

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4479
ANSWERED ON- 02/04/2026

DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE AND YOUTH PROGRAMMES

4479. SHRI BABUBHAI JESANGBHAI DESAI

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

- (a) the details of schemes implemented by Government for development of sports infrastructure and youth programmes across the country;
- (b) the number of sports infrastructure projects sanctioned in Gujarat and Maharashtra under schemes such as Khelo India;
- (c) whether newly launched sports internship and sports governance training programmes would benefit youth and sports professionals from those States; and
- (d) the steps taken to promote grassroots sports and talent identification in those States?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including development of sports infrastructure, rests primarily with the State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes to promote sports in the country, including in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra:

- 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.

Further, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes to promote youth empowerment in the country, including in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra:

- i. Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat);
- ii. Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS); and
- iii. National Service Scheme (NSS)

(b) The details of the sports infrastructure projects approved and their sanctioned cost, funds released and their physical and financial progress, under the Khelo India Scheme and National Sports Development Funds (NSDF), across the country, including in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra, are available in public domain on the dashboards of the Ministry at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in> and <http://www.nsdf.yas.gov.in/nsdf-glance.html>, respectively.

(c) Yes. The newly launched sports internship and sports governance training programmes cater to youth and sports professionals across the country, including in the States of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

(d) Under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the identification of sporting talent at the grassroots level is undertaken through a systematic and multi-tiered mechanism under the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the Khelo India Scheme. Under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes, talent is scouted through competitions at district, state, national and international levels, followed by selection trials, battery of tests, anthropometric measurements, physiological and psychological assessments, medical check-up, age verification and evaluation of future potential, as applicable under the respective schemes.

Further, under the Khelo India Scheme, talent identification and development is a continuous process. Talent Identification and Development Committees comprising eminent athletes, coaches, experts and representatives of concerned stakeholders identify promising athletes during competitions such as Khelo India Games and National Championships on the basis of sport-specific benchmarks. Grassroots talent scouting is also supported through Khelo India Centres established at the district level, where Past Champion Athletes serve as mentors and scouts.
