

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) pertaining to the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports on the subject 'Sports – Policy, Infrastructure and Training Facilities'.

COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2011-2012)

TWELFTH REPORT

FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA



सत्यमेव जयते

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

**TWELFTH REPORT
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES
(2011-2012)**

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

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(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)**

**SPORTS – POLICY, INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRAINING
FACILITIES**

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 22nd December, 2011

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2011-12)

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INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of Committee on Estimates (2011-12) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twelfth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of the Committee (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Sports – Policy, Infrastructure and Training Facilities' pertaining to the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (Department of Sports).

2. The Seventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 22nd November, 2010. The Government furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 30th June, 2011. The draft report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 16th December, 2011.

3. The Report has been divided into the following Chapters: -

- (i) Report;
- (ii) Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by the Government;
- (iii) Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply;
- (iv) Recommendations/observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee; and
- (v) Recommendations/observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited.

4. An analysis of action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report of Committee on Estimates (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix II.

NEW DELHI;
21st December, 2011
Agrahayana 30 ,1933(S)

FRANCISCO SARDINHA,
CHAIRMAN,
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.

CHAPTER – I

REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Sports – Policy, Infrastructure and Training Facilities' pertaining to the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (Department of Sports).

1.2 The Committee's Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 22.11.2010. It contained 16 observations/recommendations. Action Taken Notes on all these observations/recommendations have been received from the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (Department of Sports).

1.3 Replies to the observations and recommendations contained in the Report have broadly been categorized as under:-

- (i) Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by the Government:
Sl. Nos. 2,4,5,7,13 (Total **5**, Chapter – **II**)
(Para Nos. 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.13)
- (ii) Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply:
Sl. Nos. 9 (Total **1**, Chapter – **III**)
(Para No. 5.9)
- (iii) Recommendations/observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee:
Sl. Nos. 1,6,8,10,12,16 (Total **6**, Chapter – **IV**)
(Para Nos. 5.1, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10, 5.12, 5.16)
- (iv) Recommendations/observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited:
Sl. Nos. 3,11, 14, 15 (Total **4**, Chapter – **V**)
(Para Nos. 5.3, 5.11, 5.14, 5.15)

1.4 The Committee desire that the final replies in respect of the recommendations, for which only interim replies have been received, should be furnished by the Government expeditiously.

1.5 The Committee will now deal with the action taken by Government on some of the recommendations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee/final reply is still awaited.

A. Need for enhanced budgetary allocation for sports

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para No. 5.1)

1.6 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“In so far as the budgetary allocation in respect of sports is concerned, the Committee observed that prior to the year 2007-08, the total allocation (both plan and Non Plan) for the same had remained in the Rs. 300-400 crore bracket with around 90% utilization. The Committee further observed that the funding received a substantial boost only in 2007-08 onwards, when funds were actually allocated to the Ministry for the preparations required to host the XIX Commonwealth Games in Delhi in the year 2010. The Ministry were allocated Rs 3396.06 crores (RE both Plan and Non-Plan) in F.Y. 2009-2010, apart from Rs. 413.90 crore to the Organizing Committee of the Commonwealth Games, which already stands utilized. The Committee were later informed that the revised total allocation for CWG was Rs. 11494 crore, out of which Rs. 4459.48 crores was the Budget for development of sports infrastructure. While the actual figures of the total allocation and expenditure for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in the current year can only be known after the conclusion of the Commonwealth Games, the Committee are of the view that the increased allocation for sports this year was just a knee-jerk reaction of the Government to host an International sports meet. Even then the initial estimates for CWG was revised from Rs. 655 crore to Rs. 11494 crore. Though the Ministry had submitted reasons for such cost escalations, the Committee are far from convinced. Now they can only hope that the funds would be utilized in an efficient and prudent manner. Disturbed with the constant media coverage on allegations of corruption, misuse of funds, overspending on equipment, huge time and cost overruns in preparing various games venues etc., the Committee desire that such allegations, if proven true would be probed most seriously to fix the accountability and the proven cases would be dealt with stringently.

The Committee also feel that to inculcate sports culture in the country, consistency in providing appropriate funds for the Ministry needs to be maintained to yield the desired results. Thus, the Committee hope that adequate

budgetary allocation would be continued for the Ministry to sustain its efforts to promote sports, even after the Commonwealth Games, since investment in sports infrastructure, training facilities and related activities is an essential prerequisite not only to produce potential medal winners in various national and international sports events, but also to provide a healthy alternative to the burgeoning youth population of the country. In this connection, the Committee are disheartened to know that the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), which mobilizes resources to promote sports from Government and Non-Government sources, including the Corporate sector and NRIs, had a meager corpus of just Rs. 63.70 crore as on 31st December 2009, as so far only BCCI and SAIL have contributed to it. The Committee feel that the concept needs an aggressive campaigning to convince Corporate Houses to contribute to the NSDF as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility, besides, the Committee desire that the Sports Policy, 2001 needs to be modified so as to include a provision that all Government Departments should devote a fraction of their budgets to promote sports talent. Also all tax incentives given for sports matters need to be re-examined to ensure that the funds spent on training of sportspersons etc. could be made tax free. Private establishments engaged in such endeavors to promote sports should also be given tax incentives. The Committee desire that the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports should work out the modalities of these proposals in coordination with ministry of Finance and inform the Committee about the outcome. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the Long Terms Development Plan prepared by SAI on the matter and the steps taken to implement the Plan. At the same time, the Committee also feel the need to emphasis upon transparency and accountability in sports funding matters to develop certain level of confidence among those who wish to sincerely contribute for promoting a healthy sports culture in the Country.”

1.7 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“The Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games (CWG) was successfully held from October 3-14, 2010. Competitions were held in 17 sports in which 7572 athletes/coaches/officials from 71 countries & territories of the Commonwealth participated. The Opening and the Closing Ceremonies were held at Jawaharlal

Nehru Stadium, the flagship stadium for the CWG and were commended internationally for its spectacular quality.

The performance of the Indian Sportspersons at the Commonwealth Games was outstanding. India won more than double the medals it had won at the last Commonwealth Games held in Melbourne in 2006. India finished second in the medals tally, ahead of the major sporting nations such as England, Canada, South Africa, etc with a total of 101 medals, the highest ever in any major multidisciplinary sporting event. Women sportspersons, in particular, performed brilliantly.

Out of the total allocation of Rs. 11687.25 crores for Commonwealth Games, 2010, an amount of Rs. 10078.91 crore was incurred by various agencies. Allocation & expenditure for the last 2 years 2009-10, 2010-11 for the Commonwealth Games were as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Sl.No.	Year	Allocation	Expenditure
1.	2009-10	2268.00	2246.07
2.	2010-11	1477.43	870.27

Even though the Games per se were conducted successfully, there were allegations regarding corruption. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri V.K. Shunglu to investigate the allegations relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010. The mandate given to the Committee, inter-alia, included examination of the role and responsibilities of the various agencies relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and also to advise for the lessons learnt for the future including establishment of a mechanism for laying down timeframes and effective monitoring, creation of a legally sustainable framework for hosting similar international sporting events, appropriate financial management and internal audit, media interaction and communication. The committee has since submitted all its report/s to the Government which are under examination. Government has already initiated certain action on the recommendations of the High Level Committee.

As regards the inculcation of sports culture in the country, the Ministry is in complete agreement with the recommendation of the Estimates Committee that "...to inculcate sports culture in the country, consistency in providing appropriate funds for the Ministry needs to be maintained to yield the desired results. that adequate budgetary allocation would be continued for the Ministry to sustain its efforts to promote sports, even after the Commonwealth Games, since investment in sports infrastructure, training facilities and related activities is an essential pre-requisite not only to produce potential medal winners in various national and international sports events, but also to provide a healthy alternative to the burgeoning youth population of the country". However, there was reduction in the budgetary allocation during 2010-11 at the RE stage. Allocation of Rs. 2564 crore was made for the Department of Sports for 2010-11 at BE stage, which included Rs. 1477.43 crore for CWG 2010. Thus, allocation for the Department of Sports excluding CWG 2010 component was Rs. 1109 crore for 2010-11, which was reduced to Rs. 963 crore at RE stage.

For the current financial year, i.e., 2011-12, the Department of Sports has projected an outlay of Rs. 1436 crore for Plan Schemes of the Department. However, allocation made is Rs. 700 crore only, which represents a reduction of 37% w.r.t BE allocation of 2010-11 and 27% w.r.t. to RE allocation of 2010-11. The Department has informed both Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission that reduced allocation will adversely affect implementation of the various schemes of the Ministry. It is expected that enhanced allocation may be made to the Department at RE stage.

As regards, contributions to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), it is stated that NSDF was established with the main objective of promoting sports in the country with the ultimate aim of creating sports culture and achieving excellence in sports and games at the National and International level. The Fund accepts contributions from statutory bodies, international organizations, private and public corporate sectors, trusts, societies and individuals. NSDF got contributions of about Rs. 55.40 crore from various organizations/entities over a period of time. The BCCI had made the major

contribution of Rs.50 crore. The BCCI contribution has given a major boost to the objectives of the NSDF. It is desirable that corporate entities also make substantial contribution to the NSDF. However, such contributions should be a voluntary exercise. Many corporate entities and major PSUs have evolved their own schemes for sports promotion and this may be one of the reasons for not coming up with contribution to the NSDF even when such contributions get 100% tax exemption. The Ministry proposes to take up the matter with industry associations viz., Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and others and also to move the concerned line Ministries dealing with Central PSUs especially in the sectors of power, telecom, oil & gas to adopt specific sports disciplines and assist in promotion and development of the adopted sports disciplines as part of their corporate social responsibility.

As regards, tax exemptions for the sports, it is stated that contributions to NSDF are exempted from income tax under Sub Section 2(iii) of clause (a) of Section 80G of Income Tax Act. Further, NSDF, as a body, is exempted from payment of income tax under Section 12 A of Income Tax Act. Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, engaged in promotion of excellence, is also exempted from payment of income tax under Section 12 A of Income Tax Act. The matter for giving tax incentives to private establishments engaged in promotion of sports was taken up with the Ministry of Finance, which informed that the Income Tax Act, 1961 already provides tax incentives to private establishments engaged in the promotion of sports. Under the Act, a non-commercial private sports establishment i.e., an establishment which does not charge any fee or other consideration for its services may get registered under Section 12 AA of the Act. As per Sections 11 and 12 of the Act, the income of a registered private sports establishment will be exempted from tax upon the fulfillment of certain conditions. A commercial private sports establishment can also get registration under the Act for availing exemption if the total fee or other consideration received by it does not exceed Rs. 25 lakhs in a year. Ministry of Finance has further informed that Section 80G of the Act gives incentives to a registered private establishment by providing that

contribution/donation to a Registered Private Sports Establishment will be deductible in the hands of contributors/donors for the computation of income. Thus, it is apparent from the above that the Income Tax Act already provides adequate tax incentives to private sports establishments which are engaged in the promotion of sports.

Further, the cash incentives in the form of cash awards given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, to sportspersons for winning medals in international sports events, are exempted from income tax under Section 10(17A) of Income Tax Act.“

1.8 The Committee observe that notwithstanding a rather good performance by the Indian athletes and sportspersons in the Delhi Commonwealth Games held last year, India still has to be content with being among nations of the World having an average record in sports with very few Olympic medals, despite having the second largest population, nearly half of which is under the age of 25 years. Thus, the Committee are of the firm opinion that mediocrity in Indian Sports is still an issue waiting to be addressed with utter sincerity and transparency. To promote sports, availability of adequate funds is the first and foremost requirement. In view of the fact that a large portion of the Government's Sports budget is spent on paying the salaries of the Government officials working with Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the maintenance of the stadia, the Committee in their earlier recommendation had emphasized upon consistency in providing appropriate funds for the Ministry to achieve the desired results. However, the Committee are highly concerned to note from the action taken note submitted to them that the Budgetary Estimates (BE) for 2011-12 for the Department of Sports has been substantially reduced. The Department of Sports has reportedly informed both the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission that the reduced allocation (a reduction of 37% w.r.t. BE allocation and 27% w.r.t Revised Estimate (RE) allocation of 2010-11) will adversely affect implementation of the various schemes of the Ministry. As the Ministry has introduced a new scheme of assistance for the creation of Urban Sports infrastructure, the Committee fail to understand as to how such initiatives can be funded with reduced overall allocation. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to relentlessly pursue the matter with the Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission so that adequate funds are provided to the Department of Sports during the next Financial Year.

They desire to be apprised of enhanced allocation, if any, at the RE stage for the Department of Sports.

As regards the Committee's observations on probing of corruption charges levelled against CWG office-bearers and related agencies, it has been stated that the report of the V.K. Shunglu Committee appointed for the purpose has been under examination and the Government has already initiated certain action on the same. The Committee are extremely sad that the Country's image has taken a severe beating in the world of sports due to corruption and mismanagement by the CWG organisers, which may have a telling impact on our future bids to host international sports events. The Committee hope that timely and stringent action would be taken on the proven charges and for all future purposes, the Government would be extremely cautious in entrusting such tasks only to persons with proven professional skills and expertise, impeccable integrity and zeal to make their country proud.

