

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1658
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025**

Gender Pay Gap in Sports

1658. SMT. KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the gender pay gap in Indian sports, if so, the details regarding the average pay received by women and men across sports, sports-wise;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure equal allocation of resources and infrastructure for women sportspersons and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the measures being implemented to address the lack of media representation and sponsorship for women sports events; and**
- (d) whether the Government plans to introduce specific legislative or policy changes to reduce the gender pay gap and increase opportunities for women sportspersons in the country?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DR MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)**

(a) to (d): The Government has enacted Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 which provides for payment of equal remuneration to men and women for the same work or work of similar nature without any discrimination.

Further, 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development and encouragement of sports in the country, 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, which are gender neutral and cater to both men and women. 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 Khelo India scheme, there is a dedicated sub-component of “Sports for women”. Under this component, Khelo India ASMITA (Achieving Sports Milestone by Inspiring Women through Action) Women’s League are being conducted and are given wide publicity including in social media. Further, funds received under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to NSDF are used for wide range of activities for development of sports for all sportspersons, including women.
