

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1554
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2022**

Objectives of Khelo India Games

**1554. SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:
SHRI ANNASAHEB SHANKAR JOLLE:
SHRI L.S. TEJASVI SURYA:
DR. UMESH G. JADHAV:
SHRI SANGANNA AMARAPPA:
SHRI SHA.BRA.DR.JAI SIDDESHWAR SHIVACHARYA
MAHASWAMIJI:
SHRI S. MUNISWAMY:**

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

- (a) the objectives of running the Khelo India Games at the school and university level;**
- (b) whether the Government has ensured a pathway for a child to pursue sports professionally at a young age including training for the Olympics and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has studied the model of any other country which has been quite successful in grooming athletes from a young age and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has adopted any of their models or taken inspiration from any of them to set up such a model and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the other measures taken up by the Government to provide weightage for sports as a subject in order to groom athletes from a young age?**

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

(a) The Khelo India Games have been organized under the Khelo India Scheme to provide a basic platform to showcase sporting skills and accordingly become a platform for talent spotting and providing development pathways for gifted and talented children to achieve excellence.

Till date, four editions of Khelo India School/Youth Games have been conducted. A total 562, 512, 537 and 507 talents have been identified in the Khelo India School Games New Delhi, 2018; Khelo India Youth Games, Pune, 2019; Khelo India Youth Games, Guwahati, 2020; and Khelo India Youth Games, Panchkula, 2021, respectively.

(b) In its Endeavour to train athletes to achieve excellence in Olympics and other International Events, this Ministry through Sports Authority of India (SAI) has established National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs) across the country to impart specialized training to promising athletes by providing state of the art infrastructure and playing facilities, sports science backup, individualized diet prescribed by trained nutritionists and overall supervision under the best coaches, qualified support staff and High Performance Directors.

23 SAI Centres have been upgraded as NCOE across the country to impart specialized training to promising athletes in 13 priority disciplines and 10 additional disciplines.

Also, in order to groom the Grassroot level/discipline appropriate age group athletes, SAI Training Centres (STC) are established in States where the sports infrastructure is provided by the respective State Governments.

A total of 189 Centres including NCOEs, STCs, Extension Centres, etc. are functional for implementation of Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI.

Further, under Khelo India Scheme, Khelo India Talent Search and Development vertical has the mandate for identification of talent and nurturing them to attain highest levels of achievement at National and International sports event. Currently, 2745 athletes are supported under

Talent Search and Development component of Khelo India throughout the country

Apart from above, the Government, through Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), is providing assistance to recognized NSFs for conduct of Coaching Camps, Foreign Exposures/ training, procurement of equipment etc. NSFs select the talented players for the National Coaching Camps, International Exposure/ Competitions etc. from across the country.

Further Government through its Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) provides assistance to elite athletes in their preparations for international sporting events including Olympic and Paralympic Games. These athletes are supported with funding from NSDF for customized training and other support not available under normal schemes of the Ministry.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of above, does not arise.

(e) The New Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020) has included Physical Education & Sports as a core subject. At the school level, the NEP-2020 proposes sports integration, or utilizing physical activities in pedagogical practices, to increase the students' cognitive abilities, while promoting their physical and psychological well-being. This policy will help in grooming of an athlete from a young age.
