

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:787
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012
PREPAREDNESS IN OLYMPIC GAMES
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Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of preparedness and the names of sporting events in which the country has participated in the London Olympic Games, 2012;
- (b) the total amount allocated/released/expenditure incurred on preparedness for the said games so far, sports discipline-wise;
- (c) the details of the steps taken to boost the morale and confidence of sportspersons participating in the above games;
- (d) whether certain athletes were not provided money to buy foot-wear/kits to enable them to participate in the London Olympic but funds were released for State Ministers/other senior officials to witness the Games; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) The details of preparedness of Indian Team for the London Olympics are given as under:

(1) The Government had launched 'Operation Excellence for London Olympics 2012' (OPEX 2012) project in March, 2011 with a view to prepare athletes and teams for London Olympics 2012.

(2) Under OPEX 2012, core probables were identified and provided comprehensive and intensive training, both within the country and abroad and competition exposure in international sports competitions as per the approved Annual Calendar of Training and Competition (ACTC) under OPEX. Initially, 732 players were selected in 16 disciplines for the purpose and the number of players was later pruned to 509. 81 sportspersons have qualified for participation in London Olympics Games, 2012 in 13 disciplines namely Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Hockey, Judo, Rowing, Swimming, Shooting, Table Tennis, Tennis, Weightlifting, and Wrestling

(3) The Government has closely monitored the preparations and had continuous interaction with concerned National Sports Federations, Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Experts from the respective fields frequently to review the preparations

(4) Two High Level Committees namely an APEX Committee headed by the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports and a Steering Committee headed by the Secretary (Sports) and were formed to review the preparation of various sports disciplines for London Olympics. In the two meetings of APEX Committee and fifty four meetings of Steering Committee, preparedness of the Indian Team for the Games were regularly reviewed.

(5) A website www.opex.nic.in for OPEX – London 2012 was also launched on 21st March,2012 which provided the details about the Scheme of Operation Excellence for London Olympics 2012. Besides, Planning and Strategy for the Games, the details about coaches, support staff, international exposures abroad, names of sportspersons who have qualified for London Olympics, approximate expenditure incurred on training, coaching camps, international exposures, in respect of each of the 16 identified disciplines have regularly been updated on the website.

(6) Apart from Indian Coaches and supporting staff, required number of foreign coaches and Experts have also been engaged with the individual players/teams. Around 215 coaches/ experts/support staff including 129 Indian coaches, 21 foreign coaches/ experts and 65 supports staff have been engaged for training of the core probables. An amount of Rs 61.56 crore towards 103 coaching camps and Rs. 70.55 crore on 146 Foreign Exposures have been incurred.

(7) Based on the approved funding norms, which are at par with scales for CWG-2010, further up scaling in certain areas, such as lodging, nutrition, scientific support and daily allowance has also been done.

(b) The funds for the preparedness of the Olympics, 2012 have been provided under the scheme "Assistance to National Sports Federations" and "National Sports Development Fund (NSDF)". An amount of Rs 132.11 crore approximately has been spent under the scheme "Assistance to National Sports Federations". In addition, under NSDF, Rs. 10.32 crore has been released for customized training of the identified core probables. Till 25/7/2012, a total amount of Rs. 143.42 crore has been spent for the preparedness of

London Olympics. Details of expenditure incurred discipline wise are given at Annex.

(c) For boosting the morale and motivating the sportspersons, the Government gives cash award of Rs. 50 lakh, Rs. 30 lakh and Rs. 20 lakh to Gold, Silver and Bronze medalists of Olympics Games respectively, under the scheme of "Special Awards to Medal Winners in International Sports Events and their Coaches". Further, medalists of Olympic Games are eligible for pension of Rs. 10,000 per month under the scheme of "Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons" after they retire from active sports or reach the age of 30 years, whichever is later. Further, recently, the Government has approved the scheme of out of turn promotions, under which, inter-alia, medalists of Olympic Games are eligible for three out of turn promotions in the entire career.

(d) & (e): The Government has sanctioned Rs. 1, 10, 91,750/- to the Indian Olympic Association for participation of Indian Contingent in London Olympics, 2012. The financial assistance sanctioned by the Government is for meeting expenses of the players, coaches and other members of Indian contingent towards air-travel, out of pocket allowance/daily allowance, ceremonial dress, hiring of equipment hiring of boats, ammunition for shooting team, strings of Tennis Teams and extra-Baggage. The responsibility of providing footwear/kits was that of Indian Olympic Association. Nothing has come to the notice of the Government that certain sportspersons were not provided footwear/kits.