GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1108
ANSWERED ON- 10/02/2022

SPORTING EVENTS IN RURAL/URBAN AREAS

1108. SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether Government has succeeded in providing all requisite facilities to the para athletes at par with other sports persons, as one of the verticals of the Khelo India Scheme is specifically dedicated to the para-athletes of the country; and

(b) steps taken by Government to boost and promote sporting events across rural and urban areas by ensuring equitable distribution of funds across all the states?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) Under the "Promotion of sports among persons with disabilities" vertical of the Khelo India scheme, financial assistance is provided support District and State level games to the concerned National Sports Federations, namely, Special Olympic Bharat, All India Sports Council of Deaf and Paralympics Committee of India. Further, under the "Talent Search and Development" vertical of the Khelo India Scheme, 29 para-athletes have been identified as Khelo India Athletes in four para-sports disciplines and are being provided with Out of Pocket Allowance of ₹10,000 per month. In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has established a Para Centre under its National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) Scheme at SAI Regional Centre, Gandhinagar. The Centre is operational in the disciplines of Athletics, Swimming, Powerlifting and Table Tennis. The selected athletes are provided support in the form of expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/insurance and stipend as per the approved scheme norms. Most of the other centres of SAI have also been made disabled friendly.

(b) This Ministry implements the Khelo India Scheme with the twin objectives of mass participation and promotion of excellence in sports under which various programmes have been launched under the different Khelo India verticals to realise the objective of broad-basing and promoting the culture of sports. These initiatives are undertaken in both rural and urban areas across the country. Funds get distributed rationally across all the States/UTs as the funds are released in the Ministry Scheme-wise and not State/UT-wise.

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