

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:36
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
FUNCTIONING OF SPORTS FEDERATIONS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Sudhakaran Shri K.

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

- (a) whether the Government is satisfied with the functioning of the various sports federations in the country;
- (b) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto and the details of the study undertaken in this regard during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has any mechanism to monitor their functioning including utilization of funds allocated to them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of the activities undertaken by the sports federations/bodies recognised by the Government and the steps taken to improve their functioning?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 36 FOR REPLY ON 27-7-2010 BY SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO AND SHRI K. SUDHAKARAN REGARDING FUNCTIONING OF SPORTS FEDERATIONS.

(a) & (b): No, Madam. Government is not satisfied with the functioning of National Sports Federations (NSFs), because none of them have fully complied with the good governance practices prescribed by the Government in the guidelines for recognition of NSFs. A recent study undertaken by the Government shows that most of the NSFs are not having proper election bye-laws that can ensure fair and transparent elections. Similarly, most federations do not have reservation for the representation of Sports persons on their respective management; and also do not have a proper grievance redressal mechanism for Sports person. The Badminton Association of India and the Swimming Federation of India have held elections in June 2010 and elected office bearers who are in breach of the Government guidelines with regard to age and tenure.

(c) & (d): With a view to ensuring proper adherence to the Government guidelines, a system of annual recognition of NSFs has been introduced with effect from the current calendar year (2010). Under this system, annual recognition is granted to those federations that fully comply with the Government guidelines. During the current year, out of the total of 68 NSFs, only 42 have been accorded annual recognition for 2010.

Further, at present, the Bench of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Delhi High Court is hearing a Public Interest Litigation against the mismanagement of NSFs. On the directions of the Hon'ble Court for Government to take immediate stand on the enforcement of Government guidelines pertaining to tenure limits, which were kept in abeyance since 2001, the Government has restored the tenure limits and imposed an age limit of 70 years on members of all recognized NSFs, including the Indian Olympic Association. The order dated 1.5.2010 issued by the Government, a copy of which is placed at Annexure-I, is based on international best practices, including those adopted by the International Olympic Committee.

With regard to financial accountability, all National Sports Federations are required to submit Utilization Certificates for the grants received from the Government. Fresh assistance is not sanctioned to NSFs that are in default with regard to submission of Utilization Certificate. All NSFs receiving grant of Rs.1.00 crore or above are liable for CAG audit.

(e) NSFs are primarily responsible for the promotion and development of sports. The main activities of NSFs include talent identification and development; laying down rules and regulations of national tournaments; training and preparation of national athletes; conduct of national and international events; and participation of Indian teams in competitions abroad. Government has declared all NSFs receiving Government grant of Rs.10.00 lakhs and more as public authority under the Right to Information Act.