

Circular No. 20/02-2026
February 25, 2026

To
Affiliated Units
Athletics Federation of India

Subject: Important Decisions taken in the Executive Council Meeting, 2026

Dear Sir / Ma'am,

I am pleased to convey the important decisions taken in the Executive Council Meeting held at Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, on 14th and 15th February 2026:

1. The qualification standard for the participation of the Indian Team in the forthcoming Commonwealth Games 2026 to be held at Glasgow, Scotland, and Asian Games 2026 to be held at Nagoya, Japan were approved unanimously. The qualification standards are attached herewith.
2. The AFI insisted that every affiliated unit in the country must follow the AFI Competition Calendar. The importance of the competition calendar was also explained to the members. It was also explained that the athletes need proper time for their preparation, as well as some competitions, to give good results. Any deviation in the calendar by the State Association can cause injury to the athletes, and if they do not peak at the right time, their performance in the main competition can be affected. Each State / UT Association was asked to submit its Annual Competition Calendar to the AFI Office within one week, ensuring that the same is aligned with the AFI Competition Calendar.
3. The Executive Council discussed the activities of the States and showed concern about the non-functioning of some states. It was also decided to take appropriate action against those states that are not complying with the directions of AFI and are not conducting their activities. The members also showed their concern about the functioning of some bigger states that were doing very well in the past, but now, due to the inefficiency in the functioning and non-compliance with the AFI policy, their performance has gone down.

4. It was informed that there are over 700 districts that are affiliated to our states, but the majority of them are not working efficiently. In this regard, the following decisions were taken:
 - a) States will monitor every district and will ensure that they give proper publicity to their competition, so that more athletes can take part in the competition.
 - b) Districts shall mandatorily maintain their bank account
 - c) Districts should have an adequate number of DTOs and Pre-Level 1 coaches
 - d) No office bearer of the district can continue as an office bearer who does not reside in that particular district.
 - e) The states have no authority to remove any district or change the office bearer without consulting or approval from AFI.
5. The Executive Council approved provisional affiliation to Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu after verifying the necessary papers.
6. The Executive Council unanimously approved the mandatory conduct of the SRY Gene test in the national-level competition. The details will follow.
7. The Executive Council also approved to conduct DNA tests of the upcoming athletes for Research & Development, and the AFI will maintain all records confidentially in its Office.
8. The Executive Council ratified the appointment of two High Performance Directors, namely Mr. Michael Khmel, and Mr. Karl Gunter Lange for Junior and Senior respectively.
9. It was approved that any agreement of AFI with an outside agency will be signed by the designated authority after following the proper procedure by the AFI Office and approval of the competent authority.
10. The Executive Council approved conducting the AFI Award function and also approved its estimated budget.

11. The Executive Council also approved the decision on the registration of coaches and technical officials.
12. The Executive Council authorised the President, Secretary and Treasurer to discuss with Chartered Accountant for his continuation.
13. The education programme of AFI was discussed in details and it was also explained that AFI should have an adequate number of coaches to strengthen its developmental programme and provide proper coaching at the grassroots level. It was also decided to have a course for affiliated units, enabling them to understand AFI policy and programme properly for its implementation.
14. The Executive Council approved the agreement with **Infinity Optimal Solutions (IOS)**, and **Tatva Creations Private Limited**.
15. The Executive Council has approved the initiation of a Track Certification by AFI. The Council deliberated upon the growing concern of substandard track infrastructure and resolved that AFI must commence the issuance of certification for athletics tracks to improve the quality of tracks in India.
16. The Executive Council also approved the introduction of the Marathon Portal on the AFI website, strengthening the digitalization, introducing the AFI mobile App and also introducing the facial recognition for issuing the UID cards to Athletes to reduce age fraud and impersonation.
17. The Executive Council also approved the Internal Office Policy for Employees.
18. The Executive Council approved the formation of a renovation committee with the following members:
 - i. Mr. Sandeep Mehta
 - ii. Mr. BE Stanley Jones
 - iii. Dr. Madhukant Pathak
 - iv. Mr. Raj Kumar Mittan
19. The Executive Council also approved the expenditure incurred in the renovation work of the terrace, purchase of a Schindler lift and appointment of a vendor for the shaft work for the lift.

20. The Executive Council discussed about the non-functioning of the states, namely Chhattisgarh, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur. A committee was formed with Dr. Madhukant Pathak, Mr. Raj Kumar Mittan and Mr. Jaspinder Singh and the Committee will give its report within next 15 days.
21. The Council discussed popularizing Athletics in the country, and it was decided that a 2 km run in every district shall be organised on 30th August - the day when the first medal during the World Athletics Championships was won in Athletics. The details of this project will be prepared by a committee consisting of Mr. Ravinder Chaudhry, Mr. B.E. Stanley Jones and Mr. Radhakrishnan Nair.
22. The Council authorized President AFI to appoint 3-4 spokespersons region-wise to give better publicity to Athletics.
23. The Council also discussed the World Athletics Council Election in 2027, and Dr. Adille Sumariwalla was nominated as the Indian candidate for contesting elections for the post, which is to be decided in consultation with Senior AFI Officials.
24. It was also decided to accredit various academies in the country to keep proper monitoring of the performance of the athletes and facilities they are getting at various places. The Executive Council approved four academies, subject to their application, namely Reliance Foundation, JSW, Anju Bobby Sports Foundation and P.T. Usha School of Athletics.
25. It was decided that AFI will publish e-learning modules on its Website and YouTube Channel.

The minutes of the Executive Council Meeting will be sent shortly.

Regards

S. S. Patnaik

G. Srinibas Patnaik
Officiating Secretary
Athletics Federation of India