

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3876  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.12.2015**

**Sports in Schools & Colleges**

**3876. SHRI P. KUMAR:**

**SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:**

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

**(a) whether the Government is aware that of late, all the schools and colleges do not give importance to sports, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**

**(b) whether the Government has any mechanism to ensure that schools and colleges do not skip sports;**

**(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and**

**(d) whether the Government intends to establish training centres for different sports and activities like debating etc. for the youths outside the school curriculum, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)**

**(a) to (d): Primary responsibility for promotion and development of sports including in schools and colleges is that of States, as 'Sports' is a State subject. Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Sports Authority of India supplement the efforts of the States.**

**School Games Federation of India (SGFI) and Association of India Universities (AIU) have been recognized by the Government of India as National Sports Promotion Organizations (NSPOs). SGFI and AIU are involved in promotion and development of sports and games in schools and colleges/universities respectively.**

**Conduct of National Championships in the Senior Category (both for men and women), in Junior and Sub-Junior Categories (both for boys and girls) is part of annual calendar of training and competitions of the NSFs. Participants in Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior Championships are basically from schools and colleges.**

**Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has made it mandatory for all schools affiliated to it to provide one compulsory period for sports upto 10<sup>th</sup> class and two periods in a week for classes 11 and 12.**

**For identifying the talent and nurturing and training the identified talent in the age group of 8 to 18 years, which is mainly from schools and colleges, the Sports Authority of India is running the following schemes:**

**(i) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC): The main objective of the scheme is to identify gifted and talented sportspersons among school children in the age group of 8-14 years.**

**(ii) Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSC) is implemented in collaboration with the Army. Children in the age group of 8-16 years are imparted scientific training to achieve excellence at national and international levels. The scheme also provides job opportunities in the Indian Army.**

**(iii) Special Area Games (SAG): This Scheme follows an area-specific approach to scout and nurture talent for modern competitive games and sports from tribal, rural, coastal and hilly areas of the country. The main objective of the scheme is to train talented and meritorious sportspersons in the age group of 12-18 years.**

**(iv) SAI Training Centres (STC): Under this scheme, talented youth in the age group of 12-18 years are given the option to join the scheme on residential or non-residential basis.**

**(v) Centres of Excellence (COX): The main objective of this scheme is to identify and train outstanding sportspersons who are medal prospects for the country in international competitions.**

**Trainees under the above-mentioned schemes are provided with stipend, sports kit, accidental insurance, as well as competition exposure.**

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