B. Need for encouraging rural sports talent by strengthening PYKKA Scheme

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 5.4)

1.9 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“Indigenous games like Wrestling, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho etc. are extremely popular among rural youth. In this context, the Committee appreciate the efforts of the Ministry in launching a new scheme in the year 2007-08 namely Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) for around 2,50,000 village and 6400 block Panchayat units in the country. The Committee observe that with the transfer of four centrally sponsored Sports Infrastructure Development Schemes to the State sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005, the development of sports infrastructure had come to a standstill due to paucity of funds with the States. Hence, PYKKA was launched in 2007-08 to enable the State Governments get the requisite Central assistance, which will help them in achieving the goal of ‘broadbasing of sports’. Assistance of ₹250.77 crore for covering 22854 village Panchayats and 601 block Panchayats have been stated to be approved under the scheme so far. The Committee hope that promising local sports talent available in each village/block would be identified and encouraged under the scheme.

In this connection, the Committee feel that PYKKA is an ambitious programme in view of the sheer number of village and block Panchayats in the country. At the same time, the Committee are of the view that the current amount of ₹ 22,000 per annum being given to each village panchayat as Annual Acquisition and Operational Grants for acquisition of sports equipment, accessories, repairs/maintenance and to meet operational expense is grossly insufficient. The Committee feel that under the current economic scenario in the country, it is virtually impossible to do anything concerning sports even at the village level with such a meager sum and thus recommend that the same needs to be a realistic amount. The Committee desire that the Ministry should conduct a study of the cost factor involved in providing even the most basic sports facility in a village and accordingly modify the scheme with revised amount. The Committee hope that the amount would be increased from next financial year onwards.

As regards, achievement of PYKKA so far, the Committee note from the Ministry's deposition that the scheme has received good response from State Governments. The Committee, however, observe that the target of training master trainers during the year 2009-10 could not be achieved. Only 254 master trainers could be trained as against a target of 600. Training of Master trainers and kridashrees is of utmost importance for the success of PYKKA. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the State Governments should be asked to achieve the target in the best possible manner. The Committee also desire the Government to ensure that village panchayats dominated by SC/ST or other backward sections of the society are adequately covered under PYKKA. The Committee further recommend that a Monitoring Committee with local MPs/MLAs as its members may be set up in their constituencies to monitor the implementation of PYKKA. The Committee are also of the opinion that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) could be linked with the same. As the PYKKA empowers the village/Block Panchayats to create basic sports facilities in their area, employment opportunities thus emerging could be given to the rural workforce. The Committee would urge the Ministry of Sports to consult Ministry of Rural Development on the matter and take suitable action".

1.10 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

"Scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), introduced from 2008-09, has been received well in the States/UTs. For the last three years and upto 31.3.2011 since PYKKA Scheme was launched in 2008-09, ₹572.00 crore had been released to States/UTs for development of sports infrastructure in village/block panchayats and for conduct of annual competitions in block, district, state and national level. PYKKA Scheme in respect of sports infrastructure is being implemented in 28 States and 3 UTs. Efforts are being made to cover under the scheme the UTs of Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

Details about number of Village/block panchayats approved and financial assistance released to States/UTs upto 31.3.2011 are given as under:

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| (a) | Number of village Panchayats approved | - | 47,058 |
| (b) | Number of block panchayats approved | - | 1,417 |
| (c) | Total Grant-in-aid released | - | ₹449.00 crore |
- (d) Number of States participated in the PYKKA competitions increased from 8 in the year 2008-09 to 26 in 2009-10.
- (e) Total amount released to States during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 for conduct of annual sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels is ₹8.15 crore, 30 crore and ₹84.85 crore respectively.
- (f) Total number of participants in PYKKA competitions held at all levels in 2009-10 was 22.50 lakh including 8.75 lakh women participants as against 7.22 lakh participants in 2008-09.

Regarding identification of sports talent in village/block panchayats, it is stated that main objective of PYKKA Scheme is mass participation of rural youth in sports. However, annual competitions being held under PYKKA at various levels provide a huge base for identification and nurturing of sports talent by SAI and State Governments for nurturing them under their respective schemes.

Recommendation of the Committee with regard to enhancement in the amount of annual acquisition and annual operation grants would be kept in view at the time of conducting the review in consultation with Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance for continuance of the scheme in the XII Five Year Plan.

The training of Master Trainers was introduced in the second half of 2009-10 after setting up of PYKKA Resource Centre in November, 2009 at LNUPE, Gwalior (MP), as a capacity building measures. Around 557 Master Trainers were trained which is close to the annual target of 600. In the subsequent years, target of training of 600 Master Trainers annually would be achieved.

The scheme already provides 10% annual coverage of village/block panchayats in the normal States and 20% coverage in the case of North Eastern States and special category States. This automatically takes care of the village/block panchayats dominated by SCs/STs and other backward sections of the society.

The States/UTs have already been advised to associate Members of Parliaments in the district level PYKKA Executive Committee. Most of the States have reported that notifications have been issued in this regard. The remaining States have been reminded to expedite the same.

The matter regarding availing of funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme for leveling of playfield land already been taken up with the Ministry of Rural Development. Further, States/UTs were also advised to avail the benefit admissible under MGNREGA scheme for development of playfields. Some of the States had confirmed that they were availing the benefit of MGNREGA scheme for leveling of playfields, construction of boundary wall/fencing etc”.

1.11 From the action taken reply submitted by the Ministry, the Committee note that the Scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), which was introduced from 2008-2009, has been received well in States/UTs and a total number of 47,058 village pachayats have been approved to receive grants under the scheme. Main objective of PYKKA scheme is broad basing i.e. mass participation of rural youth in sports. However, the Committee feel that there is still scope to identify and nurture promising young sportspersons from the villages/semi-urban areas particularly from the Eastern and North-Eastern States. The Committee, therefore, opine that for PYKKA to succeed in its objective, there is a need for transparent and robust infrastructure for the selection of rural sportspersons to harness their hitherto unknown talent and potential. There are District Sports Officers (DSOs) in each district to conduct various sports and youth oriented scheme/programmes. In view of the fact that DSOs work at the grassroot level, the Committee feel that the role of DSO can be expanded further. The Committee suggest that region-wise sports talent search programmes can be conducted in the East, West, North, South and Central Regions of the country under PYKKA by the Sports Authority of India, with active involvement of DSOs. This would also lessen the impact of mismanagement rampant in various Sports Federations, due to which many promising sportspersons fail to come to the fore.

The Committee further suggest that wherever possible, a database of rural sportspersons' details and their performances in PYKKA games, should be created, so as to help Selection Committees take informed decisions. The Committee also suggest that the DSO should be entrusted with creating

awareness about the rural sports programmes/schemes in the villages too. The Committee recommend that the Ministry may re-examine the PYKKA scheme in the light of their above suggestions.

C. Need for a permanent corpus for National Games

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 5.6)

1.12 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“The Committee note that at present there is no scheme in the Ministry of Youth Affairs under which assistance can be given to State Governments for conducting of National Games. Therefore, in the past, assistance has been given for the same by the Ministry in relaxation of provisions of the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs). The Planning Commission has also in the past provided assistance of Rs. 40.51 crore and Rs. 67 crore to the Government of Assam and Government of Jharkhand respectively for National Games, Guwahati (2007) and National Games, Ranchi (2009) in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA), ACA of Rs. 110 crore was sanctioned to the State Government of Kerala for conducting the 35th National Games in May 2010. The Committee feel that such ad hoc measures should not be made for permanent events like National Games. The Committee note that the Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme referred to in the previous recommendation will cover National Games, other sports infrastructure and playing fields too as the National Games are organized in State Capitals. The Committee are of the view that there is urgent need to support the States in hosting National Games. Thus, the Committee would urge the Ministry to keep the fund requirements under this Head in view while preparing the estimates for the new Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme. The Committee would further emphasize upon the need to set up a permanent corpus of funds by the Central Government with a specific amount to be contributed by each State as mandatory condition. The corpus should be utilized by the States for regular hosting of National Games as well as for establishing sports infrastructure required by them for the same. The Committee also feel that the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports must coordinate with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting so as to highlight the achievement of our sportspersons in various disciplines in the National Games as well as in other national and international sports events.”

1.13 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“The allocation of funds for the Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure, introduced on pilot basis from 2010-11, is limited and it is not possible to fund the projects for National Games from this Scheme, as the requirement of funds for creation/upgradation of sports infrastructure facilities for National Games is quite significant. However, from 12th Five Year Plan, the Scheme is likely to be made as a regular Scheme and then the projects for National Games can also be considered for assistance from the Scheme. Till then, proposals of the State Governments for creation/upgradation of sports facilities for conduct of the National Games will require to be assisted by way of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) by the Planning Commission.

For 34th National Games, Jharkand, an assistance of Rs. 67 crore was given to the State Government as Additional Central Assistance by the Planning Commission towards creation of sports facilities and conduct of games.

For 35th National Games, Kerala, scheduled to be held in 2012, the Planning Commission has sanctioned an Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 110 crore to the State Government (50% of the Project cost). Further, an amount of Rs. 20 crore has been sanctioned to SAI for modernization and renovation of SAI centres in Kerala which will be used as venues during 35th National Games.

For evaluation and assessment of the funds for 36th National Games, Goa, the Central Team consisting of representatives from the Department of Sports, Sports Authority of India, Planning Commission and Indian Olympic Association had visited the State in October 2009 and the Team assessed that the total cost towards development of sports infrastructure would be Rs. 326 crore. The Central team has recommended that Government of India may consider giving 75% of the assessed cost as grant-in-aid, i.e., Rs. 244.50 crore. The Report of the Central Team has been forwarded to the Planning Commission for taking further action in the matter.

Further, the Department of Sports has taken a serious view of the ad hoc approach of the Indian Olympic Association and the States in the allotment of the National Games and non-adherence to the original time schedule for the conduct of the Games. The Department of Sports had written to all State Governments that it would not be feasible for the Central Government to consider host states' requests for central assistance without prior appraisal of the level of preparedness of the State Government to host the Games. States were advised to seek prior approval of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports before bidding for National Games to be eligible for central assistance.

Although National Games are supposed to be held biennially, 34th National Games, Jharkhand, originally scheduled to be held in November 2007, were postponed six times and were recently held in February 2011. Instead of conducting the National Games already allotted, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had gone ahead allotting the future editions of the Games to one State after the other without ensuring or taking concrete steps for timely conduct of the National Games already allotted. There is a general trend among states to first bid for the National Games without making a complete assessment in terms of infrastructural and financial requirements and then approach the Central Government for assistance for creation of sports infrastructure and conduct of the Games.

A meeting was taken by the Secretary, Department of Sports on 10.11.2010 with the representatives of the State Governments of Jharkhand, Kerala, Goa and Chhattisgarh. The issues relating to allotment of the National Games, timely conduct of the Games, infrastructural requirements etc were deliberated at length. It was decided in the meeting to take up the matter with IOA on the following points:

- (i) Formulation of clear guidelines for allotment of the National Games to the States
- (ii) No further bidding till conclusion of Goa National Games
- (iii) Work out a cycle for holding National Games biennially in a manner so that the National Games are held before Olympic Games on the one

occasion and before the Asian Games/Commonwealth Games on the other occasion and so on

- (iv) Making it mandatory for concerned authorities including State Government, State Olympic Association and IOA to hold the National Games as per the dates finalized at the time of bidding leaving no scope for postponement barring for situations beyond control
- (v) Development of a model Host City Contract
- (vi) Standardization of field of play, equipments etc.
- (vii) Exploring the possibility of splitting the Games into main National Games, Indoor Games and the Youth Games.

As a follow up to the above meeting, a meeting with the representatives of IOA was held under the chairmanship of the Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports. Representative of IOA has informed that IOA has guidelines for allotment of National Games to the States and conduct of the National Games. It was decided in the meeting that these guidelines need to be re-visited to obviate the awkward situation like the present one, where 4 States are waiting in queue to conduct the National Games. It was emphasized in the meeting that there should only be two States waiting at a time – one in staging mode and one in the preparation mode. It was also stressed in the meeting that the National Games should be conducted as per the schedule and that if there was any question mark/doubt with regard to timely conduct of the Games on account of lack of preparations or for some other reason, the National Games be shifted to Delhi where adequate sports facilities are available and where the conduct of the National Games even at a short notice will not be a problem. It was acknowledged that the cycle of the Games should be such that they are held once before the Olympic Games and once before the Commonwealth/Asian Games, as it would help in selection of national teams in different disciplines for participation in Olympics/Commonwealth/Asian Games.

It also emerged from the discussions that a quadrennial cycle (once in four years) could also be considered for conduct of National Games to synchronize with the conduct of the Asian games. If the National Games were to be conducted biennially as per present practice, then the National Games should

be allotted in such a manner that once they are held in a State having brown-field stadia i.e., where facilities of adequate standard for conduct of National Games already exist, followed by a State where green-field stadia are being developed. Such an arrangement will provide a lead time of 4 years for creation of sports facilities to States, where green-field sports facilities are required to be created.

It also emerged from the discussions that regular National Games should be confined to 28 Olympic disciplines, and that Indoor Games be held biennially/quadrennially, as the case may be, to cover the non-Olympic disciplines.

On the issue of play field norms, it emerged that only field of play/surface, lighting etc. should be of international standards, others like spectator gallery need not be developed of the level required for staging mega events.

The Department of Sports is now in the process of constituting an Empowered Committee consisting of representatives from the Ministry, Sports Authority of India, Indian Olympic Association and States to deliberate on the various issues related to conduct of the National Games including fixation of guidelines for allotment of the Games to the States, periodicity of the Games, schedule of the Games, splitting of the Games into main National Games (outdoor), Indoor Games and the Youth Games, fixation of guidelines for allotment of the Games to the States, development of model Host City Contract, etc and make recommendations to the Government.”

