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## Thirteen athletes presented Ekalavya award

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Thirteen athletes including para-swimmer Revathi Nayak M received Ekalavya award along with ₹2 lakh cheque from the Department of Youth and Sports (DYES) here on Wednesday.

Veteran athletics coach VR Beedu, whose name was omitted from DYES award list last time despite panel's recommendation, was acknowledged for his over 45-year worth coaching with lifetime achievement award and ₹1.5 lakh cheque along with swimming coach Manohar R Mohite.

"It's an honour to get this award. I feel happy and it's better late than never. But this award doesn't change anything.



Shuttler Poorvisha S Ram receiving Ekalavya award | NAGESH POLALI

"I'm ambitious and will keep on working as long as I can," the 71-year-old coach said.

Pramod Madhwaraj, sports minister, promised jobs in the state government for Asiad, Commonwealth Games and Olympic medallists. "Olympic medallists will be given Group 'A' level appointments in the State Government while medallists from CWG and Asian will be given Group 'B' level," he said.

**Recipients: Ekalavya (₹2 lakh):** Harshit S (athletics), Rajesh Prakash Uppar (basketball), Poorvisha S Ram (badminton), Renuka Dandin (cycling), Mayur D Bhanu (shooting), Kartik A (volleyball), Malavika Vishwanath (swimming), Kirthana TK (rowing), Aliyappa MB (hockey), Suresh Hegde (kabaddi), Gururaja (weightlifting), Sandeep B Kate (wrestling), Revathi Nayaka M (para-swimming). **Lifetime achievement (₹1.5L):** VR Beedu (athletics), Manohar R Mohite (swimming).