



Haryana Felicitates Arjuna Awardees | Haryana | 11 Jan 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Haryana Chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar honored the **state players awarded with the [Arjuna Award](#)** and their coach **at Haryana Bhavan in New Delhi.**

Key Points

- The Chief minister congratulated **Wrestlers Sunil Kumar, Antim Panghal and Golfer Diksha Dagar** who were **honored with the Arjuna Award in the [National Sports Awards 2023.](#)**
- The athletes praised **Haryana's sports policy** stating that it has **boosted the morale of athletes, and the youth** are now more **inclined towards sports due to this Pro-player Policy.**
- According to the Chief minister, a **foundational framework for sports will be developed from village to village** in Haryana so that the youth can be nurtured from childhood.
- Plans are also underway to establish **specialized high-power performance centers** to train youth in popular sports. **Sports equipment** will be **made available through gram panchayat.**

Arjuna Award

- It was **instituted in 1961** by the Government of India **to recognise outstanding achievement in national sports events.**
 - It is given for **good performance over a period of previous four years** and showing **qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline.**
 - The award carries a **cash prize of Rs 15 lakh, a bronze statue of Arjuna and a scroll of honor.**
 - **In 2023, 26 athletes won the Arjuna Award** from Droupadi Murmu, the **President** of India.
 - The list **mostly features athletes from the [Asian Games 2023](#)** where **India made history** by **winning over 100 medals** in a single edition of the event.
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Sedition Charges | Haryana | 11 Jan 2024

Why in News?

Recently, **the Punjab & Haryana High Court issued a notice to the Haryana government regarding a revision petition** filed against a Sessions Court order framing charges against the petitioner under **[Section 124A IPC \(Sedition\).](#)** The charges were related to allegations that he used **'filthy language'** against India and raised an anti-national slogan.

- After the video of the alleged incident, the police registered the **[First Information Report \(FIR\)](#)**

under Sections 153A, 124A, 504 [Indian Penal Code \(IPC\)](#) and arrested accused for creating "animosity among several groups".

Key Points

- **Section 124A IPC** defines sedition as an offence committed when "**any person by words, either spoken or written, or by signs, or by visible representation, or otherwise, brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards the government established by law in India**".
 - **Disaffection includes disloyalty** and all feelings of enmity. However, comments without exciting or attempting to **excite hatred, contempt or disaffection, will not constitute an offence under this section.**
 - The Supreme Court in **Balwant Singh v. State of Punjab (1995)**, reiterated that the real intent of the speech must be taken into account before labeling it seditious.
- It is a **Non-Bailable Offence. Punishment** under Section 124A ranges from **imprisonment up to three years to a life term**, to which a fine may be added.
 - A person charged under this law is **barred from a government job.**
 - They have to **live without their passport** and must **produce themselves in the court at all times as and when required.**

Indian Penal Code (IPC)

- It is the **official criminal code of India drafted in 1860** in the wake of the **first law commission established in 1834 under the Charter Act of 1833.**
- In line, the **Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)** provides procedures for administering criminal law in India. It was **enacted in 1973 and became effective on 1 April 1974.**

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