

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2941

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA)

Dhotre Shri Sanjay Shamrao;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

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

- (a) whether the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) and Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS) have achieved the desired results in the field of improvement of sports level in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the funds provided and utilised under the said schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received complaints of irregularities/ corruption in implementation of the said schemes across the country, if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise along with the action taken by the Government in such complaints;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to prepare any long term plan to attract young talents in sports and develop a vast network of infrastructure including quality training to the players, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any study for revival of such sports which are presently in dismal position in the country, if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to improve the performance of Indian sports in national and international competitions?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) & (b) The RGKA Scheme, being implemented w.e.f. 1.4.2014 provides for construction of an integrated sports complex in each block of the country both for outdoor and indoor sports disciplines and provides for grant-in-aid for holding competitions at block, district, State and National levels. The Scheme provided for funding of infrastructure component through convergence of various Schemes implemented by Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Ministry of Development of North East Region, and erstwhile Planning Commission. However, no funds could be obtained towards infrastructure due to non-convergence of various Schemes by the concerned Ministries. Details of funds released under RGKA for conduct of competitions during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are given in Annexure - I.

The Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS), introduced in 2010-11, envisages creation of infrastructure including laying of artificial turfs for hockey, football and athletics, and construction of multi-purpose hall. Details of funds released under USIS from 2012-13 to 2015-16 are given at Annexure-II. So far a total of 5 projects have been completed under USIS.

By and large, within the existing constraints, the above two Schemes have been able to further the objective of popularizing sports and encouraging participation.

(c) As regards complaints of irregularities/ corruption in implementation of the above Schemes, one complaint has been received from Tripura State Olympic Association regarding irregularities/ corruption in implementation of the RGKA. The same has been forwarded to the State Government of Tripura for taking appropriate action under intimation to this Ministry.

(d) to (f) The Government of India has decided to restructure and merge Centrally Sponsored Schemes including the RGKA, USIS and the National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS), into one Central Sector Scheme to address talent search, grooming of talent and provision of infrastructure.

Improving the performance of the Indian sportspersons is a continuous process. The National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) provides financial assistance to top-level sportspersons who are medal winning prospects in Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and other international competitions. The assistance is given for their customized training both in India and abroad, participation in major international competitions, purchase of equipment, etc.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, implements the following sports promotional schemes all over the country in order to identify young sports talent in the age group ranging from 8-25 years and to nurture and train them to excel at National and International competitions :

? National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)

? Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)

? SAI Training Centre (STC)

? Special Area Games (SAG)

? Extension Centres of STC/SAG

? Centre of Excellence (COE)

? SAI National Sports Academies

At present, 11773 talented sports persons (6626 Boys and 5147 Girls) are being trained in 27 sports disciplines in 251 Centres under Residential & Non-Residential basis. The selected trainees are provided with facilities in the form of Expert Coaches, Playfields, Equipment, Boarding & Lodging, Sports Kit, Competition Exposure, Educational Expenses, Insurance /Medical Expenses and Stipend as per the approved schemes norms.

With regard to study conducted for revival of such sports which are presently in dismal position in the country, no such study has been conducted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports so far.
