

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1435
ANSWERED ON- 30/07/2026

SPORTS FACILITY IN KUSHINAGAR

1435. SHRI RATANJIT PRATAP NARAIN SINGH:

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

- (a) the total financial outlays sanctioned under the Khelo India Dashboard for infrastructure development in Kushinagar district;
- (b) the progress of building a modern multi-purpose sports stadium and athletic track facilities within eastern Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) the total number of identified talented rural athletes from Kushinagar currently receiving specialized monthly sports scholarships;
- (d) the structural criteria used to select rural sports nursery locations to scout grassroots athletic talents; and
- (e) the timeline targeted to complete ongoing sports facility construction works in the district?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) and (b) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for development of sports, including development and strengthening of sports infrastructure, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements these efforts by bridging critical gaps. The Khelo India Scheme, implemented by this Ministry, under which financial assistance for development of sports infrastructure is provided are demand-driven scheme. The proposals received from the State/ Union Territory Governments and other eligible entities are considered for financial support, subject to their completeness, technical feasibility and availability of funds under the scheme. 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, across the country, including in the State of Uttar Pradesh, are available in public domain on the dashboards of the Ministry at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in>.

(c) At present, no athlete from Kushinagar is receiving Out-of-Pocket Allowance under the Khelo India Scheme. However, one Khelo India Centre is operational in Kushinagar, where 30 young athletes are receiving structured daily sports training under an onboarded certified Past Champion Athlete (PCA).

(d) Khelo India Centres are notified based on proposals received from the State Government, prioritizing existing district sports complexes or educational institutions with available playing fields and other parameters which are evaluated and approved in the Departmental Project Approval

Committee. The grassroots identification is strengthened by 80 notified Khelo India Centres (KICs) at the district level in Uttar Pradesh, where Past Champion Athletes (PCAs) serve as mentors and talent scouts. Through the initiative of KICs, currently 2465 trainees are training at the grassroot level under 83 PCAs across the State of Uttar Pradesh.

Furthermore, athletes are identified through recognised competitions, tournaments and protocols based on the recommendations of the Talent Identification and Development Committee (TIDC) for the respective discipline. On the basis of these recommendations and the approved selection criteria, athletes are transitioned into the scheme either as National Centres of Excellence (NCOE) athletes or as Khelo India athletes.

(e) As per the guidelines of the Khelo India Scheme, all infrastructure projects sanctioned under the Scheme are required to be completed within two years from the date of sanction. The responsibility for timely completion, including addressing issues such as land acquisition and obtaining necessary clearances, rests with the respective grantee.
