

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:269  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2011  
PROMOTION OF OUTDOOR AND INDOOR GAMES  
Choudhary Shri Harish;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the present day Indian youth are taking adequate interest in taking up outdoor sports like football, hockey, basketball, lawn tennis, volleyball etc. and also traditional indoor games like wrestling, table tennis, badminton etc;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the funds allocated for each of these sports during the current year;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to take radical measures to promote these games in a big way; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 269 FOR REPLY ON 13-12-2011 ASKED BY SHRI HARISH CHAUDHARY AND DR. SANJAY SINH REGARDING PROMOTION OF OUTDOOR AND INDOOR GAMES.

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. The present day Indian youth are taking adequate interest in outdoor as well as indoor games.

(c) For current year ( 2011-12), a budget provision of Rs. 100.00 crores has been made under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations for holding Zonal, National & International championships in India, covering both outdoor and indoor sports visit of Indian teams abroad for training and participation in international tournaments, coaching of national level sportspersons, hiring of international coaches to train Indian sportspersons for international sports events and purchase of equipment for training.

(d) & (e): The National Sports Policy covers all outdoor and indoor sports, including indigenous sports within its purview and the Government provides direct financial assistance for development of various outdoor and indoor games.

To supplement the efforts of the States, the Government has launched a pilot scheme called Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme in the year 2010-11, with a view to addressing the entire 'sports eco-system' holistically that is players' training and development, coaching and infrastructure. Under this Scheme, State Governments, local civic bodies, schools, colleges and universities are eligible for financial assistance for setting up the required sports infrastructure.

As regards training facilities for sportspersons for participating in national and international competitions, state of the art sports facilities are available at SAI Training Centres, Special Games Centres and Centres of Excellence of Sports Authority of India, which are spread across the country.

Regarding developing playing fields, the Government in February, 2009 established 'The National Playing Fields Association of India' (NPFAL) as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The main aims/objectives of the NPFAL are to protect, preserve, promote, develop and improve playing fields and open spaces and other facilities for sports and games; and to evolve policy on playing fields, playgrounds, play pitches, parks and open spaces.

Government also 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 sportspersons under the Scheme relating to Talent Search and 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 sports equipment.

Apart from this, the Government runs the following schemes through the Sports Authority of India 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 (COE)