

28 Youth Affairs and Sports

YOUTH constitute nearly forty per cent of India's population. It is, therefore, necessary not only to make this vibrant and strong resource of the country beneficiaries of, but also, valuable partners in the process of our planning and development. In order that young men and women are able to contribute towards national development in a significant way, it is important that they should be able to effectively participate in the process of decision-making. Towards this end, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has in the recent past announced a National Youth Policy for the youth of the country so as to keep pace with the fast changing socio-economic scenario and also to address the emerging concerns of the youth. A National Commission for Youth has also been set up to recommend to the Government measures to tackle effectively the problems faced by the youth of India, with particular focus on unemployment. In adherence to the recommendation, two new schemes (i) National Programme for Adolescent and Youth Development (NPYAD) (restructured scheme) and (ii) Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan have been introduced in the Ministry during the 11th Plan.

YOUTH SERVICES

NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY, 2003

The first National Youth Policy was formulated and laid in Parliament in 1988. A need was felt to revise the existing National Youth Policy, as a result of rapid socio-economic transformation in the country. The new National Youth Policy, 2003 formulated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, is designed to galvanise the youth to rise up to the new challenges, keeping in view the global scenario, and aims at motivating them to be active partners in national development.

The age group of the Youth, as per the National Youth Policy, 2003, is 13 to 35 years. The New Policy recognises four thrust areas viz., (i) Youth Empowerment; (ii) Gender Justice; (iii) Inter-Sectoral Approach; and (iv) Information and Research Network. The Policy includes eight key sectors for the development of youth. The Policy also identifies five priority groups of young people.

The Policy provides implementation mechanism through which various development programmes and activities will be undertaken for the youth with active involvement of the State governments and Union Ministries and Departments.

NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT

(COMMON GUIDELINES FOR THE ELEVENTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN)

BACKGROUND

The scheme titled National Programme for Youth Adolescent Development (NPYAD) has been formulated by merger of four 100% central sector grants-in-aid schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports during 10th Plan namely, Promotion of Youth Activities & training, Promotion of National integration, Promotion of Adventure and Development and Empowerment of Adolescents. The merger was done with a

view to reduce multiplicity of schemes with similar objectives, ensuring uniformity in funding pattern and implementation mechanism, avoiding delays in availability of funds to the field level and institutionalising participation of State Governments in project formulation and its implementation. While there will be synergy and convergence in operational mechanism and programme delivery, there will be clear distinction with regards the financial parameters of each of the components under the scheme.

While some procedural changes were made in the schemes during the last year of 10th Five Year Plan in 2006-07, it was felt that the schemes need to be substantially restructured in order to make it more meaningful in terms of content. Impact and outcomes. The schemes were reviewed in the context of 11th Five Year Plan by the working Group constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of the 11th Five Year Plan. The working Group has recommended that the restructured scheme should be more focused in terms of emerging needs and requirements as also with reference to the capabilities of implementing organization, programme context and methodology of training. Following these and in the context of zero - based budgeting during 11th Five Year Plan, all the four schemes have been merged into a single umbrella scheme.

The revised umbrella scheme will be operated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports as a 100% central sector scheme during 11th five Year Plan.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SCHEME

Short term objectives:-

- Provide opportunity for holistic development of youth including adolescents for realisation of their fullest potential;
- Develop leadership qualities and personality development of youth and to channelise their energy towards socio-economic development and growth of the nation;
- Promote national integration, strengthen secular and eclectic outlook through creative expressions by youth;
- Foster the spirit of adventure, risk taking, teamwork, the capacity of ready and vital response to challenging situations and of endurance among youth;
- Acknowledge adolescents as a distinct subgroup among youth and address their distinct needs and at the same time provide positive stimulation and congenial environment for their all-round development; and
- To encourage research and publication and to promote technical resource support including development of information and database on issues concerning youth and adolescents.

Long - term objectives

- Engage and canalize the energy of youth in a positive manner for nation building;
- Develop amongst youth a sense of pride in nationally accepted values like democracy, socialism, and secularism;
- Promote activities and programmes, which foster social harmony and national unity among youth;

- Promote spirit of national integration, unity in diversity, pride in Indianness among the youth of different parts of the country and to induce a sense of social harmony amongst the youth;
- To motivate the youth to act as local point for dissemination of knowledge in the rural area and involve them in nation building process;
- To stimulate action for development and empowerment of adolescents, particularly from the economically and socially neglected/backward sections of society;
- To build and develop an environment which recognises the specific needs and promise of the adolescents in the country and provides for adolescent friendly services.

SCHEME BENEFICIARIES

Definition of youth and adolescent:- The Youth and Adolescents for the purpose of the scheme would be as defined in the extant National Youth Policy. In other words, the expression 'youth' would cover persons belonging to the age group of 13 to 35 years and 'adolescent' would cover persons in the age group of 10-19 years under the scheme.

Target youth and adolescents under the scheme:- The targeted beneficiaries of the programmes include members of the youth clubs affiliated to the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Service Scheme, State Government Youth Organisations, Bharat Scouts & Guides or student, in Schools, Colleges and Universities. Adolescents and Youth from other established youth organisations or NGOs may be considered provided they are the registered members of such organisations. Preference may be given to the youth with special abilities and youth belonging to scheduled caste, scheduled tribes, minorities and weaker sections.

Gender budgeting:- In selection of beneficiary women will have a distinct priority and care should be taken to include at least one-third beneficiaries from women.

