

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2628
ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012
PROMOTING SPORTS IN UNDERPRIVILEGED REGIONS
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote sports and games in the under-privileged regions of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has proposed to remove regional imbalance in promoting sports and games; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for promotion of sports and games in the underprivileged regions of the country including Odisha?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Primary responsibility of promotion and development of sports including in the under-privileged regions of the country is that of the states, as 'sports' is in the State List. However, the Ministry and SAI supplement the efforts of the States including that of Odisha under various Schemes which are as follows :-

(i) "Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan" (PYKKA), a centrally sponsored scheme introduced in 2008-09 which aims at creation and development of basic playing facilities in all village panchayats and block panchayats of the country in a phased manner over a period of 10 years and providing access to organized sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels.

(ii) Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme, introduced in 2010-11, envisages development of playfields by the State Governments through Playfield Associations, coach development programme through Central and State Governments, setting up of players academies where SAI centres will provide the nucleus of a hub and spoke model for such academies catering to premier sports in each State. Assistance is also provided for construction of multi-purpose halls and laying of artificial turfs for hockey, athletics and football. Under the Scheme, State Governments, local civic bodies, schools, colleges, universities and sports control boards are eligible for assistance.

Further, Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme is being implemented by the Sports Authority of India. The main objective of SAG Scheme is to scout natural talent for modern competitive sports from underprivileged regions such as tribal, rural, coastal and hilly areas of the country and also from regions having genetic/geographic advantage and nurture them scientifically for achieving excellence in modern competitive games and sport.