

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4536  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013  
SPECIAL AREA GAMES SCHEME  
Alagiri Shri S. ;Tudu Shri Laxman

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

- (a) whether the Government has prepared a special area games scheme of Sports Authority of India to encourage the scouting and nurturing sports talent in sports persons in rural, tribal, hilly and coastal areas of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of talented sports persons identified through the said scheme during the last three years along with their related sports?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Sports Authority of India implements a Special Area Games Scheme to scout and nurture sports talent from amongst the tribal, hilly, rural, coastal and far flung areas of the country. The Scheme also envisages tapping of talent from indigenous games and martial arts and also from regions/communities, which are either genetically or geographically suited to achieve excellence in a particular sports discipline. The main objective of the Scheme is to train meritorious sports persons in the age group of 12-18 years, with age being relaxed in exceptional cases. Currently, there are 20 SAG Centres functioning across the country with 1885 trainees. Of the total, 1683 are residential trainees (981 boys & 702 girls), and 202 are non-residential trainees (108 boys & 94 girls).

(c) Details of SAG trainees inducted during the last three years in various sports disciplines are as under:-

Sl. No.	Year(s)	Boys	Girls	Total
---------	---------	------	-------	-------

1.	2010-2011	1116	794	1910
----	-----------	------	-----	------

2.	2011-2012	1116	841	1957
----	-----------	------	-----	------

3.	2012-2013	1089	796	1885
----	-----------	------	-----	------

Total:	3321	2431	5752
--------	------	------	------