

(b) the existing procedure/arrangements for selecting the sportsmen/sportswomen and to identify new talent to participate in the National and International games;

(c) the measures taken by Government to ensure fair selection of talent for participating in National/International games from various parts of the country; and

(d) the efforts made so far to identify talent in the rural areas to train them for national/international games?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON):
(a) Information is being collected.

(b) and (c) The basic task of selection of sportspersons and identification of new talent for participation in national and international level competitions is that of sports organisations and federations. However, in order to ensure fair selection of sportspersons in disciplines identified for the Olympics, Commonwealth and Asian Games, and other prestigious events, Government has prescribed the constitution of a Selection Committee with the President of concerned National Sports Federation as its Chairman and its Secretary/Secretary General as Member, alongwith the National Coach, the representative of Sports Authority of India and nominee of the Government who is usually an ex-International (preferably an Arjuna Awardee) as other Members. This committee will be responsible for selection to the preliminary coaching camps as well for the final selection.

(d) The Sports Authority of India is implementing the National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme under which it organises sports contests from Block level

upwards and covers also the rural areas. Special efforts are also being made to identify talent from remote areas under the Special Area Games, also being implemented by the Sports Authority of India. Such areas are predominantly rural and tribal. The identified talents are given intensive training at the training Centres of Sports Authority of India.

Introduction of Judo and Karate in Schools/Colleges

3209. SHRI HETRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce learning of martial art of Judo and Karate particularly for girls in the schools/colleges and universities in the country to inculcate in them a sense of courage and confidence to defend themselves against any attempt on their honour; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M.G.K. MENON):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Representation of Women athletes

3210. SHRI HETRAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of representation of women athletes in the Indian contingent which participated in the National/International and Asian Games during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether there is any special instruc-