

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3144  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2011  
ASSISTANCE TO SPORTS PERSONS  
M.Thambidurai Dr.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide financial assistance to students who are participating in national and international sports competitions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that young sportsmen and women do not achieve their dreams of winning medals in national and international sports competitions due to lack of financial support/assistance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Government provides financial assistance for the participation of national athletes/ teams representing India in international sports competitions for students like World University Games, World School Games etc. The assistance covers air passage cost, cost of boarding and lodging, out of pocket allowance, ceremonial dress, sports kit, entry fees etc. as may be applicable.

(c) to (e): Government provides full assistance for intensive coaching of the national teams through national coaching camps organized by the Sports Authority of India. The Government also provides financial assistance to meritorious players under the Scheme relating to Talent Search & Training and National Sports Development Fund for personalized training/coaching under national/international coaches, participation in international tournaments held in India and abroad and purchase of equipment.

Apart from this, the Sports Authority of India runs the following schemes to identify potentially gifted sportspersons 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:

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 (CDE) Scheme

These schemes covered rural, tribal and remote areas as well. 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 Centre of Excellence, the trainees are provided with the state of art facilities, equipment, and scientific back up alongwith specialized training. Around 15,000 trainees benefit under the SAI Schemes. The benefits made available to the SAI trainees under various schemes is given in the annexure.