

**Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports  
Department of Sports**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 936  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2022**

**National Centres of Excellence**

**936. SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY:**

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

- (a) the total number of National Centres of Excellence in the country as on December 01, 2022;**
- (b) the steps taken to increase such centres during the period 2014-2022;**
- (c) whether such centres form part of the training facilities for the athletes selected to represent India at international events including Olympics;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any audit/review of such centres periodically to ensure their compliance with international best practices; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]**

**(a) & (b): As on December 01, 2022, there are 23 National Centres of**

**Excellence (NCOEs) across the Country to impart specialized training to promising athletes in 13 priority disciplines and 10 additional disciplines.**

**The NCOE is one of the sports promotional schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI). Other sports promotional schemes of SAI are SAI Training Centre (STC), Extension Centre of STC and National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC). Under these schemes, the selected athletes are provided financial support in the form of expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/ insurance and stipend as per the approved scheme norms. For promotion and development of sports in the country, SAI spends funds through its Regional Centres (RCs) for which Block Grants are released.**

**Recently, SAI has undertaken an exercise of restructuring of its existing sports promotional schemes, and has decided to focus on the existing centres in identified sports disciplines with a view to prepare athletes for the major international events, such as Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, etc. However, creation and development of sports infrastructure is a continuous process. Therefore, SAI decides creation of facilities / Centres depending on availability of funds and local demand.**

**(c) & (d) Yes Sir. In order to achieve excellence in Olympics/other international sports events, SAI has established NCOEs across the country to impart specialized training to promising athletes by providing state-of-the art infrastructure and playing facilities, sports science backup, individualized diet, prescribed by trained nutritionists and overall supervision under the best coaches, qualified support staff and High Performance Directors (HPD).**

**NCOEs conduct regular coaching camps for the athletes selected to represent India at international events, including Olympics, and also for the development group of talented athletes. SAI Training Centres (STCs) act as feeder centres to NCOEs.**

**(e) & (f) Performance of the centres is reviewed periodically by a team of experts comprising of Regional Directors, High Performance Coaches, etc. to ensure that the best international practices are available to athletes.**

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