

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2084
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
PANCHAYAT YUVAKHEL ABHIYAN
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

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

- (a) whether only a small section of the people enjoy the sports facilities;
- (b) if so, the details of Panchayat Yuvakhel Abhiyan; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure access to sports and games by large section of people ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
(SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) Yes, Sir. This is on account of the fact that there is a serious shortage of sports infrastructure at the grassroots level, thus depriving vast sections of the youth, particularly in the rural areas of access to organized games and sports facilities and activities.

(b) & (c): In recognition of this situation, and the globally accepted role of sports and games in the healthy development of youth, and in pursuance of the basic policy objective of broad-basing sports and developing a sports culture in the country, the Ministry is considering the launch of a Scheme titled `Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan`

(PKYA). The objective of the Scheme is to provide capital and recurring grants for the development/improvement of basic infrastructure at the village and block levels, provision of support for sports equipments and in organization of competitive and non-competitive sports events and activities at the grass-roots level. The Scheme is proposed to be implemented by bringing in synergy and convergence, between, and using the resources of various schemes of the Central Government and State Governments, as also of the Panchayat Raj Institutions, and integrating the sports activities under the Scheme with the higher level competition structure, talent spotting and professional training for identified talent sportspersons. In the process, it is expected that the number of talented sportspersons under training would significantly increase from the present level of around 13000, and for which a target of 50,000 by the end of the XI Plan has been set.