

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1426  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2018**

**Para-Athletics under Khelo India Scheme**

**†1426. SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:**

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

- (a) the provisions made for the training of sportspersons for Para-athletics under Khelo India Scheme in the country;**
- (b) the annual budgetary allocation made for the purpose;**
- (c) the progress made by India in the Paralympic/Commonwealth Games; and**
- (d) the other measures being taken to encourage and promote sportspersons along with the future plans made in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b) The Khelo India Scheme has a dedicated vertical, namely, “Promotion of Sports among persons with disabilities” for supporting athletes with disabilities including sportspersons for Para-athletics. The indicative estimated expenditure for this vertical for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20 is Rs.15 crore each year. The Salient features of the vertical are given in Annexure – I.**

**(c) In the Paralympic Games 2016, Indian para athletes won 04 medals (02 Gold, 01 silver and 01 bronze). India won 01 Bronze medal in power-lifting event in Commonwealth Games 2018.**

**(d) Some of the major Schemes being implemented by this Ministry which aim at encouraging and promoting sportspersons are given at Annexure – II.**

**In addition, in order to promote sports among the youth (both male and female sports person) across the country, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous organization under the aegis of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is implementing various Sports Promotional Schemes to identify talented sports persons in the age group of 8-25 years and nurture them to excel in national and international competitions. The details of SAI Schemes are given at Annexure – III.**

**For promotion of sports among differently-abled persons, this Ministry has recognized three National Sports Federations (NSFs) namely All India Sports Council of the Deaf (AISCD), Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), and Special Olympic Bharat (SOB). Government provides support to the differently-abled athletes, through their respective NSFs, for participation in national championships and international events. All the three NSFs for the differently-abled athletes have been placed in the “Priority” category so that they are eligible for maximum financial assistance under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs.**

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1426 FOR 26.07.2018 ASKED BY SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL, MP, REGARDING PARA-ATHLETICS UNDER KHELO INDIA SCHEME**

Annexure – I

Relevant provisions of Khelo India vertical “Promotion of Sports among persons with disabilities”

Financial assistance will be provided to States/UTs and SAI for creation of specialist sports infrastructure for persons with disabilities. Funds required for making stadia disabled friendly / barrier free will be accessed from Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA) of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The funds provided under this head will be used for classification of players, equipment, training and preparation of teams for Paralympic Games and disciplines and competitions.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1426 FOR 26.07.2018 ASKED BY SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL, MP, REGARDING PARA-ATHLETICS UNDER KHELO INDIA SCHEME**

Annexure – II

Sports promotional Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

- i. **Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports** : This Scheme was formulated by the Ministry to infuse sports culture and achieve sporting excellence in the country by encouraging sports for all thus allowing the population across gender and all age groups to harness the power of sports through its cross-cutting influence, namely, holistic development of children & youth, community development, social integration, gender equality, healthy lifestyle, national pride and economic opportunities related to sports development through its twelve verticals.
- ii. **Scheme for Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs)** : Under this Scheme, the Government provides assistances to NSFs for conducting National Championships and International tournaments in India, participation of national teams in International tournaments in India and abroad, organizing National coaching camps, procuring sports equipment, engagement of foreign coaches, etc.
- iii. **National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)** : This Fund was established by the Central Government in 1998, under Charitable Endowments Act 1890, with a view to mobilizing resources from the Government as well as non-governmental sources, including the private/corporate sector and non-resident Indians, for promotion of sports and games in the country. Financial assistance is provided from the Fund to outstanding sportspersons, Sports Federations and other organizations. Special stress is being given to support the sportspersons who have been selected under a programme namely, TOP (Target Olympic Podium) Scheme, specifically devised to train medal prospects for future Olympics.

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Annexure – III

Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI are given as under :

- **National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)** : National Sports Talent Contest, (NSTC) Scheme is being implemented to scout sports talent in the age group of **8-14** years from schools and nurture them into future medal hopes by providing scientific training.
  - a. **Indigenous Games & Martial Arts (Sub-Scheme of NSTC)** : This scheme aims to promote indigenous games & martial arts in the schools in rural and semi-urban areas and scouting of talent in these games for nurturing in modern sports.
  - b. **Adoption of Akharas under NSTC Scheme** : Wrestling has been a traditional indigenous sport in the country and mostly played at village level. In order to create a broader base for modern wrestling, Akharas are being adopted under this Scheme.
- **Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)** : This is a collaborative venture of SAI with the Indian Army, The main objective of the Scheme is to make use of the good infrastructure and disciplined environment of the Army for training boys in the age group of **8-14** years of age, to achieve excellence in sports. After attaining the required age of seventeen and a half years, the trainees are also offered placement in the Army.
- **SAI Training Centre (STC)** : In order to groom the junior level sports persons in the age group of **12-18** years, SAI Training Centres (STC) are established in a State where the sports infrastructure is provided by the respective State Governments.
- **Special Area Games (SAG)** : Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme aims at scouting natural talent for modern competitive sports and games from inaccessible tribal, rural and coastal areas of the country and nurturing them scientifically for achieving excellence in sports. Trainees in the age group of **10-18** years are selected in this scheme.
- **Extension Centre of STC/SAG** : The extension centres of STC/SAG centres Scheme was started to cover schools and colleges for wider coverage, with a view to develop sports standards in schools and colleges having requisite basic sports infrastructure and had shown good results in sports. Trainees in the age group of **10-18** years are selected under Non-Residential basis for regular training.
- **Centre of Excellence (COE)** : The scheme envisaged induction of sportspersons, who had performed well at Sr. National Competitions, for further advance scientific training at the Regional Centres of SAI. These Centres of Excellence operate as regular coaching camps for the best available talent in India in the respective sports discipline in the age group of **12-25** years.
- **National Sports Academies (NSA)** : The National Sports Academies (NSA) Scheme aims to promote sports on single discipline basis in collaboration with the National Sports Federations to attract sports talent in the respective sports discipline in the age group of **12-25** years.

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