

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2709
ANSWERED ON- 23/03/2023

IDENTIFICATION OF TALENTED SPORTSPERSONS FROM RURAL AREAS

2709. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

- (a) the details of schemes/programs being run by the Ministry to identify and groom talented sportspersons from rural areas for international games, like Asian, Commonwealth, Olympic etc., along with funds allocated, released and utilized for the same during 2022-23, scheme/programme-wise;
- (b) the details of funds allocated during 2023-24 for the same, scheme-wise;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to hold rallies in rural areas, on the lines of rallies for army recruitments, to identify and groom raw talent for above-said games; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) Talent identification and grooming of identified sportspersons and teams, including those from rural, areas of the country, for their participation in international sports events, including Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, Olympics etc., is done under the Khelo India Scheme as well as the sports promotional schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI), viz. National Centres of Excellence (NCoE), SAI Training Centre (STC), Extension Centre of STCs, and National Sports Talent Contest.

Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India.

Further, identified talented sportspersons are provided competitive exposure and training under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) and the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) of this Ministry. Training and competition requirements of various sports are considered and decided as part of the Annual Calendar of Training and Competitions (ACTC) in consultation with the concerned NSF and SAI.

The details of the funds allocated and utilized for the financial year 2022-23 and Budget Allocated for financial year 2023-24 are as under:

Scheme	Revised Estimate (in Rs. core)	Funds utilized till 13/3/2023 (in Rs. crore)	Budget Allocated for 2023-24 (in Rs. crore)
Sports Authority of India	749.43	741.85	785.52

Khelo India	599.95	429.15	1000.00
Assistance to National Sports Federations	276.62	234.63	325.00

(c) & (d) No, Sir. However, under “Sports Competition and Talent Development” component of Khelo India scheme, athletes are selected as Khelo India Athletes based on their performance in the Khelo India Games, National Championships / open selection trials. Further, through the National Sports Talent Search Portal, Sports Authority of India (SAI) provides a platform for identification of talented sports persons in priority Sports disciplines in which the country has potential. The identified athletes are nurtured under guidance of experienced coaches in various training facilities to grow and excel in National/ International sporting events.
