was instituted in 1956–1957. This award is named in honour of the Indian freedom fighter and the country's first education minister Shri Abul Kalam Azad.

It is given to an institution or university for top performance in inter-university tournaments over the last one year. The reward comprises a rolling MAKA Trophy that gets passed on to the winner each year, and a cash prize.

In 1956-57, the first Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) award was conferred upon Bombay University for promoting competitive sports, excellence in sports, and integrating sports and physical fitness in their curriculum.

Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar

Awarded to organisations or corporates (both private and public) and individuals for playing a role in the area of sports promotion and development over the last three years, the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar has been a fixture in the National Sports Awards list since 2009.

Nominees are decided in four different segments - identification and nurturing of budding and young talent, encouragement to sports through corporate social responsibility, employment of sportspersons and sports welfare measures, and sports for development. Winners from each category get a citation and a trophy. There can be multiple winners in a single category in a year.



The Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar was instituted in 2009. Tata Steel Limited received two awards for the categories of Community Sports Identification and Nurturing of Budding Talent as well as Establishment and Management of Sports Academies of Excellence on the 29th August 2009.²⁹

Other awards:

Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award

Instituted in 1993-1994, the National Adventure Awards now known as the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award was presented for the year 1994 in 1995.³⁰

- The award in the category of air adventure was given to the first Indian Woman Sky diver, Rachel Thomas, Major A.K. Singh who braving physical disability sailed around the world in the army expedition 'Trishna.'
- The award in the category of land adventure was given to 19 Indian members of the successful Indo-Napalese women's Everest expedition of 1993³¹. It included Bachendri Pal, world's first woman to scale Everest twice, Santosh Yadav and Dicky Dolma who at 19 became the world's youngest woman to reach Everest. Others included Rita G. Marwah, Chandra Prabha Aitwal, Deepu Sharma, Kunga Bhatia, Radha Devi, Bimla Negi, Savita Martolia, Suman Kutiyal, Sarla Negi, K Saraswati, Rita Patel, Harsha Panwar, G. Anita Devi, Rajeev Sharma, Nima Norbu and Baldev Kanwar.
- The Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Hukum Singh for his lifetime commitment to mountaineering.

²⁹<https://www.tatasteel.com/media/newsroom/press-releases/india/2009/tata-steel-receives-rashtriya-khel-protshahan-puraskar-2009/>

³⁰https://archive.pib.gov.in/archive/ArchiveSecondPhase/EDUCATION/1995-JULY-DEC-MO-HRD-NO-8/PDF/HRD-1995-11-20_177.pdf

³¹https://archive.pib.gov.in/archive/ArchiveSecondPhase/EDUCATION/1995-JAN-DEC-MO-YOUTH-AFFAIRS-&-SPORTS-NO-9/PDF/YTH-1995-07-20_034.pdf

In 2020³², the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award was conferred upon seven individuals including Indian Army's Lieutenants Colonel Servesh Dhadwal and Colonel Amit Bisht. Colonel Servesh Dhadwal received it for his skydiving activities.

National Sports Awards 2020

The National Sports Awards 2020 were held virtually last year owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.³³ The awardees had received the cash prize but could not collect their trophies and citations owing to the pandemic. The 2020 winners were physically handed trophies recently at a specially organised function at Ashoka Hotel, Delhi on 1 November 2021.

Addressing the awardees, Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur said, "The National Sports Awards is a prestigious award that is won by athletes after years of dedication and hard work. The journey of the awardees doesn't end here, there is more to be achieved. We must also continue to look for talented athletes, groom them and make them capable of winning medals at the International level. So, I request all the athletes to take the pledge of grooming and training at least five such athletes who can win medals for India in the future."³⁴

National Sports Awards 2021

Jury:

A large number of nominations were received for the awards in 2021. These were considered by the Selection Committee headed by Justice (Retd.) Mukundam Sharma (former Judge of Supreme Court), consisting of eminent sportspersons and persons having experience in sports journalism & sports administrators.³⁵

Winners of the National Sports Awards 2021



(Winners of the National Sports Awards 2021 with the Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind and Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur)

³² https://yas.nic.in/sites/default/files/Attachment%201_1.pdf

³³ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1768604>

³⁴ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1768604>

³⁵ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1769041>

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2021 were given to 12 Sportspersons for their illustrious performance, passion and commitment. See the list of awardees [here](#).³⁶

Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in Sports and Games 2021 were conferred upon 35 Sportspersons. See the list of awardees [here](#).³⁷

Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches in Sports and Games 2021 to be presented to 5 coaches each in the Life-time and Regular categories. See the list of awardees [here](#).³⁸

Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime achievement in Sports and Games 2021 were presented to 5 sportspersons. See the list of awardees [here](#).³⁹

Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2021 were conferred to Manav Rachna Educational Institution and Indian Oil Corporation Limited.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2021 was conferred to Panjab University, Chandigarh.

