

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2745
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2026**

Support To Tribal Youth In Odisha

†2745. DR. RABINDRA NARAYAN BEHERA:

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

(a) Whether the tribal youth of Jajpur Lok Sabha Constituency in Odisha have shown remarkable performance in various sports and games and represented the State and the country at national and international levels;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote and support Tribal youth of Jajpur district of Odisha in the field of sports?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Under the Khelo India Scheme, the State of Odisha has a significant presence in the national sports ecosystem. At present, 80 identified Khelo India Athletes (KIAs), including athletes from Jajpur, are receiving specialized support under the scheme. These athletes have collectively secured 4,726 medals at the national level and 945 medals at international competitions during the last three years.

Further, through the Khelo India Scheme, 01 Khelo India Centre (KIC) dedicated to Football has been notified and is operational at Mahagiri Govt. High School, Kuhika in Jajpur. These centres aim to utilize existing infrastructure and provide quality coaching through Past Champion Athletes (PCAs). Identified KIAs from the region receive

comprehensive support of ₹6.28 lakh per annum, which includes an Out-of-Pocket Allowance (OPA) of ₹10,000 per month directly to the athlete, alongside funding for coaching, diet, and sports science.

In addition, athletes from Jajpur have access to the Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) at Kalinga Stadium, Bhubaneswar, which has been strengthened with high-performance sports science manpower and equipment to support advanced training and performance development.
