

National Air Sports Policy

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In news– The Minister of Civil Aviation has launched **India's first National Air Sport Policy (NASP) 2022** recently.

Key highlights of the NASP-2022-

- **It lays out the vision of making India as one of the top sports nations by 2030**, by providing a safe, affordable, accessible, enjoyable and sustainable air sports ecosystem in India.
- **Air sports encompasses various sports activities involving the medium of air.**
- NASP has been drafted based on the inputs received from policy makers, air sports practitioners and public at large and will ensure establishment of good quality of infrastructure, equipment, instructors and services.
- The policy will cover the following air sports in India– Aerobatics, Aero modeling and model rocketry, Amateur-built and experimental aircraft, Ballooning, Drones, Gliding and powered gliding, Hang gliding and powered hang gliding, Parachuting (including skydiving, BASE jumping and wing suits etc.), Paragliding and paramotoring (including powered parachute trikes etc.), Powered aircraft (including ultra light, micro light and light sports aircraft etc.), Rotorcraft (including autogyro).
- **Key Objectives of NASP 2022:**
 - Promote an air sports culture in the country.
 - Enable adoption of international good practices in safety including but not limited to, air sports infrastructure, equipment, operations, maintenance and training.
 - Develop a simple, stakeholder-friendly and effective governance structure.
 - Enhance participation and success of Indian

sportspersons in global air sports events.

- Promote design, development and manufacturing of air sports equipment in India in line with the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.
- **Under the new policy, there will be four-tier governance structure for air sports in India namely-**
 1. **Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI) as the apex governing body.**
 2. National associations for individual air sports or a set of air sports, as appropriate.
 3. Regional (e.g. West/ South/ North East etc.) or State and Union Territory level units of the national air sports associations, as appropriate.
 4. District-level air sports associations, as appropriate.
- To be chaired by the Civil aviation ministry Secretary, **ASFI will be an autonomous body, and will present India at the Fédération aéronautique internationale (FAI)** and other global platforms related to air sports.
- **It will provide governance over all aspects of air sports,** including regulation, certification, competitions, awards, and penalties.
- The national air sports associations will be accountable to ASFI to ensure safe, affordable, accessible, and sustainable conduct of their respective sporting activities.