

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3091
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the development of sports in the country including rural areas;
- (b) whether the Government is satisfied with the pace of promotion and development of sports;
- (c) the efforts made to identify the talented sports persons in the country including in rural areas; and
- (d) the number of such sports persons identified for participating in the national and international sporting events?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) & (b): As a result of large-scale inadequacy of sports infrastructure at the grassroots level, there is little access to sports facilities and organized competitions in rural areas. With a view to overcoming this gap, Government has introduced the Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) for creation of basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchyats of the country in a phased manner over a period of 10 years at an annual coverage of 10% (the coverage will be 20% in the border districts of special category states including North Eastern States).

The XIth Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme is Rs.1,500 crore. Budget of Rs.92 crore which was provided under PYKKA scheme for the year 2008-09 for infrastructure support and block, district, state and national level competitions, was released to States/UTs. During 2009-10, budget of Rs.135 crore was allocated under PYKKA scheme, out of which, Rs.115 crore has so far been released to States/UTs.

Annual competitions were held in 25 States during 2009-10. This scheme is not only expected to promote mass participation in sports but also enhance the talent base, which in the long-run, would lead to better performance at national and international level.

(c) & (d) Talent identification and providing training facilities to the sportspersons is done by SAI under its Sports Promotional Schemes namely

- (i) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC);
- (ii) Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC);
- (iii) SAI Training Centre (STC)
- (iv) Special Area Games (SAG)
- (v) Extension Centre of STC/SAG for wider coverage Centre of Excellence (COE) Under these schemes, SAI adopts schools and provides comprehensive support to the identified athletes, in terms of training and participations in competitions. Around 14,850 trainees (boys and girls) were under training in various SAI's sports promotional schemes throughout the country during 2009-10.