PROGRAMME AREA AND COMPONENTS

Programme Component:- The umbrella scheme will comprise of the following broad programme area and their components:-

Name of the Programme Area	Programme Component
(a) Youth Leadership and Personality Development	i. Youth Leadership and Personality Development Training
(b) Promotion of National Integration	i. National Integration Camp
	ii. Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme
	iii. Multi-Cultural Activities
	iv. National Youth Festival
	v. State Youth Festival
(c) Promotion of Adventure	vi. National Youth Awards
	i. Promotion of adventure of basic and intermediate level in India.
	ii. Promotion of adventure of advance level including expeditions in India

- iii. Grants to Recognised Institutions.
 - iv. Tenzing Norgy National Adventure Awards
 - (d) Development and Empowerment of Adolescents
 - i. Life Skills Education
 - ii. Counselling
 - iii. Career Guidance
 - iv. Residential Camps
 - (e) Technical and Resource Development
 - i. Environment Building
 - ii. Research & Studies on youth issues
 - iii. Documentation & Publication
 - iv. Seminars, Conferences, Exhibitions and Workshops on youth or adolescent issues, national integration and adventure.
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Operational Guidelines:- There are prescribed operational guidelines of each programme area and the activities under each programme component, eligible institutions/organisations for financial assistance and their financial cost norms.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHEME

Eligibility:- The following organization are eligible for financial assistance under the scheme.

- (a) All India Organisations (AIOs) i.e.,
 - i. Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (Head Quarter) for Nehru Yuva Kendra's;
 - ii. National Service Scheme (Programme Adviser Cell) for NSS Units;
 - iii. Bharat Scouts & Guides (Head Quarter) for their own Units;
 - iv. Universities including deemed Universities;
 - v. Association of Indian Universities and
 - vi. Himalayan Mountaineering Institute. Indian Mountaineering Foundation, Jawahar Institute of Mountaineering and Winter Sports and other adventure institutes recognised by the Ministry,
- (b) State Level Organisations (SLOs) i.e.,
 - i. State Governments, State Departments/ Directorates for Youth Affairs/Youth Welfare and other District Level Officers in States;
 - ii. Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies;
 - iii. Educational Institutions including Polytechnics and
 - iv. Non-government Organisations (NGOs) and Voluntary Agencies registered under the Societies Registration Act 1860 (or other appropriate state law). Public trusts and non-profit making companies who have completed of least 3 years of registration on the date of application and has average annual programme expenditure of Rs. 5.00 lakhs or more during last 3 years.

Project Mode : The scheme will be implemented in the project mode through project implementing Agencies (PIAs). The PIA may submit project proposal involving one

or more programme area or components under the scheme but the key factor for consideration of project will be the past experience and resource (infrastructure and technical manpower) available with the PIA. The following parameters are mandatory for formulation of project proposal by PIA.

- (i) Project area The project proposal should have a well-defined geographical area and should clearly indicate targeted beneficiaries under the project. Ordinarily two to three districts in a state will constitute a project area. Adequate justification in terms of available infrastructure manpower and past experience of the organisation needs to be given for projects having more than one State/UT in the project area.
- (ii) Project Period: Ordinary, the project should have a period of one year with in which a number of activities can be planned. In case the project required more than one year the same should be adequately explained in the project proposal.
- (iii) Phasing of Project: The project should have three phases i.e. Preparatory. Phase (PP) Activity Phase (AP) and Follow-up. Phase (FP), During preparatory phase environment building activities and identification/selection of the targeted beneficiaries should be taken up. This should be followed by the activity phase in which detail scheduling of activities should be organised. The follow-up phase should have evaluation of the impact of the project on the target youth and adolescents including the outcome of the project intervention with respect to its stated aims and objectives.
- (iv) Project Budget: The project budget should have programme component-wise cost estimate. The cost estimate under each component will have two sub-heads i.e. (i) the contribution either in kind or cash to be provided by the PIA and (ii) the financial assistance sought from government under the scheme.

Project Appraisal Committee:- The proposals will be considered by a duly constituted Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The PAC will have members from the Planning Commission, Integrated Finance Division and Administrative Division in the Ministry apart from outside experts as would be necessary. The Ministry will stipulate separate budget provisions for AIOs and SLOs from within the annual budget allocated for the scheme. The recommendations of the PAC shall be placed for approval of the competent authority in the Ministry.

Release of funds to PIAs:- On approval of the project grants-in-aid shall be released to the PIA up to 50% of the approved amount as 1st installment. In case of State/UT governments, NSS and NYKS advance up to 90% may be released. The balance shall be released on completion of the approved programme.

PATTERN OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Typical Programme Components-The financial assistance from the government of India under the scheme will be catalytic funding and the PIA is free to mobilise additional resource from other collaborating agencies/ organizations for conduct of the programme. The amount of financial assistance may vary depending on the no of participants or the duration of any individual programme drawn, which may be different than the number of participants or number of days mentioned below against the each typical programme component. The pattern of financial assistance for a typical programme component under the scheme and the eligible organisations/ institutions for the financial assistance are given below for guidance.

Sl. No.	Typical Programme Component	Financial Assistance amount under the Scheme	Eligible grantee for the prog. Component
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
(a) Youth Leadership and Personality Development			
(i)	Youth Leadership and Personality Development Training Project	Rs. 3,00,000/-	AIOs/SLOs
(b) Promotion of National Integration			
(i)	National Integration Camp for 150 persons for 7 days duration at State Capitals	Rs. 4,30,000/-	AIOs/SLOs
(ii)	Other Places Inter-State Youth Exchange Programme for 50 participants for 15 days durations	Rs. 3,53,750/- Rs. 2,92,500/-	AIOs/SLOs
(iii)	Multi-Cultural Activities	Maximum Rs. 3.0 lakh for first time grantee	AIOs/SLOs
(iv)	National Youth Festival	Maximum up to Rs. 2.00 crore	State Govts./ UT Admn.
(v)	State Youth Festival	Up to Rs. 10,00,000/-	State Govts./ UT Admn.
(vi)	National Youth Awards Individuals NGO	Rs. 20,000/- Rs. 1,00,000.-	Individuals and NGOs
(c) Promotion of Adventure			
(i)	Grants to recognised institutions	As per approved Annual Budget	Recognised Institutions
(ii)	One-week adventure camp at basic and intermediate level for 25 persons	Rs. 93,750/-	AIOs/SLOs
(iii)	Promotion of adventure at advance level including expeditions in India	as per specific expedition	Recognised Institutions
(iv)	Tenzing Norgy National Adventure Awards	Rs. 3,00,000/-	Individuals
(d) Development of Adolescents			
(i)	Life Skills Education (for 40 teens) One-week Residential Prog. One-week Non-residential Prog.	Rs. 65,000/- Rs. 23,000/-	AIOs/SLOs
(ii)	Counselling Out-reach Prog. Rural Counselling Centre Telephone help line	Rs. 1,73,000/- Rs. 1,28,000/- Rs. 1,00,000/-	AIOs/SLOs
(iii)	Career Guidance Career Guidance Centre First year Second/Subsequent year Career Mela	Rs. 2,34,000/- Rs. 2,14,000/- Rs. 25,000/-	AIOs/SLOs
(iv)	Second Chance Camps (4 months)	Rs. 4,56,000/-	AIOs/SLOs
(e) Technical Resource Development			

