

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1596**  
ANSWERED ON- 12/02/2026

**DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS FACILITIES IN RURAL AND SEMI-URBAN AREAS**

1596. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA

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

- (a) the steps taken to develop and upgrade sports infrastructure across the country, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas and the funds allocated and utilized for this purpose;
- (b) the measures undertaken to identify and nurture young sporting talent at the grassroots level, including support for schools and academies and the outcomes achieved, so far; and
- (c) the details of schemes for financial assistance, coaching, medical support and post-retirement security for sportspersons and how these schemes have benefited athletes during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (c) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including development and upgradation of sports infrastructure in rural and semi-urban areas, taking measures to identify and nurture young sports talent at a grassroots level including support for schools and academies and providing financial assistance, coaching, medical support and postretirement security for sportspersons across the country, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government only supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. However, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes to promote sports in the country, including in rural and semi-urban areas:

- i. Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports;
- ii. Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs);
- iii. Cash Incentives to Medal Winners in International Sports Events and their coaches;
- iv. National Sports Awards;
- v. Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons;
- vi. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Program for Sportspersons;
- vii. National Sports Development Fund;
- viii. Running Sports Training centres through Sports Authority of India (SAI); and
- ix. National Centre for Sports Science and Research (NCSSR).

Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India.

The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred under various Sports Development Schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports across the country, including in rural and semi-urban areas, during the last three years are as under:

(amount in ₹ crore)

Financial Year	Funds allocated	Expenditure incurred
2024-25	2332.50	2136.97
2023-24	2380.86	2329.35
2022-23	1907.69	1879.99

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