

**A BILL TO PROVIDE FOR PROMOTION AND
OVER ALL DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS IN
INDIA AND ALL MATTERS RELATED
THEREWITH**

(THE NATIONAL SPORTS BILL, 2021)

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STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

A bill to provide a National legislation for effective governing of sports and sports bodies in India. This bill establishes a commission by the name of Sports Commission of India and also establishes a hierarchy in sports authorities. It lays down procedures for coordination amongst various sports bodies and the procedure for protecting and growing equipment and infrastructure, also covering penalty provisions for crimes in sports.

NATIONAL SPORTS ACT, 2021

A BILL to Provide for Promotion and over all Development of Sports in India and all matters related therewith.

WHEREAS it is expedient to establishment of Sports Commission of India and for purposes including but not limited to development of Sports, sound representation of India in International sports and promoting indigenous sports;

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-Fourth year of the Republic of India as follows: -

Chapter I - Preliminary

1. Short title, extent and commencement– (1) This Act may be called THE NATIONAL SPORTS ACT, 2021.

(2) The Act shall be applicable to the whole of Indian Territory.

(3) The Act shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

2. Definition - In this Act, unless it is stated to the contrary -

- a. Appoint does not include “re-appoint”.
- b. Anti-Doping Agency of India (ADAI) - An agency recognized by the Central Government and established by Sports Commission of India to implement measure anti-doping measure for all sports in India.
- c. National Games - Games organized by National Olympic Committee and all National Sports Federation for all at all India level.
- d. National Olympic Committee (NOC) – an organization recognized by International Olympic Committee and Sports Commission of India.
- e. National Sports Federation (NSF) – an organization recognized by National Sports Federation and the International Sports Federation of particular sport discipline.

- f. Office Bearer – it includes person with post of Chairman, Vice-Chairman or President, Vice-President Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Member Secretary or Secretary General or any post specified under Constitution or bye-laws of National Olympic Commission or National Sports Federation.
- g. Prescribed – means any rules made under this act.
- h. Sports - Sports recognize and specified by the Sports Commission of India and Central Government under this act.
- i. Sports Commission of India refers to the Sports Commission of India formed under Section – 3 of this Act.
- j. State Association - A body recognize by National Sports Federation of particular sport at State level.

Chapter II – Sports Commission of India

- 3. Establishment of The Sports Commission of India** - The Central Government/ Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, by notification, with effect from date as specified therein, shall establish a body to be known as The Sports Commission of India which shall replace the Sports Authority of India.
- 4. Composition of The Sports Commission of India** - The Sports Commission shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary. There shall also be an Executive Committee consisting of Finance Department, Medical Department and Inspection Department.
- 5. Qualifications of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary -**
 - 1) A person shall not be qualified for appointment as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson unless they have served the sports community in India for a minimum of 20 years.
 - 2) A person shall not be qualified to be appointed as the Member Secretary unless they-
 - a. Have administrative experience of ten years including four years of practical experience in dealing with sports related matters.
 - b. Participated in sports in at least college/ university level.
 - 3) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary shall not hold any other office during their tenure in the Sports Commission of India.
 - 4) At the time of holding position Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary shall not be associated to any ministry or government department which may lead to their personal benefit.

- 5) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary shall not, for a period of two years, from the date they cease to hold their office accept any employment in management or administration for another position in the commission.

Provided that nothing in this section shall apply to the employment under Central Government or State Government.

- 6. Appointment** - The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and the Member Secretary shall be appointed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in consultation with the Central Government.

- 7. Term of Office** - The term of office for the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary-

- a. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary shall hold their office for a term of three years, starting from the date on which they enter the office and will be eligible for re-appointment only once.
- b. The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary shall not hold office after the age of 65 years.

- 8. Resignation** - The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary may, by notice in writing under their hand addressed to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, resign from their office.

- 9. Salaries** - The salaries and allowances payable to, and other conditions of the service (including pension and other retirement benefits) of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary shall be such as may be prescribed.