1.14 Concerned with the adhoc approach in organizing permanent events like the National Games, the Committee, in their original report, had recommended that host States needed support from the Government. They had also emphasized upon setting up of a permanent corpus of funds for it, which may have contributions from the Centre as well as States. The Committee had suggested that funds for National Games could be given from the Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme. The Ministry, in their reply, has stated that this can be considered from the 12th Five Year Plan, when the scheme is likely to be made as a regular scheme. Meanwhile, the Ministry has also brought to the notice of the Committee certain deficiencies in organizing even the National Games by the Indian Olympic Association and State Governments, for instance, non-adherence to the original time schedule for the conduct of the Games, low-level of preparedness of the States for National Games, last moment dependence on the Central Government for assistance for creation of sports infrastructure and conduct of the Games.

The Committee are shocked with the revelations regarding the conduct of National Games, particularly the fact that the 34th National Games at Jharkhand, originally scheduled to be held in November 2007, were postponed six times before being held in February 2011. Further, instead of conducting the National Games already allotted, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had gone ahead allotting the future editions of the Games to one State after the other. What the Committee find strange is that this has happened inspite of existence of guidelines with IOA for allotment of National Games. Therefore, the Committee concur with the Ministry that there is a need not only to revisit these guidelines but also to address the apathy towards National Level Sports tournaments. It

seems that the States too have not been pro-active in the matter. They bid for the National Games without making a complete assessment of their resources and then seek central assistance at the last hour. The Committee appreciate that the Ministry has come out with suggestions for better conduct of the National Games and that an Empowered Committee consisting of representatives from the Ministry, Sports Authority of India, Indian Olympic Association and States is being constituted to deliberate on the various issues related to the conduct of National Games. They expect that early action would be taken for the same. The Committee suggest that creation of a permanent funding mechanism for the National Games should also be deliberated by the proposed Committee. The Committee would like to be apprised of the outcome of the deliberations, as well as, the particular response of the Indian Olympic Association on the need to revise the guidelines for smooth and timely conduct of National Games.

D. Optimal utilization of existing sports infrastructure and the need for construction of multipurpose stadia.

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 5.8)

1.15 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“The Committee are constrained to note that there is no optimal utilization of the existing stadia. They have been made to understand by sports experts that a cricket stadium can be utilized as a multi-purpose stadium for sports like football and Kabaddi with minor changes. The Committee, however, fail to understand the logic of keeping the stadia unutilized except for cricket matches, while other sports are being given a cold shoulder by the authorities. The Committee therefore, recommend that instead of keeping a stadium exclusively for use of one sport disciplines, these should be optimally used for various disciplines. In fact, the Committee feel that the Ministry should adopt the policy of constructing multipurpose stadia in view of less availability of land. This will not only reduce expenditure to be incurred for construction of stadia for each discipline but will also lead to proper utilization of such stadia. The Committee also desire that schools near these stadia should also be allowed access to them for conducting matches & tournaments. A proper schedule for allotment of stadia to schools should be prepared and followed for the same.”

1.16 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“Under the Come and Play Scheme of Sports Authority of India, launched in April, 2011, the designated areas in the Stadia have been thrown open for both imparting professional training to established sportspersons and also to beginners with the objective to encourage participation in sports and for optimum utilization of the Stadia.

Following sports disciplines are being taken up for coaching/training at the various facilities:

Name of the Stadium	Sports Discipline
Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium	(i) Athletics (ii) Weightlifting (iii) Football (iv) Volleyball
Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges	Shooting
Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool Complex	Swimming
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium	(i) Hockey (ii) Cricket
Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium (Gymnastic)	(i) Gymnastics (ii) Table Tennis (iii) Badminton
K.D. Jadhav Wrestling Stadium, IG Stadium Complex	(i) Wrestling (ii) Boxing (iii) Judo (iv) Basketball
Cycling Velodrome, IG Stadium Complex	Cycling
I G Sports Complex (Open Area)	Archery

So, it is being ensured that the sports stadia and sports facilities owned by the Sports Authority of India are being used optimally for various sports disciplines. As regards, cricket stadia, it is stated that these stadia are owned by the State Cricket Associations and it is for them to decide to allow usage of cricket stadia for other sports competitions.”

1.17 In view of the constraints in regard to availability of land and to encourage optimal utilisation of stadia, the Committee, in their earlier report, had recommended adopting the policy of optimum use of existing cricket stadia and constructing multipurpose stadia which could be opened to nearby schools for their sports activities. In their reply, the Ministry is silent on the Committee's recommendation concerning multi-purpose stadia. Existence of a multipurpose stadia increases usage of the stadium complexes and thereby enhances capacity utilization of these assets. Therefore, the Committee would reiterate the recommendation on the need for multipurpose stadia in the country. The Committee, in this regard, further strongly recommend that there must be at least one multipurpose stadium in every State with one good ground and a synthetic track and minimum sports facilities should also be created/made available at district and block levels all over the country. The Committee are also not satisfied with the evasive reply of the Ministry that it is upto the State Cricket Associations to decide upon the usage of cricket stadia for other sports competitions, since the Ministry can definitely play an advisory role on the matter. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry again to take up and pursue the matter seriously with the State Cricket Associations and report their response to them.

The Committee have also been informed that the Ministry has launched a new scheme in April this year, namely 'Come & Play Scheme' for optimal utilization of the sports facilities in SAI stadia in Delhi. The Committee appreciate the initiative and would like to be apprised of the response received on this scheme. The Committee further desire that after due assessment of the response of this scheme, it should be implemented in SAI stadia all over the country. The

Committee also observe that post CWG, the sports infrastructure, equipment etc. need to be utilized by the sports enthusiasts, instead of the same lying idle. Apart from the fact that huge amount of public money has been spent on them, these world class equipment and infrastructure can be utilized effectively to train the country's sports loving generation in a better way. The Committee would like to be apprised of the plan of the Government to ensure optimum usage of post Commonwealth Games stadia and infrastructure in future.

E. Training for coaches

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 5.10)

1.18 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“Coaches are vital for training the sportspersons. Therefore, apart from ensuring adequate number of coaches to train the sportspersons, improving and maintaining their quality with suitable refresher courses is very important. The Committee feel that there is a need to open more coaching centres at the district/regional level first so as to make coaches available for such sportspersons who lack resources to get coaching in big cities & metropolises. Since new developments are taking place in the field of sports, the Committee opine that the Government should devise a programme for sending the coaches on refresher training at regular intervals. At present there is a coach exchange programme with very few countries like Hungary, with whom India has signed International cooperation agreement. The Committee feel that such efforts must be extended to countries having international level coaches and sportspersons like China, Japan, South Korea, Germany, South Africa, Russia and Latin American countries too. Also, the coach development programme run by NIS, Patiala should be further modernized and strengthened in consultation with sports scientists.”

1.19 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“Ministry has taken a major drive for capacity building for coaches by sending them for training abroad or arranging training for them by foreign experts at National Institutes of Sports, Patiala, so that they are equipped with latest methodologies and techniques in coaching of sportspersons. Ministry has entered into collaborations with Cuba and Hungary for training of coaches abroad. During April 2010, 20 coaches of SAI were deputed for a three month long International Coaching Course at Budapest conducted by the Semmelweis University, Budapest (Hungary). In January 2011, 56 coaches and community coaches have been sent to Cuba for 4 week and 6 week training programme under the Scheme of Talent Search & Training. While 29 high performing

coaches including once coordinator drawn from Sports Authority of India and State Governments have been sent for 6 week training programme, 27 community coaches including one coordinator, who have undergone Master Trainers Training Programme under Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), have been sent for 4 week training programme. Further, 34 coaches, drawn from SAI and State Governments have been sent for 3 month long International Coaching Course, at Semmelweis University, Budapest (Hungary) from March-June 2011.

The Sports Authority of India and Semmelweis University, Budapest have signed an agreement in 2011, under which the Semmelweis University will design a Tailor-made coaching programme of one month duration exclusively for Indian coaches, under which a coaching programme for a minimum of 30 coaches by experts of Semmelweis University will be run either in Hungary or in India.

Further, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and SAI are in interactions with Beijing Sports University for training of our coaches.”

1.20 At present, the country suffers from a serious lack of world class coaches in various sports disciplines. Thus, capacity building and enhancement of coaches is vital. The Committee, in their original report, had underlined the need to open more coaching centres at the district/regional level for such sportspersons who lack resources to get coaching in big cities and metropolises, to modernize the Coach Development Programme run by NIS, Patiala and to enhance efforts for regular training of coaches under foreign exchange programmes.

The Committee are not satisfied with the reply of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, since they feel that adequate measures have not been taken on this front so far. The Ministry has also chosen to remain silent on the recommendation that more coaching centres at the District/Regional level should be opened so as to make coaches available for such sportspersons who lack resources to get coaching in big cities and metropolises.

Regarding the training of coaches abroad, the Committee feel that not enough is being done by the Ministry. In the last two years, coaches were sent for training to Cuba and Hungary only. The Committee are of the opinion that there are several countries specializing in particular sports disciplines such as Russia in Gymnastics, Germany, Spain and Brazil in Football, Kenya in Marathons etc. Training programme should be designed in such a way so that the coaches and sport persons can benefit from these countries. The Committee feel that the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports can coordinate with the Ministry of External Affairs to explore and encourage their interactions with friendly countries excelling in sports. The Committee would also like to be apprised of

the outcome of the interactions between the Ministry and SAI and Beijing Sports University for training of our coaches.

F. Need to provide equal and greater opportunities to women in sports

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para No. 5.12)

1.21 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“The Committee note with regret that the participation of women in sports is abysmally low which is evident from the fact that out of total 15115 number of trainees in SAI centres, the number of girls was only 4261 as compared to 10854 boys. Besides, there are no separate women sports hostels and out of 91 sports hostels only 49 have residential facilities for women. Apart from the gender bias in our society, unavailability of some gender specific facilities is responsible for the same. For example out of 1258 regular coaches, only 181 i.e. 15% are women coaches. It is but a fact that girls living in rural areas will prefer to have women coaches. Having noted media reports about sexual harassment of girl players by men coaches, the Committee are surprised to note that there is no mechanism in place to deal with cases of sexual harassment of sportswomen. It is only now that the Ministry has decided to write to various National Sports Federations to put in place a mechanism for the same. The Committee would like to know the status of the same at the action taken stage.

Though the Ministry of YA&S does not feel any need for a separate policy for sportswomen, the Committee are of the view that the issue needs attention in order to provide equal opportunities to girls in the field of sports. Therefore, they suggest that a scheme for sportswomen should be formulated on the following lines. Firstly, the Ministry should start with Gender Budgeting to encourage participation of women. Separate funds should be earmarked to be spent on sportswomen under various heads & schemes as availability of funds will incentivize the Government to spend it for the purpose it will be allocated. Secondly, a well defined mechanism is needed to be put in place to prevent and deal with cases of sexual harassment in SAI. All the NSFs being funded by the Government should also be asked to establish such a mechanism. In case of failure, the concerned NSF should be de-recognized by the Government. Thirdly, the government should make all efforts to increase the number of women coaches. To this end, some seats should be reserved for women in

various training institutes. The Committee further counsel the Ministry to coordinate with the Ministry of Women & Child Development to garner support on the issue and frame a scheme for discovering and nurturing sports talent among the women population of the country.”

1.22 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“There are social issues, which have a bearing on the number of women trainees and women sportspersons taking part in the sports events. Parents are generally not open to send girls to residential training centres. There is also hesitation on the part of girls and the parents as some of the centres are far away from the cities. However, as far as the Ministry of the Youth Affairs and Sports and Sports Authority of India are concerned, all Schemes are inclusive schemes and equally applicable to women sportspersons.

Further, a National Championship for exclusively women is conducted annually, which is now conducted under PYKKA Scheme. Under the annual sports competitions conducted at block, district, state and national levels under PYKKA Scheme, there has been a very encouraging response from women. During the sports competitions in 2008-09, out of 7,21,519 participants, there were 2,49,190 women participants and during 2009-10, out of 22,48,944 participants, there were 8,73,842 women participants.

As regards prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports, the Ministry has issued instructions in August 2010 to all NSFs making it clear to them it shall be the responsibility of NSFs and other sports bodies to prevent sexual harassment of women in sports and to ensure their safety. They have also been directed to take appropriate measures, as per the judgment of 1997 of Supreme Court in the matter of Vishakha & others versus of State of Rajasthan, to prevent sexual harassment of women in sports sector.

Further, the guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports have been incorporated in the proposed National Sports Legislation”.

1.23 Women's participation in sports is constrained by several socio-economic factors, as well as certain deficiencies in the policy towards sportswomen. In view of the unfortunate situation, the Committee, in their original report, had recommended Gender Budgeting in the Sports Budget, earmarking of separate funds for sportswomen, reservation for women in training Institutes to increase the number of women coaches in the country as well as putting in place a mechanism to curb sexual harassment in all National Sports Federations.

The Ministry, in their Action Taken Reply, has stated that a very encouraging response from women was seen during the last two years in the annual competitions conducted under PYKKA Scheme. A National Championship exclusively for women is also conducted under PYKKA. The Committee urge the Ministry to encourage schemes like these so that the talent of women athletes could be brought to the fore. This will also create employment opportunities for sportswomen.

