THE MAR HINDU

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<u>Telangana Chief Minister KCR announces</u> <u>Cash Awards for Badminton Players</u>



(Gymnast Aruna Reddy (from left), Shooter Gagan Narang, Shuttlers RMV Gurusaidutt, Jwala Gutta, P.V. Sindhu, Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, Harvir Singh (Shuttler Saina Nehwal's father), Saina Nehwal, CWG Gold Medallist P. Kashyap, CM's son and Minister for Information Technology and Panchayat Raj K. T. Rama Rao and Badminton Coach Pullela Gopichand at the Secretariat)

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao announced cash incentives of Rs. 50 lakh each for the Gold Medallists, Rs. 25 lakh each for Silver Medallists and Rs. 15 lakh for Bronze Medallists in the recent Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

Badminton Coaches Pullela Gopichand and S.M. Arif will also get Rs. 50 lakh each for their contribution to the success story.

It was a pleasant surprise for all the CWG Medallists when they met the Chief Minister at his chambers in the Secretariat on Wednesday.

Sports City

The Chief Minister also told the delegates that the Government would develop an excellent Sports City around Hyderabad shortly. "Design and development of the Sports City should be planned by using the local Telangana talent. The facility will also host National and International events once in two months," he said.

Mr. Rao accepted a suggestion to allot the existing sports infrastructure to talented sportspersons to develop academies. He promised to give a new direction to sports by ensuring that all deserving players get the desired support on all fronts. "We will take every step to make Hyderabad the final destination for sports," he said.

CWG Gold Medallist Parupally Kashyap, Silver Medallist Jwala Gutta, Bronze Medallists P.V. Sindhu, R.M.V. Guru Sai Dutt (all from Badminton), Gagan Narang (Silver & Bronze in shooting), Gymnast Aruna Reddy (no medal) were among those present along with India's Chief National Coach Pullela Gopichand and Champion Saina Nehwal.