10. Removal and Suspension of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Member Secretary

- 1) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in consultation with the Central Government, remove from office the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson or Member Secretary who-
 - a. has been adjudged insolvent; or
 - b. has been convicted of an offence which constitutes moral turpitude in the opinion of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; or
 - c. has become physically or mentally incapable; or
 - d. has acquired such other interests which is likely to prejudicially affect their function; or
 - e. has abused their position for their personal benefit.

- 2) The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson or Member Secretary shall not be removed from their office without the order of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports after a proper inquiry has been conducted by a Judge of the Supreme Court where they have been informed of the charges against them and given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of those charges.
- 3) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports may suspend the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson or Member Secretary in respect of whom the inquiry has been made to the judge of the Supreme Court under sub-section (2) till the ministry passes an order for the same.
- 4) Any member of the Executive Committee may be removed from their office on the grounds specified in sub-section (1) and in accordance with the procedure notified by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. Provided that the Executive Member shall not be removed without having a proper chance of being heard.

11. Executive Committee –

- 1) An Executive Committee shall be established by the Member Secretary to assist the functioning of the Sports Commission of India, which shall consist of-

a. Finance Department

- i. The Finance Department shall deal with all the finances of the commission, the applications and proposals submitted by the National Sports Federations and State Associations.
- ii. The Finance Department shall consist of a Finance Secretary, Joint Secretary and a member
- iii. The Finance Secretary shall be selected by a panel consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Member Secretary of the Commission.
- iv. The Joint Secretary and the Member shall be selected by a panel consisting of the Member Secretary and the Finance Secretary.

b. Medical Department

- i. The Medical Department shall deal with the health and fitness of the sportspersons; coaches etc. and see that the medical equipment is of satisfiable condition.
- ii. The Medical Department shall consist of a Medical Officer, an Assistant Officer and supporting Staff.
- iii. The Medical Officer and Assistant Officer shall be selected by a panel consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Member Secretary of the Commission.

- iv. The Supporting Staff shall be selected by a panel consisting of the Member Secretary and the Finance Secretary.

c. Inspection Department

- i. The Inspection Department shall ensure that all the sporting equipment, sporting science equipment, fitness equipment and other relevant equipment should be in proper condition.
 - ii. The Inspection Department shall consist of an Inspection Officer, an Assistant Officer and the Inspection staff.
 - iii. The Inspection Officer and Assistant Officer shall be selected by a panel consisting of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Member Secretary of the Commission.
 - iv. The selection of Inspection Staff shall be done by the Inspection Officer and the Assistant Officer.
- 2) The qualifications for appointment of the personnel in the departments shall be notified by the Commission in consultation with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports after the establishment of the Commission.

12. Functions Of Sports Commission Of India- Subject to the provision of this Act, the Sports Commission of India shall have the following powers and functions in addition to those which the Sports Authority of India previously had:

- a. To create a development plan every three years for setting goals for development of sports in India.
- b. To accept or reject application for the formation of a new National Sports Federation.
- c. To give recommendations to central government in consensus with the National Sports Federations for further development of sports in India.
- d. To provide assistance required by National Sports Federations according to the Development Plan.
- e. To determine the quantum of assistance in infrastructure, equipment and manpower to support the National Sports Federations.
- f. To release funds to National Sports Federations in consonance with proposals approved by the Central Government.
- g. To assist the National Sports Federations in formation of teams that will be representing India in International sports.

- h. To lie down conditions to be fulfilled by National Sports Federation or others to be eligible for government support.
- i. To eliminate discrimination in terms of age, gender and sex from sports in India.
- j. To ensure that all the equipment needed in the National Sports Federations/ State Associations is p to the mark.
- k. To overlook the functioning of National Sports Federations.
- l. To maintain the stadiums and sporting complexes all over India.
- m. To promote indigenous sports in India.
- n. To provide In-House Redressal Mechanism for grievances in the Chapter IX of this Act.

Chapter III – National Olympic Committee, National Sports Federation, State Associations and Athletes or Player Commission.

13. National Olympic Committee- The Indian Olympic Association shall be known as National Olympic Committee after getting recognized by the International Olympic Committee and Sports Commission of India.

