

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 209
ANSWERED ON 06.08.2026

KHELO INDIA SCHEME IN NER

*209. SHRI PRAMOD BORO:

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

- (a) whether Government is promoting indigenous and traditional sports in the North Eastern Region (NER) and if so, the details of schemes supporting such sports in Assam;
- (b) the details of projects and events implemented under the Khelo India Scheme in the State during the last three years;
- (c) the number of athletes selected, trained and supported under the scheme from Bodoland Territorial Region; and
- (d) how Government proposes to develop sports infrastructure and strengthen the training ecosystem across the country to meet international standards in view of Government's bid and preparations to host 2036 Olympic Games?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) IN RESPECT OF
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REGARDING KHELO INDIA SCHEME IN NER ASKED BY SHRI PRAMOD BORO.**

(a) to (d) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for development of sports, including promotion of indigenous and traditional sports, development of sports infrastructure and strengthening of training ecosystem across the country to meet international standards, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports implements the following schemes for development of sports in the country, including in the North Eastern Region:

- 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.

Under the Khelo India Scheme, the 'Promotion of Traditional and Indigenous Sports' sub-component is specifically dedicated to the development and promotion of indigenous and traditional sports across the country, including the North Eastern Region. Indigenous sports such as Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Yogasana and Silambam have been promoted through various editions of the Khelo India Games.

The details of various sports facilities under the Khelo India Scheme, such as Sports Infrastructure, Khelo India Centres (KIC), Khelo India State Centres of Excellence (KISCE) and Khelo India Accredited Academies (KIAA) along with Khelo India Athletes (KIA) and coaches, across the country, including in Bodoland Territorial Region of the State of Assam, are available in the public domain on the dashboard of the Ministry at <https://dashboard.kheloindia.gov.in>.

Further, in Assam, 66 Khelo India Centres (KICs) have been notified, of which 4 KICs are dedicated to indigenous sports, namely Kabaddi and Kho-Kho. Under the Sports for Women (ASMITA) initiative, 10 tournaments covering Yogasana, Kho-Kho and Shooting Ball were conducted in North Eastern Region, including in the State of Assam, during the last three years, benefiting 1,330 women athletes.

The 3rd edition of Khelo India Youth Games was held in Assam from 10.01.2020 to 22.01.2020 2020 with the participation of more than 6000 athletes in 20 sports disciplines. Further, the 4th edition of Khelo India University Games was held in 7 districts of North Eastern Region, including in the State of Assam, from 19.02.2024 to 29.02.2024 with the participants of more than 3500 athletes in 20 sports disciplines.

The Government continues to strengthen the sports ecosystem across the country through development of sports infrastructure, expansion of Khelo India Centres and Centres of Excellence, support to Accredited Academies, scientific coaching, sports science and sports medicine support,

and structured talent identification and athlete development pathways, with a view to enhancing India's sporting excellence, including in the context of the country's long-term vision for the 2036 Olympic Games, through various schemes of this Ministry as mentioned above.
