

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2117  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2022**

**Functioning of SAI Centres**

**2117. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:  
SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:**

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

**(a) the total number of Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centres functioning and the total number of sportspersons imparting training in these centres in the country;**

**(b) whether the SAI has established adequate infrastructure to provide proper training facilities to the sportsmen with a view to promote sports activities in the country;**

**(c) if so, the details thereof regarding such infrastructure developed and the steps being undertaken presently/achievements made and long term plan evolved, State/UT-wise;**

**(d) whether the Government has any proposal to increase SAI Centres to increase the seats for sportspersons at all such centres in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu; and**

**(e) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

**(a) A total of 188 Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centres including National Centre of Excellence (NCOEs), SAI Training Centres (STCs) and**

**its Extension Centres, are functional for implementation of various sports promotional schemes of SAI. At present, a total of 7998 talented sportspersons are being trained in 36 sports disciplines on residential and non-residential basis in these centres.**

**(b) & (c) 'Sports' being a State subject, the primarily responsibility of promotion of sports activities across the country, rests with respective Governments of State/ Union Territory. However, Central Government supplements the efforts of State/UT Governments and National Sports Federations (NSFs) through its various schemes such as Khelo India, Assistance to National Sports Federations and by providing training facilities in various Sports Authority of India (SAI) centres.**

**Besides, the Sports infrastructure facilities available with Sports Authority of India (SAI) have sufficient capacity to cater to the training needs of a large number of athletes including high performance training to elite athletes. Also, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS), by merging the existing scheme under Sports Authority of India (SAI), has established 23 NCoEs across the Country to impart specialized training to promising athletes by providing state-of-the-art infrastructure and training facilities, sports science backup, individualized diet prescribed by trained nutritionists with overall supervision of the best coaches, qualified support staff and High Performance Directors.**

**(d) & (e): SAI has recently undertaken restructuring exercise of the existing Sports Promotional Schemes. In view of the available resources, it has been decided to focus on the existing centres in identified sports disciplines, with a view of prepare athletes for major international events including Asian Games, Commonwealth Games & Olympic Games. However, creation and development of sports infrastructure is a continuous process, which depends on availability of funds and local demand, etc.**

**In respect of Tamil Nadu, no such proposal is under consideration. Presently, SAI has been running three STCs in the State of Tamil Nadu at Chennai, Salem and Mayiladuthurai.**

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