

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 638**  
ANSWERED ON- 04/12/2025

**EQUAL ACCESS TO UPGRADED SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RURAL AND TRIBAL YOUTH**

638. SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:

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

- (a) the provisions made to ensure that rural and tribal youth have equal access to upgraded sports infrastructure;
- (b) whether the policy includes incentives for States to identify and support local talent from school levels and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details as to how athlete development pathways under this policy would integrate with education and health schemes for holistic growth; and
- (d) the role community-based organizations would play in sustaining local sports ecosystems under this initiative?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

- (a) The Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 promotes equitable access to sports infrastructure by focusing on developing facilities from the block to state levels irrespective of economic, social, or geographic factors. Establishing dedicated sports facilities with customized services aims to foster inclusivity and encourage greater participation among tribal communities.
- (b) Yes, Sir. States and districts are encouraged to enhance their sports ecosystems through initiatives like Model Sports State and Model District programs, which aim to strengthen local sports capabilities. Educational institutions play a key role as feeder systems in sports development under this framework.
- (c) The Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 aligns athlete development pathways with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to integrate sports within the broader education system. It supports designing and delivering sports modules that contribute to holistic education, ensuring physical education is an integral part of the academic curriculum.
- (d) The initiative encourages organizing sports competitions and leagues at the community, educational institution, and district levels, engaging community-based organizations to sustain and strengthen local sports environments.

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