

Fifteenth Kerala Legislative Assembly

Bill No. 231

**THE KERALA SPORTS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 2024**

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THE KERALA SPORTS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2024

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BILL

further to amend the Kerala Sports Act, 2000.

Preamble.—WHEREAS, it is expedient further to amend the Kerala Sports Act, 2000 (2 of 2001) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

BE it enacted in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. *Short title and commencement.*—(1) This Act may be called the Kerala Sports (Amendment) Act, 2024.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. *Amendment of long title.*—(1) In the Kerala Sports Act, 2000 (2 of 2001) (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in the long title for the words “promotion of sports and games”, the words and symbols “promotion of sports, games, e-sports and sports economy” shall be substituted.

3. *Amendment of preamble.*—In the preamble of the principal Act, for the words “promotion of sports and games”, the words and symbols “promotion of sports, games, e-sports and sports economy” shall be substituted.

4. *Amendment of section 2.*—In section 2 of the principal Act,—

(i) after clause (vi), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(viA) “e-sports” means legally recognised sports and games in electronic form played online between individuals and between teams in a competitive manner using physical and mental abilities that involves expertise;”;

(ii) after clause (xiii), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(xiiiA) “Schedule” means the Schedule appended to this Act;”.

5. *Amendment of section 3.*—In sub-section (3) of section 3 of the principal Act, under the heading “Ex-officio Members”, after item (b), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ba) The Secretary, Home Department;

(bb) The Secretary, Higher Education Department;

(bc) The Secretary, General Education Department;

(bd) The Secretary, Local Self Government Department;

(be) The Secretary, Tourism Department;

(bf) The Secretary, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Department;

(bg) The Secretary, Health Department;”.

6. *Amendment of section 4.*—In section 4 of the principal Act, for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The Government shall appoint the Director, Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs as the Secretary of the State Sports Council .”.

7. *Amendment of section 5.*—In sub-section (2) of section 5 of the principal Act,—

(i) after clause (a), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(aA) to organise, regulate and promote e-sports in the State, as may be prescribed;”;

(ii) in clause (b), after the words and symbol “circus training centres,”, the words and symbols “sports institute, paralympic centres, sports schools,” shall be inserted;

(iii) after clause (b), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—

“(bA) to carry out construction, modernisation and maintenance of infrastructure such as stadium, playground, swimming pool, sports hostels and

other sports facilities through 'Special Purpose Vehicle' with public-private partnership on the basis of each special purpose;

Explanation:—For the purpose of this clause, “Special Purpose Vehicle” means “The Kerala Sports Foundation”, constituted under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 (Central Act 18 of 2013).”;

(iv) after clause (e), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(eA) to establish a 'Sports Innovation Zone' in collaboration with the Kerala Startup Mission;

(eB) to promote sports medicine and sports engineering sectors;

(eC) to organise sports league, as may be prescribed;

(eD) to conduct annual economic sports survey, as may be prescribed;

(eE) to organise Sports Kerala School Games and Sports Kerala University Games in co-ordination with educational institutions;

(eF) to take steps to provide coaching, of international coaches and experts, to sportsmen;

(eG) to determine operational guidelines to sports arenas, sports turfs, wellness centres etc., as may be prescribed;

(eH) to make arrangements for providing scientific training in selected sports items;

(eI) to constitute a team consisting of sports researchers, analysts and nutrition specialists to provide necessary directions to sportsmen;

(eJ) to develop State Sports Grid in such a way that sports infrastructure may be utilised by maximum people;

(eK) to introduce 'Sports Talent Identification Protocol' to evaluate the expertise and aptitude of sportsmen, as may be prescribed;

(eL) to implement “Sports Talent Continuous Evaluation” for continuous evaluation of selected sportsmen;

(eM) to establish a network of national academies to provide coaching to sportsmen who participates in international competitions;

(eN) to introduce a system to evaluate the performance of trainers and coaches;

(eO) to prepare sports calendar, as may be prescribed;

(eP) to establish Grievance Redressal Mechanism for dealing with the complaints of sportsmen, as may be prescribed;

(eQ) to provide necessary suggestions and directions for preparing sports curriculum of educational institutions, as may be prescribed;

(eR) to encourage entrepreneurs to make investment in sports infrastructure, sports events and academies;

(eS) to provide assistance to startups engaged in the development of infrastructure, manufacturing of sports equipments and coaching, through grants or funds, as may be prescribed;

(eT) to conduct physical fitness exercise campaigns;

(eU) to regulate the utilisation of playgrounds, as may be prescribed;

(eV) to organise inter-school, inter-college and inter-university championships in collaboration with educational institutions, as may be prescribed;

(eW) to implement the provisions of the Sports Development Code, 2011, with necessary amendments;

