

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:431

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2005

ADVENTURE SPORTS

Nayak Shri Ananta;Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether adventure sports have a great potential in our country including attracting foreign tourists;
- (b) if so, the names of such identified sports;
- (c) whether any special strategy is being planned to develop such adventure sports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the Universities where adventure sports have been promoted alongwith the allocation made to various Universities during the last three years; and
- (f) the amount spent in promoting adventure sports during the last three years, University-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.431 FOR 26.04.2005 REGARDING ADVENTURE SPORTS ASKED BY SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI AND SHRI ANANTA NAYAK.

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. India with its diverse terrain has great potential for adventure sports like white water river rafting, paragliding, hot air ballooning, skiing, mountain hiking, scuba diving, angling trekking & rock climbing etc.

(c) & (d) : The Ministry of Tourism has taken up various measures to develop and expand adventure tourism in the country. These include the setting up of Institute of skiing and mountaineering as well as water sports in Jammu & Kashmir and Goa respectively. The Government of Sikkim is also being assisted for setting up Indian Himalayan Centre for Adventure and Eco Tourism. The Ministry is also promoting competition in paragliding in Himachal, F1 Power Boat Championship at Mumbai and Asian Canoeing Championship in Bhopal. With a view to promoting and marketing India as an adventure tourism destination, a brochure has been prepared and circulated to national and international tour operators.

Under the scheme "Promotion of Adventure" of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, financial assistance is provided to recognized institutions as well as individuals and organizations with a view to promote adventure related recreational activities. Assistance is provided to Indian Mountaineering Foundation, New Delhi, Himalayan Mountaineering Institute, Darjeeling (West Bengal) and Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering, Pahalgam (J&K) for undertaking various adventure programmes as well as for promotion of adventure under the Scheme of Promotion of Adventure.

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, an autonomous organization of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports also holds various activities/programmes to promote adventure in the country under its Tenzing Norgay Adventure Camp initiative.

In order to promote adventure, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports also gives Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Awards to the individuals as the highest national recognition for their outstanding achievement in the field of adventure activities on land, sea and air. A Life Time Achievement Award is also given to persons who, besides individual excellence, have devoted themselves to the cause of promotion of adventure.

(e): There is no provision for earmarked assistance to the universities though they are eligible for grants under the Scheme of Promotion of Adventure.

(f): During the last three years (2002-2003 till date), the following universities have been assisted under the Scheme of Promotion of Adventure:-

S.No	Name of the University	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
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(Rs.)

(Rs.)

1. University of Jammu & Kashmir 50,000/- 50,000/-
2. Gandhi Gram Rural Institute 5,00,000/- 3,75,000/-
(Deemed University),
Dindigal, Tamil Nadu
3. CCS Agricultural University, 1,76,750/- 1,32,600/-
Hisar (Haryana)
4. Berhampur University, Orissa 2,25,000/- 1,68,750/-