

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:799

ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000

DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN RURAL AREAS

DHARMRAJ SINGH PATEL

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

- (a) whether the Government have paid any attention to the development of youth affairs and sports in the rural areas on the pattern of urban areas;
- (b) if so, the details of efforts made for the rural areas by the Government in this regard so far; and
- (c) if not, the future plan of the Government to develop sports policy and to harness rural sports potentials in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA)

(a) to (c) : Yes, Sir. There are number of Schemes of Department of Youth Affairs & Sports which are equally applicable both for rural areas and urban areas. Some of the important schemes in the Sports Division are the Scheme of Rural Sports Programme, Special Area Games, National Sports Talent Contest, Grants to Rural Schools for Development of Playfield and Purchase of Non-consumable Sports Equipment. Similarly in the Youth Affairs Division, the important Schemes are Promotion of Youth Activities Among the Youth of Backward Tribes, the National Service Scheme and the Schemes being implemented by the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan. Under the National Service Scheme, through a network of students, significant contribution has been made in rural areas in the fields of literacy, disaster management, health, nutrition, family welfare, pulse polio, Youth against dirt and disease. Similarly, the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, through its network of Kendras in each District of the country, is providing avenues to the non-student rural youth in nation building activities besides affording opportunities for the development of their personality and skills.
