

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1359

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SPORTS SCHEMES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that much importance is being given to cricket and other sports in the country are in the state of neglect;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and the reasons for unsatisfactory performance of Indian sports persons in international sports competitions;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to formulate any scheme for providing sports infrastructure, including stadium, playing field, tracks and sports training facilities for the sports persons including rural youth to compete in the international/ national sports competitions;
- (d) if so, the funds allocated/released/ spent during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise, sports discipline-wise and State-wise;
- (e) the funds made available to sports sector as percentage of total budget during the said period and steps taken to augment financial resources for sports sector through Public Private Partnership (PPP) model; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to facilitate the sportspersons to improve their performance and improve medal tally in international sporting events?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) & (b): The primary responsibility for the development and promotion of a sport discipline rests with the concerned recognized National Sports Federations (NSFs). The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has been extending support to NSFs to supplement their efforts for improving the level of sports through the 'Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations'. Under the Scheme, the Government supplements the efforts of the NSFs 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 and training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams through Indian and foreign coaches as per the agreed Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) with the NSFs. Assistance under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs is provided to NSFs of various sports disciplines except cricket.

No special attention is paid by the Ministry for development of cricket. In fact, the Ministry does not give any grant to Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

It is not true that performance of Indian Sportspersons in international sports competitions has been unsatisfactory. There has been perceptible improvement in the performance of Indian Sportspersons in international sports events including mega sports events such as Olympic Games, Asian Games and Commonwealth Games, as is evident from the table below indicating the number medals won by Indian sportspersons and teams:

S. N.	Name of Event	Medals won	Total
		Gold Silver Bronze	
1	London Olympics, 2012	0 2 4	6
2	London Paralympics	0 1 0	1
3	Commonwealth Games, 2014	15 30 19	64
4	Asian Games, 2014	11 10 36	57
5	Para Asian Games, 2014	3 14 16	33

(c) Sports infrastructure of international standards to a limited extent is available in the country, which is augmented / upgraded on a continuing basis. Inadequacies in terms of high performance centres, modern equipment, sports science and sports medicine facilities etc. are also addressed on a regular basis. 'Sports' is a state subject and it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to create adequate sports infrastructure within the States. The Ministry supplements the efforts of the State Governments in creation/development of sports infrastructure in States under its following two schemes:

(i) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan" (RGKA), a centrally sponsored scheme introduced in 2014- 15 in place of erstwhile Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan, aims at construction of Integrated Sports Complexes in all block panchayats of the country in a phased manner 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, creation of infrastructure including laying of artificial turfs for hockey, football and athletics, and construction of multi- purpose hall. Under the Scheme, State Governments, local civic bodies, schools, colleges, universities and sports control boards are eligible for assistance.

Further, Sports Authority of India (SAI) has five Stadia in New Delhi, which are of international standards. Apart from SAI stadia in Delhi, SAI Centres spread across the country have adequate sports infrastructure.

(d) Details of funds released to States under the erstwhile Scheme of PYKKA during last three years are given in Annexure-I. Details of funds released under Urban Sports Infrastructure scheme are given in Annexure-II. Details of funds released to National Sports Federations under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs are given in Annexure-III.

(e) The funds made available to sports sector as percentage of total budget during the 2011-12, 2012-12 2013-14 and 2014-15 are given in the table below:

Year	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Central Plan Outlay	592457	651509	680123	484532
Plan Outlay (Sports)	700	741	809	1259
Percentage	0.1181%	0.1137%	0.1189%	0.2598%

To augment financial resources for sports sector through public as well as private sector, the Government has instituted National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) in 1998 with a view to mobilizing resources from Government as well as non-governmental sources, including the private/corporate sector and non-resident Indians. This Fund has received contributions from Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), Jindal Steel & Power Ltd, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Videocon International Ltd, Powergrid Corporation of India, State Bank of India, Jaypee Sports International Limited, etc. In order to encourage corporate entities, both public and private and individuals, for contributing to NSDF, 100% exemption from income tax is available on all contributions to National Sports Development Fund (NSDF). Contributors to NSDF are free to assign the funds for specific purpose.

Further, 'nationally recognized sports, paralympic sports and Olympic sports' has been included in Schedule VII of the Companies Act, 2013, which would allow companies to spend on development of sports from the funds earmarked for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) related activities. Inclusion of sports in this Schedule is expected to give a boost to the promotion and development of sports in the country and the much needed funds from companies, both in public and private sector, are expected to flow into sports sector.

(f) Following schemes of the Department of Sports and the Sports Authority of India are being implemented with the objective of facilitating Indian sportspersons to improve their performance and improve medals tally in international sporting events:

(i) Schemes of the Department of Sports:

Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) for conduct of National Championships at Senior, Junior, Sub-Junior level for men and women, conduct of international tournaments in India, participation of sportspersons in international sports competitions, organizing coaching camps, engagement of foreign coaches, and procurement of sports equipments.

National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for various activities including giving assistance to elite athletes, who are medal prospects for their customized and tailor-made training and competition exposure.

Scheme of Human Resource Development in Sports focusses on developing human resources in sports sciences and sports medicine for the overall development of sports and games in the country. The scheme also provides assistance to coaches and referees / judges to upgrade knowledge / accreditation level and assistance for participation in and conduct of seminars in India, etc.

Scheme of Special Cash Awards for Winners of medals in international sports events and their coaches.

Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons after they retire from active sports career with the objective of providing them financial security and incentivizing sporting achievements.

Scheme of National Sports Awards, viz, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards, Dhyanchand Awards for honouring them for their achievements and contributions as sportspersons and coaches.

(b) Schemes of Sports Authority of India:

National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC): The main objective of the scheme is to identify gifted and talented sportspersons among school children in the age group of 8-14 years.

Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSC) is implemented in collaboration with the Army. Children in the age group of 8-16 years are imparted scientific training to achieve excellence at national and international levels. The scheme also provides job opportunities in the Indian Army.

Special Area Games (SAG): This Scheme follows an area-specific approach to scout and nurture talent for modern competitive games and sports from tribal, rural, coastal and hilly areas of the country. The main objective of the scheme is to train talented and meritorious sportspersons in the age group of 12-18 years.

SAI Training Centres (STC): Under this scheme, talented youth in the age group of 12-18 years are given the option to join the scheme on residential or non-residential basis.

Centres of Excellence (COX): The main objective of this scheme is to identify and train outstanding sportspersons who are medal prospects for the country in international competitions.