

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1116
ANSWERED ON- 13/02/2025

KHELO INDIA WINTER GAMES

1116 DR. K. LAXMAN:

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

- (a) the manner in which the Ministry promotes the participation of local youth, especially from remote and tribal regions in the Khelo India Winter Games;
- (b) whether there are initiatives to leverage the Khelo India Winter Games as a platform for grooming athletes for international events; and
- (c) if so, the specific plans and strategies?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) As a notable initiative of this Ministry, so far 4 editions of Khelo India Winter Games have been conducted, wherein athletes from 36 States and Union Territories have participated. Further, the format of Khelo India Games does not restrict anyone from participation and is open to participants from all over the country, including remote and tribal regions.

(b) and (c) The Khelo India Winter Games have inspired and motivated athletes to take up winter sports like Alpine skiing, skating, and ice hockey, with many from remote villages aspiring to represent their regions and India internationally. The initiative has created opportunities for all athletes by fostering both their competitive spirit and gender equality in line with the Olympic charter thereby grooming them for international events. The Games, held in coordination with various sports organizations, provides athletes with a platform to focus on capacity building while promoting village-level competitions, and encouraging broader participation across remote areas.
