

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2233
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2010
REVIEW OF SPORTS ORGANISATIONS
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

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

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the activities of various sports organisations in the country;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has chalked out any mechanism for the review of their activities alongwith the procedures to monitor the functioning and the utilisation of funds allocated to them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the betterment of the functioning of various Government recognised National Sports Organisations/ institutions?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A recent study undertaken by the Government shows that most of the National Sports Federations (NSFs) are not having proper election bye-laws that can ensure fair and transparent elections. Similarly, most federations do not have reservation for representation of Sportspersons on their respective management; and also do not have a proper grievance redressal mechanism for Sportsperson.

(c) to (e): 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. Government has also declared all NSFs receiving Government grant of Rs.10.00 lakhs and more as public authority under the Right to Information Act.

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 vide its order dated 1.5.2010. This order is based on international best practices, including those adopted by the International Olympic Committee. Some federations have approached the Court to stay the guidelines, which the Hon'ble Court has refused to do. As such, these guidelines are currently been fully enforced. Badminton Association of India and Swimming Federation of India, who held their elections in violation of these guidelines, were issued Show Cause Notice and have been given 90 days to amend their respective constitutions to become compliant with the Government guidelines and hold fresh elections.

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.