Provided that – after the new act comes into force, within two months, the appointment of the members of National Olympic Committee will be done by the Sports Commission of India on the recommendation of Central Government for the first term, thereafter election shall be conducted from time to time.

14. Composition of National Olympic Committee- The National Olympic Committee shall consist of –

- a. A President
- b. A Vice- President
- c. Secretary-General
- d. Treasurer
- e. Executive Council Members

Provided that – the term of members mentioned under this section shall be of three years only.

15. Functions and Duties of National Olympic Committee of India- The National Olympic Committee shall –

- a. Frame and maintain their Constitution or bye-law or rules as the case may be.

- b. Act as the highest body and perform duties and functions according to the Olympic Charter.
- c. Be responsible for the overall development of Olympic sports in India.
- d. Be responsible for the selection of athletes or players representing Indian in various events as well for their performance and conduct.
Provided further that – the selection of athletes for various events includes – Olympic Games, Common Wealth Games, Asian Games, South- Asian Games, Afro- Asian Games, or any other such multi-sport event.
- e. Be responsible for all matters related to bidding in the multi-sport events mentioned under sub-section 15(c) with the approval of the Sports Commission of India.
- f. Have a duty to conduct National Tournament in association with National Sports Federation every three years in consultation with Sports Commission of India.
- g. Ensure the availability of equipment, playing field, and other facilities for athletes.
- h. Provide in-house redressal for the grievances.
- i. Be responsible to maintain their website.

16. National Sports Federation- Only one National Sports Federation (NSF) shall be recognized for a particular discipline (prescribed by the Commission) by the Sports Commission of India. It shall include Coaches, Athletes, and players and supporting people related to the particular sport.

Provided that – after the new act comes into force existing National Sports Federations are required to submit an application for grant of recognition (as prescribed by the commission) within six months.

17. Composition of National Sports Federation– The National Sports Federation shall have-

- a. A President
- b. A Vice- President
- c. Secretary-General
- d. Treasurer
- e. Executive Council Members

Provided that – the term of members mentioned under this section shall be of three years only.

18. Functions and duties of National Sports Federation– National Sports Federation shall -

- a. Be responsible for the development and promotion of sports in India as prescribed by the International Federation of the particular discipline. Provided that- the promotion of sports shall be done in a visible manner.
- b. Ensures the availability of equipment, playing field, and other facilities for the sport in India.
- c. Establish the Athletes' Commission for the particular sport.
- d. Establish the Player's Commission for the particular sport.
- e. Represent India in a particular sport at the International level and the International Federation of sport.
- f. Organize and conduct different sports events including the annual National Championship.
- g. Conduct National Tournament in association with National Olympic Committee every three years in consultation with Sports Commission of India.
- h. Be responsible for the selection of Athletes and Players for sport or games that will represent India at the International level.
- i. Be responsible for the development of sport as maybe prescribe the International Federation of the particular disciple.
- j. Be responsible for all matters related to bidding with the approval of the Sports Commission of India of India.
- k. Provide in-house redressal for the grievances.
- l. Frame and maintain their constitutional/ bye-laws/ rules, as the case may be.

19. Submission of Annual Report–

- 1) The National Olympic Committee and National Sports Federation Shall submit a detailed annual report to the Sports Commission of India and to the Central Government which will be laid down before both houses of the Parliament.
- 2) The detailed report shall contain –
 - a. Annual financial statement.
 - b. Report of activities and achievements.
 - c. The measures adopted to promote the welfare of athletes
 - d. Measures taken to encourage sports, especially for the disabled, women, youth, and minorities.
 - e. Measures taken to fight against doping.

- f. Any other matters which Committee or federation finds important to be mentioned in the report.

20. State Associations

- 1) The State Associations shall work in consultation with the government of the particular state.
- 2) National Sports Federation, if desires so, may recognize a State Association of a particular sport discipline at the State level with the aim of “promotion and development of Sports for all the levels in the State.”

Provided that – National Sports Federation shall only recognize one State Association for a particular sport in a state. The State Association shall be valid for three years only from the date of formation.