(eX) to set up special playgrounds for women and differently-abled sportsmen;

(eY) to develop community physical activity tracking system, as may be prescribed;

(eZ) to prepare priority list of sports events according to the scope of winning medals and publicity;

(eZA) to establish 'Sports Kerala Elite Academies' to promote investment from globally renowned academies;

(eZB) to organise sports such as golf, billiards, snooker and squash that comes under 'Green Sports' array;

(eZC) to organise trekking, rock climbing, paragliding, water rafting, kayaking, canoeing, sailing, windsurfing and scuba diving in co-ordination with Tourism Department;

(eZD) to provide suggestions and directions for preparing sports based special curriculum in sports school and sports division;

(eZE) to develop the infrastructure of educational institutions in collaboration with the said institutions;

(eZF) to provide accreditation and rating of academies, as may be prescribed;

(eZG) to conduct data collection of sports infrastructure, training centres, sports competitions and village sports tournaments;

(eZH) to organise sports film festival;

(eZI) to conduct sports competitions for sectors such as labourers, farmers, police in collaboration with concerned departments;”;

(v) after clause (h), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(hA) to organise clinics and workshops for referees;

(hB) to raise private investment and to attract entrepreneurs in infrastructure, academies and sports tournaments;

(hC) to organise sports investment meet;

(hD) to take steps to develop the sports sector in co-ordination with co-operative sector;”;

(vi) for clause (m), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

“(m) to collect statistics connected with sports and to establish sports information centre, or centres to collect the statistics and to store the basic data connected with sports and to establish and run libraries and museums connected with sports;”;

(vii) after clause (p), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(pA) to supervise the activities of District Sports Council;

(pB) to formulate and implement the schemes mentioned in the schedule;”.

8. *Amendment of section 10.*—In clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 10 of the principal Act, for the words and symbol “co-ordinate the activities”, the words and symbol “co-ordinate the activities and supervise such activities” shall be inserted.

9. *Amendment of section 34A.*—In section 34A of the principal Act,—

(a) for sub-section (2), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(2) All grants, grants-in-aid and donations received from the Central and State Governments, corporates, associations, societies, boards, trusts or from any other legal source and the investments received from any private persons, institutions, co-operative institutions, public sector institutions, social organisations and non-governmental organisations shall be credited to the Fund.”;

(b) in sub-section (3), after clause (viii), the following clauses shall be inserted, namely:—

“(ix) to provide scholarship to sportsmen;

(x) to provide assistance to innovative techniques in sports sector;

(xi) to provide interest subsidy and capital investment subsidy for sports ventures, as may be prescribed;

(xii) to promote sports in general, especially special sports disciplines and every individual sportsmen for achieving excellence at national-international level;

(xiii) to introduce technology in sports sector;

(xiv) to provide special training in relevant sports disciplines for expert coaches in each sector;

(xv) to conduct research and development study based on the problems identified in the field of sports and sports science;

(xvi) to arrange innovative sports coaching to highly normative sportsmen in the State;

(xvii) to undertake sports infrastructure projects under public-private partnership, and to carry out construction activities and maintenance of such activities, as may be prescribed.”;

(c) in sub-section (4),—

(a) in item (i), for the words “Minister for Sports”, the words “Chief Minister” shall be substituted;

(b) after item (i), the following items shall be inserted, namely:—

- | | | |
|--|----|-------------------------------------|
| “(ia) Minister for Sports | .. | Vice-Chairman (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| (ib) The Vice-Chairperson,
Kerala State Planning Board | .. | Member (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| (ic) The Secretary,
Law Department | .. | Member (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| (id) The Secretary to Government,
Finance (Resource) Department | .. | Member (<i>ex-officio</i>)”. |

10. *Insertion of new schedule.*—After section 49 of the principal Act, the following schedule shall be inserted, namely:—

“SCHEDULE

[See clause (pB) of sub-section (2) of section 5]

MATTERS FOR WHICH PROVISIONS MAY BE MADE IN THE SCHEME

1. The matters for identifying talented persons from fishermen and scheduled tribe communities and promoting them in sports events such as surfing, parasailing, archery etc.

2. The matters for developing human resource of school-college students.

3. The matters related to tournament, management and training centres of sports events having high scope of winning medal.

4. The matters related to 'Kerala Grand Prix' to develop the competitive ability of school-college children in collaboration with educational institutions.

5. Any other matter which is to be provided for in the scheme or which may be necessary or proper for the purpose of implementing the scheme.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Government have decided to promote and organise e-sports competitions with the objective of promoting legally recognised online sports games related to sports with the aim of fulfilling diverse sports needs and expectations. The Government considers that it is necessary to create awareness regarding physical fitness and exercise among all sections of society by emphasising the aim 'Sports for all'. With the aim of laying the foundation for a functional sports economy, the Government have decided to bring about a participatory approach in matters such as construction of sports infrastructure, manufacture and distribution of sports equipments, and to invite investment from the private sector for the construction of sports infrastructure and sports academies and for conducting sports tournaments.

