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CASH AWARDS FOR "ARJUNA" WINNERS

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Arjuna Awards for excellence in sports should, in future years, be accompanied by Cash Awards also, according to a recommendation by the Executive Committee of the All-India Council of Sports which met here this morning. It reviewed the existing rules for the Arjuna Awards and made recommendations to Government. It was also agreed that separate Awards be instituted for outstanding coaches and umpires.

All recognised disciplines will be eligible for consideration for Arjuna Awards, according to another recommendation by the Committee. Apart from excellence in sports, qualities of discipline and leadership will also be taken into account in making the nominations.

The Committee reviewed the position in regard to plans of training and coaching for Asian and Commonwealth Games, 1978, from various federations and associations. It expressed concern that apart from hockey, plans in respect of only seven games had been received through the I.O.A. These related to Boxing, Cycling, Handball, Rifle Shooting, Weightlifting, Yachting and Swimming. The Committee decided that the Member-Secretary should write to the various federations and associations that they must send their plans by November. Otherwise, their cases would go by default and their proposals would not be considered by the....

by the A.I.C.S. The Committee entrusted the plans of different federations and associations for scrutiny to individual members who would make recommendations to the Committee.

The Executive Committee made a number of other recommendations. It approved the participation of an All-India Chess Federation Team in the Asian championships to be held in New Zealand next month. It also approved the visit of a Dutch Hockey Team to this country in December this year.

The Executive Committee decided to give a grant of a lakh of rupees to the Indian Olympic Association for holding the next national games in Hyderabad in December this year.

A Sub-Committee has been formed under the chairmanship of Shri Kanti Chaudhuri, Vice-Chancellor, Jabalpur University to go into the question of improving sports in colleges and universities. The Sub-Committee is to tour the various regions for discussions with university authorities, before making its recommendations.

SP/MLS

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