

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:172

ANSWERED ON:22.02.2011

SPORTS TRAINING CENTRES OF SAI

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that some States do not possess any sport training centre of the Sports Authority of India (SAI);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, State-wise alongwith the details of criteria/norms fixed to establish such centres in the country;
- (c) the number of proposals still pending with the Government to set up such centre of SAI and the reasons for delay alongwith the time by which such proposals are likely to be cleared,State-wise;
- (d) the details of schemes/programmes implemented by the Government/SAI to identify talents in sports in the country including rural areas and impart sports training to them;and
- (e) the details of the achievement and improvements/amendments made in the said schemes?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS(SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

- (a) There is not even a single State which does not have any one of the training centres of the Sports Authority of India (SAI).
- (b) SAI has set up training centres under their main schemes of Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme , SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme, Centre of Excellence (COE) scheme. All the 28 States in the country have one or more such training centres. Hence, no State is without any such centres.

Proposals for establishing new training centres in SAI are considered on the basis of sporting potential of the locality and infrastructure support offered by the State Government such as land, hostel, playing facilities etc.

- (c) Opening of new centres is an administrative matter of SAI which is an autonomous body keeping in view its overall financial and other capabilities. However, due to financial constraints, the thrust as on date is on strengthening the existing units rather than on opening new centres.

- (d) SAI implements five main schemes as under:-

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

Through the above schemes, SAI identifies potentially gifted sportspersons in the country at sub junior (8-14 years of age), junior(14-18) and senior levels and gives them scientific training in the respective discipline through qualified coaches. There are altogether 14,290 trainees.

This exercise covers rural, tribal and remote areas as well. The selection/admission of trainees to these schemes is based on performance at state and district level tournaments as well as in a battery of tests conducted by SAI. Free Boarding and Lodging facilities, sports kit, sports equipment, competition exposure are also provided. Non-residential trainees are given monthly stipend in place of boarding & lodging. In the Centres of Excellence, the trainees are provided with the state of art facilities, equipment and scientific back up along with specialized training.

- (e) As a result of the intensive and scientific mode of training imparted by SAI under different schemes, a total of 2,171 medals have been won in national events and 712 medals in International events by the SAI trainees in the last three years. India won a record of 101 medals in 2010 Commonwealth Games securing 2nd position and 64 medals in 2010 Asian Games securing 6th position in the overall ranking.

Review of the schemes is a periodical exercise of SAI and as a result thereof, recently, the annual maintenance grant given to the Units has been raised from Rs.7.5 lakh to upto Rs.20 lakh depending upon the trainees' strength of the Unit and the boarding charges, competition exposure etc. per trainee has also been enhanced.