2. On the basis of the Kerala Sports Policy, 2023 which was prepared in conformity with the changes in the modern era and approved by the Government vide G.O.(Ms.) No.6/2023/S &YA dated 22-7-2023 of Sports and Youth Affairs (A) Department, a six member committee was constituted vide G.O.(Rt.) No.262/2023/S&YA dated 13-9-2023 of Sports and Youth Affairs (A) Department to submit a report by conducting a comprehensive study regarding periodical changes to be made in the sports sector and various institutions. Based on the Kerala Sports Policy, 2023 the committee considered various matters including suggestion regarding amendments to be made in the Kerala Sports Act, 2000 and submitted a report to the Government along with a draft Bill for amending the said Act. On that basis Government have decided to make necessary amendments in the Kerala Sports Act, 2000.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the above object.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill, if enacted and brought into operation would not involve any additional expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause (aA) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (i) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of organising, regulating and promoting e-sports in the State.

2. Clause (eC) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of organising sports league.

3. Clause (eD) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of conducting annual economic sports survey.

4. Clause (eG) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the operational guidelines for sports arenas, sports turfs, wellness centres etc.

5. Clause (eK) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of introducing 'Sports Talent Identification Protocol' system to evaluate the expertise and aptitude of sportsmen.

6. Clause (eO) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of preparing sports calendar.

7. Clause (eP) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of establishing Grievance Redressal Mechanism to deal with the complaints of sportsmen.

8. Clause (eQ) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of providing necessary suggestions and directions for preparing sports curriculum in educational institutions.

9. Clause (eS) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of providing assistance to startups engaged in the development of infrastructure, manufacture of sports equipments and coaching through grants or funds.

10. Clause (eU) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of regulating the utilisation of playgrounds.

11. Clause (eV) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of organising inter-school, inter-college, inter-university championships in collaboration with educational institutions.

12. Clause (eY) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of developing 'Community Physical Activity Tracking System'.

13. Clause (eZF) of sub-section (2) of section 5 proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (iv) of clause 7 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of providing accreditation and rating of academies.

14. Clause (xi) of sub-section (3) of section 34A proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (b) of clause 9 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of providing interest subsidy and capital investment subsidy for sports ventures.

15. Clause (xvii) of sub-section (3) of section 34A proposed to be inserted in the principal Act by sub-clause (b) of clause 9 of the Bill seeks to empower the Government to make rules by prescribing the manner of carrying out construction activities and maintenance of such activities.

16. The matters in respect of which rules may be made, or notifications may be issued, are matters of procedure and are of routine or administrative in nature. Further, the rules so made and the notifications issued are subject to the scrutiny of the Legislative Assembly. The delegation of legislative power is, therefore, of a normal character.

V. ABDURAHIMAN.

EXTRACT FROM THE KERALA SPORTS ACT, 2000

(2 OF 2001)

An Act to provide for the promotion of sports and games and to augment the athletic efficiency in the State of Kerala and for the constitution of Sports Councils at the State level, District level and Local level and for matters ancillary or incidental thereto.

Preamble.—WHEREAS it is necessary and expedient to make provisions for the promotion of sports and games and to augment the athletic efficiency in the State and to extend and promote the concept of 'Sports for all';

** ** ** **

2. Definitions.— In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

** ** ** **

(vi) "Educational Institution" means University, College, School, Polytechnic or such other institution where instruction is imparted in any scientific-technical or arts subjects or any other institution notified by Government as an educational institution;

** ** ** **

(xiii) "Regulation" means regulation made by the State Sports Council under this Act;

** ** ** **

3.Constitution and composition of the Kerala State Sports Council.—(1)

** ** ** **

(2)** ** ** **

(3) The Kerala State Sports Council shall consist of the following members, namely:—

Ex-officio Members

- (a) The Minister in charge of sports, who shall be the chairman of the State Sports Council;
- (b) The Secretary to the Government dealing with Sports Department;
- (c) The Finance Secretary (Expenditure);
- (d) The Director General of Police;
- (e) The Director, Sports and Youth Affairs;
- (f) The Director of Public Instruction;
- (g) The Director of Collegiate Education;
- (h) The Director of Technical Education;
- (I) The Director of Higher Secondary Education;
- (j) The Director of Vocational Higher Secondary Education;
- (k) The Director of Health Services;
- (l) The Secretary of the State Sports Council;
- (m) The Director of Public Relations.

