

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 376  
ANSWERED ON 19.07.2022**

**Promotion of Sports in Tribal Areas**

**376. SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:**

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

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented to promote sports in tribal areas of the country;**
- (b) whether any special project is being implemented for tribal dominated areas of the country including Odisha so as to enable tribal children to showcase their talent in traditional sports and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of tribal youth from the State of Odisha who have participated in the Tribal Youth Exchange Programmes; and**
- (d) the number of participants who have received employment as a consequence of their involvement in the programme along with the details of the skill development activities carried out under the said programme?**

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

**(a) and (b) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility to promote and develop sports in the country, including tribal areas to enable tribal children to showcase their talent in traditional sports, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. However, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes for development of sports in the country, including the tribal areas across the country:**

- (i) Khelo India- National Programme for Development of Sports;**
- (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations;**
- (iii) Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches;**
- (iv) National Sports Awards;**
- (v) Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons;**
- (vi) Pandit Deendayal**

**Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Fund; (vii) National Sports Development Fund; and (viii) 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.**

**Further, one of the verticals of the Khelo India Scheme, namely, “Promotion of rural and indigenou/tribal games”, is specifically dedicated to encouraging and showcasing of traditional sports of the country.**

**Also, Department of Youth Affairs through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) conduct programmes for Promotion of Sports to develop sports culture among rural youth in 623 Districts across the country, including tribal areas. It has two components, namely,**

**(i) Providing Sports kits to Youth Clubs- Under this programme, sports kits are provided to selected NYK Youth Clubs so that they may undertake sports activities on regular basis.**

**(ii) Organization of Block and District Level Sports Meets- NYKS organizes Sports Tournaments at Block & District Level among Youth Clubs.**

**NYKS is implementing Tribal Youth Exchange Programme in collaboration with Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Division of Ministry of Home Affairs. The programme aims to sensitize LWE tribal youth to the rich cultural heritage of the country, enable them to appreciate the concept of unity in diversity, expose them to development activities and technological/ industrial advancement in other parts of the country, develop their personality by enhancing their understanding of the needs and providing them necessary career counselling.**

**During Tribal Youth Exchange Programme, traditional games and sports is also showcased.**

**(c) and (d) A total number of 357 tribal youth participated in Tribal Youth Exchange Programme from LWE districts of Odisha during 2021-22. No direct employment is generated from Tribal Youth Exchange Programme.**

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