

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †590
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2016**

Promotion of Sports Among Rural Youth

†590. SHRIMATI NEELAM SONKER:

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

(a) whether the Government has formulated any sports policy to encourage rural youths for sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether provision for sports grant has been made for the promotion of sports among the students of government primary, secondary and high schools of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)**

(a)& (b) The Government has issued the National Sports Policy. The twin objectives of the Policy are “Broad-basing of Sports” and “Achieving Excellence in Sports” at the national and international levels. The policy provides that while the broad-basing of Sports will primarily remain a responsibility of the State Governments, the Union Government will actively supplement their efforts in this direction and for tapping the latent talent, including in the rural and tribal areas.

(c)& (d) The ‘Khelo India’ Scheme, which is a Central Sector Scheme, being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, aims to

achieve mass participation of youth in annual sports competitions, identification of sporting talent and creation of Sports Infrastructure at both urban and rural areas. Schools under Central/State Governments are one of the entities eligible to receive grants for creation of sports infrastructure under the Scheme.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, is implementing the following Sports Promotional Schemes under which assistance is provided to schools for promotion of sports:

- **National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC);**
- **Extension Centres of STC/SAG Centres.**
