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PRESIDENT GIVES AWAY ARJUNA AND DRONACHARYA AWARDS  
VALUE OF CASH AWARD ENHANCED

New Delhi Jyaistha 09, 1911  
May 30, 1989

The President, Shri R. Venkataraman gave away the nation's highest awards in Sports - The Arjuna Awards and The Dronacharya Awards, and the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy to Delhi University for its all round excellent performance in sports during 1987-88 at a special function held in Rashtrapati Bhavan here today. Speaking on the occasion the President said that these Awards are a compliment not merely to the selected sports persons but to the kinetic energy of the youth of our country. He said that sports must help to direct the energies of our youth for building up our country and must also reflect and promote national integration.

In his welcome address, the Human Resource Development Minister, Shri P. Shiv Shankar said that the Government has increased the cash award for the Arjuna Award from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs. 20,000/-, and for Dronacharya Award from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 40,000/-. Government has also introduced a cash award of Rs. 50,000/- for the winner of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy, and Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 10,000/- respectively for the universities achieving second and third position for allround achievement in sports. He hoped that these awards besides honouring and conveying the recognition of the nation to outstanding sports-persons, coaches and universities, would also serve to inspire

the youth of the country to greater endeavours in the field of sports and games, as well as encourage coaches and institutions to enable youth to attain ever increasing standards of excellence.

The Arjuna Awards in the form of a bronze statuette of Arjuna, a scroll and a cash award of Rs. 20,000/- each were given today to the following sportspersons:-

Shri Balwinder Singh (Athletics), Shri Bagicha Singh (Athletics), Kumari Vandana Rao (Athletics), Kumari Vandana Shanbagh (Athletics), NB/Subedar Seera Jayaram (Boxing), Shri D.V. Prasad (Chess), Smt. Bhagyashree Pravin Thipsay (Chess), Major Jitendar Jit Singh Ahluwalia (Equestrian), Kumari Nonita Lall (Golf), Lt. Col. Kuldip Singh Garcha (Polo), Shri Naman Parekh (Roller Skating), Smt. Monalisa Barua (Mehta) - (Table Tennis), Shri Subhash (Wrestling), Shri C.S. Pradipak (Yachting) and Shri G. Devan (Weightlifting).

The Dronacharya Awards for eminent coaches, consisting of a plaque, a scroll and a cash award of Rs. 40,000/- were presented to Guru Hanuman (Wrestling) and Shri Gurcharan Singh (Cricket).

The Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy for showing the best allround performance in sports for 1987-88 was given to the Delhi University. The University also got a cash award of Rs. 50,000/- for purchase of sports equipment.

PS:Kathuria

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