

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1745
ANSWERED ON- 13/03/2025

INTEGRATION OF SPORTS INTO NATIONAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

1745 DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to integrate sports into the national education curriculum, and how it plans to balance academics with sports training;
- (b) the details of the allocation of resources, including funding, infrastructure and trained coaches, to schools and colleges for sports development;
- (c) the mechanisms used to identify and nurture talent at a young age in rural and urban areas, and measures undertaken in ensuring equal access to these opportunities across socio-economic strata; and
- (d) the measures implemented to create viable career pathways for athletes in India, especially when rating of sports is not taken into consideration in NAAC?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) Government of India has undertaken numerous initiatives to promote sports education and integrate it as a vital aspect of holistic development. Department of School Education and Literacy is implementing National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. NEP, 2020 envisages sports as a part of the curriculum and emphasizes on sports-integrated learning as well as adopting fitness as a lifelong attitude. To implement the recommendation of NEP, 2020 in primary to higher secondary level, National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for School Education has been launched by this Ministry. This framework addresses the entire educational journey including Physical Education & Sports from foundational to secondary stages.

Government of India has launched Samagra Shiksha Integrated Scheme for school education, an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. Realizing the need for holistic development of children, a dedicated component named 'Sports & Physical education' under Samagra Shiksha has been introduced.

(b) Under Samagra Shiksha scheme of the Ministry of Education, annual financial grants to the tune of Rs. 5000 for primary, Rs. 10,000 for secondary and Rs. 25,000 for Senior Secondary government schools is allocated to buy sports equipment. An additional grant up to Rs. 25,000 per school is provided to schools in case at least 2 students of that school win medal in Khelo India National school games competition. During the year 2024-25, an outlay of Rs.

729.25 Crore has been approved under Sports Grant for Government Schools by Ministry of Education.

Under the Khelo India Scheme (KIS) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, proposals received from the State/UT Governments and other eligible entities are considered for financial support. The details of the sports infrastructure projects approved and their sanctioned cost, funds released and their physical and financial progress, under the KIS, across the country including educational institutes, are available in public domain on the dashboard of the Ministry at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in>.

Further, Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports collaborates with schools and colleges for providing coaching support, conducting camps and providing technical experts.

(c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is implementing various sports promotional schemes to identify and nurture talent at a young age in rural and urban areas including the following:

- Selection of Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) is done on merit through set protocols by the Talent Identification Development Committee (TIDC). TIDC members are deputed for Talent Identification through various competitions across the country including ASMITA (Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women Through Action) leagues, etc. National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC): Aimed at talent scouting in schools, including rural and tribal belts.
- Promotion of Indigenous Games under Khelo India to ensure traditional and local sports are encouraged.
- Special focus on marginalized communities, providing them with sports scholarships, diet support, and residential training at Sports Authority of India (SAI) centres.

These initiatives ensure equal access to sports training, irrespective of socio-economic background, including aspirational districts and remote areas.

(d) The Government of India offers reservation under sports quota as per consolidated instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoP&T) on 3rd October, 2013 vide their OM No. 14034/01/2013-Estt.(D) on incentives for sportspersons. As per extant instructions, Ministries and Departments can recruit meritorious sportspersons to Group 'C' posts under the Government of India upto 5% of the direct recruitment vacancies in any year.

Further, various institutions under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports offer a range of courses, including certificates, diplomas, undergraduate, postgraduate, and Ph.D. programs in sports, physical education, sports management, sports coaching, sports sciences etc. to students from across the country through National Sports University (NSU) in Imphal, Manipur; Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education (LNIPE) in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh; Lakshmibai National College for Physical Education (LNCPE) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala; Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) in Patiala, Punjab and under National Centre of Sports Science and Research (NCSSR) Scheme.

Additionally, the past champions who had completed Diploma in Sports Coaching have been recruited in Sports Authority of India (SAI) as Assistant Coach, Coach, Senior Coach, Chief Coach and High Performance Coach.
