

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 149
ANSWERED ON 25.11.2024**

Sports Support Schemes for SC/ST/OBC

149. SHRI P V MIDHUN REDDY:

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

- (a) whether there are Central Government schemes in order to support and incentivise SC/ST/OBC children especially who aspire to be sportspersons;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
{ DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA }**

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including scheme to encourage and promote sports among the youths of rural areas, rests primarily with the State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) implements the following schemes to promote sports in the country, including among SC/ST/OBC children:

(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 Welfare Program for Sportspersons; (vii) National Sports Development Fund; and (viii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India(SAI).

Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and of Sports Authority of India(SAI).

The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, has introduced the Samagra Shiksha scheme to promote holistic development in children, incorporating sports, physical activities, yoga, and co-curricular activities. Under this scheme, grants ranging from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 25,000 are provided to government schools annually for sports equipment, with an additional grant of upto Rs. 25,000 per school available , if at least two students win medals in the Khelo India National School Games. In line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 recommendations, the scheme's sports guidelines were revised in August 2023 to emphasize on daily sports activities, indigenous games, procurement of age-appropriate equipment, infrastructure development, and the role of sports committees and physical education teachers. These updated guidelines have been shared with States and Union Territories.

(c) Does not arise.
