

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2443
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025**

Athletes participated in Khelo India Youth Games

2443. Shri Malaiyarasan D:

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

- (a) the total number of athletes and sports infrastructure projects supported under the Khelo India Scheme since its inception, year and State-wise data, particularly for Tamil Nadu;**
- (b) whether the Government has ensured equitable distribution of funds and facilities across all States, especially in the Southern States and the criteria used for such allocation;**
- (c) the details of such Centres and Talent Identification Programmes and the number of athletes participated in Khelo India Youth Games and other national events under the said scheme;**
- (d) whether any proposals from the Government of Tamil Nadu for infrastructure development or athlete support under Khelo India are pending with the Centre and if so, the reasons for the delay therefor; and**
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen grassroots sports, promote traditional and indigenous sports, ensure gender and regional balance in athlete selection and funding under the scheme?**

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

(a) State-wise details of total number of athletes supported under the Khelo India Scheme since its inception is provided at Annexure – I. The details of the sports infrastructure projects approved and their sanctioned cost and funds released under 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://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in>.

(b) The Khelo India Scheme is a demand-driven scheme. The proposals received from the State/UT Governments and other eligible entities are considered for financial support, subject to their completeness, technical feasibility and availability of funds under the Scheme.

(c) The details such as Khelo India Centres, Sports Academies, identified Khelo India Athletes, participation and medal-tally of various Khelo India Games under Khelo India Scheme are available at <https://dashboard.kheloindia.gov.in>. The details of the sports infrastructure projects approved and their sanctioned cost and funds released under 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://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in>.

(d) No proposal is pending for athlete support under Khelo India from the State of Tamil Nadu. However, under the “Creation and upgradation of sports infrastructure” component of the Khelo India Scheme, this Ministry has received 17 proposals for infrastructure development from the State of Tamil Nadu.

The proposals received from the State/UT Governments and other eligible entities are considered for financial support, subject to their completeness, technical feasibility and availability of funds under the Scheme.

(e) To strengthen grassroots sports, the Khelo India Scheme has established over 1,000 Khelo India Centres at the district level to provide children with opportunities to train under the guidance of past champion athletes. These centres help prepare young athletes for state and national level competitions. Additionally, the scheme supports 34 Khelo India State Centres of Excellence across 33 states and union territories, which provide critical resources such as high-quality coaching, sports science support, and equipment, helping nurture talent from every region. Talent identification is an important component, with over 2,800 athletes selected across 21 sports, including para-sports, after rigorous national championships and assessment camps. These athletes train in accredited academies supported financially with an annual funding of over six lakh rupees per athlete. Moreover, Khelo India Games have been conducted 19 times, involving more than 56,000 athletes, offering a competitive platform especially benefiting athletes from rural areas. Special emphasis is also given to promoting women’s participation through Khelo India Women’s Leagues across 29 sports disciplines, organizing over 1,300 competitions with nearly 1,40,000 female participants, thus significantly increasing women’s involvement in sports nationwide.

The promotion of traditional and indigenous sports is another key focus. Indigenous games such as Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, and Yogasana have been included as competitive categories in various Khelo India Youth and University Games. The Khelo India Centres support training in 42 sports disciplines, including these indigenous games, providing livelihood opportunities for past champion athletes as coaches. The Fit India Movement complements this by promoting indigenous games during its events and festivals. The scheme also supports the revival of rural, indigenous, and tribal games as a means of preserving cultural heritage and encouraging inclusiveness. Furthermore, women's leagues also include indigenous and traditional sports, promoting broader participation.

Regarding gender and regional balance in athlete selection and funding, a well-structured Talent Identification and Development Committee oversees the process, comprising eminent athletes, coaches, sports scientists, and representatives from national sports federations. This committee compiles scouting lists from competitions and conducts assessment camps to select athletes based on merit while ensuring regional representation. Once selected, athletes receive induction into accredited academies and benefit from the Khelo India program's comprehensive support, which includes scholarships, specialized coaching, exposure to international competitions, and access to world-class facilities. Each Khelo India Athlete (KIA) receives funding of up to ₹6.28 lakh per annum. This support includes specialised training, access to world-class facilities, participation in international competitions, and a monthly out-of-pocket allowance of ₹10,000.

ANNEXURE – I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2443 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025 REGARDING “ATHLETES PARTICIPATED IN KHELO INDIA YOUTH GAMES” ASKED BY SHRI MALAIYARASAN D, HON’BLE MEMBER OF LOK SABHA.

S.No.	State / UT	2025-26 (Q1)	2024- 25	2023- 24	2022- 23	2021- 22	2020- 21	2019- 20
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4	4	3	3	6	8	7
2	Andhra Pradesh	57	63	49	55	43	56	40
3	Arunachal Pradesh	17	16	14	11	9	12	9
4	Assam	53	42	39	43	54	45	36
5	Bihar	17	14	14	9	8	10	12
6	Chandigarh	34	34	30	40	39	46	33
7	Chhattisgarh	31	37	45	35	44	30	22
8	Daman Diu and Dadra Nagar Haveli	2	3	3	2	1	4	1
9	Delhi	140	156	163	199	212	254	195
10	Goa	4	6	10	18	16	18	16
11	Gujarat	68	64	65	81	67	104	106
12	Haryana	497	490	467	432	392	438	375
13	Himachal Pradesh	32	30	28	34	33	26	19
14	Jammu & Kashmir	14	17	19	20	30	20	13
15	Jharkhand	51	54	47	40	24	27	27
16	Karnataka	160	157	138	136	144	159	173
17	Kerala	114	94	108	103	109	126	131
18	Ladakh	1	1	0	1	0	0	1
19	Lakshadweep	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	97	109	114	100	109	54	72
21	Maharashtra	303	325	347	365	415	347	365
22	Manipur	116	109	105	126	189	255	203
23	Meghalaya	4	5	2	3	13	6	12
24	Mizoram	15	10	15	28	25	39	26
25	Nagaland	1	2	1	1	0	5	0
26	Odisha	81	77	70	57	66	47	53
27	Puducherry	8	5	7	7	6	13	6
28	Punjab	144	159	169	179	161	158	188
29	Rajasthan	155	137	105	81	108	137	95
30	Sikkim	0	1	1	2	6	9	3
31	Tamil Nadu	190	199	173	167	101	94	92
32	Telangana	58	72	59	51	55	132	60
33	Tripura	3	5	5	8	11	23	9
34	Uttar Pradesh	176	190	186	191	186	139	159
35	Uttarakhand	49	45	32	40	53	94	69
36	West Bengal	111	112	118	91	81	95	83
Total		2808	2845	2752	2759	2816	3030	2711
