

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:153

ANSWERED ON:09.11.2010

SELECTION OF SPORTS PERSONS

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

- (a) whether there are reports of discrimination in the selection of sports persons participating in international/ national sports competition causing resentment among the sports persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such cases reported/complaints received during each of the last three years and the current year alongwith the action taken thereon, sports discipline-wise;
- (c) whether the Government /National Sports Federations (NSFs) have framed any norms for selecting the sports persons for participating in the said competitions;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government/NSFs in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) to (e): The selection of sportspersons/teams for participation in major international events is the responsibility of National Sports Federations(NSFs) concerned. However, the Government appoints eminent sportspersons as Government Observers, who maintain oversight on the functioning of the respective NSF they are assigned, and give their feedback to the Government. One of the major functions of the Government Observer is to oversee the selection of the national team, and ensure that it is based on a well defined objective criteria. Further, with a view to ensuring fair and transparent selection, the Government has issued guidelines requiring the NSFs to communicate the detailed selection criteria/norms, schedule of trials etc. to the players, coaches, Government Observers well in advance. Selection criteria differ from sport to sport. In some sports like Tennis, Chess etc. the selection is made on the basis of national/international ranking while in sports like boxing, wrestling etc. it is made on the basis of selection trials and some sports followed the procedure of national/international ranking with selection trials. The National Coaches are required to evaluate the performance of players on regular basis. The Selections are required to be done by a Selection Committee comprising President of the NSF as Chairperson, the National Coach and eminent ex-sportspersons, preferably Arjuna Awardees as members.

Any reports of discrimination in selection of sportspersons are appropriately resolved in consultation with the NSF, Sports Authority of India and the Government Observer. The Government satisfies itself regarding proper selection of national athletes/teams before clearing their participation in international competitions.