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4. *Secretary of the State Sports Council.*—(1) The Government shall, in consultation with the President of the State Sports Council, appoint an officer, not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to Government or the Director, Sports and Youth Affairs as the Secretary of the State Sports Council.

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5. *Duties, powers and functions of the State Sports Council.*—(1) **

(2) Save as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, the State Sports Council shall have the following powers and functions, namely:—

(a) to organize, co-ordinate, regulate and promote all types of sports in the State;

(b) to establish sports information centres, stadia, pavilions, playgrounds, parks, children's parks, sports training centres, circus training centres, kalaries and to construct buildings, swimming pools, and pools for water polo and boat race and gymnasia;

(c) to acquire or formally request properties for carrying out all or any of its activities for which the State Sports Council is responsible;

(cA) The Government may, for the purpose of renovation of any stadium, playground, open place, swimming pool or other permanent sports infrastructure which are constructed with the financial assistance from the Government or any agency under it and owned or occupied by the District Sports Council or any other organisation registered under it, or for the purpose of its maintenance or management or for both; in case the existing occupants do not manage or maintain the same properly or if the alterations or modifications of the facilities are made for any other purpose not related to sports without the approval of the Kerala State Sports Council, take over their management:

Provided that before such take over, the Government shall cause to conduct an enquiry for the purpose by an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government and as part of the enquiry, an opportunity of being heard shall be given to the parties concerned after serving notice on them.

(d) to conduct or organize by the council itself or through District Sports Council, Corporation Sports Council, Municipal Sports Council or Village Sports Council or to ensure their participation, in tournaments, competitions, training courses, seminars, coaching centres, exhibitions, tours and other items which help in the promotion of sports and games in the State;

(e) to confer titles, issue certificates or award prizes and scholarships or other benefits, in recognition or for encouragement of sports among students, workers, public servants and others;

(f) to introduce insurance and accident insurance coverage for sportsmen, coaches and referees in the manner as may be prescribed;

(g) to grant assistance by way of loans or otherwise to any person, educational institutions, sports organisations, clubs or associations with a view to promote sports in general or to promote any particular venture or item of sports;

(h) to raise fund generally for carrying on its activities;

(I) to arrange or otherwise make provisions for conducting competitions in sports in the State at national, international, inter-state or local level and to arrange sports tours;

(j) to give grants or funds to educational institutions and recognized sports organizations;

(k) to make arrangements for establishing playgrounds and for providing equipments and facilities for them;

(l) to establish, administer and regulate research centre or centres for development of any sports including adventurous and martial sports;

(m) to establish sports information centres, or centres to collect the statistics and to store the basic data connected with sports and to run libraries and museums connected with sports;

(n) to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of sportsmen;

(o) to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of the disabled sportsmen;

(p) to fix criteria for the approval and working of sports associations including the State unit of national sports federation having Central Government recognition;

(q) to do any other act that may be conducive to the furtherance of the objects of this Act;

(r) to exercise the powers and to discharge the functions conferred under this Act or the rules made thereunder.

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10. Powers and functions of District Sports Council. —(1)**

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(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the functions referred to in subsection (1), the District Sports Council may perform all or any of the following functions, namely:—

(a) co-ordinate the activities of the Corporation Sports Council, Municipal Sports Council, Village Sports Council and other registered sports organizations in the district;

**	**	**	**
34A. <i>State Sports Development Fund.—(1)**</i>			**
**	**	**	**

(2) All grants, grants-in-aid and donations received from the Central and State Governments, Corporates, Associations, Societies, Boards, Trusts or from any other legal source shall be credited to the State Sports Development Fund.

(3) The State Sports Development Fund may be utilised for the following matters, namely:—

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(viii) to provide sufficient insurance coverage to sportsmen who are registered in the Sports Council and is active in the sports field.

(4) The Government shall constitute a “Board of Trustees” with the following members, namely:—

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|-------|--|----|--------------------------------|
| (i) | Minister for Sports | .. | Chairman (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| (ii) | The Secretary to Government | .. | Member (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| | (Sports) | | |
| (iii) | The President, Kerala State Sports Council | .. | Member (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| (iv) | The Secretary to Government, Finance (Expenditure) Department | .. | Member (<i>ex-officio</i>) |
| (v) | The Finance Officer of the Directorate of Sports and Youth Affairs | .. | Member |
| (vi) | The Secretary, Kerala State Sports Council | .. | Member |

(vii) Persons nominated by the .. Five members
Government from among
the eminent sportsmen and
officials

(viii) The Director of Sports and Youth Affairs, who shall be the
Member-Secretary and Treasurer.

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49. *Removal of difficulties.*—(1) ** **

(2) Every order made under the sub-section (1) shall be laid, as soon as
may be after it is issued, before the Legislative Assembly.
