

## **Odisha Government signs agreement with Swimming Federation of India**

- The partnership is part of the Odisha Government's vision to develop, promote and expand the swimming ecosystem

Bhubaneswar, 4 December 2021: Government of Odisha, through Sports and Youth Services Department (DSYS) and Swimming Federation of India (SFI), today, entered into a partnership to develop, promote and expand the Swimming ecosystem in the state of Odisha and India. Through this collaborative partnership, Odisha will provide support and sponsor SFI and the Federation in conjunction with Odisha State Swimming Association (OSSA) will provide their technical expertise. The partnership will be valid for one year extendable to five years, under mutually agreed terms.

Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Sports and Youth Services Department, Government of Odisha, R. Vineel Krishna and Secretary General, Swimming Federation of India, Monal Chokshi signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in presence of Virendra Nanavati, FINA Bureau member & Senior Vice President SFI, on the side lines of the ongoing Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2021 at the Kalinga Stadium.

The partnership, over the next five years, will be towards the holistic development of the sport from grassroot to elite, include conduct of National and International repute swimming competitions and events and conduct 'Train the Trainers' courses in Odisha.

Sports Secretary, Odisha, R. Vineel Krishna, shared, "Swimming is a major discipline in multi events. The sport has a lot of potential to grow and many young swimmers are showing great prospect at the national level. We are delighted to partner with Swimming Federation of India for the holistic development of the sport of Swimming in Odisha. The Federation will assist in developing all forms of aquatic sports in the state and to produce elite swimmers. This partnership will enable us to collaborate to also conduct National and international repute Aquatic Championship in Odisha."

Our Biju Patnaik Swimming Pool Complex at Kalinga Stadium is one of the finest swimming infrastructure in the country and we are strengthening our grass root Swimming training centres too. Our High Performance Partnership with JSW Sports and this association with Swimming Federation of India will give an added impetus to the sport of Swimming, he added.

Speaking on the partnership, Secretary General, Swimming Federation of India, Monal Chokshi, shared, "We are very excited with the signing of the agreement between SFI and the Odisha Government for development of aquatic sport in Odisha and the country. This is an important milestone for SFI and I am certain this partnership will be an enduring relationship to take aquatic sport in the country to uncharted heights."

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