



Sujata Chaturvedi (C), Secretary, Sports, during the flagging off ceremony of TATA FIT@50+ Women's Trans Himalayan Expedition 2022. (Photo credit: PTI)

## News

- Sports ministry doubles salaries of national coaches, doctors, physios and support staffs
- Ministry also doubles grants for hosting international and national championships
- Sports Ministry takes initiative to give NSFs more power and make them self reliant



and doubled salaries of coaches, keeping in view India's impressive show at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Buoyed by the record haul of seven medals (1 gold, 2 silver, 4 bronze) the ministry is injecting more cash to uplift sporting standards of country ahead of the two major multi-discipline sporting events, to be held later this year.

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It is learnt that remuneration of chief national coaches has been doubled from the existing Rs 1,50,000 to Rs 3,00,000 and assistant coaches from Rs 75,000 to Rs 2 lakh per month. Sports medicine doctors, head physiotherapists, head of strength and conditioning coach will get Rs 2 lakh while nutritionists and head masseurs will get Rs 1 lakh. The ministry has also directed the NSFs to appoint foreign coaches on their own within their Annual Competition and Training Calendars (ACTC) budgetary allocations.

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The ministry has also increased financial assistance to host international tournaments and national championships. The NSFs will get Rs 1 crore, up from the existing Rs 30 lakh to host World Championship, World Cup and Asian Championship. For the Nationals, the revised financial assistance will be Rs 51 lakh, up from Rs 22 lakh.



give the NSFs more power and make them self reliant, the ministry has revised the norms under the scheme of assistance to the federations," Sports Secretary Sujata Chaturvedi told News9 Sports, on the sidelines of a Himalayan Expenditure ceremony on Tuesday.

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The ministry has also decided to host international meets and nationals of traditional Indian sports including Yogasana, Atya Patya Kalariyapayatu and Malkhamb.

Chaturvedi also said those NSFs that are yet receive annual recognition could get them soon, but it also depends on the legal tangles they are currently involved in.

"Once those cases are over and we know the situation, we will be in a better position to give them recognition. In any case of those federations that have been functioning even without our recognition and are unable to plan their ACTC, the ministry will take care of it directly," she said.

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Chaturvedi defended the ministry's decision to ban entry of those who had earlier served in NSFs to become CEOs She also urged the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) to conduct its election at the earliest.

"It's directly a conflict of interest and we do not approve of that. We are against this practice. This is a year of Commonwealth Games and Asian Games. The IOA must try to conduct their elections at the earliest. I hope the Court cases are resolved and elections do take place," she said.

The sports secretary also urged federations to begin staging events in India now that the COVID-19 surge has subsided a bit. It would also help athletes train in Indian rather than travelling abroad to keep themselves sharp.

"It was mainly due to the COVID 19 situation. Things are now opening up. We just had Davis Cup organised in India and that will have a good effect on other



by the International Gymnastic Federation (FIG). She said: "As and when we come to know the reason of her suspension, we will deal with it."

On the BCCI not sending Indian cricket teams for the Asian Games, she said it's purely up to the Indian cricket board to decide that. "We would like them to participate but beyond a point, the ministry can't do much."

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the sports secretary flagged off a five month long expedition titled Fit@50+ Women's Trans Himalayan Expenditure 22 where women aged 50 years and above from across the country will participate in the event where they will travel from East to West covering nearly 5000 km crossing 37 mountain passes.

"On the International Women's Day, I am happy to represent women on behalf of the government for such a wonderful cause, with a bunch of very brave and courageous women," she said.

[Commonwealth Games](#)[Asian Games](#)