

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. †*240
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2018**

Engaging Sporting Talent

†*240. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:

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

- (a) the details of the schemes to engage sports talent from the school level and ensure winning of more number of medals for the country;**
- (b) whether there is any plan to make sports a part of school curriculum to attract more students towards sports; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
{COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)}**

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. †*240 FOR 02.08.2018 ASKED BY SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH, MP, REGARDING ENGAGING SPORTING TALENT

(a) This Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely Khelo India which has twelve verticals. While all the verticals of Khelo India Scheme cater to the entire population including sports talent from the school level, the scheme has a dedicated vertical 'Annual Sports Competitions' under which annual Khelo India School Games are being conducted to provide basic platform for talents from the school level to showcase sporting skills and accordingly become a platform for talent spotting at the national level and providing development pathways for gifted and talented children to achieve excellence.

The Khelo India vertical 'Talent Identification and Development' provides for financial assistance to identified talented players at various levels through different avenues and annual financial assistance, at the rate of Rs.5.00 lakh per annum, for a period of 8 years under a Long Term Athlete Development Programme is provided. The salient features of the verticals are given at Annexure-I.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) is implementing various Sports Promotional Schemes to identify talented sports persons in the age group of 8-25 years and nurture them to excel at national and international competitions. Many of the sports persons identified under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes are / were talents from the school levels. The details of SAI Schemes are given at Annexure - II.

(b) & (c) National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 is a policy document for the whole country. As per NCF, 2005, Health and Physical Education, which also includes sports, has been a compulsory subject up to secondary stage (from classes I-X) of school education and an optional Subject at the senior secondary stage (classes XI-XII). The NCF also focuses on participation of all children in free play, formal and informal games, yoga and sports activities as essential for their physical and psycho-social development. Whereas all students must be involved in

Health & Physical Education activities, those who choose to excel in games and sports need to be provided adequate opportunities. NCF also focuses on the possibility to organize the utilization of school space at the block level for special sports programme both before school hours and after school hours to enable children with special talent for sports to come there for special training during vacation periods.

Based on the NCF 2005, NCERT has developed the detailed syllabus on Health and Physical Education.

As a follow-up of NCF & syllabi, the following materials have been developed.

- **Health & Physical Education - A Teachers' Guide for Class VI.**
- **Health and Physical Education - A Teachers' Guide for Class VII.**
- **Health and Physical Education - Textbook for Class IX**
- **Yoga: A Healthy Way of Living (For Upper Primary Stage)**
- **Yoga: A Healthy Way of Living (For Secondary Stage)**

This Ministry has also sent a proposal to Ministry of Human Resource & Development (MHRD), being the nodal Ministry in such matters, regarding 'Integration of Physical Education and Sports' in School Curriculum framework.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA
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DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH, MP, REGARDING ENGAGING SPORTING
TALENT**

Annexure – I

Salient features of Khelo India vertical “Annual Sports Competitions”

Khelo India will be the basic platform to showcase sporting skills and accordingly become a platform for talent spotting at the national level and providing development pathways for gifted and talented children to achieve excellence. The Central Government will organize the following National level competitions, i.e., Khelo India National School Games and Khelo India National University Games, in respect of priority sports disciplines at various places across the country by associating concerned National Sports Federations (NSFs) and School Game Federation of India (SGFI) and University Sports promotion bodies including Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

Salient features of Khelo India vertical ‘Talent Identification and Development’

The National competitions involving schools, colleges, Universities and NSFs under Khelo India Scheme, National Championships, and National Sports Talent Search Portal of SAI, will provide a platform for identification of talented sports persons in priority Sports disciplines in which the country has potential/advantage. In addition to selection of prize winners, the duly constituted talent identification committee may also adopt globally accepted scientific methods to spot and identify talent in various sports disciplines. Identification of sporting talent will involve conduct of pan-India trials of children by Talent Scouts (to be engaged for the purpose), in association with States/UTs.

Out of the talented players identified in priority sports disciplines at various levels through different avenues, best talents in those sports discipline will be identified by the High Powered Committee and provided annual financial assistance, at the rate of Rs.5.00 lakh per annum, for a period of 8 years under a Long Term Athlete Development Programme. Continuation of support to an individual athlete will be subject to his/her progress/performance in the identified sports discipline concerned, ensuring the best performers, having potential to excel at the highest level, are given continuous support and non-performers/ non achievers can be taken out of the system. This will ensure a sizable bench strength that the country is lacking at present.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA
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Annexure – II

Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI are given as under :

- **National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)** : National Sports Talent Contest, (NSTC) Scheme is being implemented to scout sports talent in the age group of **8-14** years from schools and nurture them into future medal hopes by providing scientific training.
 - a. **Indigenous Games & Martial Arts (Sub-Scheme of NSTC)** : This scheme aims to promote indigenous games & martial arts in the schools in rural and semi-urban areas and scouting of talent in these games for nurturing in modern sports.
 - b. **Adoption of Akharas under NSTC Scheme** : Wrestling has been a traditional indigenous sport in the country and mostly played at village level. In order to create a broader base for modern wrestling, Akharas are being adopted under this Scheme.
- **Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC)** : This is a collaborative venture of SAI with the Indian Army, The main objective of the Scheme is to make use of the good infrastructure and disciplined environment of the Army for training boys in the age group of **8-14** years of age, to achieve excellence in sports. After attaining the required age of seventeen and a half years, the trainees are also offered placement in the Army.
- **SAI Training Centre (STC)** : In order to groom the junior level sports persons in the age group of **12-18** years, SAI Training Centres (STC) are established in a State where the sports infrastructure is provided by the respective State Governments.
- **Special Area Games (SAG)** : Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme aims at scouting natural talent for modern competitive sports and games from inaccessible tribal, rural and coastal areas of the country and nurturing them scientifically for achieving excellence in sports. Trainees in the age group of **10-18** years are selected in this scheme.
- **Extension Centre of STC/SAG** : The extension centres of STC/SAG centres Scheme was started to cover schools and colleges for wider coverage, with a view to develop sports standards in schools and colleges having requisite basic sports infrastructure and had shown good results in sports. Trainees in the age group of **10-18** years are selected under Non-Residential basis for regular training.
- **Centre of Excellence (COE)** : The scheme envisaged induction of sportspersons, who had performed well at Sr. National Competitions, for further advance scientific training at the Regional Centres of SAI. These Centres of Excellence operate as regular coaching camps for the best available talent in India in the respective sports discipline in the age group of **12-25** years.
- **National Sports Academies (NSA)** : The National Sports Academies (NSA) Scheme aims to promote sports on single discipline basis in collaboration with the National Sports Federations to attract sports talent in the respective sports discipline in the age group of **12-25** years.
