

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO – 630#**  
ANSWERED ON 04/12/2025

**NATIONAL SPORTS TALENT CONTEST IN BIHAR**

630# Dr. BHIM SINGH:

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

- (a) whether children in the age group of 8 to 14 years are identified and trained under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC);
- (b) if so, the number of schools in Bihar associated with this scheme along with the number of sports talents identified there;
- (c) whether reach of this scheme is extremely limited in rural and semi-urban areas of Bihar and there is a severe shortage of training facilities and qualified coaches; and
- (d) whether Government is formulating any concrete action plan for setting up special sports nurseries, better coaching infrastructure and making the selection process more transparent and comprehensive in the State?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (d). Yes, Sir. Under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) scheme, children in the age group of 8 to 14 years are identified, trained and nurtured into future medical prospects through the provision of scientific training. SAI is operating one SAI Training Centre (STC) in the State of Bihar in Patna. Further, under the Khelo India Centre (KIC) component of the Khelo India Scheme, all 38 districts of the State of Bihar have been successfully covered, with one Khelo India Centre notified in each district to ensure wider access to sports, structured coaching in the region. These Centres collectively contribute towards improving coaching infrastructure, enhancing athlete development. Instructions related to the selection of sportspersons for participation in international events, inclusion in coaching camps and selection of coaches / support staff have been issued to International Olympic Association (IOA) and National Sports Federations (NSFs) vide this Ministry's letter dated 05th March 2025.

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