

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2633

ANSWERED ON:28.08.2012

PROMOTING OUTDOOR AND INDOOR GAMES

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

- (a) whether the Youth of the country are showing adequate interest in taking up outdoor sports like football, hockey, volleyball, lawn tennis and traditional games like wrestling, table tennis, badminton etc;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the funds allocated/expenditure incurred for promoting sports in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, sports discipline-wise and State-wise;
- (d) the corrective steps taken by the Government to promote outdoor games and encourage the youth to take interest in these games;
- (e) the success achieved by the Government therein sport discipline-wise and State-wise; and
- (f) the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government to promote/ develop sports including providing proper sports infrastructure to sportspersons?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam. The present day Indian youth are taking a lot of interest in outdoor and traditional sports including football, hockey, volleyball, lawn tennis, wrestling, table tennis, badminton, etc.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The primary responsibility for the promotion of a sports discipline rests with the concerned recognized National Sports Federation (NSF). Government supplements the efforts of the NSF by providing financial assistance to the NSFs for procurement of equipment and consumables, holding national/international sports events in India, participation of sportspersons/teams in international sports events abroad, training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams through Indian and foreign coaches, as per agreed Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) with the NSFs. A statement indicating the grant released to the recognized 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, etc. is placed at Annexure.

(d) to (f): The National Sports Policy covers all outdoor and indoor sports including indigenous sports & traditional games 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 a 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,

etc.

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)