

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1541  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2018**

**Promotion of Sportswomen**

**†1541.      SHRI HARI MANJHI:  
              SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:  
              SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:**

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

**(a) whether the Government is aware that the women from various States particularly from North Eastern States (NES) have won laurels for the country in the field of sports;**

**(b) if so, the details of the schemes being implemented by the Government for encouraging and giving training in the field of sports to the women players from various States particularly NES;**

**(c) whether the Government has formulated any action plan for identifying and nurturing the sporting talents from rural areas of various States particularly NES; and**

**(d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a)    Yes, Madam. Many women players including from North Eastern States have won medals for the country in various sporting events.**

**(b)    Sports promotional Schemes being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports cater to the entire population of the country,**

**both male and female, including women from North Eastern States (NES). Some of the major Schemes being implemented by this Ministry which aim at broadbasing of sports and achieving excellence in sports are given at Annexure – I.**

**In addition, in order to promote sports among the youth (both male and female sports person) across the country, including the States of North Eastern India, 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 at national and international competitions. The details of SAI Schemes are given at Annexure – II.**

**(c) & (d) In addition to the existing SAI Schemes, the Khelo India Scheme has a dedicated vertical of ‘Talent Identification and Development’. This vertical applies to the entire country and caters to the entire population including sporting talents from NES. The relevant provisions of the vertical is given at Annexure – III.**

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1541 FOR 26.07.2018 ASKED BY SHRI HARI MANJHI, SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA AND SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA, MPS, REGARDING PROMOTION OF SPORTSWOMEN**

**Annexure – I**

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. While all the components of the Khelo India Scheme are gender neutral and afford opportunities to women too for participating in sporting activities and development of sports, the scheme has a dedicated vertical of ‘Sports for Women’ which provides for annual national competitions for women. Emphasis will be laid on such sports disciplines where there is less participation of women so that more number of women will participate in such sports disciplines.
- 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. This Scheme applies to the entire country and caters to the entire population, both male and female, including women from NER.
- 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. This Scheme applies to the entire country and caters to the entire population, both male and female, including women from NER.
- iv. **Himalayan Region Games (HRG)** :Himalayan Region Games are being planned which will include indigenous games of North Eastern States in addition to popular games.

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**Annexure – II**

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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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (c)& (d) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1541 FOR 26.07.2018 ASKED BY SHRI HARI MANJHI, SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA AND SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA, MPS, REGARDING PROMOTION OF SPORTSWOMEN**

**Annexure – III**

**Relevant provisions for ‘Talent Identification and Development’ under the Khelo India Scheme**

The National competitions involving schools, colleges, Universities and NSFs under Khelo India Scheme, National Championships, and National Sports Talent Search Portal of SAI, will provide a platform for identification of talented sports persons in priority Sports disciplines in which the country has potential/advantage. In addition to selection of prize winners, the duly constituted talent identification committee may also adopt globally accepted scientific methods to spot and identify talent in various sports disciplines. Identification of sporting talent will involve conduct of pan-India trials of children by Talent Scouts (to be engaged for the purpose), in association with States/UTs.

Out of the talented players identified in priority sports disciplines at various levels through different avenues, best talents in those sports discipline will be identified by the High Powered Committee and provided annual financial assistance, at the rate of Rs.5.00 lakh per annum, for a period of 8 years under a Long Term Athlete Development Programme. Continuation of support to an individual athlete will be subject to his/her progress/performance in the identified sports discipline concerned, ensuring the best performers, having potential to excel at the highest level, are given continuous support and non-performers/ non achievers can be taken out of the system. This will ensure a sizable bench strength that the country is lacking at present.

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