(i)	Environmental Building	Maximum Rs. 2.0 lakh	AIOs/SLOs
(ii)	Research & Studies on youth issues	Maximum Rs. 3.0 lakh for first time grantee	AIOs/SLOs
(iii)	Documentation & Publication	Maximum Rs. 3.0 lakh for first time grantee	AIOs/SLOs
(iv)	Seminars, Conferences and Workshops, on youth or adolescent issues including national integration and adventure.	Maximum Rs. 5.0 lakh Rs. 3.0 lakh Rs. 0.50 lakh	AIOs/SLOs
	National Level	Rs. 3.0 lakh	
	State Level	Rs. 0.50 lakh	
	Regional/District Level		

The maximum ceiling for grants-in-aid to a PIA will be limited to Rs. 10.0 lakh for a district or the average programme expenditure of the IA during last 3 years, whichever is less. The Project Appraisal Committee may in case of AIOs and State Government Organisations with reasons to be recorded in writing, recommend project for more than Rs. 10.0 lakh for a district.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

An institutional monitoring and evaluation system will be evolved for the monitoring and evaluation of the projects sanctioned under the scheme. Institutions such as RGNIYD, TOC, TORCs of NSS, IDARAs or any other reputed institution/NGO/VA may be designated as the Monitoring and Evaluation Institution (MEI) for the projects sanctioned in a State/UT.

Funds for the monitoring and evaluation will be released to the MEIs from the budget under the scheme. The PIA shall produce all records connected with the project to the MEI for the monitoring and evaluation purpose.

The MEI visit the project authority on a quarterly basis and submit quarterly Progress Reports (GPRs) about the performance of the project to the Ministry under intimation to the concerned State/UT government. The MEI will also submit an end term evaluation report on completion of the project. The receipt of QPRs and evaluation report however will not hold the subsequent release of the funds to the Project Authority.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, apart from the monitoring and evaluation done by the MEIs, may also conduct concomitant evaluation of the scheme/projects.

NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

Every year, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has been celebrating 12th January, the birthday of Swami Vivekananda, the great philosopher-thinker and the greatest patron of the youth in India as national Youth Day and the week, commencing from that day, as the national Youth Week. As part of the celebration, holding of National Youth Festival began in 1995 as a major activity under the programme of National Integration Camp (NIC). The Idea behind a Youth Festival is to organize a gathering of the youth and to take up one or all the programmes mentioned above so that the concept of National Integration, spirit of communal harmony, brotherhood, courage and adventure may be propagated. Like the national Youth Festival, States are also encouraged to hold State level, district level and block level youth festivals in the same line.

NATIONAL YOUTH AWARDS

National Youth Awards are given away every year to young people and to one Voluntary Organization for their excellent work in the field of social development.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

National Service Scheme, popularly known as NSS,, was launched in Gandhiji's Birth Centenary 1969 in 37 Universities involving 40,000 students with primary focus on the development of personality of students through community service. Today NSS has more than 3.2 million student volunteers on its roll spread over 200 universities, and 41 (+2) Senior Secondary Councils and Directorate of Vocational Education covering more than 10,313 colleges/institutes of higher and technical education and 7542 Secondary schools all over the country. From its inception, more than 2.9 corers students from Universities, Colleges and institutions of higher learning have benefited from the NSS activities, as student volunteers.

The National Service Scheme has two types of programmes, viz., "Regular Activities" and "Special Camping Programme" undertaken by its volunteers. Under 'Regular Activities', students are expected to work as volunteers for two years, rendering community service for a minimum of 120 hours per annum. The activities include constructive work in adopted villages and slums, blood donation, adult and non-formal education, health, nutrition, family welfare, AIDS awareness campaigns, tree plantation, improvement of campuses, etc. Under 'Special Camping Programme', a camp of 10 days' duration is conducted every year in the adopted areas on a specific theme.

Special camping programme: NSS added a new dimension to the process of education. Aligning to the needs of the community and simultaneously preparing students for their future role as sensitised self-confident citizens. NSS special camps were organised under various them decided as per need and requirement of the country. It has been a long journey in programme development for the student youth, NSS is a value based volunteer programme, which has always remained closed to the living issues affecting Indian Society. NSS volunteers have always come to the forefront to extend voluntary service in natural calamities and disasters like cyclone, earthquake, tsunami, drought and flood. NSS special comps are organised under various themes every year giving special thrust on important areas like child marriage, gender issues dowry, HIV/AIDs, adolescent health issues and national integration and social harmony.

ORGANISATION

At National Level, the NSS Headquarter in the Ministry of Youth Affairs & sports, looks after policy, planning and monitoring of the scheme. A programme Adviser's Cell headed by a Programme Adviser has been entrusted with assessing and monitoring the targets set for a student under NSS and those under Special Camping Programme. In the States 15 Regional Centres and functioning under the control of Deputy or Assistant Programmes. Adviser or Youth Officer.