- 3) The members of State Association may be selected as per the rules of the state government in consultation with the affiliated National Sports Federation.
- 4) It will be the duty of the respective state to provide financial and other required assistance for the development and promotion of sports.
- 5) It shall be the duty of State Association to promote sports and look after development of sports at each level in a state.

Explanation - each level of state means the promotion and development of sport at School level, University level, and any other area the state government may notify from time to time.

Provided that – promotion and development of sports shall be done in a visible manner.

- 6) It will be the duty of State Association to conduct tournaments at School and University level annually.
- 7) The State Association has to submit an annual report to National Sports Federation which shall clearly state in the manner in which promotion and development of sports has been done. The report shall also include the financial statement.

21. Athletes Commission or Players Commission- It shall be the duty of every National Sports Federation that within one year after they came in force to establish an Athletes or the Player Commission (as the case may be) for the term of three years to perform duties mentioned under this Chapter.

22. Composition, Term and Eligibility Criteria of Athletes or Player Commission

- 1) After National Sports Federation comes into force, it shall be responsible to form an Athletes or a Player Commission within one year.
 - a. The Commission shall consist of at least ten members. It is the duty of the National Sports Federation to ensure that every discipline of that particular sport or game has a representative in the said commission.
Provided that equal representation should be given to the women in the Commission.
 - b. The appointed member will choose among themselves one member as a chairman of the Commission.
- 2) The eligibility criteria for the member of Commission shall be –
 - a. In the case of Olympic Sport, an Olympian who has represented India at least twice will be given the preference.
 - b. In the case of non-Olympic Sport, an athlete or player who has represented India at least continue for two years in any International Championship will be given a preference.
 - c. In case a player or athlete does not qualify the above-mentioned criteria then, to be a member of the Commission, he or she has to be an International player of the concerned sport, having standing within the top 10 positions at least for two years.
- 3) The term of Athletes or Player Commission, in any case, shall be of only three years.
- 4) The Sports Commission will look after the appointment process of the members.
- 5) Any grievance related to the appointment of members shall be addressed to the Sports Commission of India.

23. Functions and Duties of Athletes or Player Commission—The function of the Athletes or Player Commission is to advise the National Sports Federation in the matter related to the Athletes or Player on the following ground –

- 1) Training, Development, and Selection procedure.
- 2) Schedules of different Competitions.
- 3) Grievance related to the Athletes or Players.
- 4) Support to Players or Athletes beyond the sports career.

Chapter IV – Recognition to National Sports Federation and Other Authorities

24. Recognition of National Sports Federation-

- 1) The Sports Commission shall be the only authority to grant the recognition to the National Sports Federation.
- 2) It shall be the duty of the Sports Commission to ensure that there is not more than one National federation of a particular sports discipline.
- 3) To get recognition from the Sports Commission a body or an association of people shall fulfil the eligibility criteria given under this act. Also, the application shall be made before the Sports Commission in a manner, accompanied by a cost as may be prescribed.
- 4) Except in the case of an already existing federation that has been recognized by the International Federation of sports discipline or recognized by the Government of India, and if it fulfils the eligibility criteria given under this act then it shall be their duty to file an application with proof of recognition within Six months after the Act comes into force in a manner the Sports Commission may prescribe, after which recognition shall be given by the Sports Commission.
- 5) After the act comes into force the Sports Commission by notification shall specify the date after which association or a body shall not function as National Sports Federation of sports discipline.

Except in the case of a particular body or association which has been granted recognition by the International Federation of sports discipline. It shall be their duty to file an application before the Commission with proof of recognition within six months after the Act comes in force, after which recognition shall be given by the Sports Commission.

Except, in this case, the recognition shall not be given by the Sports Commission to a body or an association if it does not fulfil the eligibility criteria given under this act after which the body or association will come to end within a year.

- 6) If a federation does not get recognized by the Sports Commission then it shall not be entitled to financial or other aid (whether direct or indirect) by the Sports Commission or by Central Government.

