Sports Panorama
West Bengal at a Glance
2017
U-17 World Cup
India 2017
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES AND SPORTS
GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Salt Lake, Kolkata
FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 Venue
West Bengal: The Emerging Growth Engine of India

Key Facts:
- 4th largest state economy in India with population of 91.3 million.
- Vast Road Network: 3,15,404 km.
- Railway Network: 4000 km.
- Water Front: 950 km.
- Gateway to South East Asia and North East India.
- Shares international borders with Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan.
- 2 International Airports, 2 Major Ports and 3 Upcoming Ports.
- 100% villages are electrified.
- Pioneer of cosmopolitan culture in the country.

Sports Highlights
- Presence of World Class Stadiums like Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Eden Gardens etc.
- FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 to be hosted in Kolkata.
- 72 infrastructure Projects undertaken since 2011.
- 8000 Youth Clubs received financial support.
- Residential State Football Academy opened in Khardah.
- State Archery Academy opened in Jhargram.
- Coming up State Swimming Academy at Subhas Sarobar in Kolkata.
- Coming up Women Football Academy at Kashipur in Purulia.
- Coming up revamped Dumurjola Sports Complex at Howrah.

The Sports Scenario:
West Bengal is the land of opportunities, enterprise, development and vision. Over the years, the state has been in the forefront in many sectors. It is the culture of Sports which unites the nation bridging the social and cultural boundaries. The main aim of the Department is to improve and develop sports infrastructure in the state, as also to search and nurture sporting talents. With this in view, the Department lays special emphasis on creation of sports facilities across the state with the endeavour to promote the young talents by creating a level playing field to shine in the global sports arena by creating a sports-centric, incentivized eco-system for all stakeholders.
FIFA U-17 World Cup Football:

It will be a proud moment in Indian Sporting history that FIFA U-17 World Cup Football will be held in October 2017 and Vivekananda Yuva Bharati Krirangan (Salt Lake stadium) is the most prestigious and biggest venue. The stadium has been upgraded to the international standard with an expenditure of Rs 100.00 crore.

FIFA Facts:

- 209 countries on Qualifiers.
- 24 countries will play 52 games during the tournament.
- 499 TV and Radio stations will broadcast live to 193 countries with 192 million viewership.
- Headquarter of FIFA for World Cup 2017 will be stationed at Kolkata during the event.
- About 7 matches will be held in Kolkata.
- FIFA delegation led by Miss Mayer Vorfelder visited Kolkata on October 2016 and finalised Vivekananda Yuva Bharati Krirangan (VYBK), as the stadium venue for hosting the World Cup.
In order to improve the sports infrastructure in the State, since May 2011 over Rs. 446 crores has been approved and over Rs. 260 Cr. has been sanctioned and released for upgradation and improvement of stadiums, swimming pools etc.

Increased budgetary provision for 2016-17 of Rs 225.00 crore against Rs 56.00 crores during 2011-12.

New Sports Policy was unveiled to boost sports culture and support sportspersons in the state in 2015.

72 Sports Infrastructure Projects have been taken up in the state since May 2011 which includes Sports Academy, Stadiums and Swimming pools.

Sports Awards in four categories (Khel Samman, Banglar Gaurav, Kira Guru, Lifetime Achievement Award) have been instituted to encourage young sports persons and felicitate senior famous sports persons and coaches.

To encourage the mainstreaming of the remote areas, Department of Sports has organized Sports competitions in the Sunderbans, Darjeeling-Dooars-Terai and Jungle Mahal regions. These competitions were organized by the local police involving the local clubs and sportspersons. About 5057 clubs have been provided @ of Rs 25,000 each and over 60,000 sportspersons have participated in these tournaments.
District Sports Councils and Sub-Divisional Sports Councils have been reconstituted to further galvanize sports activities at the district and sub-divisional level. West Bengal State Council of Sports has also been formed afresh in July, 2016 with the involvement of eminent sport personalities from different fields.

To inspire and promote sports in the grassroot level, about 8,000 Clubs across the state have been selected and financially supported.

Establishment of residential Football Academy at Khardah for professional coaching.

Recent Developments in Sports

Biswa Bangla Kîrangan (BBK), the Jalpaiguri Sports Complex will be the Eastern India’s dedicated Sports Academy for football, athletics, badminton and Table Tennis in collaboration with SAI.

An Archery Academy has been established in Jhargram to train the locals for professional archery to harness the traditional talent of tribals in the Jungle Mahal area.