As regards the need for more women coaches, the Ministry has not furnished any comment on it. The Committee would like to know the specific gender-wise details of the students undergoing coaching courses this year in National Institute of Sports, Patiala and other Government Institutes, if any, since they are convinced that the ratio would be highly skewed which would have serious impact on the future line of female coaches available for the sports enthusiast girl children. The Committee feel that unavailability of women coaches might dissuade girls, particularly from rural and semi-urban areas, to pursue sports, for it is indeed obvious that parents of girls living in such areas will prefer them to be coached by women. Therefore, the Committee reiterate their earlier

recommendation and urge the Ministry to take initiative on the same. Furthermore, the Committee observe that their recommendation on Gender Budgeting has not been addressed by the Ministry in their reply, and thus, would urge them to furnish comments on the same too. As regards National Sports Federations, the Committee are aware that a National Sports Law is currently in the process of being enacted, which seeks to address several such issues. They hope that the revised draft of the Bill would contain specific references on these issues including the establishment of an anti-sexual harassment mechanism in National Sports Federations. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in this direction.

G. Need for enactment of National Sports Law expeditiously

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No. 5.14)

1.24 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“Cases of mismanagement in various National Sports Federations (NSFs), who are responsible and accountable for the overall management, direction, control, regulation, promotion and development of particular sports disciplines are rampant and thus a matter of great concern to the Committee. Though it is a fact that these Federations are autonomous yet by virtue of the fact that they receive funds from the Government and function for the public, they have been rightly declared by the Government as public authorities. The Committee appreciate the recent initiatives taken by the Government in introducing a system of annual recognition of NSFs to bring transparency & fairness in their functioning. The Committee feel that had such a step been taken by the Government long back, the current murky situation could have been avoided. The Committee are of the opinion that autonomy should not lead to arbitrariness and transparency and accountability in dealings including election of members would definitely help the NSFs in gaining respect and admiration among the sports community. The Committee would further like to underline the pressing need to conduct regular auditing of accounts of those NSFs which are being funded by the Government by either the C&AG or reputed Chartered Accountants. The Committee recommend the Ministry to take up the matter with NSFs and also conduct random checking of their accounts. The Committee are also of the view that there should be no discrimination by the Government in giving funds to NSFs. Federation promoting indigenous games and performing well consistently like Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Wrestling should not face the resource-crunch.

The Committee are perturbed to note the absence of any grievance redressal mechanism in the NSFs. The Committee, therefore, recommend that existence of such a mechanism should also be made a criterion for giving recognition and financial assistance by the government to any NSF. Since the matter regarding the tenure of members of NSFs is sub judice, the Committee would like to be apprised of the final position in this regard. The Committee

would like the Ministry to advise the NSFs to include eminent sportspersons in their Boards. For NSFs involved in women sports disciplines like women hockey etc., the Committee would recommend establishing some quota for sportswomen in their Boards, as well.”

1.25 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“With a view to ensuring financial accountability and for monitoring the utilization of funds for the purpose for which are sanctioned, the Ministry insists upon the national Sports Federations to follow proper accounting procedures and have their accounts audited on regular basis which is also a prerequisite for obtaining and maintaining recognition with the Ministry. They have to submit timely utilization certificates to the Ministry with respect to all the grants received by them. Any federation, not submitting the UCs in time, is not given any further financial grant. The accounts of the Federations receiving financial grant of more than Rs. 1 crore are audited by Comptroller & Auditor General.

From January, 2010, a mandatory annual recognition procedure for the NSFs has been introduced. In order to update records of National Sports Federations (NSFs), the Government has undertaken an exercise to collect and maintain the data/documents with regard to legal, financial, management and operational status of NSFs. NSFs have also been asked to draw the calendar of their activities for the year so as to enable players/States units, Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and School Games Federation of India to plan their participation and sporting activities.

Only those NSFs, who submit the requisite documents, including financial statements, prescribed by the Ministry, are being granted annual recognition certificates.

Most NSFs do not have proper grievance redressal mechanism. Ministry has been insisting upon the NSFs for good governance practices. Recently, Ministry had declared IOA and all NSFs as public authorities under Right to Information Act, 2005. This measure will go a long way in grievance redressal as the affected parties can access information under RTI Act. Further, normally the

grievances of the sportspersons relate to selection criteria and of conduct of coaching camps etc. In this regard, the Ministry has issued detailed guidelines for more efficient management of coaching camps, selection of coaches, selection of athletes, etc in September 2008.

Separately the Ministry is in the process of enacting the National Sports Law, a preliminary draft of which has been published on the website of the Ministry. The proposed National Sports Development Bill contains, inter alia, elaborate suggestions for setting up a National Sports Ombudsman and Appellate Authority to provide for speedy and effective dispute resolution mechanism in sports through the process of arbitration, mediation and conciliation. Ministry has received a number of suggestions/comments, on the Preliminary Exposure draft on the proposed National Sports Legislation. The Ministry has constituted a Committee on 6.4.2011 under the chairmanship of Justice Mukul Mudgal, Retired Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, to examine all comments and suggestions received, both from sports governance and legal angle, to make specific recommendations on each comment/suggestion with specific reference to sports administration, sports development and welfare of sports persons, to make specific comments on the sports arbitration mechanism etc.

Based on the receipt of the report of the Committee, the Ministry will proceed further in the matter for obtaining the approval of the Cabinet for introduction of the National Sports Law in Parliament.”

1.26 The Committee in their earlier Report, while pointing out the dire need of grievance redressal mechanism in National Sports Federations (NSFs) had recommended that existence of such mechanism should also be made a criterion for giving recognition and financial assistance by the Government to National Sports Federations. In this regard, the Committee acknowledge the action taken by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports by declaring Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and all National Sports Federations as public authorities under the Right to Information Act, 2005 and are of the view that this measure will certainly go a long way in grievance redressal as the affected parties can access information under the RTI Act.

The Committee have further been informed by the Ministry that they are in the process of enacting the National Sports Law (NSL) which contains, *inter-alia*, elaborate provisions for setting up a National Sports Ombudsman and Appellate Authority to provide for speedy and effective dispute resolution mechanism in sports through the process of arbitration, mediation and conciliation. The Committee have also learnt that numerous comments and suggestions have been received by the Ministry on the different aspects of National Sports Law and these are being examined by a Committee constituted by the Ministry for this purpose on 6th April, 2011. The Committee, while endorsing the response of the Ministry for enacting a holistic legislation covering important aspects of sports in the country, strongly urge the Ministry that the National Sports Law should be enacted and then implemented expeditiously to streamline the various activities in the field of sports in the country.

H. Need for streamlining the organisation of mega sports events

Observation/Recommendation (SI. No. 16, Para No. 5.16)

1.27 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“The Committee are extremely concerned to note the delay in overall arrangements for organizing the XIX Commonwealth Games, 2010 in India, apart from the huge cost overruns as is evident from the difference in the initial cost, estimates to the revised estimates of conducting the Games. Inability of the government to meet most of the deadlines in development of infrastructure projects and the consequent cost overruns are not only putting the nation in bad light but are casting staggering burden on the public exchequer. The Committee fail to comprehend that despite the Host city contract being signed in 2003, why the budgetary allocation for CWG was made four years later i.e. in 2007. As a result, the scheme for training of sportspersons could only be started in 2008. Also the development of critical sports infrastructure in time to conduct the Games suffered irreversibly. The Committee would like to quote the example of the city of London, the host city for Olympic Games, 2012, where the infrastructure has been nearly complete despite the Games still a good two years away. The Committee are of the view that ideally various projects which include development of stadia, training venues and development of city’s infrastructure including residential facilities for sportspersons should have been completed at least one year before the start of the Games. Apart from the fact that the infrastructure is still not complete, the constant press reports on slippages in various projects is extremely disheartening. The Committee cannot but deplore the lethargic manner in which the matter was handled by the Central Government, Organizing Committee and GNCTD, particularly when the country’s honour is at stake. They expect the government to probe all charges of corruption and cost escalations seriously after the Games. Meanwhile the Committee also urge the Ministry to utilize their PR mechanism optimally in case any exaggerated reports appear in the media. As for the athletes and sportspersons, the Committee sincerely hope that our sportspersons would give their best performance to bring laurels to the host country since such lifetime opportunities are too precious for each one of them.

The Committee are also concerned to note that Government is yet to decide about the actual utilization as well as maintenance of the sports infrastructure after the CWG. The Committee recommend that care must be taken to ensure an optimum utilization of the same throughout the year. As regards overall maintenance and repair, the agency involved in construction of a stadium should be responsible for its maintenance for a specified period. The Committee also feel that the stadia should be given to various NSFs/Sports Associations for regular training of their sportspersons and holding championships in their disciplines. Such constant utilization of infrastructure would ensure their proper maintenance too, and thus in case of hosting any other mega sports event in future, large scale investments on the same could, perhaps be avoided.

The Committee are of the view that absence of any policy on hosting mega sports events is the reason for the present status of CWG projects. The Committee feel that had there been proper planning, the never ending delays in projects could have been avoided. The Committee desire that in future we should go for bidding for organizing Mega Sports events only after the ground work in this regard is done. Financial planning involving the cost benefit analysis should also be done well in advance keeping in view the cost escalation factors over the years. The Committee also desire that the level, at which the responsibility can be fixed in case of failure to achieve the target should be clearly defined. A proper plan of action for training the sportspersons to excel in such events should also be prepared. The Committee desire that a policy be chalked out by the government on these lines for organizing any mega sports events. The Government should also ensure its proper execution and transparency and accountability in all financial deals. The Committee therefore, recommend that the Ministry should seriously consider revising the Sports Policy to address all the matters raised by them.”

1.28 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“Through a series of meetings of the Group of Ministers (GOM) and the Committee of Secretaries (COS), all the proposals/projects related to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 were regularly considered/approved and monitored for timely completion of the projects. This Ministry, being the nodal Ministry for overseeing the work related to the Commonwealth Games and release of funds in this regard has also been making timely and consistent efforts to get the approvals of the competent authorities for the various project related to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 in a time bound manner and making the funds available to the various concerned agencies for timely completion of all the projects.

Details regarding projected/envisaged cost for Commonwealth Games, to public exchequer since inception, are given in **Annexure-I**. Progress of work, for Commonwealth Games, was monitored by the Group of Ministers, the Committee of Secretaries, Empowered Committee of Delhi Government chaired by Chief Secretary and Infrastructure Monitoring Committee chaired by Secretary (Sports), on regular basis. The project undertaken by Central Government, Government of NCR and other bodies, for Commonwealth Games, funded out of the exchequer, alongwith budget, are given in **Annexure-II**. These cost escalations were due to certain inescapable factors like escalation in prices of construction material; ii) change in scope of work; iii) increases in build up area; iv) addition of new work; v) statutory levies which were not taken into account earlier and vi) quality assurances & other contingencies etc. These projects were completed before the commencement of the Commonwealth Games-2010.

To improve the performance of the Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games-2010 a Scheme with allocation of Rs.678.00 crore (2008-09) to 2010-11) was implemented for providing training to the elite sportspersons in all the disciplines of the Commonwealth Games,2010. Systematic training in India and abroad under highly qualified Indian and Foreign coaches was given to sportspersons for Commonwealth Games and 155 meetings of the Steering Committee meeting were held to finalize the proposal for participation in various

tournaments/Championship /training in India and abroad under the Scheme Preparation of Indian Team. 1140 elite athletes were identified for training and this no. was gradually reduced to 728 after pruning. 541 proposals related to participation/training of Teams abroad were processed and 3759 players (repeat visits included) were sent abroad for training/competition. With the help of the Scheme for Preparation of Indian Teams for Commonwealth Games, 2010, the performance of the Indian Sportspersons at the Commonwealth Games was exceptional and outstanding resulting in an unprecedented haul of medals, which were more than double the medals India had won at the last Commonwealth Games held at Melbourne in 2006. India also finished second in the medals tally, ahead of the major sporting nations such as England, Canada, South Africa, etc with a total of 101 medals, the highest ever in any major multidisciplinary sporting event. Women sportspersons, in particular, performed brilliantly.

On the basis of the adverse report in the Electronic Media the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri V.K. Shunglu to investigate the matter relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010. The mandate given to the Committee, inter-alia, included examination of the role and responsibilities of the various agencies relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and also to advise for the lessons learnt for the future including establishment of a mechanism for laying down timeframes and effective monitoring, creation of a legally sustainable framework for hosting similar international sporting events, appropriate financial management and internal audit, media interaction and communication. The committee has since submitted all its report/s to the Government which are under examination. Government has already initiated certain action on the recommendations of the High Level Committee.

As regards about the actual utilization as well as maintenance of the sports infrastructure after the CWG 2010, it is stated that the Ministry has constituted a Committee comprising eminent sportspersons and sports journalists under the chairpersonship of Director General, Sports Authority of India (SAI) for examining various options and for giving their recommendations for the legacy planning of the stadia in Delhi managed by SAI namely Major Dhyani Chand National

Stadium, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool, Dr. KSSSR Shooting Ranges, Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium and Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium after the Commonwealth Games 2010. The Committee is to give its recommendations on list of preferred sporting and other activities, which could be allowed stadia-wise; the correct balance between revenue generation objective and sports promotion objective, the strategies to leverage the stadia for hosting prestigious sporting events; the strategies for attracting commercially viable anchor-tenants who have a strong sports agenda like professional/commercial league etc; operation of players' academies by eminent sportspersons; alternative approved models for operations and maintenance of SAI stadia, including public private partnership and corporate social responsibility models. The Committee has submitted its report. Recommendations made by the Committee are being examined for proceeding further in the matter.

