

**Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports  
Department of Sports**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3340  
TO BE ANSWERD ON 21.03.2023**

**Safety of Young Athletes**

**3340. SHRI MITESH RAMESHBHAI PATEL (BAKABHAI):  
SHRI RAMESH CHAND BIND:  
SHRIMATI SHARDABEN ANILBHAI PATEL:**

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

**(a) whether the Government agrees with the view that the sports governing bodies need to counsel the young athletes about their safety and ensure effective channels for the reporting and redressal of various types of abuses including drug abuse;**

**(b) if so, the details of the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and**

**(c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]**

**(a): Yes, Sir. The Government of India emphasizes ethical conduct as a key factor in the fair administration of the sporting disciplines and facilitates a safe environment free of harassment and discrimination for all stakeholders participating in sports, including the athletes, athlete support personnel, coaches, referees, officials, sports science and medical personnel, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, parents or guardians, as well as the office-bearers of the respective National Sports Federations (NSFs).**

**Further, the Government is committed to eradicate doping/drug abuse by sportspersons. To this end, the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), an autonomous organization under Government of India, conducts Anti-Doping education awareness programmes in association with the Sports Authority of India (SAI) as well as various National Sports Federations (NSFs) for all stakeholders, including the young athletes.**

**(b) & (c): The details of the various initiatives taken by the Government in this regard are as under:**

- (i) The Government of India finances and supports the recognized NSFs for development of various sports disciplines. Various educational and awareness programmes are organised by each NSF and are included in the Annual Calendar of Training and Competitions (ACTC) mechanism.**
- (ii) NADA has launched an Anti-Doping helpline (1800-119-919) for the athletes and athlete support personnel to provide information about Anti-Doping rules and guidelines. NADA also operates the 'Speak Up!' portal, for athletes and others to report violation of Anti-Doping rules.**
- (iii) Need based awareness-cum-education material has been prepared by NADA in association with the NSFs. NADA has introduced mass awareness programmes for athletes to create awareness about the Anti-Doping Rules and the ill effects of doping. A total of 119 such Anti-Doping awareness and education sessions/ workshops were organised by NADA in 2022.**
- (iv) NADA regularly releases information about the various Prohibited Substances declared by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) in the form of pamphlets in different regional languages.**
- (v) SAI has issued formal instructions to ensure safe and positive environment in Sport by spreading awareness regarding appropriate behaviour consistent with the core values of sportsmanship and appropriate moral conduct.**

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