

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4509
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015
IMPROVEMENT IN SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major programmes/schemes implemented to improve the standard of sports and the details of target fixed and achievement made to improve the sports infrastructure in the country during the 12th Five Year Plan;
- (b) the details of allocations made for the said purpose and the benefits accrued on implementation of the said programme/ schemes during the 2014-15;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure austerity in the Ministry while implementation of said schemes/programmes;
- (d) measures initiated to imbibe sports culture in the country; and
- (e) the details of utilisation of allocated funds for promotion of sports along with the reasons for not utilising the allocated fund and the action/steps taken for proper utilisation of allocated funds during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

Answer

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

(a): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Sports Authority of India, an autonomous body under administrative control of the Ministry, is implementing the following schemes for improving the standard of sports in the country:

I. Schemes being implemented by the Department of Sports, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports

- (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.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) 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.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) Scheme of Special Cash Awards for Winners of medals in international sports events and their coaches.
- (vii) 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.
- (viii) Scheme of National Sports Awards, viz, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Arjuna Awards, Dronacharya Awards, Dhyan Chand Awards for honouring them for their achievements and contributions as sportspersons and coaches.
- (ix) National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons for providing lump sum financial assistance to sportspersons now living in indigent conditions for their medical treatment etc.
- (x) Scheme of Sports & Games for Persons with Disabilities for broad-basing of sports among differently -abled sportspersons by

way of conduct of training for community coaches, conduct of sports competitions and providing assistance to schools/institutes having differently-abled sportspersons on their rolls for procurement of sports equipment and engagement of coaches on contract basis.

II. Schemes being implemented by Sports Authority of India

(i) 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.

(ii) 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. Similar arrangements are proposed to be made in Central Para-military forces.

(iii) 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.

(iv) 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.

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

(b): Details of allocations made and funds released during 2014-15 for achievements of activities listed in the schemes are given in Annexure-I. Benefits accrued have been in terms of participation of boys and girls in various sports competitions organized under RGKA, construction of multipurpose gymnasium halls, synthetic athletic tracks and astro-hockey turfs under USIS, customized training of elite athletes under NSDF, training and participation of sportspersons and Indian teams in international sports events, conduct of National Championships, conduct of international tournaments in India, participation of differently-abled sportspersons in sports competitions under the Scheme of Sports and Games for Persons with Disabilities, collection of samples for dope analysis, testing of samples collected etc.

(c): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has followed the instructions of austerity measures issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time.

(d): Schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports such as RGKA, USIS, Scheme of Assistance to NSFs and SAI's Schemes such as NSTC, ABSC, SAG, STC, COE and Come and Play are aimed at imbibing sports culture among youth of the country. A new scheme namely National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS) has been launched for Identification of sporting talent among students in the age group of 8-12 years admission in Class IV to Class VI who possess inborn qualities such as anthropometric, physical and physiological capabilities without any anatomical infirmities. The scheme is being implemented from current financial year (2015-16).

(e): Details of scheme-wise funds allocated and released during last three years and current year are given in Annexure-II. Reasons for not utilizing the allocated funds mainly relate to non-submission of Utilization Certificates by the State Governments in respect of grants released under erstwhile PYKKA / RGKA, incomplete proposals and receipt of fewer applications / proposals for some schemes such as Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons, etc.