

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4584  
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010  
SPONSORSHIP OF SPORTS PERSONS  
Alagiri Shri S. ;Singh Shri Ijyaraj

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

- (a) whether Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any programme under which it would sponsor sportpersons during their preparation/training for National and International sporting competitions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the talented sportpersons of various sporting disciplines belonging to rural areas have not been able to compete in the National and International Sporting Competitions due to lack of Sponsorship and adequate Sports facilities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): The Government, under its Scheme for financial assistance to National Sports Federations provides financial assistance, to national level sportpersons for training to prepare them for participation in international sports events, through National Sports Federation concerned and Sports Authority of India. Apart from this, the Government also provides financial assistance directly to elite sportpersons for specialized training under Indian and foreign coaches, participation in international tournaments in India and abroad, purchase of equipments and scientific support, as part of their preparation for major international tournaments, under Scheme relating to Talent Search & Training and National Sports Development Fund.

(c)&(d): No, Madam. The Government implements the following main schemes, through Sports Authority of India,

1. National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme
3. SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme
4. Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme
5. Centre of Excellence (COE) Scheme

to identify potentially gifted sportpersons in the country at sub-junior (8-14 Years), junior (14-18 years) and senior levels and gives them scientific training in the respective disciplines through qualified coaches. This exercise covers rural, tribal and remote areas as well. There are altogether 14,290 trainees in these centres. Free board & lodging facilities, sports kit, sports equipment, competition exposure are also provided. Non-residential trainees are given monthly stipend in place of board & lodging. In the Centres of Excellence, the trainees are provided with the state of art facilities, equipment, and scientific back up alongwith specialized training.

The sportpersons trained by SAI under the above schemes have won 156 Gold, 105 silver and 95 bronze medals in international sports during the last 3 years.