The awardees received their awards from the President of India at a specially organized function at the Darbar Hall of Rashtrapati Bhavan on 13th November, 2021(Saturday) at 16:30 hrs.

Initiatives by Government of India towards Sports Development

- The '[Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports](#)' was revamped with 12 verticals and launched in October, 2017. The primary focus is to create a national level platform for athletes to showcase their talent and to identify them for further grooming and financial support. From 2017 to 2020, three editions of Khelo India School and Youth Games and one edition of Khelo India University Games have been hosted, giving talented young sportspersons a chance to win their way to a Khelo India Scholarship and be trained for higher levels of competition by the best coaches and in state-of-art sporting complexes.
- [Target Olympic Podium Scheme \(TOPS\)](#): Sustained support to sporting excellence; journey of the reform
 - The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) was formed in April 2016 to provide impetus to Indian athletes competing in the Olympics. MOC was made more effective by increasing involvement of National Sporting Federations; experts of various sporting disciplines, including sports science; focusing on sports-specific nuances and extending support to athletes.

³⁶<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1769041>

³⁷ ibid

³⁸ ibid

³⁹ Ibid

- Initially formulated in 2014, TOPS aimed at promoting Sporting Excellence among elite athletes. It was completely revamped to address the further requirements of the MOC.
- [FIT India](#) Movement: Improving India's fitness quotient
 - Formally [launched by PM](#) Narendra Modi as People's Movement on August 29, 2019.
 - To promote the concept of: Fitness is Fun, Fitness is Easy, Fitness is Free
 - Initiated interactions with experts from the field of fitness, corporate companies engaged in promoting fitness and various Ministries such as Education, Panchayati Raj, Health, Ayush, among others.

Key Achievements:

- Funding of Rs 6.28 lakh per annum per athlete to 2970 Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) which includes Rs 10,000 per month out of pocket allowance for each KIA, besides providing support for training, equipment, diet and education.
- To provide a higher per capita sporting infrastructure across the country:
 - 235 Academies have been accredited for training of Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) in 21 sports disciplines
 - 500 private academies under Khelo India Scheme in collaboration with National Sports Federations
- Sports Infrastructure Projects:
 - 38 projects undertaken between 2010-2014
 - 267 projects undertaken between 2014-2020
- Increased Participation of Women in Sports
 - Weightlifter MirabaiChanu won the silver medal in the women's 49 Kg weightlifting, Tokyo Olympics 2020
 - PV Sindhu became the only female sportsperson from India, to win two successive Olympics medals – Silver at Rio 2016 and Bronze in Tokyo 2020.
 - MirabaiChanu joined the legendary KarnamMalleswari to become the only second weightlifting medallist from the country and the very first weightlifter to win the silver medal.
 - India women's hockey team entered the semi-finals of the Olympics for the first-time ever at Tokyo, 2020
 - Financial impetus to support having international competitions for women in India:
 - Hosting World Boxing Championship in New Delhi in 2018, with a grant of Rs 3 crore from Khelo India.
 - Exclusive sports leagues for women at the grassroot-level
 - Support to elite women athletes has risen from 48 in 2015 to 178 in 2021

These achievements of women athletes in India go on to show that India has witnessed a huge rise in the number of sports being played by women professionally.

- Government of India has also enhanced the prize money of National Sports Awards in 2020 i.e., for Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award from Rs 7.5 lakh to Rs 25 lakh, for Dronacharya Award (Regular Category) from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh, for Dronacharya Award (Lifetime Category)

from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh, for Arjuna Award from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 15 lakh and for Dhyan Chand Award from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh. Furthermore, Cash award is given to the sportspersons for winning medals in international sports events under 'The Special Awards to Medal winners in International Sports events and their Coaches Scheme'.⁴⁰

Conclusion

The government has been proactive in allocating funds to enable Indian sportspersons – women and men alike to showcase their talent globally. This goes on to show that the Indian sports culture has developed immensely – India has already laid the foundations for events such as the Indian Premier League (cricket), Indian Super League (football), Pro Kabaddi League (kabaddi), Premier Badminton League (badminton), and Pro Wrestling League (professional wrestling).

Vision going forward:

- **Sports for All:** ensure availability of sports facility to every part of the country
- **Unearthing Champions:** sustained support to athletes from grassroots
- **Excellence in Sports as National Pride:** establishing India as a sporting powerhouse on the global map.
- **Sports from Extra Curricular to Regular Curriculum:** alignment of the sports as an integral part of the school curriculum.
- **Fitness in focus:** ensure fitness becomes way of life for every Indian

Video References

- [President Ram Nath Kovind presents National Sports Awards 2021 at Rashtrapati Bhavan](#)
- [President Ramnath Kovind gives away Arjuna Awards 2020 | National Sports Day](#)

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- MYAS [Annual Report 2019-20](#)
- PIB Press Release on [The Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Shri Kiren Rijiju announces enhancement of prize money of National Sports Awards](#) dated 29th August 2020
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⁴⁰<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1655646>

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