

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1904
ANSWERED ON 22/12/2022

INCREASE IN SAI CENTRES IN PUNJAB

1904 SHRI RAGHAV CHADHA:

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

- (a) the total number of functional Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centres in the State of Punjab and the total number of sportspersons being imparted training in these centres;
- (b) whether the SAI has established adequate infrastructure to provide proper training facilities to the sportsmen with a view to promote sports activities in the country;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to increase SAI centres to increase the seats for sportspersons at all such centres in the country particularly in the State of Punjab; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): A total of 11 Centres, including National Centre of Excellence (NCOE), SAI Training Centres (STCs), Extension Centres of STC, Indigenous Games and Martial Arts (IGMA) and Akharas are functional for implementation of different Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI in the state of Punjab. Presently, 602 talented athletes are being trained on residential and non-residential basis in these centres.

(b): Sports being a “State Subject”, the responsibility of promoting and developing sports, including establishment of sports infrastructure in the country, rests primarily with the respective

State Governments. However, the Central Government through its various Sports Promotional Schemes, viz. Khelo India Scheme and SAI Promotional Schemes, supplements the efforts of the State Government.

At present, a total of 189 centres, including the NCOEs, SAI Training Centres STCs, Extension Centres of STC, etc. are functional across the country for providing training facilities to the sportspersons, and 8968 talented athletes are receiving training in 36 sports disciplines in these centres. The selected athletes are provided support in the form of expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/ insurance and stipend as per the approved scheme norms. Establishment of SAI training centres in a State/Union Territory depends on various factors, viz. popularity of sports, gaps in infrastructure, availability of funds/lands, support/proposal of respective state government, etc.

(c) & (d): The SAI Sports Promotional Schemes are reviewed from time-to-time and decision to increase SAI Centres/Trainees is taken as per the recommendations of the review committees. Presently, there is no proposal to increase the number of Centres/Trainees.
