

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:383

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015

PROMOTION OF SPORTS

Bhabhor Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai;Misra Shri Pinaki

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

- (a) whether any mechanism exists to identify and nurture hidden sports talent amongst rural and tribal youths in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of youths identified, Sports-discipline-wise during the last one year;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to conduct inter-State competition amongst these youths in both indoor and outdoor sports in various parts of the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to popularise sports in rural/urban and backward areas in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 383 FOR 21/04/2015 ASKED BY SHRI JASVANTSINH SUMANBHAI BHABHOR AND SHRI PINAKI MISRA, MPs REGARDING PROMOTION OF SPORTS

(a) Under Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) Scheme, four types of Sports Competitions, namely Rural Sports Competitions, Women Sports Competitions, North East Games and Competitions in Left Wing Extremism, affected areas are organized every year at Block, District, State and National Levels throughout the country, including rural and tribal areas. A team of Coaches and Scientific Officers of Sports Authority of India (SAI) are deputed at the venue of all National Level Competitions to identify talented players for considering them for admission under various schemes of SAI.

In addition Sports Authority of India (SAI) implements a number of sports promotional schemes to identify and nurture sports talent across the country including amongst rural and tribal youth. These schemes are:-

- i. NSTC School
- ii. Army Boys Sports Companies
- iii. SAI Training Centers
- iv. Special Area Games
- v. Centre of Excellence SAI National Sports Academies (NSA)

(b) The details of talented youth identified in 2014-15 during National Level Competitions organized under RGKA, sports-discipline-wise are given in Annexure I. Details of strength of SAI trainees under its various schemes are given in Annexure II.

(c) No Madam. However, SAI conducts inter SAI Regional Competitions annually. In addition, participation of SAI trainees in sub junior, junior level competition held by the State and National Federations gives the trainees adequate competition exposure.

(d) Letter has been written at the level of Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports to all the MPs asking them to create sports infrastructure in the villages which they are adopting under Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojna and to set aside at least 10% of MPLAD fund for creation of sports infrastructure in their respective constituency. In addition, D.O. letters are sent at the level of Secretary/Joint Secretary to all the States to meticulously implement the schemes of this Ministry. The schemes and the schedules of RGKA annual competitions of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports are uploaded on its website. In addition, wide publicity is given in leading newspapers, banners are put at prominent places of the city/town where sports competitions are organized. These steps help in popularising sports in rural/urban and backward areas.