



PM Invited to Attend National Games in Uttarakhand

Why in News?

Recently, the Uttarakhand Chief Minister invited the Prime Minister to attend [the National Games](#), which will be held in the state **from 28th January to 14th February 2025**. This is the **first time Uttarakhand is hosting the event**.

Key Points

- **Gifts Presented to the PM:**
 - The Chief Minister presented a shawl made by **Malari artisans** from Chamoli district and a **replica of Narayan Ashram** to the Prime Minister during their meeting.
- **About the Projects:**
 - **Development Updates:**
 - He informed the Prime Minister about ongoing development projects in Uttarakhand.
 - He highlighted the fast-paced progress on **the first phase of the Rishikesh-Karnprayag rail line project**.
 - He also mentioned the completion of the survey for **the Tanakpur-Bageshwar rail project**.
 - He updated the Prime Minister on the [Jal Jeevan Mission's progress](#) in Uttarakhand.
 - He also proposed **closing the old Rishikesh railway station** and operating all trains from the **new Yoga Nagari railway station**.
 - It was suggested that the land of the old station be repurposed for a new road system to improve traffic flow.
 - **Rishikesh as an Iconic City:**
 - The Chief Minister expressed gratitude for selecting Rishikesh as an iconic city for river rafting.
 - He requested Centre's support for [the Haridwar-Rishikesh Ganga Corridor and Sharda Corridor project](#) due to limited state resources.
 - **Geothermal Energy Project:**
 - He shared that an MoU is proposed with **the Iceland Embassy** for exploiting [geothermal energy in Uttarakhand](#).
 - He confirmed receiving the necessary no-objection letters from [the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change](#), [Ministry of New and Renewable Energy](#), and [Ministry of External Affairs](#).
 - He also requested technical and financial support for the project to help Uttarakhand contribute to [the zero carbon emission goal by 2070](#).
 - **Road Transport Proposals:**
 - The Chief Minister sought clearance for various road transport proposals sent to the Ministry of Road Transport. These include:
 - Rishikesh Bypass
 - Haridwar Bypass (Package 2)
 - [Dehradun-Mussoorie Connectivity](#)
 - Dehradun Ring Road
 - Champawat Bypass

- Lalkuan, Haldwani, and Kathgodam Bypass
- [Manaskhand Project](#)

National Games

▪ Background:

- The Olympic movement, which garnered the attention of the nation in **the 1920s**, **includes the National Games**. The **National Games** in India were first envisioned as the Indian Olympic Games with the goal of promoting Olympic sports in the nation.
 - The **first edition** of the [Indian Olympic Games](#) at Lahore in an undivided Punjab in 1924.
 - The Indian Olympic Games were named as **National Games** beginning in 1940. This competition sets athletes from several Indian states with one another in a variety of sporting disciplines.

▪ Objectives:

- They are held for the benefit of Indian athletes, sports organisations etc.
- They help in raising awareness among **states/UT's** about the necessity of developing internationally grade sports infrastructure.
- It attempts to attract a wide number of youths to participate in sports activities.
- It aims to inculcate sports culture in individuals from all walks of life and educate them on the value of sports in building a healthy society.

▪ Jurisdiction:

- The duration and the regulations of the National Games are entirely within the jurisdiction of [the Indian Olympic Association](#).

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