

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2759
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.12.2023**

Platform for Young Athletes

2759. SHRI S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN:

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

(a) whether the Government agrees with the view that the nation needs more leagues and competitions at different levels on higher frequencies to increase participation and to provide the necessary platform for young athletes to hone their skills;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for promotion and development of sports, including organizing frequent sports competitions at state level, rests primarily with the respective State Governments. However, the Government of India through the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports supplements their efforts through its schemes, namely, Assistance to National Sports Federations and Khelo India Scheme.

Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), the Government supports NSFs to conduct National Championships periodically for various categories such as Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior categories by providing the following:

- (i) ₹17 Lakh per year each for Senior, Junior and Sub Junior category for High Priority, Priority and Indian Traditional Sports.**
- (ii) ₹15 Lakh per year for National Sports Federations dealing with disabilities.**

Under the component ‘Sports Competitions and Talent Development’ of the Khelo India Scheme, Khelo India Games (KIGs) are organized on a regular basis to create a platform for Talent Identification, promote a sporting culture across the country and create aspirational values amongst budding players in the country. The various Khelo India Games organized by the Ministry include Khelo India Youth Games, Khelo India University Games, Khelo India School Games, Khelo India Winter Games, Khelo India Para Games, etc. So far, 11 editions of Khelo India Games have been organized which have witnessed participation of more than 35,000 athletes from 36 States/UTs.

Further, under the ‘Promotion of Inclusiveness’ component of the Khelo India Scheme, Khelo India Women’s Leagues are organised to provide additional avenues for development of sports, competitions, leagues, and tournaments specifically for women. Khelo India Women’s Leagues are being conducted in 19 disciplines across the nation. This initiative offers opportunities to women to participate and excel in various sporting activities. In addition, the ASMITA (Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women through Action) Portal was launched for Khelo India Women’s League on 22nd August, 2023. ASMITA, which signifies dignity and pride, serves as a comprehensive resource which has been developed for schools, colleges, and other institutions providing regular update on upcoming and ongoing events and certifications. Also, the ASMITA logo has also been integrated with Khelo India Women’s League with the tagline “khel se hi pehchan” meaning thereby giving identity to women athletes through sports.
