

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-3195
ANSWERED ON- 27/03/2025

DEVELOPMENT OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE IN NORTHERN REGION

3195. SMT. REKHA SHARMA:

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

- (a) the specific infrastructure projects that have been planned following the high-level meeting chaired by the Union Minister in Chandigarh;
- (b) the percentage of the sports budget allocated for infrastructure development in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and the Union Territories which are under Sports Authority of India Regional Centre, Chandigarh;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to expand the existing Khelo India Centres and National Centres of Excellence in the northern region; and
- (d) the status of athlete support programmes under schemes like Khelo India and Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) in this region?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) 'Sports' being a State subject, the responsibility of development of sports, including sports infrastructure, rests primarily with the respective State/Union Territory Governments. The Union Government only supplements their efforts by bridging critical gaps. The Khelo India Scheme and National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), implemented by this Ministry, under which financial assistance for development of sports infrastructure, is provided, are demand-driven schemes. The details of the sports infrastructure projects approved and their sanctioned cost, funds released and their physical and financial progress, under Khelo India Scheme and NSDF, across the country, are available in public domain on the dashboards of the Ministry at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in> and <http://www.nsdf.yas.gov.in/nsdf-glance.html>.

(b) Funds are allocated Scheme-wise and not State-wise or component-wise in this Ministry. An amount of Rs. 3332.50 crore has been allocated under various sports developmental scheme of Department of Sports in the current financial year, including for infrastructure development in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and the Union Territories which are under Sports Authority of India Regional Centre, Chandigarh.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the sanctioned 1250 Khelo India Centres (KICs), 1045 KICs have been notified in 36 States/UTs. Further, a proposal to establish a National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) at Naranpura has been approved.

(d) Under the component, “Sports Competition and Talent Development” of the Khelo India Scheme, talented sportspersons nationwide, are identified as a Khelo India Athlete (KIA). Selection of these athletes is based on their outstanding performance in events such as the Khelo India Games, National Championships, and through open and transparent selection trials organized by the relevant National Sports Federations and the School Games Federation of India. Selection of KIAs is done on merit through set protocols by the Talent Identification Development Committee (TIDC). Further, Under the component “Khelo India Centres & Sports Academies” of Khelo India Scheme, the identified talents are given option to join the accredited Khelo India academies and also provided financial assistance of Rs. 6.28 Lakh per annum [including Rs 1.20 Lakh as Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA)] towards training expenses, coaching, competitions exposure, education, equipment support, scientific support etc. The details of KIAs under the Khelo India Scheme, across the country, are available in public domain on the dashboard of the Ministry at <https://dashboard.kheloindia.gov.in/state-wise-khelo-india-centers>.

Under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) and the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations, promising athletes/teams, selected after following due process, are provided services of reputed Indian and foreign coaches/supporting staff, scientific & medical support, sports kit, etc. Under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), the Government provides assistance to India’s top athletes for their preparations for Olympic and Paralympic Games. Selected athletes are supported with funding from National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for customized training and other support not available under normal schemes of the Ministry. Out of Pocket Allowance (OPA) is paid @ Rs. 50,000/- per month to Core group athletes. Apart from OPA, entire expenditure for the training plan submitted by the sportsperson, which is considered and approved by Mission Olympic Cell (MOC), is met under TOPS. TOPS Development Group athletes are receiving OPA of Rs. 25,000/-. They are also provided financial assistance for training abroad and participation in international competitions in India and abroad. Details of the athletes covered under the TOPS are available at <https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in/sai/target-olympic-podium>.
