

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:440  
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2009  
SPORTING TALENT  
Ram Shri Purnmasi

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

- (a) whether steps are being taken by the Government to promote sports and games in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take measures to identify sporting talent in the rural areas including persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including backward areas of Orissa; and
- (e) the allocation of funds made in this regard including establishment of Youth Development Centres in various States during each of the last three years and the current year?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) & (b): Promotion of sports and games is primarily the responsibility of State Governments, as 'sports' is a State subject. However, for supplementing the efforts of the State Governments, the following schemes are being operated and implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for promotion of sports and games in the country:

S. Name of the Scheme      Main objective of the scheme  
No.

1. Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA)      Creation of basic sports infrastructure in all village and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner over a period of 10 years and providing access to organized sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels
2. Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs)      To provide assistance to NSFs for conducting National Championships and International Tournaments in India, participation of national teams in International tournaments abroad, organizing coaching camps, procuring sports equipment, engagement of foreign coaches, etc.
3. Talent Search & Training      To provide assistance to promising and budding sportspersons for training, competitive exposure and the purchase of equipment.
4. National Sports Development Fund      To provide tailor-made assistance to elite athletes for their training and preparation for participation in major international competitions.

5. Schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI) viz National Sports Talent Contest Scheme, Army Boys Sports Companies Scheme, SAI Training Centres Scheme, Special Area Games Scheme, Centres of Excellence Scheme, National Coaching Scheme and Capital Projects To broad-base and promote excellence in sports, including talent identification and development, organizing national coaching camps, and development of sports academics.
6. Laxmibai National University of Physical Education, Gwalior To prepare qualified leaders in the field of physical education; to undertake, promote and disseminate research and also publish literature in the field of physical education; to provide professional and academic leadership to other institutions etc.
7. Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and Their Coaches to encourage and motivate outstanding sportspersons for higher achievements and to attract the younger generation to take sports both as amateurs and professionals.
8. Awards Schemes viz Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievement in sports and games, Arjuna Award, Dronacharya Award, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy To recognize and honour the outstanding sportspersons, coaches and top overall performing university in the Inter-University Tournaments
9. Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons To reward the meritorious sportspersons for their outstanding achievements with life time assistance in the form of assured monthly pension
10. National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons To provide assistance to retired sports persons who brought fame and glory to the country but now living in indigent circumstances
11. National Sports Championship for Women To promote sports and games among women
12. Scheme of Assistance for Anti-Doping Activities To provide financial assistance for anti-doping measures

(c) & (d): The special Area Games Scheme of SAI and the recently launched PYKKA Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports aim at identifying the sporting talent in rural areas. The Schemes of Ministry and SAI are applicable to all eligible rural youth including those belonging to Scheduled Castes and backward areas of Orissa.

(e): Youth Development Centres (YDC), established by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan for overall development of rural youth including training and development of sports, serve a cluster of 10 villages. One time financial assistance of Rs.30,000/- is given to each YDC. Funds allocated to various states during last three years and the current year are given in the Annexure.

