

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:897
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012
GUIDELINES FOR OFFICE BEARERS OF NSFS
Yadav Shri Om Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government provides any financial assistance to various sports federations in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year, federation-wise;
- (c) the names of the persons holding senior posts in various sports federations and also the time since when such persons are occupying the same post in these federations;
- (d) whether various federations have opposed the plan of the Government to bring them under greater scrutiny;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the guidelines issued by the Government in respect of office bearers of these sports federations including the Indian Olympic Association; and
- (f) the achievement made by the Government for compliance of the said guidelines so far?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The Government provides financial assistance to various sports federations in the country. A statement showing the details of the grants provided to the National Sports Federations (NSFs) in the last three years and current year is given at Annex.

(c) to (e) The National Sports Federations (NSFs) are autonomous organizations registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. The primary responsibility for the development of various sports disciplines vests in the National Sports Federation (NSF) concerned. The Government supplements the efforts of the NSFs through financial assistance for holding national/international sports events in India, participation of sportspersons/teams in international sports events abroad, training/coaching of national level sportspersons/teams through Indian and foreign coaches, procurement of equipment and consumables etc. as per agreed Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs). Government does not interfere in their day to day activities. However, Government has issued guidelines imposing age and tenure limit in respect of office bearers of National Sports Federations, including the Indian Olympic Association, which has further been reiterated in the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, which was issued on 31.1.2011. As per the guidelines, the Government has, inter-alia, provided the following age and tenure limits in respect of office bearers of the NSFs:

- i. The President of any recognized National Sports Federation, including the Indian Olympic Association can hold the office for a maximum period of twelve years with or without break.
- ii. The Secretary (or by whatever other designation such as Secretary General or General Secretary by which he is referred to) and the Treasurer of any recognized National Sports Federation, including the IOA, may serve a maximum of two successive terms of four years each after which a minimum cooling off period of four years will apply to seek fresh election to either post.
- iii. The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of any recognized National Sports Federation, including the Indian Olympic Association, shall cease to hold that post on attaining the age of 70 years.
- iv. The conditions (i) to (iii) above will be subject to the proviso that it shall not disturb the current tenure of any member, provided he/she has been properly elected to the post. In other words, the tenure condition will become operative for all future elections as they may be conducted in future in their normal course.

Compliance to the directions of the Government by the NSFs has been made mandatory to receive government recognition and thereby become eligible to receive financial as well as other forms of assistance from Government of India such as railway concessions, income tax exemption, custom duty exemption, etc. and to derive the authority to perform the public functions of selecting and deputing the national teams for participation in recognized continental and world level international sports competitions which involve representation of member countries and to represent the country in international associations, events, meets, conferences, etc. No National Sports Federation has been given annual recognition by the Government which has not adhered to these instructions for the elections held after the issue of these Guidelines of 1-5-2010.

The Indian Olympic Association and a few National Sports Federations appealed before the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi praying for a stay on the implementation of the age and tenure limit, which the Hon'ble Court refused to accept.

(f) The Athletic Federation of India, Badminton Association of India, Billiards and Snooker Federation of India, Cycling Federation of India, All India Chess Federation, Swimming Federation of India, Netball Federation of India, Wrestling Federation of India, Winter Game Federation of India, Rowing Federation of India, Amateur Soft Tennis Federation of India, Shooting Ball Federation of India, Ball Badminton Federation of India, Wushu Association of India, Bridge Federation of India, Basketball Federation of India, Paralympic Committee of India have conducted their elections by adopting the Government Guidelines dated 1.5.2010 relating to age and tenure of office bearers.