

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1938**  
ANSWERED ON 08/08/2024

**HONING THE SKILLS OF YOUNG ATHLETES THROUGH COMPETITIONS**

1938 SHRI C. VE. SHANMUGAM:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the country needs more leagues and competitions at different levels on higher frequencies to increase participation and to provide the necessary platform for young athletes to hone their skills;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (c) Promotion of a specific sports discipline is the responsibility of the concerned National Sports Federation (NSF). Further, 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility to promote and develop sports activities in the country rests primarily with the respective State Governments. However, the Union Government supplements their efforts in this regard through its following schemes implemented throughout the country:

- (i) Khelo India Scheme; (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 (NSDF); and (viii) Sports Training Centres operated by the Sports Authority of India (SAI). The details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the SAI ([www.yas.nic.in/sports](http://www.yas.nic.in/sports); and [www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in](http://www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in)).

Under Khelo India Scheme, various sports leagues, competitions are being organized. A total of 15 Editions of Khelo India Games have been organized by this Ministry, including, 6 Editions of Khelo India Youth Games, 4 Editions of Khelo India University Games, 4 Editions of Khelo India Winters Games and 1 Edition of Khelo India Para Games, with the participation of more than 48,000 Athletes. Further, Khelo India Women's leagues are conducted in different disciplines across the country. Total 756 competitions have been conducted with participation of 82,000 women athletes, including the young athletes.

\*\*\*\*\*