Further, for utilization of the sports facilities in SAI stadia, Sports Authority of India has launched 'Come and Play Scheme' in April 2011. Designated areas in the SAI stadia in Delhi viz., Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges, Dr. SPM Swimming Pool Complex, Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium, Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium (Gymnastics, Wrestling and Cycling Velodrome) have been thrown open for promoting community sports. The response has been encouraging. Apart from this, National Coaching Camps are also being run in respect of some sports disciplines like Hockey, Gymnastics, etc.

As regards the recommendations of the Committee to the effect that in future we should go for bidding for organizing Mega Sports events only after the ground work in this regard has been done, it is stated that the Ministry will keep the recommendations of the Committee in view while deciding on the proposals received for bidding for mega sport events.”

1.29 The Committee, being extremely concerned with the excessive budget overruns, delays in construction of the CWG venues and the negative pre-event publicity, had recommended that a proper plan of action, particularly financial planning including the cost benefit analysis should have been done well in advance keeping in view the cost of escalation factor over the years. Also, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry should get the ground work done first before bidding for any mega sports event in the future.

The Committee are aghast at the reply of the Ministry that the cost escalations during CWG 2010 were due to 'Certain inescapable factors', such an evasive reply is not at all acceptable to the Committee. One of these factors cited by the Ministry viz. 'statutory levies which were not taken into account earlier' contradicts their reply, since they have accepted that there has been a lapse. The Committee also find the contention of the Ministry that these projects were completed before the commencement of the CWG, 2010 as misleading. It is a known fact that work at Shivaji Stadium, which was being undertaken to prepare it as one of the training venues for the Games, is still not complete. Besides, many venues were completed just before the CWG event was to start. However, the Committee would now await the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the V.K. Shunглу Committee Report, which has already probed the charges of delays and irregularities in the conduct of CWG Games. They would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Government on all its recommendations.

Lack of any plan for subsequent utilization of sports infrastructure created during CWG, 2010 also highlights the manner in which the Games were

conducted. It was only after the Games that a Committee was constituted by the Ministry to look into this aspect, which shows a lack of vision and foresight in the Ministry. A plan in this regard should have been ready even before the Games were completed. The Committee cannot but deplore this attitude and desire to be apprised of the specific line of action, alongwith timelines, based on the report of the said expert Committee, to utilize CWG infrastructure. The Committee would also like to know as to how the sports and other equipment, furniture and the paraphernalia used for the Games and its Opening and Closing Ceremonies, have been utilized.

CHAPTER – II

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 5.2)

The Committee observe that one of the reasons for lack of sports culture in India is over emphasis on academics resulting in sports taking a back seat in school education. Though, the New Education Policy, 1986, National Curriculum Framework 2005 and the National Sports Policy, 2001 have recognized the need for integration of sports and physical education with educational curriculum, the required thrust in its implementation is yet to be seen. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports have reportedly made some efforts in this regard through meetings and written communications with the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), yet a decisive change has not come so far. The Committee feel that though Indians do have enthusiasm for sports, yet the lack of an effective policy so far has worked against it. The Government must acknowledge the fact that since training for sports invariably starts at a young age, sports are required to be included at the primary level education to bring up a sports-loving generation at par with those in other countries in Asia, Europe and the Americas. The Committee also feel concerned about issues such as lack of uniformity in allocating a period in schools for physical education/sports, dearth of required infrastructure like playgrounds in the schools as well as shortage of physical education teachers.

Therefore, the Committee are of the view that to develop sports culture among school children certain norms in favour of promoting sports should be adopted by the Ministry of HRD in the field of education. For instance, availability of a playground should be there in all schools. Secondly, it should be the responsibility of schools and colleges to integrate sports with academics. At least one indoor and one outdoor sports activity should be made compulsory for school children of all ages. Achievements in sports and games in national and international events by students should be rewarded with grace marks in their overall assessment. These steps would provide the necessary boost to sports and games among the youth population, would create

demand for PT instructors in schools and colleges and thus, training in physical education & sports will become lucrative for employment purposes also. The Committee also desire that the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports should explore the feasibility of more coordination between the departments handling sports and education so that the physical education segment of the curriculum could benefit from the expertise of the sports department. The Committee also desire that the Ministry of HRD may be apprised of their suggestions to ensure necessary action on the same.

Reply of the Government

Sports, education and health are closely inter-linked with each other. Sports and physical education form an integral part of a school curriculum to promote all round development of children. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Ministry of Human Resource Development have been continuously emphasizing the significance of sports, games, physical and health education for the overall development of children.

National Policy on Education, 1986 has made the following recommendations on sports and physical education:

“Sports and physical education are an integral part of the learning process and will be included in the evaluation of performance. A nation-wide infrastructure for physical education, sports and games will be built into the education edifice. The infrastructure will consist of playfields, equipments, coaches and teachers of Physical Education as part of the School Improvement Programme. Available open spaces in urban areas will be reserved for play grounds. Appropriate encouragement will be given to those talented in sports and games. Due stress will given traditional games.”

National Curriculum Framework 2005 provides for the following:

- Special emphasize on physical education for all round development of the child.
- Physical education to be a compulsory subject from primary to secondary stage.
- Physical education to be given equal status with other subjects.

- Minimum essential physical space and equipment should be available in every school.
- Physical education should be integrated into all pre-service teacher education courses.

The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which has been enacted as consequential legislation to the insertion of Article 21-A in the Constitution of India, making elementary education a Fundamental Right, provides inter-alia for:-

- (i) A play ground for each school;
- (ii) Part time Instructor for physical education in upper primary school.
- (iii) Supply of play material, games and sports equipment, as required to schools.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyam (SSA) recognizes the importance of sports and emphasizes the vital role of games and sports for the all round development of children. Consequent to enactment of RTE Act, 2009, SSA have sanctioned 1.31 lakh posts of part time Instructors in 2010-11, with a view to promote games and sports in schools. For supply of play material, games and sports equipment in schools, the norms of SSA have been amended to facilitate the inclusion Annual School Grant for games and play material and sports equipment.

For strengthening sports infrastructure, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), before granting affiliation to schools, ensures that they have, inter alia, the following facilities in the schools:

- i) Adequate ground to create outdoor facilities for a 200 meter track;
- ii) Adequate land for kabaddi and Kho-Kho; and
- iii) Facilities for playing volleyball.

In addition, CBSE has introduced the Physical Education Cards (PEC) as a useful tool for teachers. After the successful implementation of the PEC; the Board is at the final stage of developing the Secondary Physical Education Cards (SPEC) in association with the British Council. This is expected to be implemented soon.

CBSE has in November 2010 issued instructions to all its affiliated schools to have one Physical Education and Sports period per day for classes I-X and two periods per week compulsorily for classes XI & XII. According to the CBSE Affiliation Bye Laws, it is mandatory for all schools to have at least one qualified Physical Education Teacher on roll as a prerequisite for affiliation with the Board.

As regards including the performance of students in sports in the evaluation process of students, CBSE has already drafted a scheme for upgrading the grades for students who excel in Co-Scholastic Areas (including sports).

The National Curriculum Framework for School Education has recognized Health & Physical Education as an important area in the curriculum in an integrated manner. NCF 2005 made Health & Physical Education a compulsory subject up to secondary stage and optional at higher secondary stage.

As a follow up of NCF 2005, NCERT has developed the syllabus on Health & Physical Education for class I-XII, which has been approved by the National Monitoring Committee. NCF 2005 has included number of indoor and outdoor sports activities in all classes and care has been taken to provide opportunities to children and schools to choose activities according to available facilities.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has launched a nationwide programme called 'Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan' (PYKKA), which aims at providing basic sports infrastructure and organized sports competitions at the grassroots level. A 90% of the PYKKA centres approved are located in primary/secondary schools. It is hoped that convergence of the components of PYKKA with provisions made under SSA will go a long way in holistic development of children.

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and the Ministry of Human Resource Development have, in a joint D.O. letter dated 7th January 2011, requested State Governments/UT Administrations to ensure that adequate time and space is made available in the daily school time table at primary, upper primary, secondary and higher

secondary level for children to participate in games and sports activities and making all efforts to fill up the vacancies of physical education teachers in the schools.

The Department of Sports organized an international Workshop on 'School & Community Sports' New Delhi on March 31, 2011, in which, delegates from Youth Sports Trust of United Kingdom, Chairman of CBSE, representatives from Navodya Vidyalaya, Sports Authority of India (SAI), Nehru Yuva Kendra, Laxmibai National University for Sports and Physical Education (LNUPE), NCERT, UNICEF and others participated.

As a follow-up to the deliberations in the workshop held on 31.3.2011, a National Workshop is being organized during June 20-22, 2011 at Shimla (Himachal Pradesh) with the Chairpersons of all 41 School Education Boards and the Education Secretaries of States/UTs for promotion of Physical Education & Sports in School system. The main focus of the workshop will be on strategies for integration of physical education and sports with school curriculum and strategies adopted by Youth Sport Trust of UK. The Workshop will provide a platform to learn from the experiences of different states on the subject as some of the States have introduced Sports & Physical Education in Higher Secondary level and give weightage to performance in Sports.

Planning Commission has in Mid Term Appraisal of 11th Five Year Plan recommended that "a radical beginning should be made by introducing Sports and Physical Education as a subject at the elementary level. On the lines of 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' (SSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), 'Sarva Krida Abhiyan' should be contemplated in the next Plan, synergizing it with Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA). Preparatory activities for this programme should be started forthwith".

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 5.4)

Indigenous games like Wrestling, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho etc. are extremely popular among rural youth. In this context, the Committee appreciate the efforts of the Ministry in launching a new scheme in the year 2007-08 namely Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) for around 2,50,000 village and 6400 block Panchayat units in the

country. The Committee observe that with the transfer of four centrally sponsored Sports Infrastructure Development Schemes to the State sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005, the development of sports infrastructure had come to a standstill due to paucity of funds with the States. Hence, PYKKA was launched in 2007-08 to enable the State Governments get the requisite Central assistance, which will help them in achieving the goal of 'broadbasing of sports'. Assistance of ₹250.77 crore for covering 22854 village Panchayats and 601 block Panchayats have been stated to be approved under the scheme so far. The Committee hope that promising local sports talent available in each village/block would be identified and encouraged under the scheme.

In this connection, the Committee feel that PYKKA is an ambitious programme in view of the sheer number of village and block Panchayats in the country. At the same time, the committee are of the view that the current amount of ₹22,000 per annum being given to each village panchayat as Annual Acquisition and Operational Grants for acquisition of sports equipment, accessories, repairs/maintenance and to meet operational expense is grossly insufficient. The Committee feel that under the current economic scenario in the country, it is virtually impossible to do anything concerning sports even at the village level with such a meager sum and thus recommend that the same needs to be realistic amount. The Committee desire that the Ministry should conduct a study of the cost factor involved in providing even the most basic sports facility in a village and accordingly modify the scheme with revised amount. The Committee hope that the amount would be increased from next financial year onwards.

As regards, achievement of PYKKA so far, the Committee note from the Ministry's deposition that the scheme has received good response from State Governments. The Committee, however, observe that the target of training master trainers during the year 2009-10 could not be achieved. Only 254 master trainers could be trained as against a target of 600. Training of Master trainers and kridashrees is of utmost importance for the success of PYKKA. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the State Governments should be asked to achieve the target in the best possible manner. The Committee also desire the Government to ensure that village panchayats dominated by SC/ST or other backward sections of the society are adequately covered under PYKKA. The Committee further recommend that a Monitoring Committee with local MPs/MLAs as its members may be set up in their constituencies to monitor the

implementation of PYKKA. The Committee are also of the opinion that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) could be linked with the same. As the PYKKA empowers the village/Block Panchayats to create basic sports facilities in their area, employment opportunities thus emerging could be given to the rural workforce. The Committee would urge the Ministry of Sports to consult Ministry of Rural Development on the matter and take suitable action.

Reply of the Government

Scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), introduced from 2008-09, has been received well in the States/UTs. For the last three years and upto 31.3.2011 since PYKKA Scheme was launched in 2008-09, ₹572.00 crore had been released to States/UTs for development of sports infrastructure in village/block panchayats and for conduct of annual competitions in block, district, state and national level. PYKKA Scheme in respect of sports infrastructure is being implemented in 28 States and 3 UTs. Efforts are being made to cover under the scheme the UTs of Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

Details about number of Village/block panchayats approved and financial assistance released to States/UTs upto 31.3.2011 are given as under:

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---------------|
| (a) | Number of village Panchayats approved | - | 47,058 |
| (b) | Number of block panchayats approved | - | 1,417 |
| (c) | Total Grant-in-aid released | - | ₹449.00 crore |
| (d) | Number of States participated in the PYKKA competitions increased from 8 in the year 2008-09 to 26 in 2009-10. | | |
| (e) | Total amount released to States during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 for conduct of annual sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels is ₹8.15 crore, 30 crore and ₹84.85 crore respectively. | | |
| (f) | Total number of participants in PYKKA competitions held at all levels in 2009-10 was 22.50 lakh including 8.75 lakh women participants as against 7.22 lakh participants in 2008-09. | | |

Regarding identification of sports talent in village/block panchayats, it is stated that main objective of PYKKA Scheme is mass participation of rural youth in sports. However, annual competitions being held under PYKKA at various levels provide a huge base for identification and nurturing of sports talent by SAI and State Governments for nurturing them under their respective schemes.

