

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-478
ANSWERED ON- 25/07/2024

**FACILITIES TO ENCOURAGE TALENTED CHILDREN AND YOUTH FROM RURAL
AREAS**

478. SHRI R. DHARMAR

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

(a) whether any special action plan has been prepared to develop other sports infrastructure like playgrounds, stadiums, national level coaches across the country, including Tamil Nadu, during the last three years and the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is emphasizing on developing special facilities to encourage talented children and youth from rural areas of the country, including Tamil Nadu, so that they can also get an opportunity to play in National and International competitions and represent the Nation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b) Sports' being a state subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including creation of sports infrastructure, appointing coaches, rests primarily with State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government only supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes for development of sports, including for talented children and youth from rural areas, across the country, including the State of Tamil Nadu:

(i) Scheme of "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 Scheme; (vii) National Sports Development Fund; and (viii) Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India.

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

The details of the budget allocation of Department of sports for the implementation of the above mentioned schemes, for the last 3 years, are as under:

(in ₹ crore)

Financial Year	Budget Allocation (in ₹ crore)
2021-22	1993.00
2022-23	1907.69
2023-24	2462.59

(c) & (d) Under the Khelo India Scheme, several initiatives have been taken to identify and nurture untapped sporting talent, particularly among children and youth from rural areas, including Tamil Nadu. One such initiative is KIRTI (Khelo India Rising Talent Identification), which aims to discover talented individuals aged 9 to 18 through scientific testing methods and advanced technology, ensuring a streamlined process for grassroots talent identification.

Additionally, the scheme ensures that training and exposure opportunities meet international standards by providing specialized coaching for Khelo India Athletes at accredited academies. These athletes participate in the Khelo India Games, which adhere to international technical standards. They also compete with national and international athletes at various forums, enhancing their skills and strengthening the country's bench strength for future national and international events.
