

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1754**  
ANSWERED ON 03/08/2023

**NCOE IN TAMIL NADU**

1754. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is planning to bring one National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) in the state of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether SAI had issued a circular to reduce the strength of athletes in SAI centres in Tamil Nadu and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether SAI had issued a circular directing SAI centres in Tamil Nadu not to induct athletes and if so, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (b): No, Sir. 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for promotion and development of sports rests primarily with the respective State Governments. The Central Government supplements their efforts through its various schemes as well as the sports promotional schemes run by the Sports Authority of India (SAI). The decision of creation of facilities/SAI centres depends on various factors such as availability of funds, local demand, etc. Moreover, no proposal regarding establishment of an NCOE has been received from State Government of Tamil Nadu.

(c) to (d): The Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI undergo review from time-to-time and are modified as per the need of the times. This is a continuous exercise where necessary steps are taken to ensure constant improvement. Further, as part of restructuring exercise and in view of the available infrastructure and financial constraints, it has been decided to focus primarily on the existing SAI centres with a view to achieve excellence. Pursuant to this, the allocation of the sanctioned strength and disciplines covered in the SAI NCOEs and training centres has been revised/rationalised. This allocation is applicable to the SAI centres all over the country, and not just to those in Tamil Nadu.

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