

are autonomous bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860. The Government does not interfere in their day to day affairs. However, in order to bring in transparencies and good governance in sports bodies, the Government has issued guidelines which, *inter-alia*, provide for inclusion of sportspersons in their executive body with voting rights. These guidelines are contained in the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 (NSDCI) which have been effective from 31-1-2011.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) The primary responsibility for the development and promotion of a sport discipline rests with the concerned NSF concerned. Government supplements the efforts of the NSFs by providing financial assistance to the recognized NSFs for holding national/international sports events in India, participation of sportspersons/teams in international sports events abroad, training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams through Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and consumables etc. as per agreed Long Term Development Plans.

For encouraging sports in the country, the Government has also been implementing a number of schemes including Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) and Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS). SAI has been separately implementing various schemes like (i) National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) (ii) Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSC) (iii) Special Area Games (SAG) (iv) SAI Training Centres (STC) and (v) Centres of Excellence (COX)

#### **Empowerment of youth through constructive activities**

1540. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural and urban youths in the country; and

(b) the action taken by Government to empower youth by one or the other constructive activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) As per Census of India, 2011 the total number of Rural and Urban youths was 3,36,700,795 and 1,63,084,027 respectively. As per existing National Youth Policy, 2003 the definition of youth between the age'

group of 13-35 years.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Development of sports in rural areas**

1541. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has any plan for development of sports and to encourage sports in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the manner in which Central Government would assist the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has been running a scheme called Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), to promote sports in the rural areas of the country. The scheme was introduced in 2008-09, and aims to develop playfields in all the villages and block panchayats across the country in a phased manner over 10 years. Conduct of annual sports competitions from block to the national level provide ample opportunity of participation to rural youth. Under the PYKKA, three types of competitions, viz., (i) Rural Competitions at Block, District, State and National Levels, (ii) Women Competitions at District, State and National Levels and (iii) North-East Games at District, State and National Levels are held annually. At present, the PYKKA Scheme is under revision. State-wise details of funds released under PYKKA for infrastructure are given in Statement-I (*See below*). State-wise details of funds released and participants of the competitions under PYKKA are given in Statement-II.