

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *327
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025**

Sports Facilities in Rural/Remote/Tribal Areas

***327. Shri Mani A:**

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

(a) the details of indigenous/traditional sports disciplines that have been identified for promotion under the Khelo India Scheme;

(b) whether the Government has taken steps to enhance the sports facilities in rural and remote tribal areas dominated by SC/ST/OBCs so as to encourage the talented youth of these areas and if so, the details thereof, State and district-wise;

(c) the details of future plans of the Government to identify the talent of school students and to provide them suitable opportunities and training to participate at the international level; and

(d) whether the Government is preparing any plan for any dedicated sports facility in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise including Tamil Nadu?

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *327 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2025 REGARDING "SPORTS FACILITIES IN RURAL/REMOTE/TRIBAL AREAS" ASKED BY SHRI MANI A, HON'BLE MEMBER OF LOK SABHA.

(a) A total of six indigenous games/disciplines, namely, Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Yogasana, and Silambam, have been identified for promotion under the 'Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games' sub-component of the Khelo India Scheme and have been made a part of the Khelo India Games.

(b) to (d) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including enhancement of sports facilities in rural and remote tribal areas dominated by SC/ST/OBCs so as to encourage the talented youth of these areas, identification of talent of school students and to provide them suitable opportunities and training to participate at the international level and preparing any plan for any dedicated sports facility in the country, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government only supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. However, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) implements the following schemes for the development of sports across the country, including in the State of Tamil Nadu:

(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.

Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry (<https://yas.nic.in>) and the Sports Authority of India (<https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in>).

The details of the sports infrastructure projects approved under Khelo India Scheme and National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), across the country, including in the State of Tamil Nadu, are available in public domain on the dashboards of the Ministry at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in> and <http://www.nsdf.yas.gov.in/nsdf-glance.html>.

Further, the details of Khelo India Centres (KICs) notified and sports academies accredited under the Khelo India Scheme, across the country, including in the State of Tamil Nadu, are available in public domain on the

dashboard of the Ministry at <https://dashboard.kheloindia.gov.in/state-wise-khelo-india-centers>.

Under the component, “Sports Competition and Talent Development” of the Khelo India Scheme, talented sportspersons nationwide, including in the State of Tamil Nadu, are identified as a Khelo India Athlete (KIA). Selection of these athletes is based on their outstanding performance in events such as the Khelo India Games, National Championships, and through open and transparent selection trials organized by the relevant National Sports Federations and the School Games Federation of India. Selection of Khelo India Athletes (KIAs) is done on merit through set protocols by the Talent Identification Development Committee (TIDC). Further, Under the component “Khelo India Centres & Sports Academies” of Khelo India Scheme, the identified talents are given option to join the accredited Khelo India academies and also provided financial assistance of Rs. 6.28 Lakh per annum [including Rs 1.20 Lakh as Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA)] towards training expenses, coaching, competitions exposure, education, equipment support, scientific support etc.

In addition to above, 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 up to 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.

The sports facilities developed and supported under sports schemes of this Ministry cater to all, including the State of Tamil Nadu.