25. Eligibility Criteria for Recognition- The National Sports Federation shall only be eligible to get recognition if it fulfils the following criteria that –

- 1) It shall be a registered trust under the Indian Trust Act, 1882, or a registered society under the Companies Act, 2013, or under Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- 2) It shall have full-time affiliation from the International Federation of sports discipline or in case of Olympic sports affiliation from the International Federation of sports discipline and National Olympic Committee.
- 3) It shall have maintained proper accounts and audit annually.
- 4) It shall be the duty of it to incorporate the principle of good governance and should make necessary amendments in their Constitution or rule or bye-law as the case may be.
- 5) It shall have previously conducted the National Championship for sport.
- 6) It shall also provide an in-house dispute redressal process

26. Grant of recognition-

- 1) It shall be the duty of the Sports Commission to verify whether the body fulfils the eligibility criteria or not also to ensure that manner of application is made according to the manner prescribed by the Commission.
- 2) After verification, if Sports Commission found that the body fulfils the eligibility criteria and the application made is in accordance with the manner prescribed only then the recognition shall be granted for the National Sports Federation.
Except in case, clarifications are required at certain points by the Sports Commission then it may pass any order for the same.
- 3) Except in a case where an application for recognition has been filed and has not been disposed of within twelve months from the date of its receipt the recognition shall deem to have been granted.
- 4) In case of any dispute related to an application or related to eligibility criteria or related to grant of recognition the aggrieved can refer the case to the Executive Department of the Sports Commission

27. Validity of Recognition- Once the recognition has been granted it shall continue to be in force for a period of three years until and unless it has been cancelled or suspended by the order of the Sports Commission of India..

Provided further that – for the renewal of recognition the application shall be given to the commission within two months from the date of expiry and it shall have complied with the Act.

28. Cancellation or Suspension of recognition-The Sports Commission may cancel or suspend the recognition of a National Sports Federation on the receipt of a reference and shall impose penalty or fine as the case may be if –

- 1) The National Sports Federation has been suspended or disaffiliated by the National Olympic Committee or by the International Federation of discipline.
- 2) Recognition has been obtained by fraud or by misrepresentation.
- 3) A gross irregularity in the internal functioning has been reported by the Registrar of Companies or societies or the name has been removed from the register or registration has been cancelled or trust has been dissolved.
- 4) Failed to conduct elections as given under bye-laws or rules of the executive body or irregularities have been found during the election.
- 5) Found misusing the government assistance.
- 6) Fail to submit Annual Report to Sports Commission of India as provided under this act.
- 7) Fail to organize annual National Tournament.
- 8) Fail to set-up a proper redressal mechanism.

Provided that without giving a fair and sufficient opportunity to be heard the recognition shall not be cancelled or suspended.

Provided further that – the maximum time period of suspension of National Sports Federation shall be of one year. Sports Commission of India after recording the reason may extend the time of suspension by six months.

29. Recognition of Other Authorities-

- 1) Any Sports Authorities other than National Sports Federation shall have to be recognized by the Commission for functioning legally.
- 2) The authorities shall file the application as prescribed by the Sports Commission before the beginning of the next financial year.
- 3) The Executive Department of the Sports Commission along with the Member Secretary, upon scrutiny thereafter may or may not recognize these authorities under the Act.

Chapter V –Selection

30. Selection of Sportspersons/ Coaches and Coaching Teams

- 1) The selection of the sportspersons shall be done as per the rules of the National Sports Federations.
- 2) The selection committee for the sportspersons shall include the National Coach, eminent ex-sportspersons of that field, the concerned National Sports Federation in consultation with the Sports Commission.
- 3) The final selection of the Core Probable shall however lay with the National Sports Federations in consultation with the National Coach.
- 4) The selection of National and Assistant Coaches shall be done as per the rules of the National Sports Federations.
 - a. The selection of the coaching teams shall be done by the National Coach on the recommendation of the National Sports Federation and the Sports Commission.
 - i. Any supporting staff necessary for the coaching teams shall be selected by the particular National Sports Federation on consultation with the Commission and Assistant Coach.
- 5) The National Coach and Assistant Coach shall evaluate the performances of the sportspersons and give recommendations to the selection committee.
 - a. The selection committee in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations shall look into the elimination or selection as the case may be of the sportspersons.
 - b. The National Coach and the Assistant Coach may also recommend induction of new sportspersons if they see fit. Provided that the final decision shall lay with the selection committee and the concerned National Sports Federation in consultation.
- 6) Apart from the players and coaches, the selection shall be done for the following as well:
 - a. Qualified National and International judges and referees to support in the preparation of representing National teams.
 - b. Medical personnel for preparing the teams at regular intervals.
- 7) For the selection purpose, the Sports Commission of India shall appoint an officer to oversee that the selection is impartial and transparent.
- 8) The National Sports Federations shall report to the officer about any upcoming events of importance and selections so that appropriate funds/ arrangements can be made.

