

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2238**  
ANSWERED ON- 04/08/2022

**PROMOTION OF SPORTS IN TRIBAL AREAS OF WEST BENGAL**

2238 Smt. Mausam Noor:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes being implemented to promote sports in tribal areas;
- (b) whether any special project is being implemented in the State of West Bengal, a tribal dominated State, so as to enable tribal children to showcase their talent in traditional sports and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to open any Sports Academy in the State of West Bengal and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility to promote and develop sports in the country, including tribal areas to enable tribal children to showcase their talent in traditional sports, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government supplements their efforts. However, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports implements the following schemes for the development of sports in the country, including the tribal areas across the country:

(i) Khelo India- National Programme for Development of Sports; (ii) Assistance to National Sports Federations; (iii) Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches; (iv) National Sports Awards; (v) Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons; (vi) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Sports Welfare Fund; (vii) National Sports Development Fund; and (viii) Running Sports Training Centres through Sports Authority of India.

Details of the above schemes are available in the public domain on the websites of this Ministry and the Sports Authority of India.

Further, one of the sub component of "Promotion of Inclusiveness through Sports" component of the Khelo India Scheme, namely, "Promotion of rural and indigenous/tribal games", is specifically dedicated to encouraging and showcasing of traditional sports of the country.

Also, the Department of Youth Affairs through Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) conduct programmes for the Promotion of Sports to develop sports culture among rural youth in 623 Districts across the country including tribal areas. It has two components, namely,

- (i) Providing Sports kits to Youth Clubs- Under this programme, sports kits are provided to selected NYK Youth Clubs so that they may undertake sports activities on regular basis.
- (ii) Organization of Block and District Level Sports Meets- NYKS organizes Sports Tournaments at Block & District Level among Youth Clubs.

NYKS is implementing Tribal Youth Exchange Programme in collaboration with Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Division of Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India. The programme aims to sensitize LWE tribal youth to the rich cultural heritage of the country, enable them to appreciate the concept of unity in diversity, expose them to development activities and technological/ industrial advancement in other parts of the country, develop their personality by enhancing their understanding of the needs and providing them necessary career counselling.

During Tribal Youth Exchange Programme, traditional games and sports is also showcased.

(c) Currently, a total of 08 Khelo India Academies have been accredited in the State of West Bengal. The details are as under:

| S.No. | Discipline   | Name of Academy   |
|-------|--------------|---|
| 1.    | Archery      | National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) Kolkata                |
| 2.    | Athletics    | NCOE Kolkata  |
| 3.    | Gymnastics   | NCOE Kolkata  |
| 4.    | Hockey       | NCOE Kolkata  |
| 5.    | Table Tennis | NCOE Kolkata  |
| 6.    | Football     | Aditya School of Sports, Barasat North 24 Parganas, Kolkata |
| 7.    | Rowing       | The Bengal Rowing Club, Kolkata                             |
| 8.    | Table Tennis | Soumyadeep Poulomi Table Tennis Center, Kasba,, Kolkata     |

Apart from above, a proposal for establishment of National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) at New Cooch Behar has been approved and Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) has been signed for the purpose.

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