

**Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2237
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024**

Sports as Profession

2237 Shri T R Baalu:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that for development of sports in the country, it is necessary that the youth should have faith in sports and should be encouraged to take up sports as their profession;

(b) if so, the details of initiatives have been taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
[DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA]**

(a) to (c): 'Sports' being a state subject, the responsibility of promotion of Sports rests with the concerned State/UT Governments. Central Government only supplements their efforts through various sports promotional schemes.

As part of the Talent Identification and Development component, young talented athletes are identified and nurtured through two key initiatives namely, Khelo India Talent Development (KITD) and Khelo India Rising Talent Identification (KIRTI).

A programme called the Retired Sports Persons Empowerment Training (RESET) has been formulated to support retired athletes for their career development, by making them more employable by

providing them with training & skills, and also for bridging the skill gap in our sports eco-system. This programme aims to empower them with the necessary knowledge and skills and helps to pursue education and skill development programmes through education, career planning, guidance, employment support and networking opportunities.

There's a separate cadre of coaches in Sports Authority of India an autonomous body under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. All the coaches recruited in SAI are Sportspersons. 5% vacancies are reserved for Olympians and 1% for Paralympian at the entry cadre i.e. Assistant Coach. 3% posts are reserved for Medal Winning Olympians or representation in 02 Olympic games and 2% are for medal winning Paralympians in the grade of Coach.

Reservation under sports quota is governed by the consolidated instructions issued by the Department of Personnel & Training (DoP&T) on 3rd October, 2013 vide their OM No. 14034/01/2013-Estt.(D) on incentives for sportspersons. The Government of India provides reservation upto 5% of direct recruitment vacancies in Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' for meritorious sportspersons as per 'Sports Quota Policy'. However, number of jobs provided under sports quota is not centrally maintained.