SELF FINANCING UNITS OF NSS

This Ministry is now permitting opening of new NSS Units on self financing basis, in addition to the present system of fully funded units. These units will be at par with other regular NSS Units except that the funding for the regular activities and special camping and institutional establishment expenses will be borne by the Self Financing

Unit (SFU) institutions. The Institutions/ Universities having NSS Units will be allowed to mobilize additional resources internally for conducting their regular activities and special camps of enhanced rates. In order to maintain All India uniformity an indicative cost norm of Rs. 300/- for regular activities and Rs. 500/- for special Camping is suggested for normal areas. For the North Eastern States and other hilly areas notified by the Planning Commission, an indicative cost norm of Rs. 400/- for regular activities and Rs. 600/- for Special Camping is suggested. It has also been decided that the number of days of special Camping will be reduced from 10 to 7 days, though the budgetary allocation will remain the same as that of 10 days.

The Institutions having NSS units may, if necessary, charge a nominal fee for NSS Programme activities. The fee structure shall be subject to the approval of its own systems and procedures and shall be minimum required for NSS activities. In the eventuality of NSS Units/ Universities/ Institutions are able to mobilize additional resources: The programme expenses, administrative expenses and out of pocket allowances may be enhanced on a pro-rata basis, at their level. The government funding, however, will be limited to the amount mentioned vide Ministry's letter dated 24th July. 2000.

The University Level Advisory Committee headed by the vice chancellor and the Institutional Level Advisory Committee headed by the Principal/Head of the Institution will be competent to take decision for conducting NSS programme/ activities as per enhanced cost norms suggested above for their own Universities/ Units depending on their self-mobilised resources.

The annual accounts on such self-mobilised resources of each Unit/University/ Institution shall be maintained separately and the audited accounts must be placed before the respective Advisory Committee annually for its approval.

INDIRA GANDHI NSS AWARDS

In 1993-94, during the Silver Jubilee Year of NSS, the IGNSS Awards were instituted to give recognition to selfless service rendered by the NSS volunteers programme officers and the programme Coordinations. This award is given away in a ceremony during the National Youth Festival (12th to 16th January) every year.

TRAINING

To Train the NSS Programme Officers and to equip them with the modern skills of social development, 5 Orientation. Training and Research Centres (TORCs) and 13 Training and Orientation Centres (TOCs) are functioning all over the country at the expense of the Government of India. These institutes run orientation as well as refresher courses to impart training to the NSS Programme Officers who are grass root level functionaries associated with the NSS.

TARGETS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In the Year 2007-08, 29.41 lakh volunteers were enrolled for Regular activities and 12.100 Special Camps were conducted and also 12.100 villages/urban slums have been adopted.

The NSS volunteers under the regular activities for environment conservation and enrichment planted thousands of saplings throughout the country. They have undertaken invectives projects like creation of NSS Gardens in the Institution Campus, avenue plantation, plant identification and conducted a large number of plantation camps, More than 29 lakhs saplings were planted during the year.

During the Pulse Polio Immunization Campaign, more than 30 lakhs kids were administered Pulse Polio Drops in which around 5 lakh NSS volunteers were involved.

NSS volunteers enrolled themselves as potential blood donors and donated blood as and when required by the community members. During the year under report, 3.17 lakh volunteers donated blood. Apart from this regular blood donation camps, the national voluntary blood donation day was observed through out the country.

RD & Pre RD CAMPS

NSS volunteers participate in the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi every year. To select the marching contingent, 5 Pre-Republic Day Parade Camps are organised at 5 different places across the country. 1000 selected volunteers and NSS Programme Officers participate in these camps from which 200 Volunteers are selected to take part in the Month Long Republic Day camp at New Delhi in January. During their stay at Delhi the volunteers are involved in physical fitness activities like PT, Yoga, academic activities like lecture session by eminent personalities and various cultural activities representing mini India at the camp. These volunteers also visit the President, the Vice President, Prime Minister and other VIPs during their camp.

PARTICIPATION OF N.S.S. IN YOUTH FESTIVAL

Every year NSS participates in the National Youth Festival. Two events such as national Youth Convention and Suvichar are held during the Youth Festival in which around 200 NSS volunteers from different parts of the country participate. During these programmes, the volunteers get the opportunity to interact with eminent personalities.

CURRENT ACHIEVEMENTS

During the NSS Camp a Community plantation programme was taken up by the NSS Unit of Government Dungar College, Bikaner, in which a team of 15,000 NSS volunteers and villagers took part and planted one lakh and five thousand saplings in fifty villages in and around the NSS adopted village GAJSUKHDESAR in just four minutes. The plantation work was completed in August 2008. As this is unique event and achievement, the Limca Book of Records has given its consent to record this.

Five NSS Units in Haryana State have formed 50 Red Ribbon Clubs to create awareness on HIV / AIDS and motivating young people to adapt a healthy life style.

Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), in Collaboration with NSS Regional Centers of Guwahati and Bangaluru, conducted an Inter State Youth Exchange Programme. A Home Stay Programme was also included. In addition to this, a National Seminar on Human Rights and Social Harmony was also organized by NSS in association with RGNIYD.

NEHRU YUVA KENDRA SANGATHAN

The Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) is an autonomous organisation of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. NYKS has its offices in 500 districts of the country. It has become one of the largest grassroot level organisations in the world, catering to the needs of more than eight million non-student rural youth enrolled through 2.53 lakh village-based Youth Clubs. These Youth Clubs work in the areas covering education and training, awareness generation, skill development and self-employment, entrepreneurial development, thrift and co-operation, besides

development of the body through sports and adventure and mind through sustained exposure to new ideas and development strategies. For implementation of the programmes, every district NYK has a network of trained cadre of District Youth Coordinators, National Service Volunteers and Youth Leaders. The strength of NYKS is its vast network of Youth Clubs at grassroots level.