Recommendation of the Committee with regard to enhancement in the amount of annual acquisition and annual operation grants would be kept in view at the time of conducting the review in consultation with Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance for continuance of the scheme in the XII Five Year Plan.

The training of Master Trainers was introduced in the second half of 2009-10 after setting up of PYKKA Resource Centre in November, 2009 at LNUPE, Gwalior (MP), as a capacity building measures. Around 557 Master Trainers were trained which is close to the annual target of 600. In the subsequent years, target of training of 600 Master Trainers annually would be achieved.

The scheme already provides 10% annual coverage of village/block panchayats in the normal States and 20% coverage in the case of North Eastern States and special category States. This automatically takes care of the village/block panchayats dominated by SCs/STs and other backward sections of the society.

The States/UTs have already been advised to associate Members of Parliaments in the district level PYKKA Executive Committee. Most of the States have reported that notifications have been issued in this regard. The remaining States have been reminded to expedite the same.

The matter regarding availing of funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme for leveling of playfield land already been taken up with the Ministry of Rural Development. Further, States/UTs were also advised to avail the benefit admissible under MGNREGA scheme for development of playfields. Some of the States had confirmed that they were availing the benefit of MGNREGA scheme for leveling of playfields, construction of boundary wall/fencing etc.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 5.5)

From the deposition of the Ministry made before them, the Committee note that in order to promote sports infrastructure in urban areas, a new Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme has already been proposed and an allocation of ₹5 crore has been made for the same in the current year. The Committee are aware that our country has 5161 cities/towns/urban agglomerations and the broadbasing of sports could result only after covering these urban areas too. They hope that the scheme would receive favourable response and be operationalised soon. The Committee would like to be apprised of the status of the scheme.

Reply of the Government

The Government has approved introduction of a central scheme titled 'Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure' on pilot basis in 2010-11 with a view to addressing the entire 'sports eco-system' holistically i.e., players' training and development, coaching and infrastructure. The Scheme envisages development of playfields by the State Governments through Playfield Associations, coach development programme through Central and State Governments, setting up of players academies where SAI centres will provide the nucleus of a hub and spoke model for such academies catering to premier sports in each State. The Scheme will focus on promoting and supporting a mechanism at national and state level to encourage, assist and preserve community playfields, incentivizing utilization of infrastructure already available in the State at all levels by filling up critical gaps, creating ne need-based infrastructure and creating capacity building among coaches, including community coaches.

Salient features of the Scheme are as under:

- (i) annual assistance @ ₹50 lakh to each state and ₹25 lakh to each Union Territory for a period of 2 years that sets up and operates a state-level playing field association. The association must be modelled on the lines of the National Playing Fields Association of India (NPFAI). The annual assistance is to be utilised to further the objectives of the association,

including meeting establishment and administrative expenses, maintaining a comprehensive database of registered playing fields, providing legal assistance to endangered playing fields, conducting seminars/ workshops, and providing assistance to support pilot projects at the state level.

- (ii) At the national level, NPFAI will receive an annual grant @ `2.5 crore per annum for carrying out similar activities, including supporting pilot projects for States to emulate them. All projects assisted by NPFAI have to get themselves registered with NPFAI and enter into an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with it as a community playing facility as per a model MoU.
- (iii) the development of sports training infrastructure on partnership mode with State Governments/ local bodies/ colleges/ universities/ sports control boards on the one hand, and SAI on the other. Under the scheme, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) will provide assistance through SAI, or directly, for the creation of need-based sporting infrastructure in States/ UTs, which will function as SAI extension centres, but the entire responsibility of maintenance of the infrastructure will that of the State Government/ UT/ beneficiary entity.
- (iv) With a view to maintaining focus on mother sports and popular sports, especially those in which the country has good medal prospects, the following types of sports infrastructure will get preference over others:
 - (a) Synthetic playing surface (for hockey, football and athletics)
 - (b) Multipurpose indoor hall
- (iv) CPWD, State PWD, or any Central or State PSU will be engaged for construction of the projects. The CPWD/ State PWD schedule of rates will be adopted for preparing the estimates. The grant as per approved estimates will be released to SAI directly for taking up the project on partnership mode as stated in para 3.2 above.

- (v) State Governments, Local Civic bodies, schools, colleges and universities under Central/ State Governments, Sports Control Boards will be eligible to receive assistance for creation of sports infrastructure.
- (vi) The applicants will be required to furnish information about ownership of land, present performance of the entity in sports promotion, discipline-wise infrastructure owned, managed and operated by it, impact of proposed sports infrastructure / additionality in terms of growth in participation, retention of existing participation level, identification and development of new talent, a business plan for establishing sustainability of the project, including meeting of operations and maintenance cost, details of existing partnerships, if any, management structure for sports development and operations of the existing and proposed facilities, delivery capability, broad plan, estimate and time schedule for execution, budgetary support from State Government, if any, free public access to informal play spaces, affordable pay and play schemes for other facilities, availability of coaching facilities, cross subsidizing model through PPP, linkages with local clubs, sports clubs and leagues, sports associations, business partnerships to enhance viability etc.
- (vii) No State shall get more than one project in a year. States that have properly utilized facilities created under the erstwhile sports infrastructure schemes will get preference. The grant for creation of sports infrastructure will be released to SAI.
- (viii) States/ UTs will be assisted to depute 20/ 10 coaches per year to undergo 1 month refresher course in National Institute of Sports, Patiala. The maximum admissible assistance per coach shall be Rs 50, 000 towards training, training material and boarding and lodging. The travel expenses and other allowances will be the responsibility of the State/ UT Government. The State Governments/ UTs will obtain bond from the nominated coaches not to leave service before 2 years of receiving the training.

During 2010-11, funds to the tune of ₹12.50 crore have been released for the following projects under the Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure:

₹ in crore

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Amount released	Amount to be released in 2011-12
1.	Laying of hockey synthetic field in Indira Stadium,Una	Himachal Pradesh	3.50	1.50
2.	Laying of Hockey Astro Turf with normal lighting at the Boys Hockey Academy at Kawnpuri	Mizoram	4.00	1.00
3.	Construction of Multi-Purpose Hall at Taran Taran	Punjab	2.00	1.98
4.	Renovation/modification and modernization of Indoor Sports Complex (Khudiram Anushilan) Eden Garden, Kolkata	West Bengal	3.00	3.00

During 2011-12, following proposals are being appraised for grant under the Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure:

₹ in crore

S. No.	Name of the Project	State	Amount approved
1.	Synthetic Hockey Field with normal lighting at Government High School, Jashpur	Chhatisgarh	5.00
2.	Synthetic Hockey Field at Ranital Sports Complex, Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	4.96
3.	Synthetic Track at Indira Gandhi Stadium, Kohima	Nagaland	5.00
4.	Synthetic Football Ground at Football Academy, Baripada, Distt. Mayurbhanj	Orissa	4.50

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 5.7)

At present, in the field of several sports like Athletics and Hockey, synthetic surfaces like Astroturfs are being used the world over. The Committee are, however, dismayed to learn that there is no uniformity in development of synthetic surfaces in the country. At present there are only 5 synthetic Athletic tracks in the country while 14 are proposed to be laid. Besides there are just 12 Synthetic Hockey surfaces in the country and 12 more are proposed to be laid. Several states like Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Goa do not have any synthetic surface. The Committee had felt that the presence of such surfaces was not uniform in the country to which the Ministry took the stand that apart from availability of talent in a particular area & facilities made available by State, existence of Sports Authority of India (SAI) centre is also a factor, which is taken into consideration while choosing location for laying of synthetic surfaces. Since SAI does not have centres in all the States, this has led to a situation where some States have more than one surface whereas some have none. The Committee are not convinced by this argument and feel that there is no dearth of sports talent in the country and existence of a proper infrastructure can lead to discovery and development of hidden talent and popularity of a particular sport. The Committee, therefore, recommend that there should be some uniformity in development of sports infrastructure across the States. To begin with, at least one Athletic track must be made available in every State. The Committee would like to be apprised of the timelines for laying the proposed synthetic surfaces in the country.

Reply of the Government

Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure, introduced from 2011, provides for grants to the State Governments, Local Civic bodies, schools, colleges and universities under Central/ State Governments, Sports Control Boards, for synthetic playing surfaces (for hockey, football and athletics). With a view to maintaining focus on mother sports and popular sports, especially those in which the country has good medal prospects, it has been provided in the Scheme that the following types of sports infrastructure will get preference over others while deciding the grants:

- (a) Synthetic playing surface (for hockey, football and athletics)
- (b) Multipurpose indoor hall

Thus, the States, which do not have synthetic surfaces, can apply for grants from the Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure.

Once adequate funds become available under the Scheme, it will be ensured that funds for one synthetic surface (for hockey/football) and one synthetic athletic track in each State and Union Territory are sanctioned.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 5.13)

The Committee are shocked to note the apathy of the government towards the sportspersons with disability which is evident from the fact that during two years i.e. 2007-08 and 2008-09, Budgetary allocation for a scheme for promotion of sports among disabled had lapsed due to its non formulation. The Committee are pained to note that no special facilities in terms of training and infrastructure are provided to the disabled. There are no proper coaching centres for them and there is dearth of specialized coaches to train them. Besides, SAI centres and stadia are hardly disabled friendly. To add to this, there is no provision of giving cash awards for meritorious paralympic sportspersons, though their achievement are taken into consideration in the overall medal tally.

The Committee are very disturbed at the plight of these sportspersons. Though the paralympic sports were given recognition by the Government almost six years back, yet the necessary supports has not been provided till now. A scheme of 'Sports & Games for Disabled' has been approved only now in 2009. The indifferent attitude of the government towards paralympic sports became clear from the statement made by the Ministry before the Committee that for development of disabled-friendly sports infrastructures & facilities, a copy of 'Guidelines on creating Sporting & Recreational Activities for persons with Disabilities' will be sent to SAI & concerned NSFs. It seems that government was oblivious of the issue till this Committee raised it. The Committee now would like the Ministry to play a proactive role in the matter.

The Committee, also recommend that all the centres of SAI as well as stadia should be made disables-friendly. The new stadia & sports venues must be constructed on the approved norms of a disables friendly facility. The Government should also provide specialized coaches to them and such coaches should be regularly sent on Refresher training courses to learn the new developments in their field. Further, since their achievements are taken into consideration in overall medal tally, meritorious Paralympic sportspersons (medalists in International events) should also receive cash awards. The Committee would urge the Ministry to bring necessary changes in their rules and guidelines to include these suggestions.

Reply of the Government

The funds earmarked for the Scheme of Sports and Games for Persons with Disabilities were re-appropriated/surrendered during 2007-08 and 2008-09 as the Scheme could be formulated during October 2009 only, as the formulation of the Scheme required extensive consultations with the concerned stakeholders such as Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, State Commissioners for People with Disabilities, Planning Commission, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, State Governments, and the National Sports Federations dealing with different kinds of persons with disabilities, viz., Special Olympics Bharat (dealing with mentally challenged), Paralympic Committee of India (dealing with physically challenged) and All India Sports Council for Deaf (dealing with deaf).

Scheme of Sports and Games for Persons with Disabilities, approved in October 2009, aims at promotion and development of sports and games among persons with disabilities. The objective of the Scheme is broad-basing participative sports among the disabled. The Scheme has the following components:-

- (a) Grant for sports coaching and purchase of consumables & non-consumable sports equipment for Schools
- (b) Grant for Training of Coaches
- (c) Grant for holding District, State & National level competitions for the disabled.

More than 100 schools/institutes have been given grants under the scheme for procurement of sports equipment and engagement of coaches on contract basis. Further, Special Olympic Bharat has been designated as the nodal authority for conduct of training of community coaches and conduct of sports competitions at district, state and national levels. A Training Programme for training of Master Trainers is being organized under which about 500 Master Trainers are being trained annually at Lakshmibai National University of Physical Education (LNUPE), Gwalior. These Master Trainers, in turn, provide training to about 50 community coaches in their respective districts.

Further, under the Scheme of assistance to NSFs, assistance is also provided to Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), Special Olympics Bharat (SOB) and the All India Sports Council for Deaf (AISCD). Under the Scheme, the Government of India provides assistance for conduct of National Championships and International Tournaments in India, participation in International tournaments abroad, organizing coaching camps, procurement of sports equipments, engagement of foreign coaches and disbursement of salaries of the paid Joint/Assistant Secretaries engaged by NSFs. However, since recently, PCI has been derecognized due to complaints of mismanagement, the Ministry is working out alternative ways and means to support para-athletes.

As regards, accessibility of the sports facilities by persons with disabilities, it is stated that the SAI stadia renovated for hosting the Commonwealth Games 2010 are disabled friendly. Further, coaching camps are organized for disabled sportspersons as per the requirements of the Para- athletes, Special Olympic Bharat and All India Council for Deaf.

The discriminatory clause in the Scheme of 'Special Awards for medal winners in international sports events and their coaches' has been done away with. Consequent to removal of the discriminatory clause, winners of medals in Commonwealth Games 2010, Asian Games 2010 and IPC Athletics World Championships 2011 have been given cash awards at par with other sportspersons.

