

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4514
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2010
PROMOTING AMATEUR SPORTS
Balram Shri P.;Shetkar Shri Suresh Kumar

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

- (a) whether sportspersons tend to migrate from amateur sports to professional sports due to commercial considerations and pecuniary benefits;
- (b) If so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for promoting/encouraging amateur sports in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Madam. In some sports disciplines such as Lawn Tennis, Badminton, Golf etc. there are well-established professional circuits that offer attractive prize money to take to the sport as a profession. It also helps them gain ranking which determine their qualification to participate in some major amateur events like Olympics. There is nothing wrong in this trend, as the line between the amateurism and professional sports is gradually disappearing.
- (b) The Government provides financial assistance to National Sports Federation concerned, for training and coaching of sportspersons/teams through Indian and foreign coaches, training and participation in tournaments abroad, purchase of equipments including consumables, engagement of supporting personnel, and holding of national/international tournaments in India for encouraging amateur sports in the country.