

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:528  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013  
SPORTS FACILITIES IN TRIBAL AREAS  
Deka Shri Ramen

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

- (a) whether the tribal people of Assam are enthusiastic of sports and have participated in various competitions within and outside the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for their upliftment and to provide them with better training sources?

**Answer**

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) No distinction is made among participants of various national/international sports competitions and no such data is maintained at the Central level.

(c) Government of India through Sports Authority of India (SAI) 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.