CHAPTER – III

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLY

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, Para No. 5.9)

As far as the efforts of the Government in the field of talent identification and imparting training to sportspersons is concerned, the Committee note that the SAI is running six schemes for the same. From the figures made available to them, the Committee observe that there has been only a marginal increase in the number of trainees who are being trained in SAI Promotional Schemes throughout the country that is, from 15010 persons in the year 2007-08 to 15115 persons in 2009-10. It is a very grim indication of the status of sports in a country having billion plus population as well as the largest youth population in the world. The contention of the Government is that budgetary constraints are the reasons for this state of affairs. The Committee therefore, urge the Ministry to approach the authorities for budget enhancement. Besides, very large Government establishments like Railways and the Army can be asked to expand their bank of talented sports persons. The Committee are also of the view that all unnecessary administrative expenditure on SAI should be curtailed by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports so that funds could be provided to find and train the talented sportspersons.

As regards foreign training of sportspersons, the Committee are appalled to note that the number of such persons since 2001 has never exceeded 20, though as preparation of sportspersons for CWG, 2567 persons have reportedly been sent abroad for the first time. The Committee thus, recommend that adequate foreign exposure should be regularly provided to deserving sportspersons, who show a consistent performance and fitness levels, as those are the medal winning prospects for the country in various international level tournaments. For this a proper schedule should be prepared and followed. Such training should be given well in advance of the start of a tournament as any last minute effort on this front does not produce desired results.

Reply of the Government

Expansion of scope of various schemes of SAI with regard to identification and nurturing of talent is dependent on availability of resources. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports can consider enhancing the number of both residential and non-residential trainees provided adequate funds are made available. There has been reduction in allocation of the funds to the Department of Sports during 2011-12 and with the reduced allocation, the Ministry is finding it difficult to run even the existing schemes. The Ministry has written to both the Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission for enhancement of funds for the Department of Sports.

As regards the training, both abroad and within the country, the same is provided under various schemes of the Ministry and Sports Authority of India. Training is primarily provided through National Coaching Camps and participation in international events. The requirements for training and participation in international events are worked out for various sports disciplines on the existing level of proficiency and potential for medal prospects. Over 300 National Coaching camps are organized annually where 4000 – 5000 sportspersons/athletes are trained.

Participation in international sports events for various sports disciplines is determined in the Long Term Development Plan, prepared for each discipline and depends on the factor whether the sports discipline is in 'priority' category or 'general' category. Following table gives the entitlement about foreign exposures of the sports disciplines belonging to 'priority' and 'general' category:

A: Priority Disciplines:

Level	Number of Main & Mandatory Events (at full cost to the Government)	Number of other events to be cleared at Full cost	Number of events to be cleared at air passage cost only
Senior	Main & Mandatory Events without any limit	2	4
Junior	Main & Mandatory Events without any limit	2	1

Level	Number of Main & Mandatory Events (at full cost to the Government)	Number of other events to be cleared at Full cost	Number of events to be cleared at air passage cost only
Sub-Junior	NIL	2	1

B: General Category Disciplines:

Level	Number of Main & Mandatory Events (at full cost to the Government)	Number of other events to be cleared at Full cost	Number of events to be cleared at air passage cost only
Senior	Main & Mandatory Events without any limit	NIL	2
Junior	NIL	2	NIL
Sub-Junior	NIL	2	1

Apart from training provided under National Coaching Camps and foreign exposure in the form of participation in international sports events abroad, customized training, both within the country and abroad, is also provided to sportspersons under the Scheme of Talent Search & Training and Scheme of National Sports Development Fund. Under the Scheme of Talent Search & Training, 50 meritorious sportspersons belonging to disciplines of athletics, boxing, judo, weightlifting and wrestling have been sent for 8 weeks advance training in Cuba in April 2011. Under NSDF, assistance is provided to the elite athletes who are medal prospects in major international sports events.

Further, for improving the performance of the Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games-2010, a Scheme with allocation of ₹678.00 crores (2008-09 to 2010-11) was implemented for providing training to the elite sportspersons in all the disciplines of the Commonwealth Games, 2010. Systematic training in India and abroad under highly qualified Indian and Foreign coaches was given to sportspersons for Commonwealth Games and 155 meetings of the Steering Committee meeting were held to finalize the proposal for participation in various tournaments/Championship /training in India and abroad under the Scheme Preparation of Indian Team. 1140 elite athletes were identified for training and this number was gradually reduced to 728 after

pruning. 541 proposals related to participation/training of Teams abroad were processed and 3759 players (repeat visits included) were sent abroad for training/competition.

For the sports disciplines of the Asian Games, 2010, which were not covered under CWG 2010, the norms for training, diet etc, as provided for in the Scheme of Preparation of Teams and Athletes for CWG 2010, were adopted for Asian Games 2010.

Post CWG 2010 and Asian Games, 2010, the norms of the Scheme of Preparation of Teams and Athletes for CWG 2010, under which core probables were sent for foreign training abroad, are being retained for preparation of our athletes for London Olympics 2012 and beyond. Rather, some norms are being enhanced further.

CHAPTER – IV

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para No. 5.1)

In so far as the budgetary allocation in respect of sports is concerned, the Committee observed that prior to the year 2007-08, the total allocation (both plan and Non Plan) for the same had remained in the ₹300-400 crore bracket with around 90% utilization. The Committee further observed that the funding received a substantial boost only in 2007-08 onwards, when funds were actually allocated to the Ministry for the preparations required to host the XIX Commonwealth Games in Delhi in the year 2010. The Ministry were allocated ₹3396.06 crores (RE both Plan and Non-Plan) in F.Y. 2009-2010, apart from ₹413.90 crore to the Organizing Committee of the Commonwealth Games, which already stands utilized. The Committee were later informed that the revised total allocation for CWG was ₹11494 crore, out of which ₹4459.48 crores was the Budget for development of sports infrastructure. While the actual figures of the total allocation and expenditure for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in the current year can only be known after the conclusion of the Commonwealth Games, the Committee are of the view that the increased allocation for sports this year was just a knee-jerk reaction of the Government to host an International sports meet. Even then the initial estimates for CWG was revised from ₹655 crore to ₹11494 crore. Though the Ministry had submitted reasons for such cost escalations, the Committee are far from convinced. Now they can only hope that the funds would be utilized in an efficient and prudent manner. Disturbed with the constant media coverage on allegations of corruption, misuse of funds, overspending on equipment, huge time and cost overruns in preparing various games venues etc., the Committee desire that such allegations, if proven true would be probed most seriously to fix the accountability and the proven cases would be dealt with stringently.

The Committee also feel that to inculcate sports culture in the country, consistency in providing appropriate funds for the Ministry needs to be maintained to yield the desired results. Thus, the Committee hope that adequate budgetary allocation

would be continued for the Ministry to sustain its efforts to promote sports, even after the Commonwealth Games, since investment in sports infrastructure, training facilities and related activities is an essential pre-requisite not only to produce potential medal winners in various national and international sports events, but also to provide a healthy alternative to the burgeoning youth population of the country. In this connection, the Committee are disheartened to know that the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), which mobilizes resources to promote sports from Government and Non-Government sources, including the Corporate sector and NRIs, had a meager corpus of just ₹63.70 crore as on 31st December 2009, as so far only BCCI and SAIL have contributed to it. The Committee feel that the concept needs an aggressive campaigning to convince Corporate Houses to contribute to the NSDF as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility, besides, the Committee desire that the Sports Policy, 2001 needs to be modified so as to include a provision that all Government Departments should devote a fraction of their budgets to promote sports talent. Also all tax incentives given for sports matters need to be re-examined to ensure that the funds spent on training of sportspersons etc. could be made tax free. Private establishments engaged in such endeavors to promote sports should also be given tax incentives. The Committee desire that the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports should work out the modalities of these proposals in coordination with ministry of Finance and inform the Committee about the outcome. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the Long Terms Development Plan prepared by SAI on the matter and the steps taken to implement the Plan. At the same time, the Committee also feel the need to emphasis upon transparency and accountability in sports funding matters to develop certain level of confidence among those who wish to sincerely contribute for promoting a healthy sports culture in the Country.

Reply of the Government

The Delhi 2010 Commonwealth Games (CWG) was successfully held from October 3-14, 2010. Competitions were held in 17 sports in which 7572 athletes/coaches/officials from 71 countries & territories of the Commonwealth participated. The Opening and the Closing Ceremonies were held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, the flagship stadium for the CWG and were commended internationally for its spectacular quality.

The performance of the Indian Sportspersons at the Commonwealth Games was outstanding. India won more than double the medals it had won at the last Commonwealth Games held in Melbourne in 2006. India finished second in the medals tally, ahead of the major sporting nations such as England, Canada, South Africa, etc with a total of 101 medals, the highest ever in any major multidisciplinary sporting event. Women sportspersons, in particular, performed brilliantly.

Out of the total allocation of ₹11687.25 crores for Commonwealth Games, 2010, an amount of ₹10078.91 crore was incurred by various agencies. Allocation & expenditure for the last 2 years 2009-10, 2010-11 for the Commonwealth Games were as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Year	Allocation	Expenditure
1.	2009-10	2268.00	2246.07
2.	2010-11	1477.43	870.27

Even though the Games per se were conducted successfully, there were allegations regarding corruption. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri V.K. Shunglu to investigate the allegations relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010. The mandate given to the Committee, inter-alia, included examination of the role and responsibilities of the various agencies relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and also to advise for the lessons learnt for the future including establishment of a mechanism for laying down timeframes and effective monitoring, creation of a legally sustainable framework for hosting similar international sporting events, appropriate financial management and internal audit, media interaction and communication. The committee has since submitted all its report/s to the Government which are under examination. Government has already initiated certain action on the recommendations of the High Level Committee.

As regards the inculcation of sports culture in the country, the Ministry is in complete agreement with the recommendation of the Estimates Committee that "...to inculcate sports culture in the country, consistency in providing appropriate funds for

the Ministry needs to be maintained to yield the desired results. that adequate budgetary allocation would be continued for the Ministry to sustain its efforts to promote sports, even after the Commonwealth Games, since investment in sports infrastructure, training facilities and related activities is an essential pre-requisite not only to produce potential medal winners in various national and international sports events, but also to provide a healthy alternative to the burgeoning youth population of the country". However, there was reduction in the budgetary allocation during 2010-11 at the RE stage. Allocation of ₹2564 crore was made for the Department of Sports for 2010-11 at BE stage, which included ₹1477.43 crore for CWG 2010. Thus, allocation for the Department of Sports excluding CWG 2010 component was ₹1109 crore for 2010-11, which was reduced to ₹963 crore at RE stage.

For the current financial year, i.e., 2011-12, the Department of Sports has projected an outlay of ₹1436 crore for Plan Schemes of the Department. However, allocation made is ₹700 crore only, which represents a reduction of 37% w.r.t BE allocation of 2010-11 and 27% w.r.t. to RE allocation of 2010-11. The Department has informed both Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission that reduced allocation will adversely affect implementation of the various schemes of the Ministry. It is expected that enhanced allocation may be made to the Department at RE stage.

As regards, contributions to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), it is stated that NSDF was established with the main objective of promoting sports in the country with the ultimate aim of creating sports culture and achieving excellence in sports and games at the National and International level. The Fund accepts contributions from statutory bodies, international organizations, private and public corporate sectors, trusts, societies and individuals. NSDF got contributions of about ₹55.40 crore from various organizations/entities over a period of time. The BCCI had made the major contribution of ₹50 crore. The BCCI contribution has given a major boost to the objectives of the NSDF. It is desirable that corporate entities also make substantial contribution to the NSDF. However, such contributions should be a voluntary exercise. Many corporate entities and major PSUs have evolved their own schemes for sports promotion and this may be one of the reasons for not coming up with contribution to the NSDF even when such contributions get 100% tax exemption. The Ministry proposes to take up the matter with industry associations viz., Federation

of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) and others and also to move the concerned line Ministries dealing with Central PSUs especially in the sectors of power, telecom, oil & gas to adopt specific sports disciplines and assist in promotion and development of the adopted sports disciplines as part of their corporate social responsibility.

As regards, tax exemptions for the sports, it is stated that contributions to NSDF are exempted from income tax under Sub Section 2(iii) of clause (a) of Section 80G of Income Tax Act. Further, NSDF, as a body, is exempted from payment of income tax under Section 12 A of Income Tax Act. Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, engaged in promotion of excellence, is also exempted from payment of income tax under Section 12 A of Income Tax Act. The matter for giving tax incentives to private establishments engaged in promotion of sports was taken up with the Ministry of Finance, which informed that the Income Tax Act, 1961 already provides tax incentives to private establishments engaged in the promotion of sports. Under the Act, a non-commercial private sports establishment i.e., an establishment which does not charge any fee or other consideration for its services may get registered under Section 12 AA of the Act. As per Sections 11 and 12 of the Act, the income of a registered private sports establishment will be exempted from tax upon the fulfillment of certain conditions. A commercial private sports establishment can also get registration under the Act for availing exemption if the total fee or other consideration received by it does not exceed ₹25 lakhs in a year. Ministry of Finance has further informed that Section 80G of the Act gives incentives to a registered private establishment by providing that contribution/donation to a Registered Private Sports Establishment will be deductible in the hands of contributors/donors for the computation of income. Thus, it is apparent from the above that the Income Tax Act already provides adequate tax incentives to private sports establishments which are engaged in the promotion of sports.

