

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2087
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2024**

Procedure for Selecting Children for District-level Games

**2087. SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:
SHRI AMAR SHARADRAO KALE:
SHRI SANJAY DINA PATIL:
SMT.SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI BHASKAR MURLIDHAR BHAGARE:
SHRI BAJRANG MANOHAR SONWANE:
SHRI MOHITE PATIL DHAIRYASHEEL RAJSINH:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
PROF. VARSHA EKNATH GAIKWAD:**

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

- (a) the current procedure for selecting children from towns and villages to participate in district-level games;**
- (b) the manner in which Government ensure that the selection process for district-level games is fair, transparent, and inclusive of talent from both rural and urban areas;**
- (c) the steps that are being taken to ensure that children from remote villages and underserved communities have equal opportunities to participate in district-level games;**
- (d) the manner in which the Government is promoting awareness of district level games and the selection process among children, parents, and communities in towns and villages;**
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any recent audits or evaluations of the selection procedures to identify and address any gaps or areas for improvement; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by the Government to provide good and latest sports equipment for children in small towns and villages?**

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

(a) to (f) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including selection of children for district level games from towns and villages, conducting audits regarding selection procedures of athletes and providing sports equipment to children of small towns and villages in the country, rests primarily with the State/UT Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. However, identification and development of young sports talent in India is an ongoing process through various schemes implemented by the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the aegis of this Ministry. These schemes include the National Centres of Excellence (NCoE), SAI Training Centres (STC), the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC), and the Khelo India Scheme. The aim is to identify and nurture talented athletes from both urban and rural areas, to excel at district, national, and international levels. The process utilizes globally accepted scientific methods for talent identification, supported by platforms like the National Sports Talent Search Portal, Khelo India App, and Fit India App, alongside assessments and training programs for physical education teachers. The initiative is backed by collaboration between various stakeholders, including State Sports Departments, to ensure broad participation and transparency. The process of selection of athletes under SAI Schemes is provided at <https://sportsauthorityofindia.gov.in/sai/sai-training-center>.

Further, under the "Creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure" component of the Khelo India Scheme, financial assistance is provided to State/UT governments and other eligible entities for procurement of sports equipment, including small towns and villages across the country. Further, financial assistance is also provided to Khelo India Centres and Accredited Academies for procurement of equipment. State-wise details of Khelo India Centres and Accredited Academies under the Khelo India Scheme, are available at <https://dashboard.kheloindia.gov.in/state-wise-khelo-india-centers>.
