

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2734  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026**

**National Sports Talent Competition**

**†2734. SMT. DELKAR KALABEN MOHANBHAI:  
SHRI GYANESHWAR PATIL:  
SHRI NILESH DNYANDEV LANKE:**

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

**(a) whether the children aged 8 to 14 years are identified and trained under the National Sports Talent Competition (NSTC);**

**(b) if so, the number of schools in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and the district of Dadra and Nagar Haveli affiliated with the said scheme along with the number of sports talents identified there;**

**(c) whether the reach of the said scheme is extremely limited in the rural and semi-urban areas of the said States and district with severe shortage of training facilities and qualified coaches;**

**(d) whether the Government is formulating a concrete action plan to establish special sports nurseries, develop better coaching infrastructure and make the selection process more transparent and comprehensive in Maharashtra, Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Khandwa Lok Sabha Constituency of Madhya Pradesh; and**

**(e) if so, the details of the roadmap prepared thereof?**

**ANSWER**

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

**(a) & (b) Yes Sir. Under the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme of Sports Authority of India (SAI), talented athletes in the age group of 8–14 years are identified and provided systematic training.**

**In the State of Madhya Pradesh, one Regular School under the NSTC Scheme has been established at Maharani Lakshmi Multipurpose High School, Jabalpur. Due to administrative reasons, the school is not operational at present, therefore, no induction of athletes has been carried out in the school. Further, no Regular School has been adopted in Maharashtra and the district of Dadra and Nagar Haveli so far.**

**(c) to (e) SAI has undertaken an exercise of restructuring its Sports Promotional Schemes to ensure more focused and effective development of athletes. Given the existing sports infrastructure in the States and financial considerations, the emphasis is currently on strengthening the capabilities of the existing centres to drive excellence in sports. Further, SAI creates/upgrades infrastructure in its SAI Centres only.**

**\*\*\*\*\***