

**Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs And Sports  
(Department of Sports)**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3763  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026**

**Development of Winter Sports in India**

**3763. MS. PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE:**

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

**(a) whether the Government is aware that only two Indian athletes have qualified for the 2026 Winter Olympics;**

**(b) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to develop winter sports infrastructure, coaching and talent identification in snow-bound and Himalayan regions during the last five years and the current year; and**

**(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate a dedicated national strategy for the promotion of winter sports and if so, the details along with the timeline thereof?**

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

**(a) Yes Sir. Two athletes participated in the Olympic Winter Games Milano-Cortina 2026, held in Italy from 6th February to 22nd February, 2026.**

**(b) & (c) "Sports" being a State subject, primary responsibility of development of sports infrastructure, including for winter sports, rests primarily with the State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps.**

**For prompting the winter sports in India and popularizing these games among youth of the country, the Ministry has launched Khelo India Winter Games in 2020 under its Khelo India Scheme and since then 06 editions of Khelo India Winter Games have been conducted with the participation of more than 5200 athletes.**

**Khelo India Winter Games acts as a platform for capacity building of technical officials, States generating interest through wide & innovative coverage. Also, small village level competitions have been initiated under sports for peace and development, which promote participation of village growth in far flung areas.**

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