

2. This Component will have the following two sub components:—
 - (i) University Centre of Excellence Programme: Under this component, grants-in-aid will be provided for infrastructure, equipment, gym and equipment, recovery equipment, coach deployment, training for coaches, team development, training camps for teams, opening of extension centres and University Sports Centres, league development, sports science back-up, etc. to identified Universities.
 - (ii) Creation of Appropriate Sports Infrastructure: Under this component, grants-in-aid will be provided to States/ UTs, SAI etc. to develop critical sports infrastructure and other infrastructure where there are gaps. The role of private sector will be explored in creation of sports infrastructure and efforts will be made to develop international level infotainment facilities as one of the eligible infrastructure.
3. Scheme of Khelo India will also be converged with Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme.

(B) Salient features of the 'Support to National/ Regional/State Sports Academics' vertical of the Khelo India Scheme

The identified sports talents will be given the option to join SAI National Sports Academics. State Sports Academies or Sports Academics established by private sector. Grants-in-aid will be provided for establishment, operation and maintenance of sports academies in respect of identified disciplines to Sports Authority of India, State Governments or to private sector or sports person under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for facilitating and supplementing Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) programme (for 8 years). The best academies might be at National, Regional or State level, both in public and private sector. Academics will be identified for need-based support, both recurring and non-recurring, by inviting proposals from suitable entities. At least one academy for Para Athletes will be supported.

National Youth Festival 2018

1437. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that National Youth Festival, 2018 was organised at Gautam Budh Nagar (Noida) in January, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the aims and objectives of the Festival;

(c) whether Government is aware that students from North-Eastern States had to boycott the closing ceremony of the Festival due to discrimination;

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether Government had ordered any probe against the organisers; and

(e) if so, the details of the outcome and action taken by Government against erring officials and other responsible for the incident?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, has been organizing National Youth Festival (NYF) since 1995. As per the Guidelines, the objective of organizing NYF is to provide a platform to bring the youth of the country together an attempt to provide them opportunity to showcase their talents in various activities. It also provides an arena, by creating a Mini-India, where youth interact in formal and informal settings and exchange their social and cultural uniqueness. This fosters the concept of National Integration, spirit of communal harmony and brotherhood. This Year, the 22nd National Youth Festival, 2018 was jointly organized by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), an autonomous organization under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India and State Government of Uttar Pradesh at Gautam Budha University, Noida from 12th January to 16th January, 2018. Around 5000 Youth from Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme, Students of Gautam Budha University and other youth bodies participated from all across the country in the Festival. With a view to capitalize on the demographic dividend of young India, to capture the vibrancy and fresh perspective of youth, the theme of the National Youth Festival- 2018 was "Sankalp se Siddhi".

(c) No Sir. In fact, the Manipur and Assam got the Gold and Silver medal respectively in Volleyball, which were awarded in the closing ceremony on 16.01.2018.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.