

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3080
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether there has been wide spread feeling amongst the sports officials and coaches that the current ban on performance enhancing drugs is unrealistic and should be dispensed with;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Indian players winning medals in the different international sports events were the worst sufferers;
- (d) if so, whether any consultations have been held by the different sports organizations in the world to adopt a pragmatic attitude with regard to the permissive approach to the issue of steroids and other performance boosters; and
- (e) if not the steps being taken by the Government to find a reasonable solution to the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d)&(e): India is a founder member of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and participated in the World Anti-Doping Conference held in March, 2003 when the final version of the WADA Code was approved and signed by the International Olympic Committee, International Federations, National Olympic Committees and other signatories to the Code. There has been no international consultation on the issue of adopting a pragmatic attitude or permissive approach to the issue of steroids and other performance boosters. Under Article 13 of the WADA Code, a framework for appeal exists for any aggrieved sports person to avail of. The various Governments, which are the stakeholders of WADA, proposed to recognize the Code by signing the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in Sports