

1	2	3
<b>B. Encouragement and awards to sportsperson</b>		
1.	Special Cash Award including Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award	11.00
2.	Arjuna Award	1.30
3.	Dhyanchand Award	0.30
4.	Dronacharya Award	0.40
5.	Pension to Meritorious sportspersons	10.00
6.	Assistance to National Sports Federation	342.00
7.	Human Resource Development in Sports	5.00
8.	National Sports Development Fund	2.00
9.	National Sports Welfare Fund	2.00
TOTAL (B)		374.00
<b>C. Khelo India-National Programme for Development of Sports</b>		
1.	Khelo India	520.09
2.	CWG 2010-SAI Stadia Renovation	0.50
3.	Enhancement of Sports facility at Jammu and Kashmir	50.00
4.	Himalayan Region Sports Festival	5.00
5.	Seminar, Committee etc.	1.00
TOTAL (C)		576.59
TOTAL (A+B+C)		1575.15

**Talented sportspersons from rural background**

922. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief of International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) has stressed on importance of school sports in India;

(b) whether India has the talented youth from rural areas to make a mark in the international arena; and

(c) if so, the adequate steps that Government is taking to give a fillip to the school sports in the country, particularly in rural India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) No formal communication has been received in this Ministry recently from the Chief of International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) stressing on the importance of school sports in India.

(b) and (c) Sports is a State subject and development of sports, including identification of sporting talent from the country, nurturing of these talents, and development of sports in schools is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and National Sports Federations concerned. The Central Government complements/supplements their efforts in this regard. However, this Ministry, being aware of the availability of sporting talent in the country, including rural areas, aims to identify and nurture them to enable them to achieve excellence in sports through the vertical of “Talent Search and Development” of the Khelo India Scheme being implemented by it. The “Annual Sports Competitions” vertical of the scheme provides the basic platform to sportspersons from both schools and Universities to showcase their sporting skills and accordingly acts as an avenue for talent spotting sporting talents. Besides, the Khelo India Scheme also provides for bridging critical sports infrastructure gaps in the country, including in schools of rural areas.

In addition, Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous organisation under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is running several sports promotional schemes across the country to identify talented sportspersons in the age group of 8-25 years and nurture them to excel at national and international competitions. Many of the sportspersons identified under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes belong to the rural, tribal, backward, coastal and inaccessible hilly 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 approved norm.

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**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED AND UNSTARRED QUESTIONS  
SET FOR THE 8<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019<sup>@</sup>**

**Installation of solar power projects on unused railway land**

\*61. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to utilize its unused land pool for installation of solar power projects;

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<sup>@</sup> The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Friday, the 8th February, 2019 was adjourned on account of interruptions. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, the 11th February, 2019.