

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 629
ANSWERED ON- 24/07/2025

SAI TRAINING CENTRES IN TAMIL NADU

629 SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

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

- (a) the total number of SAI training centres in Tamil Nadu with details on training capacity, expenditure and sports offered especially in rural areas;
- (b) the number of SAI-certified coaches in Tamil Nadu, categorized by sport and steps taken to address shortages;
- (c) the financial support provided by Government under various schemes like Khelo India, NSDF, year-wise, for the last five years; and
- (d) the initiatives being planned to increase sports participation among youth, women, and differently-abled individuals in Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

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

(a) The SAI Training Centers (STCs) and Indigenous Games and Martial Arts Centres (IGMAs) in the State of Tamil Nadu ,especially in the rural areas along with their strength and the sports offered is as per Annexure - I. For promotion of sports in the country, the Government of India spends funds through SAI Regional Centres. The detail of funds released under SAI Block Grant to SAI LNCPE Thiruvananthapuram (under which Tamil Nadu comes) is as under:

FY	Amt. in Rs.
2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	206,500,000.00
2024-25	815,459,735.00
2023-24	736,188,718.00
2022-23	688,482,000.00
2021-22	532,121,000.00

Moreover, under the component “Creation and Up-gradation of Sports Infrastructure” of the Khelo India Scheme, 05 infrastructure sports projects have been sanctioned in the State of Tamil Nadu, including the rural areas. The details are available at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/>. Also, Tamil Nadu has 38 Khelo India Centres (KICs) spread across 37 districts which offer a range of disciplines such as Athletics, Football, Hockey, Fencing, Judo etc and a total of 1558 athletes (785 Males; 773 Female) are currently training in these centres.

There is 01 KISCE (Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Chennai) which offers disciplines such as Boxing, Athletics and Fencing and a total of 175 athletes (115 Males; 60 Female) are currently training in this centre

(b) The detail of SAI certified coaches in Tamil Nadu, discipline-wise, is as under:

S.N.	Discipline	No. of Coaches
1	Athletics	3
2	Basketball	2
3	Boxing	2
4	Football	1
5	Kabaddi	2
6	Taekwondo	1
7	Volleyball	1
8	Weightlifting	1

Steps are being taken by SAI to address the shortage by filling the vacancies in the coaching cadre .

(c) Apart from the SAI Block Grant to SAI LNCPE Thiruvananthapuram the details of which have been mentioned above, financial support is also provided under Khelo India Scheme. The detail of such support year-wise, in the State of Tamil Nadu is as under:

FY	Amt. in Rs.
2025-26 (Quarter 1)	33,20,000
2024 – 25	1,76,90,000
2023 – 24	1,96,50,000
2021-22	5,00,000

(d) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of promotion and development of sports rests primarily with the State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. To increase sports participation among youth, women, and differently-abled individuals, the Government of India has set up SAI Training Centers (STCs) , Indigenous Games and Martial Arts Centres (IGMAs) and sports infrastructure under Khelo India scheme.

Following key Initiatives have been launched under the Khelo India Programme to increase sports participation among youth, women, and differently-abled individuals in Tamil Nadu:

(1). To increase Participation among Youth:

- i. Khelo India Games: 19 Editions of Khelo India Games have been organized with the participation of more than 56,000 athletes including the athletes from the State of Tamil Nadu.
- ii. 6th Edition of Khelo India Youth Games (KIYG) 2023 was held in Tamil Nadu from 19th to 31st Jan 2024 in 27 sports disciplines with the participation of 4000+ athletes. Tamil Nadu secured 2nd Rank in the medal tally with 98 Medals (38 Gold; 21 Silver; 39 Bronze). Silambam was included as Demo Sport in the KIYG 2023.
- iii. Fit India Movement: Fit India integrates sports into the education system through various initiatives that encourage physical activity and promote lifelong fitness in the entire country ,

including in the state of Tamil Nadu. Several activities are performed under this such as Sundays on Cycle to promote youth participation.

(2) **To increase Participation among Women:** Under this initiative, various Khelo India Women's League are conducted. A total of 62 ASMITA women's leagues with a participation of more than 8000 women athletes have been organized in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(3) **To increase Participation among Persons with Disability:** A total of 83 Khelo India Para Athletes are supported under Khelo India Scheme out of which 02 Para Athletics Athletes are from the State of Tamil Nadu. Khelo India Para Athletes are financially supported with Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA) of ₹ 1,20,000/- annually. Further, 2 editions of Khelo India Para Games have been hosted and the participation of athletes of Tamil Nadu State and the rank of the state is as follows:-

S.N.	Edition	Participation	Rank
1	KIPG 2023	100	3rd
2	KIPG 2025	138	2nd

ANNEXURE–I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA QUESTION NO.629 FOR 24.07.2025 ASKED BY SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA REGARDING “SAI TRAINING CENTRES IN TAMIL NADU”.

DETAILS OF SAI SCHEME IN THE STATE OF TAMILNADU**SAI TRAINING CENTERS (STCs) SCHEME**

SN	State/ Centre	Discipline	Resi.			Non-Resi.		
			B	G	T	B	G	T
1	Chennai	Athletics	15	0	15	0	09	09
		Football	0	0	0	22	0	22
		Kabaddi	15	0	15	0	0	0
2	Salem	Basketball	14	0	14	0	0	0
		Taekwondo	18	0	18	0	0	0
3	Mayiladuthurai	Athletics	10	13	23	0	0	0
		Basketball	0	11	11	0	02	02
		Boxing	0	10	10	0	0	0
		Kabaddi	12	12	24	0	0	0
		Volleyball	11	0	11	02	0	02
		Weightlifting	08	08	16	0	0	0

INDIGENOUS GAMES AND MARTIAL ARTS SCHOOLS (IGMAs)

SN	Centre	Discipline	Non-Resi.		
			B	G	T
1	Sri Vivekananda Vidyalayam, Kandha Podikara, Ambur	Silambam	14	6	20
2	Govt. Girls Higher Sec. School, Thanjavur	Silambam	0	20	20
