

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 634
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24/07/2025

DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD CLASS ATHLETE ECOSYSTEM

634 DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL :

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

- (a) the details of funds and upgrades approved by Government since 2023 to address the deficit of India's actual preparatory infrastructure (training camps, SAI centers, coaching staff) that remains chronically under-equipped;
- (b) the reasons as to why flagship talent schemes like Khelo India, Target Olympic Podium Scheme(TOPS), and outreach to rural athletes have not yet translated into medal-winning performances, even while nations with smaller talent pools outperform India consistently; and
- (c) the steps Government will take to build a world-class athlete ecosystem rather than relying on foreign expertise at the last moment, given the lack of specialized support services, nutritionists, sports psychologists, physiotherapists for elite athlete

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) Funds and upgrades given by the Government to address the deficit of India's actual preparatory infrastructure have been under various schemes. Under the component "Creation and Up-gradation of Sports Infrastructure" of the Khelo India Scheme, 328 sports infrastructure projects have been sanctioned across the country during different years which play a crucial role for training of the athletes. The detail of the same is available at <https://mdsd.kheloindia.gov.in/>. The budget allocation and the expenditure made under Khelo India Scheme since 2023 is as per annexure -I. Infrastructure projects are also undertaken by SAI . The expenditure incurred since 1st January, 2023 is also provided at Annexure – I.

Further, for promotion of sports, training camps, development of SAI Centres and coaching staff, SAI spends funds through its Regional Centres. Accordingly, the detail of funds released/expenditure incurred under SAI Block Grant since 2023 is provided at Annexure – II.

(b) & (c) The flag ship talent scheme have slowly and gradually improved upon the performance of the athletes by removing systematic issues, late institutional start issues, quality coaching issues, injury related issues etc. Several reform measures have been introduced in

recent years to improve the medal tally . TOPS scheme is being strengthened to improve the medal winning performance of the athletes. Focus is on customized overseas training, competition exposure, and performance analytics . Under the revised Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs norms (May,2025), NSFs are now mandated to earmark at least 20% of their annual budgets for grassroots and junior development, and to run structured National Junior Development Programs. NSFs have been empowered to hire foreign coaches and experts, and the appointment of High-Performance Directors (HPDs) is now mandatory in large NSFs. These HPDs also lead capacity-building of Indian coaches for long-term self-reliance (Atma nirbhar Bharat). The revised support model promotes decentralized development through regional academies, with diet allowances of ₹10,000/month for probables during non-camp periods to ensure nutritional support even outside SAI centers, enabling broader geographic participation. Support has also been enhanced for medical assessments and sports science integration, with the financial cap doubled to ₹5,000 per athlete. Reforms now require NSFs to publish athlete selection criteria well in advance ensuring merit-based, fair, and predictable selection, aligned with international best practices. Financial assistance for hosting international tournaments in India has been significantly increased under the Scheme Assistance to NSFs—up to ₹2 crore per event—ensuring Indian athletes get regular exposure to global competition on home soil.

Under the Khelo India Scheme, role of sports science is emphasized in at KISCE (Khelo India State Centre of Excellence) and in talent development of athletes. In KISCE, support is given for engaging high quality manpower (coaching, sports science), procuring Sports Science equipment and in periodic assessment of athletes in various parameters underlined in sports science. Also, KIAs are supported for periodic sports science assessment. Currently, 34 KISCEs have been notified across 33 States/UTs with more than 400 manpower sanctioned training 2480 athletes in various disciplines. Customized support in terms of coaching, sports, manpower is given to States. The list of manpower ranges across 23 categories and is provided at Annexure-III, which include nutritionist, physiotherapist, psychologist etc.to setup State-of-Art facilities / HPCs (High Performance Centres) in States.

ANNEXURE-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 634 FOR 24.07.2025 ASKED BY DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL REGARDING “DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD CLASS ATHLETE ECOSYSTEM”.

