

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2950  
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2021**

**Promotion and Development of Sports**

**†2950. SHRI PRATAPRAO PATIL CHIKHLIKAR:  
SHRI ARVIND DHARMAPURI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has chalked out any policy to promote sports and encourage sportspersons in rural areas of the country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase the participation of the rural youth in sports;**
- (d) the number of recommendations received for promotion and development of sports in the country including Maharashtra during the last three years; and**
- (e) the number of recommendations accepted so far?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) to (c) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including formulation of policy to promote sports and encourage sportspersons in rural areas, rests with State/Union Territory Governments. Central Government supplements their efforts. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has formulated the following schemes to promote sports and encourage sportspersons in the country, including rural areas: -**

- (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.**

**(d) and (e) The Union Government keeps receiving proposals from various State/Union Territory Governments from time to time. Proposals are sanctioned according to the parameters of the respective Schemes subject to the completeness of the proposals, technical feasibility and availability of funds under the Schemes. During the last three years, this Ministry sanctioned 189 sports infrastructure projects, 360 Khelo India Centres, 24 Khelo India State Centres of Excellence and 160 Khelo India Academies for promotion and development of sports in the country, including Maharashtra.**

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