

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1653
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2017**

Schemes for Sportspersons

1653. SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to initiate schemes for sportspersons belonging to tribal areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons as to why such initiatives have not been undertaken so far?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH
AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
{COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)}**

(a) & (b): To promote sports in the country, SAI is implementing the following sports promotional schemes viz National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC) Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) SAI Training Centre (STC) Special Area Games (SAG) Extension Centre of STC/SAG Centre of Excellence (COE) National Sports Academies (NSA) across the country to identify talented sports persons in the age group of 8-25 years and nurture them to excel at national and international competitions.

The majority of the youth (sports persons) selected under the above schemes are identified from the rural, tribal and backward areas of the country. The selected trainees are provided with

regular sports training in their respective sports discipline to excel at National and International level competition.

The SAG Scheme of SAI lay specifically scouting talent from the tribal, costal, backward and remote hilly region of the country. The trainees are being trained and provided with expert sports coaches, requisite outdoor/indoor playing facilities, sports equipment (consumable and non consumable) including expenses towards boarding and lodging expenses, medical & insurance cover and stipend for day boarders as per the approved scheme norms.

Similarly, ABSC Scheme, which is a joint venture with Indian Army, also identifies youth sports talent from the rural and tribal areas falling under their regimental centres. The trainees in the age group of 8-14 years are admitted in ABSC centres for regular sports training and most of them on having been found to be medically fit are enrolled in the Army on attaining the age of 17 ½ years.

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has revised its Khelo India Scheme with 12 verticals which include promotion of rural and indigenous tribal games across the country.

(c) In view of (a) & (b) above, does not arise.
