

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.366
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.07.2018**

Development of Sports in Rural Areas

366. SHRI RAOSAHEB DANVE PATIL:

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

(a) whether the Government has taken any measures for development of sports/ games and sports institutions for rural, tribal and hilly areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds and facilities provided to various States/UTs for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether any incidents of harassment and misbehaviour with the sportspersons have come to the notice of the Government especially from the rural, tribal and hilly areas of the country during the said period;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the corrective and preventive measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS
AND SPORTS**

{COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)}

(a)& (b): Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports through Sports Authority of India (SAI) is implementing the various sports promotional schemes 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. Many of the sports persons identified under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes belong to the rural, backward & tribal areas of the country and are provided with regular training on Residential and Non-Residential basis as per the approved norms.

The Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme of SAI specifically scouts talented sports persons belonging to the tribal, coastal, backward and the remote hilly regions of the country. Trainees are being trained and provided with expert sports coaches, playing facilities, consumable and non-consumable sports equipment, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical and insurance and stipend for day boarders as per the approved norms.

Also, a Central Sector Scheme, namely, Khelo India is being implemented for development of sports / games in the entire country including rural, tribal and hilly areas of the country since two years. The scheme, inter-alia, includes a dedicated vertical of “Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games”. This vertical is being implemented through SAI.

During 2017-18, Rs.1.99 crore was provided to Sports Authority of India from the head of Promotion of Rural & Indigenous/ Tribal games for implementation of “Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat” (EBSB) Programme. During 2018-19, a grant of Rs. 3, 36, 25,000/- has been sanctioned to SAI for conducting Annual Sports Competition under Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games. No separate fund allocation has been made to any State/UT.

(c) & (d): The incident of harassment and misbehaviour with sportsperson undergoing training in various SAI Schemes are dealt promptly and remedial action taken thereon. There is an Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) set up at each of the SAI Academic/ Regional Centres to redress all such complaints. Total five incidents of harassment and misbehaviour with sports persons from the rural, tribal and hilly areas of the country in SAI centres have been noticed and suitable action is being taken in the matter.

(e) As a matter of fact, to thwart any such incidents of harassment and misbehaviour to the sportspersons following corrective measure have been introduced:

- **Wardens have been appointed on Contract Basis by SAI.**
- **CCTV Cameras have been installed in the Centres.**
- **Entry of any visitor entering the campus is done at main gate.**
- **“Drop Box” has been installed in Campus in SAI Sports Centre.**

The trainees have been advised to drop their complaints in the box in case they are not able to express openly to the Incharge, Coach or the Warden. In case the trainee suspects any wrong act, the complaint may be made without disclosing the identity. The main purpose is to address the issues and resolve them promptly.

Further, as preventive measure, Sports Authority of India under the guidance of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has prepared guidelines for the Safety of Children (Young Sportspersons) and the same have been notified to all the SAI Academic/ Regional Centres to provide safe, secure and healthy environment to the boys & girls trainees being trained under its Sports Promotional Schemes.

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (Department of Sports) has also constituted a High Powered Committee comprising of an Officer from the Ministry, Senior Sportspersons, Sports Journalists & Advocate for Sports Women to resolve the grievances and complaints of women sports persons.
