

Guj's new sports policy: Gold medal athletes to get jobs, cash

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Ahmedabad: Taking a cue from Haryana's sports promotional policy, the state government announced its own — Gujarat Sports Policy 2016. Minister of state Nanubhai Vanani made the announcement with an aim to promote sports culture in the state.

The state government has also attempted to give a sense of security to sportspersons through government jobs. The government has not only decided to provide cash prizes but also class-I jobs to Olympic medallists and Asian Games gold medallists. Silver and bronze medal winners at the Asian Games will be offered class-II jobs.

The cash award, though,

WINNERS' ENTITLEMENTS			
Events	Medals	Haryana (amt)	Gujarat (amt)
Olympics / Para	Gold	6cr	5cr
	Silver	4cr	3cr
Asian Games / Para	Gold	3cr	2cr
	Silver	1.5cr	1cr
CWG / Para	Gold	1.5cr	1cr
	Silver	75L	50L

has a cap system. If an athlete wins more than two gold medals at an event, as was the case of Maana Patel (who won four in nationals), cash prize will be awarded for two yellow medals only. When asked why Maana received an award of Rs 6 lakh only, Manish Bhardwaj, secretary of sports,

youth and cultural activities, said, "There is a cap for it. Two gold medals will be considered." Haryana, considered one of the conservative states in the country, has embraced sports. Gujarat has scripted its policy on Haryana's lines, though there's a difference in cash awards.