9) If a sportsperson is representing a particular NSF, the Contract between them shall clearly state that the player will represent India only for the term as may be prescribed in the said contract.

10) Once the selections have been done, there shall be no change in the positions till the International events of importance are over for a cycle.

Provided that in cases of misuse of powers for personal benefit, acquiring of such interests which may constitute moral turpitude in the opinion of the Commission and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and physical or mental incapability a change in the position may take place.

Chapter VI –Infrastructure and Coaching Camps

31. Equipment and Infrastructure-

- 1) The sporting equipment/ sport science equipment for training in National camps shall be under the supervision of the Sports Commission. It shall be owned and maintained by the Inspection Department of the Sports Commission to ensure the quality.
- 2) The National Sports Federations shall maintain their sporting equipment to the quality required for their sport.
- 3) For assistance in purchase of sports equipment/ sports science equipment for training and competition the National Sports Federations shall submit an application to the Sports Commission as specified after the formation of the Sports Commission.
- 4) A list of equipment needed, along with its price and details shall be attached with the application.
 - a. In case, the equipment has to be purchased indigenously, it shall be done so on the rate of contract of Sports Commission.
 - b. In case the equipment is such that it is not available indigenously and has to be imported the same shall be done through firms that have been recommended by International Federations.
- 5) The sporting infrastructure such as stadiums shall be maintained by the Sports Commission through their yearly fund assigned.
- 6) Maintenance shall include but not be limited to:
 - a. Grounds keeping;
 - b. cleanliness of the area;
 - c. ensuring safety through infrastructure maintenance and
 - d. prediction and prevention of equipment failures.

e. Maintenance of other important areas.

31A. Exemption

- 1) Sports Authorities of States may also import along with the Sports Commission of India. Provided that the purchase is notified to the Inspection Department of the Sports Commission, where, the purchase is to do with medical nature, the same shall be notified to the Medical Department of the Sports Commission.
- 2) National Sports Federations may import on behalf of their affiliated State/ District associations.

32. Coaching Camps-

- 1) Coaching Camps at various scales shall be organized by the Sports Commission in consultation with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- 2) The financial assistance shall be provided to the coaches, athletes and other personnel who have been approved to attend the said camp.
- 3) The expenses shall cover the journey to and from the camp, lodging, medical and insurance.
- 4) Training kits and all other relevant supplies for the camp shall be provided.
- 5) Where for coaching camps, an International person is being invited, the permission shall be sought from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the same.

Chapter VII – International or National Tournaments

33. International Tournaments-

- 1) The National Sports Federations may organize International Tournaments in consultation with the Sports Commission.
- 2) The concerned National Sports Federation shall notify and present the proposal for International tournaments to the Sports Commission seven months prior the beginning of the new financial year.
- 3) The accounts of the National Sports Federation for the purpose of organizing International tournaments shall be open to scrutinization by the Finance Department of the Sports Commission.

Subject to the availability of funds and similar treatment being provided to Indian teams in the said countries' hospitality may be extended to the visiting country's teams.

34. National Tournaments-

- 1) The National Sports Federations may organize National Tournaments in consultation with the Sports Commission.
- 2) The concerned National Sports Federation shall notify and present the proposal for the National Tournaments five months prior the beginning of the new financial year.
- 3) The accounts of the National Sports Federation for the purpose of organizing National Tournaments shall be open to scrutinization by the Finance Department of the Sports Commission.

