

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6335

ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015

PROMOTION OF NATIVE GAMES

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

- (a) the native games which are in vogue in various parts of the country and the details of steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote them, State/UTwise;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that India has a huge potential for growth of sports and games to produce champions/meritorious sportspersons;
- (c) if so, whether the Government is also aware that there is a need to focus on adequate sports training, incentives and encourage sportspersons to achieve target in sports and games;
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the number of sports champions of State and National level sports in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Since 'Sports' is a State subject, primary responsibility for promotion and development of sports including promotion of native games is that of respective State Governments. However, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and Sports Authority of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments.

The existing schemes of the Government of India and Sports Authority of India (SAI) lay adequate focus on the promotion of native games. Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federation (NSFs), various sports federations dealing with native games like Chess, Wrestling, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi, etc. have been given Government recognition, and are provided with financial assistance for promotional and developmental activities.

Under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs, assistance is provided to the NSFs, inter-alia, for conduct of national championships in Senior, Junior and Sub-junior categories both for men and women, conduct of international tournaments in india, participation of Indian sportspersons and teams in international tournaments abroad, organizing coaching camps, etc. NSFs are responsible for promotion of their respective sports disciplines in the entire country and not in a specific State of the Country.

The Ministry provides financial incentives in the forms of cash awards and pension under the 'Scheme of Special Awards to Medal Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches' and the Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons'. Benefits of these schemes are equally applicable to the sportspersons belonging to disciplines of kabaddi and kho-kho as per the eligibility conditions prescribed in these schemes.

Various schemes are already being implemented by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) for promotion of excellence in sports events at national and international level.

Under the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), financial assistance is provided for customized training of elite athletes.

Further, trainees under the following schemes of Sports Authority of India are provided scientific training, stipend, sports kit, competition exposure, etc.:-

- (i) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme.
- (ii) Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme
- (iii) SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme
- (iv) Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme
- (v) Centres of Excellence (COE) Scheme

(e) The Ministry does not maintain the data about the sports champions of State and National level sports.