

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2144
ANSWERED ON:27.03.2012
COUNCIL FOR PROMOTING SPORTS
Choudhary Shri Harish;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Singh Shri Ijyaraj

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up the National Sports Development Council for promotion of sports in the country including the Gram Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its aims and objectives and the time by which the said Council is likely to be setup;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the existing mechanism for promotion of sports in the country including rural areas?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): There is no proposal to set up a National Sports Development Council for promotion of sports in the country including Gram Panchayats, as while the primary responsibility of promotion and development of sports in general is that of State Governments, sports being a State subject, the primary responsibility of promotion and development of specific sports disciplines is that of respective National Sports Federations. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments and the National Sports Federations under its various schemes aimed at achieving the objectives of 'Sports for All' and "Promotion of Excellence" in sports.

For promotion of sports in rural areas, the Ministry has introduced the Scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) in 2008-09. The Scheme aims at development of playfields in all the village and block panchayats across the country in a phased manner and conduct of annual sports competitions for providing ample opportunity of participation in competitions to rural youth. Around 51,633 Village/ block panchayats have been covered under the PYKKA Scheme, for the last three years (2008-09 to 2010-11) and upto 29.02.2012 of the current financial year. Annual sports competitions are conducted at block, district, state and national level. More than 43 lakh rural men and women participated in the annual sports competitions during 2010-11.