

**Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1632  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025**

**Yuva Connect Programme**

**†1632. Shri Damodar Agrawal:**

**Shri Manoj Tiwari:**

**Smt. Himadri Singh:**

**Dr. Nishikant Dubey:**

**Ms Kangna Ranaut:**

**Shri Balabhadra Majhi:**

**Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:**

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

**(a) the details of the steps being taken by the Government to extend the access of National Service Scheme and Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan to more and more students and youths, particularly to those residing in deprived/backward areas including Jalgaon Lok Sabha Constituency of Maharashtra State;**

**(b) the manner in which the ambitions and challenges of those residing in the rural and remote areas of the Country are likely to be met through "Viksit Bharat Ambassador-Yuva Connect" programme being run by the Government;**

**(c) whether the Government is planning to integrate the values like critical thinking and civic engagements in the curriculum of the educational institutions as a part of or by the said programme, if so, the details thereof;**

**(d) the specific initiatives being undertaken by the Government to promote sports and youth engagement programmes in districts like Jalgaon, with an emphasis on grassroots participation; and**

**(e) the allocation of funds and resources for strengthening youth development programmes in Maharashtra, particularly in Jalgaon Lok Sabha Constituency?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**

**(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

**(a) Steps have been taken by the Government to extend the access of National Service Scheme (NSS) through MY Bharat (Mera Yuva Bharat) Portal. The portal provides an overarching institutional mechanism powered by technology for youth development and youth-led development. MY Bharat's digital platform provides equitable access to opportunities for youth to actualize their aspirations and build Viksit Bharat. It is designed to cater to the needs of the dynamic youth demographic, aged between 15 and 29 years. This platform offers a wealth of resources, mentorship programs, experiential learning opportunities, networks, and invaluable industry connections. It acts as a springboard, propelling young individuals towards realising their aspirations while simultaneously equipping them to be the architects of change within their communities. In Maharashtra there are 387115 Volunteers enrolled in NSS. The data pertaining to the Jalgaon Lok Sabha Constituency is as under:**

- (i) NSS Volunteers registered under funded NSS units in Jalgaon - 7950**
- (ii) NSS Volunteers registered under Self Finance NSS units in Jalgaon - 1360**

**Further, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) through its 623 District Nehru Yuva Kendras across the country organizes programmes viz. Core Programmes, Special Programmes, Schemes of Department of Youth Affairs and projects in collaboration with other Ministries to improve and develop the youth empowerment and leadership. The principal objective of NYKS is to mobilize, motivate, organize youth of the country and enhance their capacities to develop democratic institutional mechanisms in the form of village-based Youth Clubs, empower them to become productive and responsible citizens, assume local leadership to act as active partners in the process of community development and nation building activities with the spirit of equity and volunteerism.**

**The details of programmes organized by NYKS across the country including Jalgaon Constituency of Maharashtra State during the last 2 years are as under:**

**(I) Core Programmes :**

- 1. Youth Club Development Programme**
- 2. Local Theme Based Workshops**
- 3. Observance of Days of National Importance**
- 4. Village Cluster Level Sports Meet/Block Level Sports Meet**
- 5. Promotion of Sports (Sports Material to Youth Clubs)**
- 6. Skill Based Entrepreneurship Programme**
- 7. Mission Life**
- 8. Mega Programme on National Youth Day**
- 9. National Road Safety Week**
- 10. MY Bharat – Viksit Bharat Nari Shakti Fitness Runs (Block level)**
- 11. Intensive Voter Awareness and Registration Drive**
- 12. District Level Yuva Utsav**
- 13. MY Bharat - Viksit Bharat Declamation Contest**
- 14. Meri Maati Mera Desh Programme**

**(II) Special Programme:**

- **Clean India**

**(III) Scheme of Department of Youth Affairs:**

- **Neighbourhood Youth Parliament**

**(IV) Project with the support of various Ministries and Departments:**

- **Catch the Rain**

**(b) The Viksit Bharat Ambassador – Yuva Connect programme is aimed at fostering youth engagement and leadership in the developmental transformation of India by conducting the programmes in Educational Institutions with participation of students from all walks of life including those residing in rural and remote areas. This is an interactive session between youth and an eminent personality about public issues that concern the youth. In this program there are various presentations followed by question and answer round with students by the Chief Guests.**

**(c) Presently, no such proposal is under consideration.**

**(d) The specific initiatives being undertaken by the Government to promote youth engagement programmes in districts including Jalgaon, with an emphasis on grassroots participation during the current year are as under:**

- 1. Observance of Days of National Importance**
- 2. Block Level Sports Events**
- 3. Promotion of Sports (Sports Material to Youth Clubs)**
- 4. National Road Safety Week**
- 5. District Level Yuva Utsav**
- 6. Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam Campaign**
- 7. Swachhta Hi Seva - Cleanliness Campaign**
- 8. Diwali with MY Bharat**
- 9. Inter District Youth Exchange Programme**
- 10. Awareness and Education Programme on Drug-addiction and Substance Abuse**

**Further, 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development and encouragement of sports in the country, including Jalgaon, rests primarily with the State/Union Territory Governments, and the Central Government only supplements their efforts. However, the Government is running various sports promotional schemes across the country. These schemes include:**

- (i) Khelo India- National Programme for Development of Sports;**
- (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs);**
- (iii) Cash 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 Scheme;**
- (vii) National Sports Development Fund (NSDF); and**
- (viii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India (SAI). Details of these schemes are available in the public domain on the website of the Ministry at <https://yas.nic.in/>.**

**Under the "Creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure" component of the Khelo India Scheme, this Ministry renders financial support for creation of sports infrastructure. The details of the sports infrastructure sanctioned under Khelo India Scheme, across the country, including in the**

**State of Maharashtra are available in public domain on the dashboard of the Ministry at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in>.**

**(e) Against the total allocation of Rs. 412.00 crore under NYKS scheme for FY 2024-25 by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, funds to the tune of Rs.22.48 crore have been allocated for the offices of NYKS in Maharashtra, which includes Rs.0.88 crore allocated to meet establishment and programme expenses of the office of Nehru Yuva Kendra, Jalgaon.**

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