

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †771
ANSWERED ON 25.07.2023**

Tribal and Rural Local Sports

**†771. SHRI OMPRAKASH BHUPALSINH ALIAS PAWAN RAJENIMBALKAR:
SHRI VINAYAK RAUT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any policy in collaboration with the State Government in order to promote tribal and rural local sports;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of the policies implemented and proposed to be implemented in the country particularly in the State of Maharashtra;**
- (d) whether the Government has chalked out any plan to organize sports competitions of these sports at a large level in the country during the last three years;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof, particularly for the State of Maharashtra; and**
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to secure the future and provide employment to the players participating in these sports regularly?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
{ SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR }**

(a) to (c) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for development of sports and promoting tribal and rural local sports primarily rests with the State/Union Territory Governments. Central Government supplements their efforts. However, this Ministry runs a Central Sector Scheme, namely, 'Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports' Scheme since 2016, wherein one of the sub-components, namely, 'Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games', is dedicated to development of rural and indigenous/tribal games in the country, including in the State of

Maharashtra.

(d) and (e) Under the 'Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games' sub-component of the Khelo India Scheme, Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Silambam and Yogasan have been receiving support for infrastructure development, equipment support, appointment of coaches, training of coaches and scholarships to athletes.

(f) Under the 'Khelo India Centres' component of the Khelo India Scheme, as a part of Government's vision to strengthen the sports ecosystem in the country at the grassroots level, a low-cost, effective sports training mechanism has been developed. State/ UT Governments can engage former sportspersons as coaches and mentors for youngsters. Further, Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, provides opportunity to former sportspersons to be employed as coaches in various sports disciplines.
