

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 296
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2023**

Encouraging Sports among Young

**296. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:
DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any initiatives to encourage sporting habits among young minds particularly in rural areas in the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

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

(a) to (c): 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility to promote and develop sports in the country, including rural areas, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. However, the Union Government supplements their efforts in this regard through its following schemes:

- 1. Khelo India;**
- 2. Assistance to National Sports Federations;**
- 3. Special Awards to Winners in International sports events and their Coaches;**
- 4. National Sports Awards,**

- 5. Pension to Meritorious Sports Persons;**
- 6. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons; National Sports Development Fund; and**
- 7. Running sports training centres through Sports Authority of India(SAI).**

All these schemes cater to the entire country, including rural areas. Details of these schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (www.yas.nic.in/sports; www.sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in).

Further, one of the components of the Khelo India Scheme - “Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games”, is specifically dedicated towards promotion of sports in rural areas.