NYKS accomplishes its task through two categories of programmes, i.e., 'Regular Programmes' such as Youth Club Development, Vocational Training, Work Camp, Awareness Generation, Cultural Programme, Sports Promotion, Adventure Promotion, Seminars and Workshops and Celebration of National and International Days/Weeks and 'Schemes' entrusted to it by the Ministry for implementation viz., National Service Volunteers, Financial Assistance to Youth Clubs, Awards to Outstanding Youth Clubs at District, State and National level and Youth Development Centre.

NATIONAL SERVICE VOLUNTEER SCHEME

The objective of the scheme is to provide opportunities to students, generally speaking, those who have completed their graduation, to involve themselves, on a voluntary basis, in nation-building activities for a specific period on a whole-time basis. Any person who has completed his/her first degree course and is below 25 years of age may get himself/herself enrolled as a National Service Volunteer for one/two years. The requirement of age and educational qualification is relaxable in case of SC/ST and women volunteers. Each of the volunteers enrolled under the scheme is paid a stipend of 1000/- per month.

The number of National Service Volunteers sanctioned during the year 2008-09 is 7100. NSVs are given intense training on their induction. The training primarily focuses on personality development, public speaking, positive thinking and a basic capsule of event management. Subsequently volunteers are given refresher courses.

YOUTH HOSTELS

Youth Hostels are built to promote youth travel to enable the young people experience the rich cultural heritage of the country. The construction of Youth Hostels has been conceived as a joint venture of the Central and State Governments. While the Central Government bears the cost of construction, the State Government provides developed land, free-of cost with water, electricity and approach roads. After completion, these hostels are handed over to the State Governments for management.

So far 79 youth hostels have been constructed in the country and 5 youth Hostels are under construction.

RASHTRIYA SADBHAVANA YOJANA

The erstwhile National Reconstruction Corps (NRC) Scheme was now replaced by the Rashtriya Sadbhavana Yojana and the Government of India has launched the Rashtriya Sadbhavana Yojana from 1 June 2005. Under the Scheme, 10 to 20 Volunteers who will be known as Nehru Yuva Sathi would be deployed to participate in programmes for youth and community development. They would be trained in issues affecting youth such as educational, employment, social and cultural to enable them to become peer educators. They would work for spreading awareness for national integration, national unity, social harmony and brotherhood. They would

also make youth and community aware about social evils like gender discrimination, caste barriers, etc., and social practices and behaviours like smoking, drinking drugs, etc. Health and educational issues would also be important areas where they can intervene to mobilise the youth. They could also be trained for catering to concerns specific to adolescents such as life skill education, counselling, career guidance, etc. They would coordinate with all registered youth clubs and ensure that all of them become active. They would also help to form Youth Development Centres. They would also act as a link between various development programmes for youth and youth organisations and to enable them to take benefit of such self-employment and employment schemes. Under the scheme Nehru Yuva Sathi will be selected from the Youth Clubs/Mahila Mandals/Sports Clubs and Youth Development Centres by a competition among them. The NYS will be deployed for one year on a monthly honorarium of Rs. 1000.

The scheme will be implemented during the remaining 10th Plan period in all the districts where Nehru Yuva Kendras are operating.

RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) set up at Sriperumbudur (Tamil Nadu) functions as an autonomous body for coordinating and monitoring youth-related activities in the country. The Institute is to function as: (i) a research agency and think-tank for youth programmes, policies and implementation strategies; (ii) develop multifaceted programmes for youth; (iii) function as an institute for advanced studies in the field of youth; (iv) function as a centre for documentation, information and publication pertaining to youth development; and (v) work as a Resource Centre.

The Institute was functioning with the skeleton staff and one division but is in the process of being expanded with the creation of 4 more Divisions with supporting staff. Thus, the Institute will now have the following 5 Division : (a) Training, Orientation and Extension Division, (b) Research, Evaluation and Documentation/Dissemination Division, (c) Panchayati Raj and Youth Affairs Division, (d) International Centre for Excellence in Youth Development Division, (e) Social Harmony and National Unity Division. At present, 72 Youth Hostels are functioning in the country.

SPORTS

NEW NATIONAL SPORTS POLICY

The National Sports Policy was initially formulated in 1984. In order to broad-base sports and to promote excellence, Government has formulated a New National Sports Policy, 2001. The salient features of the New National Sports Policy are as under : 1. Broad-basing of Sports and achievement of excellence; 2. Upgradation and development of infrastructure; 3. Support to the National Sports Federations and other appropriate bodies; 4. Strengthening of scientific and coaching support to sports; 5. Incentives to sports persons; 6. Enhanced participation of women, Scheduled Tribes and rural youth; 7. Involvement of the Corporate Sector in sports promotion; and 8. Promotion of sports mindedness among the public at large.

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) was established by the Government of India in January 1984 as a registered society primarily to ensure effective maintenance and

optimum utilisation of the various sports infrastructure that were built in Delhi during Asiad, 1982. It is now the nodal agency in the country for broad-basing sports and for training of sportspersons to achieve excellence in national and international sports. The Society for National Institute of Physical Education and Sports (SNIPES) was merged with SAI with effect from 1 May 1987. Subsequently Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports (NSNIS), Patiala and its allied centres at Bangaluru, Kolkata and Gandhinagar and Lakshmibai National Colleges of Physical Education at Thiruvananthapuram came under Sports Authority of India (SAI). It has now six regional centres at Bangalore, Gandhinagar, Kolkata, Chandigarh, Bhopal and Imphal and two sub-centres at Guwahati (Assam) and Lucknow (U.P.). Sports infrastructure is being created at Sonapat and the Northern Regional Centre would be shifted from Chandigarh to Sonapat. SAI has one Centre at Guwahati. SAI also operates a High Altitude Training Centre (HATC) at Shillaroo (H.P.).