All sports persons who have secured 1st, 2nd, 3rd position at the National Level Championship or 1st position in the State Level Championship in respect of the events included in the Olympic Games are considered in the “Exempted Category” for certain categories of government level employment.
Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (Salt Lake), Kolkata
Second largest stadium in the world and the largest in the Indian sub-continent established in 1984 with a capacity of 1,20,000 people in a three-tier configuration having world class facilities hosted a large number of international tournaments and matches.

Eden Gardens, Kolkata
This is one of the largest cricket stadiums in the world having a lush green sprawling ground which has been the hub of cricket with a gallery capacity of about 66,000 people with a posh Club House, a Conference Room and all other modern amenities.

Netaji Indoor Stadium, Kolkata
It is a world class stadium located at the heart of Kolkata and witness of many memorable events. It was originally conceived as an indoor stadium for various indoor games and after modernisation capacity has been elevated to 11600 people holds many national and international events.

Kishore Bharati Krirangan (Jadavpur Stadium), Kolkata
It is a well-equipped stadium with seating capacity of 12,000 people having adequate space for holding meeting, seminar and conference.

Three Enclosed Grounds at Kolkata Maidan Area
The three enclosed grounds at the Calcutta Maidan namely, East Bengal Club, Mohun Bagan Club and Mohomedan Sporting Club are the grounds where Premier Calcutta League and IFA Shield used to held since inception and in one of these grounds, where the 1st Indian Club Mohun Bagan lifted the IFA Shield defeating the Yorkshire Regiment by 2-1 in 1911, realising the joy of victory for the first time.

Kshudiram Anusilan Kendra, Kolkata
It is a small indoor air-conditioned auditorium predominantly used for indoor training in volleyball, basketball, table tennis, gymnastics etc. with an area of about 2100 sq.m.

Subhas Sarobar Swimming Pool, Beliaghata, Kolkata
The area of the Swimming Pool including the surroundings is An area of 10,160.64 sq. meters hosted 1987, SAP Games Aquatic Championship having Pool and Diving Pool dimensions 50 mts. x 20 mts. and 18 mts. x 14 mts respectively.
**Jalpaiguri Stadium**  
Biswa Bangla Krirangan (BBK), Jalpaiguri Sports Complex is the Eastern India’s dedicated Sports Academy for Football, Athletics, Badminton and Table Tennis.

**Kanchenjungha Stadium, Siliguri**  
With an area of 14,300 sq. metre and seating capacity of 35,000 people, the stadium is located in the city of 4 Ts (Tea, Timber, Tourism, Table Tennis).

**Barasat Stadium**  
Situated in the district headquarter of North 24 Parganas, the stadium holds many provincial level football matches.

**Gorkha Stadium at Lebong, Darjeeling**  
It is one of the very few stadiums located at an altitude of about 6,000 ft. in the hills of Darjeeling. There is a standard playground along with gallery for spectators.

**Cooch Behar Stadium**  
Located in the district headquarter with spectator capacity of about 7,000. With dormitory halls for accommodation of players.

**Howrah Stadium**  
Located on the heart of the town just next to Howrah Sarat Sadan in Howrah Maidan area with a spectator capacity in the gallery is 6,000 and size of the playground is 135 metre x 73.5 metres.

**Berhampore Stadium**  
It is located in the district headquarter of Murshidabad having multiple sporting facilities.

**Bankura Stadium**  
It has infrastructural facilities for Football, Volleyball, Kho Kho and Kabadi and Cricket Pitch and there is a Swimming Tank of size 25 metres x 25 metres having a spectator capacity of about 6,000.

and many more.....
Chronology of Important Sports Events

1792: First ever cricket match reported in the Madras Courier on 23 February. Played by the Calcutta Cricket Club (CCC) against Barrackpore and Dumdum.

1804: The first organized cricket match in India with detailed record was played on 18th and 19th of January at Calcutta. The complete scorecard was printed in the Calcutta Gazette on 26th January, 1804.

1829: The Royal Calcutta Golf Club was established.

1858: First recorded soccer match was played at Esplanade between the Calcutta Club of Civilians and The Gentlemen of Barrackpore.

1864: Ballygunge Cricket Club was set up in 1864 and later in 1950 it merged with CCC.

1872: Calcutta Football Club (CFC) was set up.

1885: First Indian Hockey club was formed in Calcutta.

1889: Mohun Bagan club was founded.

1891: Mohammedan Sporting Club founded.

1892: Shovabazar Club scored the first ever victory of an Indian team over a European one.

