

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3992**  
ANSWERED ON- 06/04/2023

**DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS IN RURAL AREAS**

3992. # SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA:

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

- (a) whether any special scheme is being run by Government for the development of sports in rural areas;
- (b) if so, whether playgrounds are also being developed in rural areas under this scheme;
- (c) if so, the number of villages in the country where the playgrounds have been developed and the total expenditure incurred thereon as on date; and
- (d) the details of the special programmes being run by Government to promote traditional sports in rural areas?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (c) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including construction of playgrounds in rural areas rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts. However, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes for development of sports in the country, including the rural areas: (i) Khelo India- National Programme for Development of Sports; (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations; (iii) Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches; (iv) National Sports Awards; (v) Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons; (vi) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Fund; (vii) National Sports Development Fund; and (viii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India.

Under the "Creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure" component of the Khelo India Scheme, this Ministry has supported 25 playgrounds with sanction amount of Rs. 25.48 cr, out of which Rs. 21.32 cr has been released. 17 playgrounds have been completed & rest are under progress.

(d) The 'Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games' sub-component of the Khelo India Scheme, is specifically dedicated to the development and promotion of rural and indigenous/traditional games in the country. Indigenous/traditional games of Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Yogasana and Silambam have been identified for promotion under this component. These games are also featured in the Khelo India Youth Games/ University Games.

\*\*\*\*\*