

Financial assistance to youths from rural, backward and hilly areas

2629. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to give financial assistance to the youths from rural, backward and hilly areas to encourage them in sports,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is contemplating about building sports infrastructure including small stadium in rural, backward and hilly areas such as Darjeeling, North East, Himalayan region and Uttarakhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does, not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction and maintenance of stadiums in rural areas

2630. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any schemes to promote and support the Construction and maintenance of Stadiums/courts etc. in rural areas of the country ;and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Government of India has been running a scheme called 'Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) scheme, to promote sports in the rural areas of the country introduced in 2008-09. It aims to develop playfields in all the village and block panchayats across the country in a phased manner of ten years. Total 62273 Village/block panchayats have been covered under the PYKKA Scheme upto 11.03.2013. The State-wise/ Year-wise details of funds allocated for the development of playfields upto 31.01.2013 is given in the Statement.