



CM Yogi Awards Over Jobs to Athletes

Why in News?

On the occasion of Nag Panchami, during the conclusion of the **Uttar Pradesh Senior Wrestling Competition held at Gorakhnath Temple**, CM Yogi Adityanath announced that over **500 athletes in Uttar Pradesh have been provided with government jobs** as part of the state's commitment to promoting sports.

Key Points

- **Wrestling Awards and Recognition:** During the wrestling competition, the CM awarded prestigious titles such as **UP Kesari**, **UP Kumar**, and **UP Veer Abhimanyu** to the winners. The awardees included:
 - **UP Kesari:** Jonty Bhati (Gautam Buddh Nagar) received **₹1.01 lakh** and a mace.
 - **UP Kumar:** Saurabh (Gorakhpur) received **₹1.01 lakh** and a mace.
 - **UP Veer Abhimanyu:** Monu (Gonda) received **₹51,000** and a mace.
- The CM also awarded **₹21,000** to third-place winners and **₹11,000** to the fourth-place winners in each category.
- **Government Jobs for Athletes:** Under the state's sports policy, athletes who have excelled in [Olympics](#), [Asian Games](#), [Commonwealth Games](#), [World Championships](#), and [National Games](#) are being provided with **government employment**.
- **Sports Infrastructure Development:** CM emphasized the government's efforts over the last eight years to develop **sports infrastructure** at the **village, block, and district levels**.
 - Key developments include the construction of sports grounds at the village level, **mini-stadiums** at the block level, and full **stadiums** at the district level.
- **Role of Sports in Personal and Social Development:** Reflecting on the importance of sports, CM Yogi quoted a phrase from ancient Indian philosophy, "**Sharir Madhyam Khalu Dharm Sadhanam**", meaning that a **healthy body is essential for the fulfillment of religious duties**.

Key Points of the Uttar Pradesh Sports Policy 2023

- **Creation of Uttar Pradesh Sports Development Fund (UPSDF):** **₹10 crore fund** to support infrastructure, athletes, associations, and academies, especially those lacking resources.
- **Institutional Support:** Formation of a **State Sports Authority** to manage sports policy, talent mapping, and infrastructure development.
- **Centers of Excellence & Infrastructure:**
 - Up to **14 sports-specific Centres of Excellence** under the **PPP model**.
 - **Five High Performance Centres** for elite training.
 - Sports centers in every district with improved facilities (hostels, fitness experts, diet experts).
 - Focus on **district, block, and village-level sports infrastructure** (stadiums, mini-stadiums, playgrounds).
- **Athlete Development:** Athletes divided into **three tiers**: Grassroots (beginner), Developmental (talented) and Elite (top performers).
- **Focus on Inclusivity:**

- Special emphasis on **women's participation** and **para-athletes** (with **exclusive coaches**).
- **Cashless health insurance** up to ₹5 lakh for registered players, coaches, and families under the Ayushman scheme.
- **State pension** for players who represented UP nationally/internationally.
- **Promotion of E-Sports and Indigenous Games: First state in India to include e-sports in official policy.**
 - Encouragement of **indigenous/local games**.
- **Linkage with Education: 40 minutes of sports, physical education, or yoga** included in school timetables.
 - Promotion of **sports nurseries/academies** in schools.
- **Sports Industry and Tourism: Support for making UP a hub for sports goods manufacturing** (e.g., Meerut cluster).
 - Boosting **sports tourism**.
- **Comprehensive Talent Search & Khelo India Integration: Active participation in Khelo India University Games.**
 - **Talent identification** through university and academy competitions.
- **Health and Welfare Measures: Eklavya Sports Fund** for injury treatment and welfare.
 - **Personal accident insurance** for athletes and coaches.

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