

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1915
ANSWERED ON- 16/03/2023

WELFARE OF YOUTHS

1915. SHRI JOSE K. MANI:

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

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that most of the schemes and activities related to youth affairs do not reach the rural youths of the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has evaluated the functioning of youth commissions of the States and Union Territories, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it has come to the notice of Government that many youths with no formal education make new inventions, if so, the steps taken to support such youths?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b): The schemes and activities of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports are reaching out to the rural youth through its organisation Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS). The network of 3.02 lakh Youth Clubs with youth membership of 51.82 lakh with NYKS amply shows its outreach to the youth of the rural areas.

(c) Evaluation of functioning of Youth Commissions of the States and Union Territories comes under the purview of the concerned State Governments/UTs. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports does not have this mandate.

(d) Yes, Sir. There is a section of youth in the country, which have not undergone a formal education, yet driven by their wisdom and a strong understanding of the indigenous problems; they are coming up with new innovations. Such innovations are supported and incubated by the National Innovation Foundation (NIF) – India, an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India. NIF is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge. Its aim is to help India become a creative and knowledge-based society by expanding policy and institutional space for grassroots technological innovators.

NIF is a complete support system for the grassroots innovators encompassing scouting, value addition, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection and dissemination through social and commercial channels, thereby ensuring an end-to-end delivery of those public services which directly contribute towards strengthening of innovation and entrepreneurship eco-system of the nation.
