

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 754
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.03.2016**

Talent Search Scheme

754. SHRI RAGHAV LAKHANPAL:

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

(a) the details of various schemes relating to talent search and training being implemented in the country as on date, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that new players are getting proper equipment and facilities to compete at national and international levels along with the details of such equipment provided during the last one year and the current year?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is implementing the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) Scheme under which Rural Sports Competitions are organized at Block, District, State and National levels through the State Governments/Union Territories throughout the country. A team of coaches of concerned sports disciplines along with concerned scientific officers of the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, is deputed to the venue of the National level RGKA rural competitions for identifying talented children/ medal winners for making specific recommendations to SAI Head Office for considering the selected players for induction into SAI promotional schemes for intensive training/coaching subject to availability of seats in the concerned region of SAI.

However, in the meantime, the Government of India decided to restructure and merge centrally sponsored schemes into one Central Sector Scheme to address talent search, grooming of talent and provision of infrastructure.

A programme, namely, Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme is in operation under National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the specific aim of providing support to the athletes who are medal prospects for Olympic, 2016 and young potential athletes for Olympic, 2020 for their customized training and other support.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) is implementing the following Sports Promotional Schemes for identification and grooming of sportspersons by providing equipment and facilities :

- National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)**
- Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)**
- SAI Training Centre (STC)**
- Special Area Games (SAG)**
- Extension Centres of STC/SAG**
- Centre of Excellence (CoX)**
- National Sports Academy (NSA)**

Approximately 3700 boys and 1700 girls are undergoing training under the abovementioned Schemes at different SAI training centres.
