

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2318  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025**

**Khelo Bharat Niti, 2025**

**2318. Shri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu:  
Shri G M Harish Balayogi:**

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

**(a) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government under Khelo Bharat Niti, 2025 to strengthen grassroots sports infrastructure and enable early talent identification in rural/tribal and aspirational districts of Andhra Pradesh, especially under Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programmes (ESDPs);**

**(b) the steps taken by the Government to improve availability of qualified coaches in districts with limited access to sports facilities, including initiatives at panchayat/block levels;**

**(c) the initiatives under the said policy to promote inclusive sports participation among persons with disabilities and economically weaker sections in Andhra Pradesh, including accessible infrastructure and financial support;**

**(d) the measures being taken by the Government to encourage private sector involvement in sports development through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and the support provided to sports startups in underserved areas;**

**(e) whether structure sports and physical education have been integrated into the schools and higher education institutions in Andhra**

**Pradesh under National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and if so, the details thereof; and**

**(f) the manner in which athletes from Andhra Pradesh are being identified and supported for participation in global events such as the Olympics and Asian Games?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) The Government has launched the Khelo Bharat Niti-2025 on 01.07.2025, which aims at building a strong, inclusive, and performance-driven sports ecosystem in India. Objectives of the Niti inter-alia includes to develop a robust talent identification and development system to nurture future champions, Ensure equitable access to sports infrastructure across the country and Provide athlete-centric support systems for the holistic development of sportspersons. 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility for promotion and development of sports rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments. However, the Union Government supplements their efforts through its various schemes/programmes viz., (i) Khelo India Scheme (ii) Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) (iii) Assistance to National Sports Federations Scheme (iv) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare program for Sportspersons (v) Scheme of sports fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons, and (vi) Scheme of Cash Incentive to Medal Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches. Details of all these schemes are available in public domain on the website of this Ministry at <https://yas.nic.in/sports/schemes>.**

**(b) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including improving availability of qualified coaches in districts with limited access to sports facilities, including initiatives at panchayat/block levels, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government only supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. Under Khelo India Scheme, support is given to States' Khelo India Centre (KIC) and for Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) including for coaching. At present 926**

**Past Champion Athletes (PCAs) have been engaged as coaches and mentors at KICs. These PCAs undergo capacity-building programs, including refresher and certificate courses at no cost, offered by Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports (NSNIS) Patiala and other academies. In addition, this Ministry also supports coaches through its other schemes viz. Assistance to National Sports Federations and Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India. Details of these schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India.**

**(c) The objectives of Khelo Bharat Niti 2025 inter-alia provides to ensure equitable access to sports infrastructure across the country for all athletes including athletes with disabilities and economically weaker sections. The Government through various schemes as mentioned in reply to Point (a) above bridge the gaps for athletes with disabilities and economically weaker sections. Additionally, all sports facilities are mandated to adhere to the guidelines outlined in “Accessible Sports Complex and Residential Facilities for Sports Persons with Disabilities,” ensuring the comfort and accessibility of facilities for athletes with disabilities.**

**(d) Department of Sports encourages private sector’s involvement in sports development by actively engaging with Corporates/PSUs and participating in several CSR Conclave and other events. The Department also has National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) where contribution of CSR Funds from Corporates/PSUs are received and utilized for the development of sports.**

**(e) 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 including the state of Andhra Pradesh.**

**(f) The Mission Olympic Cell (MOC), functioning under the Sports Authority of India (SAI), is responsible for identifying and overseeing athletes under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). Through this scheme, the Ministry selects and extends support to athletes with the potential to win medals at the Olympics and Asian Games, including those from Andhra Pradesh. These athletes receive personalized assistance based on the specific requirements of their sporting discipline.**

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