

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-320**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 08/12/2022

**POLICY/MEASURES FOR IDENTIFYING SPORTS TALENT**

320. SHRI HARBHAJAN SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce new policy/ measures for identifying and developing new and young sports talents in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the existing policy/ measures have been helpful in finding the sports talents hidden in rural areas; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

- (a) to (d): One of the priority areas for this Ministry is identifying and developing new and young sports talent in the country, which is a continuous process based on the following two pillars:
  - Broad Basing of Sports and,
  - Achieving excellence.

Under the “Sports Competition and Talent Development” component of the Khelo India Scheme of this Ministry, the athletes in various sports disciplines (Khelo India Athletes or KIAs) are identified and shortlisted based on their performance during the Khelo India Games, National Championships and open selection trials conducted by the concerned National Sports Federation and Sports Authority of India (SAI). The identification /shortlisting of talented athletes is done by the Talent Identification Development Committee (TIDC), subject to the Age Verification Test and after the final approval of the High-Power Committee.

Currently, there are 2841 athletes (KIAs) selected under the Khelo India Scheme including those from rural, hilly & coastal areas.

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