

**GOVERNMENT OF KERALAM****Abstract**

Sports & Youth Affairs Department – Talent Hunt Selection Programme for admission to Sports Schools and Academies for 2027-28 – Administrative Sanction accorded – Orders issued.

SPORTS & YOUTH AFFAIRS (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.254/2026/S&YA Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 01-10-2026

Read 1 Letter No. DSYA/184/2026-E3 dated 08.09.2026 of the Director, Sports & Youth Affairs, with the proposal placed before the Working Group.

2 Minutes of the Departmental Working Group meeting held on 10.09.2026.

ORDER

The Talent Hunt Selection Programme for 2027-28 is a State-wide initiative for systematic identification of promising young sportspersons for admission to Government Sports Schools, Sports Academies and Sports Hostels.

2. The programme is proposed in three stages: (i) district-level primary selection using standardised motor-ability, anthropometry and sport-specific tests; (ii) a one-week centralised residential assessment camp for comprehensive evaluation by trained coaches/experts; and (iii) a year-round talent-scouting system covering recognised school, district, State, National, Khelo India, rural, tribal and other sporting events. A Talent Scouting

Committee is proposed to maintain a central performance database and deploy sport-specific scouting teams.

3. The Working Group recommended Administrative Sanction for ₹57,61,500/- under Head of Account 2202-02-109-66 (P), subject to integration of athlete performance data with Game Keralam.

4. Government have examined the proposal and the recommendation of the Departmental Working Group in detail and are pleased to accord Administrative Sanction for an amount not exceeding ₹57,61,500/- (Rupees Fifty-Seven Lakh Sixty-One Thousand Five Hundred only) under Head of Account 2202-02-109-66 (P), for the selection/preparatory programme leading to admissions for 2027-28.

1. Expenditure during 2026-27 shall be confined to admissible preparatory, testing, scouting and selection activities actually falling within the current financial year and supported by current-year budget provision. Any expenditure/activity spilling into 2027-28 shall require budget provision and fresh/revalidated sanction as applicable.
2. Selection protocols, age categories, scientific tests, scoring methodology, inclusion norms, medical fitness requirements and grievance/appeal mechanism shall be approved and published before selections commence.
3. Raw test scores, selection lists, reasons for selection/non-selection and subsequent athlete-development data shall be digitally recorded and integrated with Game Kerala.
4. Experts/coaches participating in assessment shall disclose conflicts of interest and shall not evaluate candidates where a direct conflict exists.

5. Before drawal, the Director shall certify admissibility of the programme expenditure under the Plan write-up and the stated Head of Account.

(By order of the Governor)
PRASANTH N I A S
SPECIAL SECRETARY

To:

The Director, Sports & Youth Affairs, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Principal Accountant General (A&E/Audit), Kerala,
Thiruvananthapuram.

Finance (Education-B) Department.

Finance (Planning) Department.

The State Planning Board, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram.

Forwarded /By order
Digitally signed by
Anu Surendran
Date: 03-10-2026
11:38:12
Section Officer