

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:121

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014

PROMOTION OF ATHLETICS

Suresh Shri Doddaalahalli Kempegowda;Venugopal Shri K. C.

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

- (a) the details of programmes/schemes implemented to promote athletics and the number of training centres set up during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the number of athletes benefited therefrom during the above period;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to tap rural talent and provide training to such athletes in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to promote sports in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND 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 LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 121 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2014 REGARDING PROMOTION OF ATHLETICS ASKED BY SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL AND SHRI D.K. SURESH.

(a) Various schemes of Department of Sports, Government of India and Sports Authority of India pertaining to promotion of sports, inter-alia, include Athletics as well. The main schemes in this regard are as follows :-

(i) Schemes of Department of Sports, Government of India -

(a) Scheme for Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) (b) National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) (c) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) (d) Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS)

(e) Scheme of Human Resource Development in Sports (HRDS)

(ii) Schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI)

a) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) b) Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) c) Special Area Games (SAG) d) SAI Training Centres (STC) e) Centre of Excellence (COE)

The details of the above schemes are enclosed as Annexure.

SAI has set up a National Academy in Sprint and Jumps at Thiruvananthapuram during the said period.

(b) The total strength of trainees in athletics discipline under various schemes of SAI year-wise is as follows-

S.N.	Year	No. of trainees
1.	2011-12	1617
2.	2012-13	1295
3.	2013-14	1206
4.	2014 - 15	1315

Moreover a large number of other sportspersons have also benefitted from the schemes of this Ministry and SAI including the medal winners in athletics in Asian Games and Commonwealth games, 2014.

(c) The Government and SAI are already doing the same through various schemes namely Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan, National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC), Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC), Special Area Games (SAG) and SAI Training Center schemes.

(d) Development of sports in the country is an ongoing process. Steps are taken from time-to-time for broad-basing of sports, promotion of excellence in sports, up-gradation of training centers and skill development in sports, etc. During this year's budget, the following new schemes / initiatives for Sports have been announced:

(I) Setting up of National Sports University in Manipur. (II) National Sports Talent Search Scheme. (III) Renovation and creation of sports infrastructure facilities in Jammu & Kashmir. (IV) Organization of sports competitions in Himalayan region. (V) Setting up of Sports Academies.