Works/Projects Sanctioned since 1st January, 2023 to 31st March, 2025			
S. No.	Name of work	Name of NCoE	Approved Amount in Crores
1	Provisioning of LED sports light by replacing existing metal halide light in cycling velodrome	IG Stadium Complex, New Delhi	4.7535
2	Construction of internal cycling track	SAI NERC Imphal	4.9866
3	Up-gradation and replacement of existing VTN/VRF air conditioning plant at 10M shooting range	Dr. KSSR, New Delhi	1.6261
4	Construction of low-cost Multipurpose Hall	SAI NSWC Gandhinagar	4.3676
5	Re-laying of Hockey Turf (Blue) with allied works at SAI NSSC Bangalore.	SAI NSSC Bangalore.	7.841
6	Renovation of NCSSR cabs at east plaza	IG Stadium Complex, New Delhi	4.0145
7	Modification of Gymnastics Practice hall-2 for establishment of Bio-Mechanics lab under NCSSR	IG Stadium Complex, New Delhi	1.3798
8	Replacement of Synthetic Athletic Track with allied works	SAI NS NIS Patiala	12.21

Budget allocation and actual expenditure under Khelo India Scheme since January, 2023 till date		
Year	Approved allocation (In Rs. Cr.)	
	Allocation	Actual Expenditure
2022-23	600.00	596.39
2023-24	880.00	872.20
2024-25	746.54	620.75
2025-26	1000.00	123.77 (as on 15.07.2025)

ANNEXURE – II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 634 FOR 24.07.2025 ASKED BY DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL REGARDING “DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD CLASS ATHLETE ECOSYSTEM”.

FUND RELEASED UNDER BLOCK GRANT OF RCs		
REGIONAL CENTERS	FY	AMOUNT
		(IN RS)
LUCKNOW	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	113,800,000.00
	2024-25	442,773,540.00
	2023-24	468,544,032.00
PATIALA	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	208,345,000.00
	2024-25	842,263,045.00
	2023-24	704,608,240.00
CHANDIGARH	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	112,245,000.00
	2024-25	432,795,499.00
	2023-24	458,956,000.00
GANDHINAGAR	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	116,815,000.00
	2024-25	443,159,200.00
	2023-24	391,028,428.00
BHOPAL	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	110,899,000.00
	2024-25	403,320,250.00
	2023-24	445,236,000.00
BANGLORE	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	227,801,000.00
	2024-25	853,356,622.00
	2023-24	844,759,608.00
TRIVANDRUM	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	206,500,000.00
	2024-25	815,459,735.00
	2023-24	736,188,718.00
KOLKATA	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	209,547,000.00
	2024-25	868,312,770.00
	2023-24	772,332,700.00
IMPHAL	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	107,201,000.00
	2024-25	410,837,350.00
	2023-24	444,084,000.00

GUWAHATI	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	132,500,000.00
	2024-25	510,754,665.00
	2023-24	445,893,196.00
SONIPAT	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	188,820,100.00
	2024-25	701,034,163.00
	2023-24	650,503,433.00
MUMBAI	2025-26 (Till June 30.06.2025)	105,751,000.00
	2024-25	397,460,950.00
	2023-24	408,848,000.00

ANNEXURE-III

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b)& (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 634 FOR 24.07.2025 ASKED BY DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL REGARDING “DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD CLASS ATHLETE ECOSYSTEM”

List of Manpower in KISCEs

S. No.	Type of Manpower	Sanctioned Manpower
1	Anthropometrics Grad-I	2
2	Assistant Coach	27
3	Biomechanics Expert	2
4	Conditioning Expert	4
5	Doctor	6
6	Ground Man	4
7	Head Coach	72
8	Head of Sports & Exercise Science	2
9	HPD/HPM	31
10	Lab Technician for Medical Labs	1
11	Masseur	75
12	Nurse	1
13	Nursing Assistant	5
14	Nutritionist	30
15	Physiotherapist	1
16	Physiologist	15
17	Physiotherapist	52
18	Psychologist	7
19	Sports Medicine Doctor & Sports Injury Management	3
20	Sports Science Staff	4
21	Strength & Conditioning Expert	53
22	Yoga Instructor	6
23	Young Professional	28
	Total	431