1893: IFA (Indian Football Association) was formed.

1895: Beighton Cup Tournament (Hockey) began in Calcutta.

1900: Norman Pritchard of Calcutta won two silver medals at the Paris Olympics in the 200 meters run and 200 meters hurdles. First Asian to win a medal in Olympics.

1911: Mohun Bagan won the IFA Shield by defeating East Yorkshire 2-1 in final on 29th July.

1920: South Club (Lawn Tennis) was established.

1921: Gobar (Jatindracharan) Guha won the World Light-Heavy Weight title at San Francisco.

1921: East Bengal club was founded.

1938: Bengal won Ranji Trophy for the first time (led by Tom Longfield).

1952: In Helsinki Olympics Indian women took part for the first time in Olympics. Among the four, two were from Calcutta: Nilima Ghosh for Athletics and Arati Saha for swimming.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Mihir Sen crossed the English Channel and became the first Indian to do so.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Arati Saha became the first Asian woman to cross the English Channel.</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>Football King Pele (Cosmos Club) visited the city and played one exhibition match against Mohun Bagan.</td>
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<td>1980</td>
<td>Biggest tragedy - 16 people died in a Calcutta Senior Division League match between East Bengal and Mohun Bagan at Eden Gardens.</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>Nehru International Gold Cup - first ever international soccer tournament of India was held in Calcutta.</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>Yubabharati Krirangan (Salt Lake Stadium), largest in Asia (capacity 120,000) was inaugurated.</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>World Cup Cricket (Reliance Cup) Final match was held in Eden Gardens.</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Bengal won Ranji trophy under captaincy of Sambaran Banerjee.</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Dibyendu Barua won Gold Medal in the 2nd board in Chess Olympiad in 1990.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Leander Paes of Calcutta won the only medal (bronze medal in Tennis singles) for India in 1996 Atlanta Olympics.</td>
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<td>1996</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony of World cup cricket held in Eden Gardens.</td>
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<td>1997</td>
<td>Mohun Bagan won National football league for the first time from Bengal.</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Saurav Ganguly was declared as the captain of Indian Cricket team.</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>India beat Australia in historic test match under captaincy of Sourav Ganguly in Eden Gardens.</td>
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<td>2003</td>
<td>East Bengal Football Club has won Asean Cup as a first Indian team in foreign soil.</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>East Bengal beat Vasco Sports Club, Goa, to lift the seventh National Football League title in Kolkata.</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Kolkata Knight Riders established at Eden Gardens.</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Six junior footballers of Siliguri Football Academy in West Bengal have been invited by the famous German football club Bayern Munich FC to train with them.</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Sourav Kothari wins the National Billiards title and also entered in to the final of World Billiards Championship.</td>
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They Have Made Us Proud: The Padma Shri Award winners...

- Shri Mihir Kumar Sen: Football (1959)
- Smt. Arati Saha: Swimming (1960)
- Shri Gostha Behari Paul: Football (1962)
- Shri Nawang Gombu: Mountaineering (1964)
- Shri Phu Dorjee: Mountaineering (1965)
- Shri Chandra Prakash Vohra: Mountaineering (1965)
- Shri Leslie Walter Claudius: Hockey (1971)
- Shri Sailendra Nath Manna: Football (1971)
- Shri Pankaj Lall Roy: Cricket (1975)
- Jhulan Goswami: Cricket (2012)
- Shri Om. B. Agarwal: Snooker (1985)
- Shri Pradip Kumar Banerjee: Football (1990)
- Shri Leander Adrian Paes: Lawn Tennis (2001)
- Shri Sourav Ganguly: Cricket (2004)
To open up entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for sports persons, the Sports Department in collaboration with the Technical Education Department, have initiated skill development courses in several sports related areas.

The Sports Department, with assistance from MSME Department, has taken initiatives to attract both domestic and global private sector investment in manufacturing of sports goods and technical tie-ups in sports infrastructure.
Opportunities For Investments

- Developing a barrier free environment for the growth of sports.
- Research and knowledge development in Sports science and management & dissemination.
- State – Industry interface and Corporate Social Responsibility.
- Quality Sports education, developing center of excellence and promoting sports as a full time career.
- Efficient sports event management and marketing.
- Strengthening and professionalizing Sports Associations with the help of corporate tie ups.
- Talent hunt and management at the grassroot level.
- World Class sports infrastructure development.
- Investment in manufacturing of sports goods.
- Skill development in sports-related areas.