SAI operates various schemes at sub-junior, junior and senior level, namely, National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC), Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC), SAI Training Centres (STC) and Special Area Games (SAG) to achieve excellence at national and international level. SAI has also set-up Centres of Excellence (COE) for elite sports persons at each of its Regional Centres and one at National Institute of Sports, Patiala and Sports College, Lucknow. There are 22 NSTC adopted Schools including 33 *Akharas*, 49 *Navodaya Vidyalayas* and 27 Schools for promotion of Indigenous Games and Martial Arts. Equipment support has also been provided to 34 *Akharas*. There are 10 ABSC, 19 SAG Centres including 2 Associated Centres, 57 STCs and 16 Centres of Excellence. *Navodaya Vidyalayas* have been adopted to give impetus to sports in rural and semi-urban areas and to have balanced approach. This mammoth effort involves widespread talent scouting including from rural, coastal and tribal areas and training of selected individuals by providing all vital inputs. The National Coaching Scheme of SAI provides coaches for training of sportspersons to the State/UT Sports Councils at their State and District Coaching Centres, SAI Schemes, National Coaching Camps and for conducting Academic Courses in Sports Coaching at NIS, Patiala. The Lakshmibai National College of Physical Education (LNCPE) is the apex Institute for conducting research and offering academic courses in Physical Education. In addition, SAI also implements a number of Central Government Schemes to encourage sportspersons by providing them scholarships. SAI also implements sports schemes for women and the North-East besides promoting rural sports.

LAKSHMIBAI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education was established initially as a College on 17 August 1957, the centenary year of the first war of India's Independence. The Institute is located at Gwalior, where Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi had laid down her life for the country's freedom struggle. In recognition of the service rendered by the Institute in the field of physical education and sports, it has been upgraded to a 'Deemed University' status in 1995. The Institute is fully-funded by the Government of India.

The Institute offers the following full-time courses: (1) Bachelor of Physical Education (BPE) (3 years degree course); (2) Master of Physical Education (MPE) (2 years course); (3) MPE (Summer Course) (3 year course) for in-service teachers; and (4) M. Phil in Physical Education (1 year course).

The Institute also conducts in-service training programmes in physical education for ex-army personnel, refresher/orientation course for physical education teachers in universities, colleges and schools. The Institute attracts students from abroad also.

PANCHAYAT YUVA KRIDA AUR KHEL ABHIYAN (PYKKA)

The Ministry was implementing four Centrally sponsored sports infrastructure Development Schemes during the Xth Five Year Plan period which were transferred to the State Sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005 viz., Scheme of Grants for the Creation of Sports Infrastructure, Scheme of Grants to Rural School for purchase of sports equipment and development of play grounds, Scheme of Grants for the promotion of Games & Sports in Universities and Colleges; and Scheme of Grants for the Installation of Synthetic Playing Surface. Under these erstwhile centrally sponsored schemes, financial assistance was being provided to State Governments, education of institutions and NGOs for the creation of sports facilities on a cost sharing basis.

With the closure of these schemes, there has been no provision for providing financial assistance to State governments, educational Institutions and NGOs for creation of sports infrastructure. There is a severe inadequacy of basic sports infrastructure at grassroots level especially in rural areas. Similarly there is also a lack of sports competitions in the rural areas. The access to sports and games facilities in schools and colleges is very discouraging with hardly 30 million out of the 210 million students having such access. Overall, hardly 50 million out of the 770 million youth, adolescents and children have access to organized sports. Given the fact that less than 5% of the population has access to sporting facilities and organized sports, the need for promoting sports infrastructure of the grassroots level in a phased but time-bound manner has been repeatedly emphasized in various fora.

Keeping these factors in view, the Government has in March 2008 approved the introduction of a new Scheme entitled Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) which aim at providing basis sports infrastructure at the panchayat level over a period of 10 years through concerted efforts of all stakeholders, particularly the State Governments, Panchayats, educational institutes, sports promotion bodies and youth clubs. All the 2,50,000 village and block panchayats and equivalent units will be covered during this period. Apart from contributing to public health, social inclusiveness, the promotion of Indigenous games, and the expansion of the talent pool through the identification and nurturing of rural sports talent. PYKKA is also expected to simulate the economic activities within the sports sector on it would lead to on exponential growth in the demand for sports instructors, coaches, sports equipment and consumable and sports events and related support services.

Under the Scheme, each village Panchayat and each Block Panchayat would be given one time seed capital grant of Rs. 1 lakh and Rs. 5 lakh respectively. The State share in this will be 25% for normal states and 10% for special category States. In addition, while village panchayats would be given annual acquiescing grant and annual operational grant of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 12,000 per annum, respectively, block panchayats would be given Rs. 20,000 and Rs. 24,000, respectively. Each block panchayat would also be provided annual competition grant of Rs. 50,000 for holding block level competitions and each district will be provided annual competition grant of Rs. 3 lakh for holding district level competitions. Prize money would also be provided

to the winners (first three positions) in block level and district level competitions. The Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 1500 crore for the 11th Plan Period. The total requirement of funds for the entire programme over the 11th and 12th Plan Periods has been estimated at approximately Rs. 5000 crore.

Commonwealth Games, 2010 : Commonwealth Games, 2010 are going to be hosted in Delhi from 3 October to 14 October 2010.

A comprehensive integrated approach is being worked out for creation and development of World Class Sports Infrastructure, Games Village, Civic Infrastructure, Tourism, Transportation and Security related aspects.

The Institutional mechanism approved by the Government mainly comprises of a Group of Ministers, Apex Body, Organising Committee and other Committees for Coordination, implementation, supervision and monitoring.

A special Action Plan would be evolved to prepare Indian sportspersons for increasing the medal tally of India in Commonwealth Games, 2010.

SCHEME RELATING TO AWARDS

The scheme has the following three components under which awards are given to outstanding sportspersons for winning medals in international sports events.

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award : The scheme was launched in the year 1991-92 for honouring the outstanding sportsperson in a year for his/her achievement in sports. The award is given in the form of a cash award of Rs 5 lakh, scroll of honour and a plaque.

Special Awards to Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches : This scheme was introduced in the year 1986 to encourage and motivate outstanding sportspersons for even higher achievement and to attract the younger generation to take sports as a career. The scheme has recently been reviewed and revised. From the year 2004, special awards at the following revised rates will be given to sportspersons and their coaches for winning laurels in different competitions.

