

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:10

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2011

SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben;Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the over-importance being given to cricket and almost neglect of other games and sports in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government proposes to formulate/has formulated any scheme for providing sports infrastructure, including stadium, playing field, tracks and sports training facilities for the sportspersons to compete in the international/national sports competitions;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the funds allocated/released/spent during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise, sports discipline-wise and State-wise; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government to facilitate the sportspersons to improve their performance and win medals in national and international sports competitions?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(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.10 FOR REPLY ON 22.11.2011 ASKED BY SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL AND SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY REGARDING SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE

(a) & (b). The National Sports Policy 2001 covers all sports, including indigenous sports within its purview. As far as cricket is concerned, the Central Government does not extend any direct financial assistance. However, from time to time the Central Government has been granting concessions in income tax, customs duty etc for Cricket. The State Governments also have provided it many places in the country land for cricket stadiums at concessional rates, much below the market prices. However, for many other sports disciplines, Government provides direct financial assistance.

(c) & (d) To supplement the efforts of the States, the Government has launched pilot Scheme called Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme in the year 2010-11, with a view to addressing the entire 'sports eco-system' holistically, that is, players' training and development, coaching and infrastructure. Under this scheme, State Governments, local civic bodies, schools, colleges and universities are eligible for financial assistance for setting up the required sports infrastructure. The details of the projects sanctioned and funds released is at Annexure-I.

As regards training facilities for sports persons for participation in national and international competitions, state of the art sports facilities are available at SAI Training Centers, Special Games Centers and Centers of Excellence of Sports Authority of India, which are spread across the country. The details of these facilities are at Annexure-II.

The details of funds allocated and released under various schemes is at Annexure-III. The details of funds released by Government to various sports, discipline-wise, under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations are at Annexure-IV.

Regarding developing playing fields, the Government in February, 2009 established 'The National Playing Fields Association of India' (NPF AI) as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The main aims/objectives of the NPF AI are to protect, preserve, promote, develop and improve playing fields and open spaces and other facilities for sports and games; and to evolve a national policy on playing fields, playgrounds, play pitches, parks and open spaces.

The NPF AI has provided financial grants to the following four State Playing Fields Associations:

S.No.	Name of the State Association	Amount (Rs in lacs)
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1	Himachal Pradesh Playing Fields Association	50.00
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2 State Playing Fields Association of Odisha 50.00
3 State Playing Fields Association of Haryana 50.00
4 State Playing Fields Association of Andhra Pradesh 50.00

Total 200.00

In addition, the NPFAL has provided financial assistance to the New Delhi Municipal Council to the tune of Rs 144.00 lacs as first installment for development of 78 playfields in the NDMC area.

(e) Government provides financial assistance for participation of national athletes/teams for participation in national and international sports competitions. The assistance covers air passage cost, cost of board and lodging, out of pocket allowance, ceremonial dress, sports kits, entry fee etc. as may be applicable.

Government provides full assistance for intensive coaching of the national teams through national coaching camps organized by Sports Authority of India. The Government also provides financial assistance to meritorious players under the Scheme relating to Talent Search and Training and National Sports Development Fund for personalized training/coaching under national/international coaches, participation in international tournaments held in India and abroad and purchase of sports equipment.

Apart from this, the Government runs the following schemes through the Sports Authority of India to identify potentially gifted sportspersons in the country at sub-junior (8-14 years), junior (14-18 years) and senior levels and gives them scientific training in the respective disciplines through qualified coaches:-

1. National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC)
2. Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme
3. SAI Training Centre (STC) Scheme
4. Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme
5. Centre of Excellence (COE)