Chapter VIII –Grants and Distribution

35. Grants-

- 1) The commission shall be given a yearly fund by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports for the purposes of maintenance of sports stadiums/ complexes and other relevant purposes.
- 2) A certain amount as decided by the Central Government shall also be payable to the National Sports Federations for meeting the pay allowances.
- 3) For requirement of further funding, Section- 35A shall be complied with.
- 4) Procedure for funding of International Tournaments shall be governed by Section- 33.

35A. Application by National Sports Federations and State Associations-

- 1) There shall be only one National Sports Federation at the National level for every sport which would be entitled to gain financial support from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports through the Sports Commission.
- 2) The National Sports Federation shall apply through the rules and application lay down by the Sports Commission for the purpose of grants.
 - a. The State associations shall also follow the same procedure regarding grant approval as the National Sports Federations.
- 3) The applications from all the National Sports Federations/ State Associations shall be submitted to the Finance Department of the Sports Commission.
- 4) The applications shall be filed four months before the preparation of the budget for next financial year.

36. Distribution of funds to the National Sports Federations-

- 1) The Finance Department of the Sports Commission shall combine the entire request for grants applications into a proposal to be presented before the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- 2) Thereafter, the proposal shall be put forth to be included in the budget for the next financial year.
- 3) The Ministry shall in consultation with the Central Government shall allot as it seems fit, the funds required to the Sports Commission.
- 4) The allotted fund will thereafter be distributed accordingly in the National Sports Federations and State Associations by the commission through the Finance Department of the Sports Commission.

Chapter IX – Redressal Mechanism

37. Committee for Redressal-

- 1) For the purpose of this chapter applicant shall be the person having a grievance.
- 2) The National Sports Federation Redressal Committee shall have jurisdiction over all the grievance redressals.
- 3) The committee for redressal shall consist of:
 - a. Two retired players
 - b. Three retired members of National Sports Federation Board
 - c. One female member
 - d. One member from SC/ST or OBC category
- 4) The committee shall hear grievances as mentioned in sub-section (b) and pass their order thereon.
- 5) No grievance shall be entertained unless it has been produced within a period of one year from the day upon which cause of action for such dispute occurred.
 Provided that, if the committee is assured that the claimant was prevented due to appropriate cause from filing the application for such grievance under the duration as stated, enable it to be filed within a certain period of and not more than 3 months.

38. Appeal Committee-

- 1) For the purpose of appeal a committee shall be established by the Sports Committee of India.
- 2) The committee shall be the final appellate body for the redressal of grievances.

- 3) The Sports Commission of India Redressal Committee shall have jurisdiction over all the appeals from the orders of National Sports Federation Redressal Committee.
- 4) The committee for redressal of appeals shall consist of:
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Vice-Chairman
 - c. One female member
 - d. One member from SC/ST or OBC category
- 5) No appeal shall be permitted until it has been produced within duration of six months from the order of the National Sports Federation Redressal Committee. Provided that, if the committee is assured that the applicant was prevented due to sufficient cause from filing the appeal application within the period as stated, enable it to be filed within a period of and not more than 3 months.

Chapter X – Anti-Doping Measures

39. Anti- Doping Agency of India-

- 1) The Sports Commission shall establish the "Anti-Doping Agency of India (ADAI)" to check and implement measures related to anti-doping in sports.
- 2) It shall be the duty of the ADAI to frame laws or rules related to the anti-doping according to the World Anti-Doping Agency or according to any other law made by the Government of India existing at the time of this act, also if required to amend the same from time to time.
- 3) The laws or rules framed by the ADAI shall be binding upon National Olympic Committee and all the National Sports Federations.
- 4) The Sports Commission, National Olympic Committee, and National Sports Federations shall publish their adopted anti-doping measure on the respective websites.
- 5) It shall be the duty of the Sports Commission to provide financial assistance and other required assistance to the ADAI for the discharge of its functions.

39A. Penalty for Doping -If any Athlete or Player found will-fully indulge in the doping practices than he or she shall be exempted from taking part in all current or future sports competition for not more than seven years and he or she shall also be liable for fine not less than three lakhs rupees.

