

healthy lifestyle, sports, promotion of social values, community engagement, participation in politics and governance, youth engagement, inclusion and social justice. The implementation of the policy is the collective responsibility of all concerned Central Ministries/Departments, State Governments as well as other stakeholders. A number of Central Ministries/Departments, including the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, are implementing schemes/programmes having bearing on development and empowerment of youth in the 11 specified priority areas, for which they make provision in their respective budgets. The Department of Youth Affairs is playing the coordinating/facilitating role, for implementation of the policy. There is no separate earmarked budget for the purpose in this Ministry.

(d) The Policy identified 11 priority areas listed above and suggested specific actionable policy interventions in each of the 11 priority areas. There is no change in the list of priority areas. This Policy may be seen on the Ministry's website.

Exclusive policy for the youth of J&K

1589. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state whether Government has any plans to launch an exclusive youth policy for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, keeping in view the fact that the Kashmir Valley has witnessed a turmoil phase in the current year, which has affected, the whole population of the Valley, especially the youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): The Government had introduced National Youth Policy, 2014 for overall development and empowerment of the youth of the country. One of the key priority areas of the policy is "Social Inclusion", which, *inter-alia*, recommends that special attention should be given to marginalized youth in certain categories in order to ensure that they can access and benefit from government programmes. These categories include "Youth living in conflict-affected districts, especially those affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) and youth from Jammu and Kashmir and the North East." In addition, since implementation of the National Youth policy is the collective responsibility of all stakeholders, including State Governments, the Policy recommends that the State Governments should formulate/revise their State Youth Policies, consistent with the priorities of the National Youth Policy. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has also offered help to all State Governments, including Jammu and Kashmir, in formulating/revising their State Youth Policies. Since the National Youth Policy, 2014 takes care of the requirements of the youth of entire country, there is no plan for the Government of India formulating a separate youth policy for Jammu and Kashmir.