Name of Championship/Game	Gold Medal First Position	Silver Medal Second Position	Bronze Medal Third Position
For Winning Olympics Games	Rs. 30 lakhs	Rs. 18 lakhs	Rs. 12 lakhs
Official World Cups/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games	Rs. 10 lakhs	Rs. 5 lakhs	Rs. 3 lakhs
Asian and Commonwealth Championships	Rs. 3 lakhs	Rs. 2 lakhs	Rs. 1.5 lakhs

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD TROPHY

Inter-University tournaments are an integral and important part of games and sports in universities and colleges. The top overall performing university in the Inter-University Tournaments is given the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy, which is a rolling trophy. The University also awards a small replica of the MAKA Trophy for retention. In addition, the university also gets a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh. The second and third best universities also receive cash awards amounting to Rs 5 lakh and Rs 3 lakh respectively.

SCHEME RELATING TO INCENTIVES FOR PROMOTION OF SPORTS ACTIVITIES

The scheme has the following five sub-components:

Sports Fund for Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons : This scheme was launched in the year 1994. Under this scheme, pension is given to a meritorious sportsperson after he/she attains the age of 30 years for his/her lifetime. The scheme is being operated through Life Insurance Corporation of India. The scheme has recently been revised by enhancing the rates of pensions. Besides, new categories of pension have also been added to the scheme. Pensions will now be given at the following rates :

(a)	Medallists at the Olympic Games	Rs. 10,000/- p.m.
(b)	Gold medallists at the World Cups/ World Championships in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines	Rs. 8,000/- p.m.
(c)	Silver and Bronze medallists of the World Cups/World Championships in Olympic and Asian Games disciplines	Rs. 7,000/- p.m.
(d)	Gold medallists of the Asian/ Commonwealth Games	Rs. 7,000/- p.m.
(e)	Silver and Bronze medallists of Asian/ Commonwealth Games	Rs. 6,000/- p.m.
(f)	Gold medallists of Para-Olympic Games	Rs. 5,000/- p.m.
(g)	Silver medallists of Para-Olympic Games	Rs. 4,000/- p.m.
(h)	Bronze medallists of Para-Olympic Games	Rs. 3,000/- p.m.

Promotion of Sports and Games in Schools : The Scheme was introduced in 1986 with a view to raising the standard of sports at the school level and to encourage participation in inter-school competitions. Under this scheme, financial grant was given @ Rs 50,000 per district and Rs two lakh per state to the Directorates of Sports of State/UT governments for holding district and State level inner-school tournaments. The State performing the best at the national level tournaments was given an award of Rs one lakh along with a rolling trophy. The scheme was operated directly through the State/UT Governments. The scheme has recently been revised enhancing the rates of grants-in-aid to Rs 75,000 per district and Rs three lakh per State for organising inter-school sports tournaments. At the national level, the Sports Authority of India will be given assistance @ Rs two lakh per discipline for conduct of national level tournaments. The revised scheme will now be implemented through the Sports Authority of India.

Rural Sports Programme : Rural Sports Programme was launched in 1970-71 with a view to broad-basing games and sports and tapping the hidden talent in rural areas. The scheme has two sub-components, viz., organisation of rural sports tournaments and organisation of a Sports Festival for the North Eastern Region. The scheme has recently been revised enhancing the grants-in-aid under various components/items of the scheme. The rural stock scheme provides for financial assistance @ Rs 30,000 per discipline at the district level.

Sports Scholarship Scheme : Sports Scholarship Scheme was launched in the year 1970-71 with a view to assisting talented boys and girls for their outstanding performances. The Scheme aims at assisting sports persons so that they can have nutritious diet, sports equipment support and be able to pursue sports as a career.

The scheme has recently been revised with the following enhancement in the rates of scholarships: (i) State level Championship (Category - I), @ Rs 550 per month, i.e., Rs 6,600 per annum (12 months); (ii) National level Scholarship (Category - II) @ Rs 700 per month, i.e., Rs 8,400 per annum (12 months); (iii) University/College level Scholarship (Category - III) @ Rs 850 per month, i.e., Rs 10,200 per annum (12 months); (iv) Scholarship for senior women champions, @ Rs 1,500 per month, i.e., Rs 18,000 per annum; (v) Scholarship for women doing diploma @ Rs 7,500 per course; and (vi) Scholarship for women doing M.Phil/Ph.D. @ Rs 10,000 per annum.

NATIONAL WELFARE FUND FOR SPORTSPERSONS (Non-Plan)

The National Welfare Fund for sports persons was set up in March 1982 primarily to assist outstanding sportspersons of yesteryears, living in indigent circumstances. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided in the form of pension and lumpsum grant to the sportspersons as well as their families. Monthly pension upto Rs. 10,000/- and lumpsum assistance upto Rs. 2,00,00/- for medical treatment are given to outstanding sportspersons whose monthly income from all sources is less than Rs. 2,00,000/- per annum. The above rates of monthly pension, other financial assistance and eligibility limit are enhanced rates which are effective from 1.7.2008. the fund is managed & operated by a Committee with the Minister for Youh Affairs and Sports as the Chairperson.

NATIONAL SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR WOMEN (Non-Plan)

The scheme started in 1975, aims at promoting sports amongst women. Under the scheme, national level competitions are preceded by holding of lower level competitions (Block, District and State level) for which States/UTs are provided financial assistance as per norms. The scheme is implemented through the Sports Authority of India.

Followed at present for Central financial assistance is as under:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| i) | For Block level competitions | Rs. 1000/- per block |
| ii) | for Distt. level competitions | Rs. 3000/- per Distt |
| iii) | for State level competitions | Rs. 10,000/- per State |
| iv) | for smaller States and UTs | Rs. 5,000/- per State or UT. |

However. Central financial assistance for block level competitions is restricted to 60% of total blocks where competitions are held in a State and for the remaining 40% of the blocks; the State concerned is advised to share the full expenditure.

