



J&K to Host Khelo India Winter Games 2025

Why in News?

Jammu & Kashmir is set to host the [Khelo India Winter Games \(KIWG\) 2025](#) from **23rd to 27th January 2025**. Ladakh will host ice sports, including ice hockey and ice skating events.

Key Points

- **Khelo India Winter Games:**
 - For the **second consecutive year, the Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) and Ladakh jointly hosted** the Khelo India Winter Games.
 - J&K previously hosted all events but Ladakh successfully organized ice events, such as skating and hockey.
- **Origins and Growth of Participation:**
 - The **Khelo India Winter Games began in 2020**, attracting nearly 1,000 athletes, including 306 women, in its inaugural year.
 - Participation steadily increased, with over 1,350 athletes in 2021 and more than 1,500 in 2022, reflecting the games' growing popularity in the region.
- **KIWG 2024:**
 - The 2024 Winter Games featured over 1,200 participants, including:
 - More than 700 athletes.
 - A total of 136 medals were contested during the event.
- **Increased Professional Management:**
 - For the first time, **the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**, in collaboration with [the Sports Authority of India \(SAI\)](#), [National Sports Federations](#), and the [Indian Olympic Association](#), managed the technical conduct of the games.

Khelo India Winter Games (KIWG)

- The KIWG is a **multidisciplinary, national-level winter sports competition** that **promotes winter sports** and encourages more athletes to take up skiing and skating.
- It includes events such as **skiing, alpine skiing, nordic skiing, snow rugby, ice stock sport, snow baseball, mountaineering, snowshoe running, ice hockey, figure skating, and speed skating**.
- It is organized by the [Sports Authority of India](#) and the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**.
- The **2025 KIWG** will be held in the **Union Territory of Ladakh from 23 to 27 January for ice events**, and in **the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir from 22 to 25 February for snow events**.

