

(b) the steps taken by Government to improve the sport of Table Tennis considering the recent winning of a bronze medal by an Indian player, namely Achanta Sharath, in the Men's Singles Table Tennis competition at the Commonwealth Games Championship?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) Sir, during the last 3 years, Government has released the following amount for promotion and development of Table Tennis sport in the country from the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs):—

(₹ in lacs)

2015-16	101.70
2016-17	176.44
2017-18	326.06

(b) To improve the sport of Table Tennis, Government has placed Table Tennis in Priority category so that it is eligible for maximum financial assistance under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs. Government has allocated a budget of ₹ 889.00 lakhs under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs for table tennis sport for the year 2018-19. In addition to above, 7 table tennis players including Shri Achanta Sharath have been included under Target Olympic Podium Scheme for training and international exposure for the Asian Games, 2018 and financial assistance of ₹ 60.81 lakhs has been approved for them under the said scheme.

Promotion of sports in rural areas

†1437. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to allocate special funds to promote sports in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the States have demanded funds for promoting sports in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the funds allocated to the States for this purpose during last three years, year-wise?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) The Khelo India Scheme has a dedicated vertical, namely, "Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games". The indicative, estimated expenditure for this vertical for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20 is ₹ 15 crore each year. The Salient features of the vertical are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous organisation under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is implementing a number of sports promotional schemes across the country to identify talented sports persons in the age group of 8-25 years and nurture them to excel at national and international competitions. The details of the SAI Schemes are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

Many of the sports persons identified under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes belong to the rural areas of the country and are provided with training facilities in the form of expert sports coaches, requisite playing facilities, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/insurance and stipend as per the scheme approved norms.

(c) to (e) Demands are received from States for funding projects under various schemes of this Ministry. Proposals, as and when received from States/UTs under various schemes, if complete in all respects and technically feasible, are being sanctioned subject to availability of funds.

State-wise fund allocation is not made by this Ministry in the budget estimates. The details of State/LIT-wise fund released under major Schemes of this Ministry for development of Sports in the States/UTs during the last three year and current year, position as on 30.06.2018, are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

Salient features of Khelo India vertical "Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games"

In order to showcase our rural and indigenous/tribal games, annual competitions will be held annually under the Khelo India Scheme in rural and indigenous/tribal games alternately. A dynamic and interactive website providing information on such games will also be put up. This will not only help disseminate information and pique the curiosity of the present generation about these games but also encourage children and youth to take up these games in a major way, paving way for their future mainstreaming.

Statement-II*Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI*

- **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 and Martial Arts (Sub-Scheme of NSTC):** This scheme aims to promote indigenous games and 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.

Statement-III

State/UT-wise fund released under Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS), Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA), Khelo India and Prime Minister's Development Package (PMDP) in Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2015-16 (USIS)	2015-16 (RGKA)	2016-17 (Khelo India)	2017-18 (Khelo India)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.90	4.01	8.98	4.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	3.16	15.25
3.	Assam	7.40	-	6.12	15.20
4.	Bihar	-	-	0.36	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	1.52	2.50
6.	Goa	-	-	4.96	0.12
7.	Gujarat	-	-	0.15	5.50
8.	Haryana	-	-	2.00	12.80
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3.00	0.72	0.53	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.37	7.87	5.31
11.	Jharkhand	-	-	2.56	1.07
12.	Karnataka	-	1.72	12.16	12.5
13.	Kerala	6.42	-	3.70	3.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	0.42	6.88	10.50
15.	Maharashtra	2.50	-	4.00	7.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
16.	Manipur	2.40	1.43	-	5.29
17.	Meghalaya	1.80	-	-	-
18.	Mizoram	2.40	0.31	2.42	4.30
19.	Nagaland	-	-	0.45	2.00
20.	Odisha	4.30	3.90	3.20	11.56
21.	Punjab	0.98	1.52	6.34	6.00
22.	Rajasthan	5.40	3.17	8.73	36.39
23.	Sikkim	-	-	-	-
24.	Telangana	-	0.59	3.65	6.50
25.	Tamil Nadu	6.30	0.75	4.08	7.00
26.	Tripura	-	1.78	0.37	2.50
27.	Uttarakhand	5.60	1.21	5.51	9.40
28.	Uttar Pradesh	2.00	-	1.50	15.00
29.	West Bengal	2.50	-	2.58	6.50
	UTs				
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-
31.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	-
32.	Daman and Diu	-	-	-	-
33.	Delhi	-	-	-	13.00
34.	Lakshadweep	-	-	0.07	-
35.	Puducherry	-	-	4.63	-
	TOTAL	59.90	21.90	108.48	220.19

PMDP Projects for enhancement of sports infrastructure facilities in Jammu and Kashmir: ₹ 55.00 crore and ₹ 40.00 crore released to SAI during the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 respectively for enhancement of sports infrastructure facilities in Jammu & Kashmir. In-turn SAI has released ₹ 30 crore and ₹ 14.94 crore to Jammu and Kashmir State Sports Council during the years 2015-16 and 2017-18 respectively.

Sports infrastructure in North Eastern Region

1438. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sports infrastructure built, in each of the State of the North Eastern Region during the last three years; and