DHYAN CHAND AWARD FOR LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS IN SPORTS AND GAMES

Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievements in sports and games instituted in the year 2002 is given to honour those sportspersons who have contributed to sports by their performance and continue to contribute to promotion of sports even after their retirement from active sporting career. The award carries a cash of Rs three lakh, a plaque and a scroll of honour. Three awards are given every year.

SCHEME RELATING TO TALENT SEARCH AND TRAINING

Under the Scheme, selected sportspersons who have equalled or excelled the existing national record or are Gold medallists of last National Championship or are medallists of Asian/Commonwealth/Afro-Asian Games/Olympic Games/World

Championship in the relevant category/disciplines are provided a package of assistance up to Rs five lakh per year for coaching, equipment, participation in national and international tournaments, etc., on a long-term basis. The coaches, sports scientists and other sportspersons are also assisted for up-gradation of their skills and assisting the promising sports persons for achieving excellence at international level.

GRANTS TO NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS

This Ministry gives financial assistance to 64 recognised National Sports Federations for conducting National Sports Championships at Sub-Junior, Junior and Senior level @ Rs six lakh, Rs four lakh and Rs two lakh respectively. Financial assistance is also given to NSFs of priority and general category Sports disciplines for participation in International Sports Tournaments/Championships, holding of International tournaments in India, procuring sports equipment, coaching/training under national foreign coaches, etc.

NATIONAL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT FUND

A National Sports Development Fund has been set-up to mobilise financial resources from Government, corporate and private sector as well as individuals for promotion of Sports. The Ministry has made initial contribution of Rs two crore as seed money during 1998-99. Further Government contribution is on matching basis to the contribution received from other sources. Large number of elite sportspersons have been assisted under the fund.

ARJUNA AWARDS

The Arjuna Award was instituted in 1961. The Government has recently revised the Scheme of Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance in sports and games. According to this, to be eligible for the Award, a sportsperson should have had not only good performance consistently for the previous three years at the international level with excellence for the year for which the Award is recommended but also should have shown qualities of leadership, sportsmanship and a sense of discipline. The Awardee is given a statuette, a scroll of honour, ceremonial dress and a cash award of Rs three lakh.

From the year 2001, the award is being given in the following disciplines : (1) Olympic Games/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games/World Cup/World Championship disciplines and cricket; (2) Indigenous Games; (3) Sports for Physically challenged.

DRONACHARYA AWARD

The Dronacharya Award, instituted in 1985, honours eminent Coaches who have successfully trained sportspersons or teams and enabled them to achieve outstanding results in international competitions. The awardee is given a statuette of Guru Dronacharya, a scroll of honour, ceremonial dress and a cash prize of Rs three lakhs.

SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE FOR ANTI-DOPING ACTIVITIES

Doping is the deliberate or inadvertent use by sportspersons of a substance or method banned by Medical commission of international Olympic Committee/World Anti Doping Agency (WADA). In pursuit of gold and glory, large numbers of sportspersons all over the world are tempted to and/or use performance enhancing substances in an effort to gain a competitive edge over others. India is no exception to this malaise.

Recognizing the urgent need for embarking upon a concerted effort to check doping in collaboration with the global anti-doping community, the Government of India became one of the members of the Foundation Board of WADA, set up with the initiative of the International Olympic Committee and signed the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in December, 2004.

Presently, the anti-doping programme in the country is being run under the aegis of the Sports authority of India (SAI) under the Central Sector Plan Scheme through an advanced Dope Control Centre with modern testing facility and having requisite ISO certification. However, in order to ensure the effective implementation of the guidelines/programmes as enshrined in the Copenhagen Declaration and further articulated in detail in the International Convention against Doping in sports adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO, two institutions, viz., national anti-doping Agency (NADA) and national Dope Test Laboratory (NDTL) are being established/operationslised as independent bodies.

National Anti Doping agency (NADA) is responsible for organizing awareness campaigns against doping in sports; test planning and result management and education and research. The National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDIL) is responsible for testing dope samples and for conducting advance research on this subject by maintaining close association with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and WADA accredited laboratories. As a member of WADA, the payment of annual contribution is also made. India has ratified the UNESCO convention against doping in Sport. The NDIL is preparing for permanent accreditation prior to the Commonwealth Youth Games to be held in Pune in October 2008. After successful proficiency testing rounds, NDIL is now ready for on-site audit, which is carried out by WADA prior to permanent accreditation.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PROGRAMME (CYP): The CYP came into being in 1974 with the purpose of promoting the development of young men and women in the Commonwealth countries.

Main Objectives :-

- i) To encourage and support participation of youth in the process of national development;
- ii) To give recognition to the contribution made by youth in economic, social and cultural spheres;
- iii) To promote productive activity in order to eliminate unemployment;
- iv) To provide opportunities for international understanding among the youth.

Headquarters: London

Headquarters of CYP Asia Centre: Chandigarh

Present Activities:- The Ministry in collaboration with CYP Asia Centre organizes every year 3-4 programmes by way of national/regional consultations and workshops on issues of concern for the youth.

New Initiatives:- Efforts are being made to organize more programmes in collaboration with CYP Asia Centre.

Budget:- There is a budget provision of Rs. 85 lakhs under Non-plan and Rs. 15 lakhs under Plan Scheme. India's contribution for last year was Rs. 78.93 lakhs.

EXCHANGE OF YOUTH DELEGATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The International exchange of youth delegation has been conceived as an effective instrument for promoting exchange of ideas amongst the youth of different countries and to develop better relations with other countries. Under the programme, Youth delegations are exchanged with other countries for participation in various youth programmes, meetings, seminars, conferences etc. Presently, youth exchange programmes with Peoples Republic of China and Republic of Korea are in place.

New Initiatives:- Efforts are being made to sign Protocols/ Agreement with more countries.

Budget:- There is a budget provision of Rs. 445.00 lakhs (Plan).