

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *267
ANSWERED ON 22.03.2022**

Promotion of Indigenous Sports

***267. DR. NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:**

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

- (a) whether a number of indigenous sports are being played in different States as per their culture and tradition and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote 'indigenous sports' in the country including Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh;**
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct special training programme for the development and promotion of traditional sports;**
- (d) if so, whether any review/evaluation has been done for development of sports at the grassroot level and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh including Prayagraj district;**
- (e) the details of places where traditional sports competitions are being organized in the country;**
- (f) the sports competitions which are being proposed to be organized at Panchayat/District/State level to develop sportmanship in the country, State/UT-wise; and**
- (g) the details of the financial and training assistance being provided by the Government in such events?**

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

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *267 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22/03/2022
REGARDING “PROMOTION OF INDIGENOUS SPORTS” ASKED BY DR.
NISHIKANT DUBEY AND SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL, HON’BLE
MEMBERS OF LOK SABHA**

(a) There are a number of indigenous sports being played in different States as per their culture and tradition. ‘Sports’ being a State subject, the responsibility to promote indigenous sports in the country and conduct special training programmes for the development and promotion of traditional sports rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts. As such, the details of the various indigenous sports being played in different States/UTs of the country are not maintained in this Ministry.

(b) This Ministry runs a Central Sector Scheme, namely, the ‘Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports’ Scheme (Khelo India Scheme), of which one of the Components, namely, ‘Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games’, is specifically dedicated to the development and promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games in the country. Indigenous games of Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Yogasana and Silambam have been identified for promotion under this Component. Grants are sanctioned for infrastructure development, equipment support, appointment of coaches, training of coaches and scholarships under this Component. Further, scholarship to 283 medal winners of Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka and Thang-Ta (₹ 10,000/- per month, per athlete), including 6 from the State of Uttar Pradesh, have been provided by this Ministry. In addition, Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta and Yogasana have also been included in the forthcoming third edition of Khelo India Youth Games at Panchkula, Haryana.

In addition, this Ministry has also made documentaries of various indigenous games in order to showcase and promote/revive them, namely, Gatka, Roll Ball, Tug of War, Kalaripayattu, Thang-Ta, Kho-Kho, Mallakhamb, Shooting Ball, Sqay, Kabaddi, Gilli Danda, Sikkim Archery, Dhoop Khel and Cowrie Khel, Paika Akhada and Chhau and Akhada Kushti, Hekko, Mizoram Games, Silabam, Lagori and Langadi. The documentaries have been uploaded on the digital repository of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat website, Facebook page of the Fit India Movement, Youtube channel of Fit India Movement and Youtube channel of MyGov India.

(c) This Ministry implements various Sports Promotional Schemes across the country through the Sports Authority of India (SAI), viz. National Centres of Excellence (NCOE), SAI Training Centre (STC), Extension Centre of STC,

National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) - (with its sub-schemes for Regular Schools, Indigenous Games & Martial Arts (IGMA) School & Akharas), whereby services of expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/insurance and stipend as per the approved scheme norms are provided. The disciplines in these schemes include traditional Indian games, like Kabaddi, Archery, Wrestling, Kho-Kho, etc. Additionally, with a view to promote other traditional sports, SAI also provides support for training as well as financial in Silambam, Kalaripayatu, Mallakhamb, Khomlainai, Gatka, Mukna, Thang-Ta, Kabaddi, etc. under the aegis of Indigenous Games & Martial Arts (IGMA) School, a sub-scheme of National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) scheme.

(d) Under the 'Talent Identification and Development' Component of the Khelo India Scheme, talent search is organised at the grassroots level in two categories:-

- Sports potential talent identification**
- Proven talent identification**

The country has been divided into 05 zones, namely North, East, West, South, and North-East Zones to carry out talent identification. Grassroot Zonal Talent Identification Committees are formed to reach out to each and every corner of the country to shortlist the potential and proven athletes.

Further, under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) scheme, talented children are selected in the age group of 8-14 years and they are trained through a well-structured system in the SAI Centres. The performance of the trainees in the battery of tests and achievements at the time of induction is clearly documented. The scouting of the talent in indigenous games is done on the basis of open competitions among participants. Selection is done by a selection committee consisting of representatives of SAI, NSFs, SAI coaches, guru/mentor of the concerned game, etc. The sports persons identified on this basis are offered admission after age verification, medical examination, etc.

(e) and (f) Traditional sports competitions are organised across the country at regular intervals by the respective sports federations and the State/UT Governments. As such, the State/UT-wise details of places where traditional sports competitions are being organized in the country are not maintained in the Ministry. However, under the sports component of the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme of the Government, this Ministry conducted 36 EBSB Championship events at 19 venues across the country through the concerned National Sports Federations in 2019-20. Approximately, 2250 sportspersons participated in these events. Since, the outbreak of the

Covid-19 pandemic in the country, these competitions were temporarily put on hold during the last 2 years. These events have recently been restarted this year with two competitions (for both boys and girls) being held in sqay (on digital platform) and in shooting-ball at Ghaziabad.

(g) This Ministry provides financial and training assistance through its various schemes as mentioned above in the form of services of expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/ insurance and stipend as per the approved scheme norms. A total of 283 athletes have been identified in the disciplines of Mallakhamb, Thang-Ta, Kalaripayattu and Gatka who are being provided Out-of-Pocket Allowance (₹ 10,000/- per month) under the “Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games” Component of the Khelo India Scheme. Further, four National Sports Federations (NSFs) have been provided financial assistance under the above Component as per the details tabulated below. State-wise data is not maintained in this regard in this Ministry.

S. No.	Name of the Federation (NSF)	Funds Released (in ₹ crore)			
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22 (up to 28.02.2022)
1	Mallakhamb Federation of India	-	2.34	1.79	0.11
2	Indian Kalaripayattu Association	-	0.61	0.21	0.50
3	National Gatka Association	-	0.27	0.36	0.26
4	Thang-Ta Federation of India	-	0.48	0.30	0.23
	Total	-	3.70	2.66	1.10
