

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2696  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026**

**Promotion of Traditional and Indigenous Sports**

**2696. SHRI TEJASVI SURYA:**

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

**(a) whether the Government has taken any steps or formulated any policy for the preservation, promotion and development of traditional and indigenous sports in the country;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof, including the number of athletes trained and supported, the infrastructure created, financial assistance provided to athletes and coaches, total funds allocated and utilised and coaching facilities provided for traditional sports, sport and State/UT-wise;**

**(c) whether the Government has any plan to promote awareness and popularise traditional and indigenous Indian sports at the global level and if so, the details thereof; and**

**(d) whether the Government proposes to further expand initiatives for the promotion of traditional sports and if so, the details thereof, including the proposed timeline, projected outlay and the steps planned in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
[ DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA ]**

**(a) to (d) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including policy for the preservation, promotion and development of traditional and indigenous sports, creation of infrastructure, providing financial assistance to athletes and coaches, promoting awareness and popularising traditional and indigenous Indian sports at the global level, rests primarily with the State/Union Territory**

**Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports implements the following schemes for development of sports in the country:**

- i. Khelo India – National Programme for Development of Sports;**
- ii. Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs);**
- iii. Cash Incentives to Medal 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;**
- viii. Running Sports Training centres through Sports Authority of India (SAI); and**
- ix. National Centre for Sports Science and Research (NCSSR).**

**Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India.**

**In addition to above, the ‘Promotion of traditional and indigenous sports’ sub-component of the Khelo India Scheme, is specifically dedicated to the development and promotion of traditional and indigenous sports across the country. Indigenous sports like Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka, Thang-Ta, Yogasana and Silambam have been identified for promotion under this component and were made part of Khelo India Games.**

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