Chapter XI – Offences

40. Match Fixing- No authority, sportsperson, coach, support staff, member of an organization, curator, groundskeeper etc. shall:

- 1) Dishonestly determine the outcome of the match before it is played thereby violating the rules of the game.
- 2) Accept monetary offerings to underperform in a game.
- 3) Bet them in such a manner which would result in them naturally underperforming than their capabilities.
- 4) Give information such as team composition, team formation, conditions of the pitch, strategies of the team etc. to any booker syndicate or a booker who may affect the natural course and results of the game.
- 5) Accept monetary offering to set the pitch in a certain manner which would benefit the bettor/ bettors.
- 6) Indulge in any monetary offering or activity which may be contrary to the rules of the game and law of the land.

40A. Punishment- Any authority, sportsperson, coach, support staff, member of an organization that contravenes Section-40 shall be punishable by a sentence which may be up to five years and a fine of up to Rs. three lakhs.

41. Prevention of Sexual Harassment-

- 1) It shall be the duty of Sports Commission, National Olympic Committee and all National Sports Federation to frame guidelines for the prevention of Sexual Harassment in their respective Constitution or Bye-laws.
- 2) Without prejudice to any provision under this act the Central Government may make any law or rule for the prohibition of Sexual Harassment in sports and can also specify the penalties for the same.

41A. Punishment- If any person including office bearers is found guilty of offence under section 354A of Indian Penal Code, 1860 then, they shall be punished according to the provisions of Indian Penal Code. They shall be debarred from their post and from participating in any future events as the case maybe

Chapter XII – Powers to National Olympic Committee and National Sports Federation to frame Constitution or Bye –law

42. Constitution or Bye-Laws-

- 1) This act gives power to National Olympic Committee and every recognized National Sports Federation to frame their own Constitution or Bye-laws within six months after getting the recognition.
- 2) They shall incorporate the following provisions in the Constitution or bye-law as the case may be-
 - a. Provision related to the overall development of sports at every level and for everyone.
 - b. The age limit of the office bearers, maximum being up to 65 years of age.
 - c. Mode of election of the Executive Members. It shall be conducted fairly and reasonably once in three years.
Provided that the Sports Commission of India shall be the body that will look after the election.
 - d. The eligibility criteria for the election/ selection of office bearers and the executive members –
 - i. Shall be the citizen of India.
 - ii. Not exceed the age limit of 65 years.
 - iii. Member of the executive body for the post of President or Vice-President.
 - iv. No criminal charge is framed against the person under the Criminal Procedure Code Section 228 of or charged for an offense under which punishment is for more than three years.
 - v. Cannot contest election for the post of President or Vice- President if already severed at that post for two terms of office.
 - e. Equal representation shall be given to women in the executive body.
 - f. Members of the Athletes Commission or Players Commission shall be a part of the decision-making process of the executive body and shall also be given voting rights under the executive body of the National Olympic Committee or National Sports Federation.
- 3) A Minister in the Central Government or under any Ministry or any official from the Sports Commission of India is not entitled to hold any office under the National Olympic Committee or National Sports Federation.

- 4) An office-bearer of a specific National Sports Federation is exempted from holding the post of office bearer in any other National Sports Federation.
- 5) If any office bearer is found guilty of the offence, punishment of which is three years or more than three years, then he shall be debarred from holding the office.

Chapter XIII – Miscellaneous

43. Power to Make Regulation– The Sports Commission may, with prior approval from the Central Government, along with notification by the Government in the Official Gazette, may frame regulations.

Provided that – no regulation framed shall be inconsistent with the any provisions of this Act

44. Effect of the Act– The provisions of this Act shall not be in contravention with other statues for the time being in the effect.

Resources

- Australian Sports Commission Act, 1985.
- Draft National Sports (Development) Bill, 2011.
- French Sports Code.
- Olympic Charter (in force from July, 2020).
- Singapore Sports Council Act, 1973.
- Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
- World Anti-Doping Agency Code, 2021.

Other Jurisdictions

- Australia
- Canada
- England and Wales
- France
- Hungary
- Singapore
- United States