

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2794
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021**

Policy to encourage Tribal and Rural Regional Sports

**†2794. SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:**

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has framed any policy with cooperation from the State Governments to encourage tribal and rural regional sports;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Union Government has also planned to organise these games on large scale in the country and if so, the details of the sports events organised during the last three years; and**
- (d) the steps taken by the Governments to secure the future and employment of the players who regularly take part in these games?**

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

(a) and (b) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for development of sports and encouraging tribal and rural regional 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 verticals, namely, 'Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games', is dedicated to development of rural and indigenous/tribal games in the country.

(c) Under the 'Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games' vertical of the Khelo India Scheme, Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka and Thang-Ta have been receiving support. Grants have been provided for infrastructure development, equipment support, appointment of coaches, training of

coaches and scholarships. A total of ₹ 8.16 crores has been spent for promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games. Scholarships have been sanctioned for 335 medal winners.

(d) Under the 'State Level Khelo India Centre' vertical 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 wherein schools/ organisations can appoint former sportspersons as coaches and mentors for youngsters. Further, Sports Authority of India (SAI) provides opportunity to former sportspersons to be employed as coaches in various disciplines.
