

LAXMI SWAMI

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Respected Sir

This is to notify the viral media coverage in India regarding permission granted by WAF to AFI to hold Master Athletics Championships in India. Please find the attached hindi coverage below. Also, here is the english translation of the article for your reference.

Protection of AFI to master athletes across the country.

'The World Athletics Federation has entrusted the responsibility of conducting master athletics, Masters athletes will get certification, Athletes will not be cheated.'

The Athletic Federation of India'(AFI) has put its hand over the heads of the master athletes from all over the country. Master athletes will not be cheated in the name of championships. The World Athletics Federation has allowed the AFI to hold Master Athletics Championships. Team will be selected by AFI to go to International Championship.

Till now, there used to be master athletics competitions, but various groups organize it. There were no championships through any recognized association. In this, athletes above 35 years of age participate. Retired players also play. It is alleged that an arbitrary amount was also collected by master athletes, in the name of championships. Master Athletics Championships will now be conducted under the direction of the Athletics Federation of India (AFI). With this, athletes will not be cheated by giving up to ₹1000 to ₹1500, they will only have to pay the fee (around ₹300) for registration from the association. The contestant will also get the benefit of a valid championship. District, State, National and International level Master Athletics Championships will only be held through Athletics Federation of India or Association. Now, master athlete will first have to register online on the AFI website. Only registered master athletes will be able to play in the competitions. Online registrations are being done on the AFI site until 10th May.

Will get unique ID number: Every state athletics association will issue a unique ID number for the master athlete. From this registration will be done. The same number will also be used in competitions. Currently, such arrangements have been made by UP Athletics Association for athletes other than master athletes.

Will remain one association in the state: To organize master athletics championships, three associations are running with different names in the state. In these three associations, athletes register where there is a low registration fee. Now, association affiliated to AFI and UP Athletics Association will only organize championships.

According to statement given to one of the newspapers in Uttar Pradesh 'Dainik Jagran', Mr. PK Srivastava (General Secretary, UP Athletics Association) said that "Various groups have been conducting master athletics championships, earlier. Now,

the World Athletics Federation has given this responsibility to AFI. State and District Bodies will only organize such meets."

According to statement given to above mentioned newspaper Mr. Shamshad Azmi (Secretary, District Athletics Association U.P.) said that "A letter has been received from UP body. This is a great initiative for the master athletes of the district. There are many master athletes in the district who have been medal winners. Registrations will begin as soon as possible."

Masters Athletics Federation of India (MAFI) is the only body in India affiliated to World Masters Athletics (WMA) and Masters Athletics Association of Rajasthan (MAAR) is affiliated to Masters Athletics Federation of India (MAFI). Above viral press-note is only for your kind information.

In thanking you, I remain
Yours sincerely
Laxmi Swami
(Secretary, MAAR)