

been received in financial year 2016-17 so far under RGKA as the Scheme has been merged into a new Central Sector Scheme "National Programme for Development of Sports-Khelo India".

**Production of cost-effective sports equipment**

478. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government feels any need for introducing technology to produce cost-effective sports equipment within the country so that they are available to sports aspirants at any affordable rate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken by Government in this regard under 'Make in India' programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) The Sports Goods Export Promotion Council (SGEPC) has informed that most of the manufacturers of sports equipment are in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector and operate with minimum technology. There are no big factories in India for manufacturing of sports equipment. Most of manufacturing process depends on the manual labour. Major sports equipment made in India are inflatable balls, cricket equipment, boxing equipment, track and field equipment, table tennis, badminton, carom board etc. Most of sports equipment, which require technology like composite rackets, golf clubs, hiking equipment, water sports equipment etc. are not made in India. The demand in India for these equipments is met through imports. There is definitely a need to introduce technology to produce cost effective sports equipment especially for above mentioned items.

(b) As informed by SGEPC, Sports equipment sector is not included in 'Make in India' programme presently.

**Development of programmes to attract youth towards sports**

†479. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has developed many programmes to attract youth towards sports and has resolved to promote sports and build new stadiums;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the funds allocated to the State Government of Bihar to build new stadium in the State and attract youth towards sports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) to (c) Sports is a State subject and, therefore, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to promote sports and create adequate sports infrastructure. The Central Government complements/supplements the efforts of the State Governments. For promotion of sports, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was implementing Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) Scheme, Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS) and National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS) which have since been merged into a Central Sector Scheme known as “Khelo India-National Programme for Development of Sports” which is being launched during 2016-17.

#### **Development of SAI**

480. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken adequate measures to develop the Sports Authority of India (SAI) and its allied organizations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government provides funds and facilities for various States/UTs to develop sports infrastructures and other facilities to promote sports and games;

(d) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the funds allocated in the last three years; and

(e) the efforts taken by Government to develop and modernize the integrated sports infrastructure and stadia in Tamil Nadu and the funds allocated in the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has been taking measures to develop Sports Authority of India (SAI) and its allied organizations on a continuing basis. Funds are released to SAI under both Plan and Non-plan categories for creation and upkeep of sports facilities, meeting its establishment expenditure and for running its sports promotional schemes, etc. Appropriate advice and directions on various issues including creation of sports facilities, welfare of athletes