

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3835
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2021**

Participation of Children in Sports

†3835. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether colleges and degree colleges provide appropriate/adequate opportunities to children desirous of making their career in sports;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government is having any programme at present to increase participation of children and youth in sports;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) whether adequate facilities are available with the Government to impart training to children and the youth for the sports;**
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (g) the other steps taken by the Government to ensure people's better/greater access to sports facilities?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
{ SHRI KIREN RIJIJU }**

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. While it depends on the choice of the student in which filed he/she wants to make a career, the schools and colleges provide adequate opportunities for their participation in national and international tournaments through the concerned National Sports Federations (NSFs). Further, there is provision for reservation of up to 3% in direct recruitment vacancies in Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' posts in the Central Government offices against sports quota vacancies. Participation in

national and international sports is open to all including students who fulfill the age criteria and selection criteria fixed by the concerned NSFs.

(c) to (g) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility to increase participation of children and youth in sports and provide adequate facilities to impart training to children and the youth for the sports rests with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging the critical gaps. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has formulated the following schemes to increase participation of children and youth in sports:-

(i) Khelo India Scheme (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations; (iii) Special Awards to Winners in International sports events and their Coaches; (iv) National Sports Awards, Pension to Meritorious Sports Persons; (v) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Fund; (vi) National Sports Development Fund; and (vii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India.

Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

Under the Khelo India Scheme, 232 academies have been accredited for training athletes identified under the Khelo India Scheme. Additionally, 106 Khelo India Centres and 24 Khelo India State Centre of Excellence have also been notified to impart training to talented sportspersons. Further, SAI has established 23 National Centres of Excellence and 66 SAI Training Centres wherein talented sportspersons are being imparted training in 27 sports disciplines on residential and non-residential basis.

Under the 'Utilisation and creation/upgradation of sports infrastructure' vertical of the Khelo India Scheme, this Ministry has sanctioned ₹ 1714.00 crore to various State/UT governments and other eligible entities for creation/upgradation of basic sports infrastructure since 2016-17. Further, under the erstwhile Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme also this Ministry has sanctioned ₹ 342.89 crore to various State/UT governments and other eligible entities for creation/upgradation of basic sports infrastructure during 2010-11 to 2015-16.