Further, the cash incentives in the form of cash awards given by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, to sportspersons for winning medals in international sports events, are exempted from income tax under Section 10(17A) of Income Tax Act.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 5.6)

The Committee note that at present there is no scheme in the Ministry of Youth Affairs under which assistance can be given to State Governments for conducting of National Games. Therefore, in the past, assistance has been given for the same by the Ministry in relaxation of provisions of the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs). The Planning Commission has also in the past provided assistance of ₹40.51 crore and ₹67 crore to the Government of Assam and Government of Jharkhand respectively for National Games, Guwahati (2007) and National Games, Ranchi (2009) in the form of Additional Central Assistance (ACA), ACA of ₹110 crore was sanctioned to the State Government of Kerala for conducting the 35th National Games in May 2010. The Committee feel that such ad hoc measures should not be made for permanent events like National Games. The Committee note that the Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme referred to in the previous recommendation will cover National Games, other sports infrastructure and playing fields too as the National Games are organized in State Capitals. The Committee are of the view that there is urgent need to support the States in hosting National Games. Thus, the Committee would urge the Ministry to keep the fund requirements under this Head in view while preparing the estimates for the new Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme. The Committee would further emphasize upon the need to set up a permanent corpus of funds by the Central Government with a specific amount to be contributed by each State as mandatory condition. The corpus should be utilized by the States for regular hosting of National Games as well as for establishing sports infrastructure required by them for the same. The Committee also feel that the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports must coordinate with the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting so as to highlight the achievement of our sportspersons in various disciplines in the National Games as well as in other national and international sports events.

Reply of the Government

The allocation of funds for the Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure, introduced on pilot basis from 2010-11, is limited and it is not possible to fund the projects for National Games from this Scheme, as the requirement of funds for creation/upgradation of sports infrastructure facilities for National Games is

quite significant. However, from 12th Five Year Plan, the Scheme is likely to be made as a regular Scheme and then the projects for National Games can also be considered for assistance from the Scheme. Till then, proposals of the State Governments for creation/upgradation of sports facilities for conduct of the National Games will require to be assisted by way of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) by the Planning Commission.

For 34th National Games, Jharkand, an assistance of ₹67 crore was given to the State Government as Additional Central Assistance by the Planning Commission towards creation of sports facilities and conduct of games.

For 35th National Games, Kerala, scheduled to be held in 2012, the Planning Commission has sanctioned an Additional Central Assistance of ₹110 crore to the State Government (50% of the Project cost). Further, an amount of ₹20 crore has been sanctioned to SAI for modernization and renovation of SAI centres in Kerala which will be used as venues during 35th National Games.

For evaluation and assessment of the funds for 36th National Games, Goa, the Central Team consisting of representatives from the Department of Sports, Sports Authority of India, Planning Commission and Indian Olympic Association had visited the State in October 2009 and the Team assessed that the total cost towards development of sports infrastructure would be ₹326 crore. The Central team has recommended that Government of India may consider giving 75% of the assessed cost as grant-in-aid, i.e., ₹244.50 crore. The Report of the Central Team has been forwarded to the Planning Commission for taking further action in the matter.

Further, the Department of Sports has taken a serious view of the ad hoc approach of the Indian Olympic Association and the States in the allotment of the National Games and non-adherence to the original time schedule for the conduct of the Games. The Department of Sports had written to all State Governments that it would not be feasible for the Central Government to consider host states' requests for central assistance without prior appraisal of the level of preparedness of the State Government

to host the Games. States were advised to seek prior approval of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports before bidding for National Games to be eligible for central assistance.

Although National Games are supposed to be held biennially, 34th National Games, Jharkhand, originally scheduled to be held in November 2007, were postponed six times and were recently held in February 2011. Instead of conducting the National Games already allotted, Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had gone ahead allotting the future editions of the Games to one State after the other without ensuring or taking concrete steps for timely conduct of the National Games already allotted. There is a general trend among states to first bid for the National Games without making a complete assessment in terms of infrastructural and financial requirements and then approach the Central Government for assistance for creation of sports infrastructure and conduct of the Games.

A meeting was taken by the Secretary, Department of Sports on 10.11.2010 with the representatives of the State Governments of Jharkhand, Kerala, Goa and Chhattisgarh. The issues relating to allotment of the National Games, timely conduct of the Games, infrastructural requirements etc were deliberated at length. It was decided in the meeting to take up the matter with IOA on the following points:

- (viii) Formulation of clear guidelines for allotment of the National Games to the States
- (ix) No further bidding till conclusion of Goa National Games
- (x) Work out a cycle for holding National Games biennially in a manner so that the National Games are held before Olympic Games on the one occasion and before the Asian Games/Commonwealth Games on the other occasion and so on
- (xi) Making it mandatory for concerned authorities including State Government, State Olympic Association and IOA to hold the National Games as per the dates finalized at the time of bidding leaving no scope for postponement barring for situations beyond control
- (xii) Development of a model Host City Contract
- (xiii) Standardization of field of play, equipments etc.
- (xiv) Exploring the possibility of splitting the Games into main National Games, Indoor Games and the Youth Games.

As a follow up to the above meeting, a meeting with the representatives of IOA was held under the chairmanship of the Joint Secretary (Sports), Department of Sports. Representative of IOA has informed that IOA has guidelines for allotment of National Games to the States and conduct of the National Games. It was decided in the meeting that these guidelines need to be re-visited to obviate the awkward situation like the present one, where 4 States are waiting in queue to conduct the National Games. It was emphasized in the meeting that there should only be two States waiting at a time – one in staging mode and one in the preparation mode. It was also stressed in the meeting that the National Games should be conducted as per the schedule and that if there was any question mark/doubt with regard to timely conduct of the Games on account of lack of preparations or for some other reason, the National Games be shifted to Delhi where adequate sports facilities are available and where the conduct of the National Games even at a short notice will not be a problem. It was acknowledged that the cycle of the Games should be such that they are held once before the Olympic Games and once before the Commonwealth/Asian Games, as it would help in selection of national teams in different disciplines for participation in Olympics/Commonwealth/Asian Games.

It also emerged from the discussions that a quadrennial cycle (once in four years) could also be considered for conduct of National Games to synchronize with the conduct of the Asian games. If the National Games were to be conducted biennially as per present practice, then the National Games should be allotted in such a manner that once they are held in a State having brown-field stadia i.e., where facilities of adequate standard for conduct of National Games already exist, followed by a State where green-field stadia are being developed. Such an arrangement will provide a lead time of 4 years for creation of sports facilities to States, where green-field sports facilities are required to be created.

It also emerged from the discussions that regular National Games should be confined to 28 Olympic disciplines, and that Indoor Games be held biennially/quadrennially, as the case may be, to cover the non-Olympic disciplines.

On the issue of play field norms, it emerged that only field of play/surface, lighting etc. should be of international standards, others like spectator gallery need not be developed of the level required for staging mega events.

The Department of Sports is now in the process of constituting an Empowered Committee consisting of representatives from the Ministry, Sports Authority of India, Indian Olympic Association and States to deliberate on the various issues related to conduct of the National Games including fixation of guidelines for allotment of the Games to the States, periodicity of the Games, schedule of the Games, splitting of the Games into main National Games (outdoor), Indoor Games and the Youth Games, fixation of guidelines for allotment of the Games to the States, development of model Host City Contract, etc and make recommendations to the Government.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 5.8)

The Committee are constrained to note that there is no optimal utilization of the existing stadia. They have been made to understand by sports experts that a cricket stadium can be utilized as a multi-purpose stadium for sports like football and Kabaddi with minor changes. The Committee, however, fail to understand the logic of keeping the stadia unutilized except for cricket matches, while other sports are being given a cold shoulder by the authorities. The Committee therefore, recommend that instead of keeping a stadium exclusively for use of one sport disciplines, these should be optimally used for various disciplines. In fact, the Committee feel that the Ministry should adopt the policy of constructing multipurpose stadia in view of less availability of land. This will not only reduce expenditure to be incurred for construction of stadia for each discipline but will also lead to proper utilization of such stadia. The Committee also desire that schools near these stadia should also be allowed access to them for conducting matches & tournaments. A proper schedule for allotment of stadia to schools should be prepared and followed for the same.

Reply of the Government

Under the Come and Play Scheme of Sports Authority of India, launched in April, 2011, the designated areas in the Stadia have been thrown open for both imparting

professional training to established sportspersons and also to beginners with the objective to encourage participation in sports and for optimum utilization of the Stadia.

Following sports disciplines are being taken up for coaching/training at the various facilities:

Name of the Stadium	Sports Discipline
Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium	(i) Athletics (ii) Weightlifting (iii) Football (iv) Volleyball
Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges	Shooting
Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool Complex	Swimming
Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium	(i) Hockey (ii) Cricket
Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium (Gymnastic)	(i) Gymnastics (ii) Table Tennis (iii) Badminton
K.D. Jadhav Wrestling Stadium, IG Stadium Complex	(i) Wrestling (ii) Boxing (iii) Judo (iv) Basketball
Cycling Velodrome, IG Stadium Complex	Cycling
I G Sports Complex (Open Area)	Archery

So, it is being ensured that the sports stadia and sports facilities owned by the Sports Authority of India are being used optimally for various sports disciplines. As regards, cricket stadia, it is stated that these stadia are owned by the State Cricket Associations and it is for them to decide to allow usage of cricket stadia for other sports competitions.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 5.10)

Coaches are vital for training the sportspersons. Therefore, apart from ensuring adequate number of coaches to train the sportspersons, improving and maintaining

their quality with suitable refresher courses is very important. The Committee feel that there is a need to open more coaching centres at the district/regional level first so as to make coaches available for such sportspersons who lack resources to get coaching in big cities & metropolises. Since new developments are taking place in the field of sports, the Committee opine that the Government should devise a programme for sending the coaches on refresher training at regular intervals. At present there is a coach exchange programme with very few countries like Hungary, with whom India has signed International cooperation agreement. The Committee feel that such efforts must be extended to countries having international level coaches and sportspersons like China, Japan, South Korea, Germany, South Africa, Russia and Latin American countries too. Also, the coach development programme run by NIS, Patiala should be further modernized and strengthened in consultation with sports scientists.

Reply of the Government

Ministry has taken a major drive for capacity building for coaches by sending them for training abroad or arranging training for them by foreign experts at National Institutes of Sports, Patiala, so that they are equipped with latest methodologies and techniques in coaching of sportspersons. Ministry has entered into collaborations with Cuba and Hungary for training of coaches abroad. During April 2010, 20 coaches of SAI were deputed for a three month long International Coaching Course at Budapest conducted by the Semmelweis University, Budapest (Hungary). In January 2011, 56 coaches and community coaches have been sent to Cuba for 4 week and 6 week training programme under the Scheme of Talent Search & Training. While 29 high performing coaches including once coordinator drawn from Sports Authority of India and State Governments have been sent for 6 week training programme, 27 community coaches including one coordinator, who have undergone Master Trainers Training Programme under Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), have been sent for 4 week training programme. Further, 34 coaches, drawn from SAI and State Governments have been sent for 3 month long International Coaching Course, at Semmelweis University, Budapest (Hungary) from March-June 2011.

The Sports Authority of India and Semmelweis University, Budapest have signed an agreement in 2011, under which the Semmelweis University will design a Tailor-

made coaching programme of one month duration exclusively for Indian coaches, under which a coaching programme for a minimum of 30 coaches by experts of Semmelweis University will be run either in Hungary or in India.

Further, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and SAI are in interactions with Beijing Sports University for training of our coaches.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para No. 5.12)

The Committee note with regret that the participation of women in sports is abysmally low which is evident from the fact that out of total 15115 number of trainees in SAI centres, the number of girls was only 4261 as compared to 10854 boys. Besides, there are no separate women sports hostels and out of 91 sports hostels only 49 have residential facilities for women. Apart from the gender bias in our society, unavailability of some gender specific facilities is responsible for the same. For example out of 1258 regular coaches, only 181 i.e. 15% are women coaches. It is but a fact that girls living in rural areas will prefer to have women coaches. Having noted media reports about sexual harassment of girl players by men coaches, the Committee are surprised to note that there is no mechanism in place to deal with cases of sexual harassment of sportswomen. It is only now that the Ministry has decided to write to various National Sports Federations to put in place a mechanism for the same. The Committee would like to know the status of the same at the action taken stage.

Though the Ministry of YA&S does not feel any need for a separate policy for sportswomen, the Committee are of the view that the issue needs attention in order to provide equal opportunities to girls in the field of sports. Therefore, they suggest that a scheme for sportswomen should be formulated on the following lines. Firstly, the Ministry should start with Gender Budgeting to encourage participation of women. Separate funds should be earmarked to be spent on sportswomen under various heads & schemes as availability of funds will incentivize the Government to spend it for the purpose it will be allocated. Secondly, a well defined mechanism is needed to be put in place to prevent and deal with cases of sexual harassment in SAI. All the NSFs being funded by the Government should also be asked to establish such a mechanism. In case of failure, the concerned NSF should be de-recognized by the Government.

Thirdly, the government should make all efforts to increase the number of women coaches. To this end, some seats should be reserved for women in various training institutes. The Committee further counsel the Ministry to coordinate with the Ministry of Women & Child Development to garner support on the issue and frame a scheme for discovering and nurturing sports talent among the women population of the country.

Reply of the Government

There are social issues, which have a bearing on the number of women trainees and women sportspersons taking part in the sports events. Parents are generally not open to send girls to residential training centres. There is also hesitation on the part of girls and the parents as some of the centres are far away from the cities. However, as far as the Ministry of the Youth Affairs and Sports and Sports Authority of India are concerned, all Schemes are inclusive schemes and equally applicable to women sportspersons.

Further, a National Championship for exclusively women is conducted annually, which is now conducted under PYKKA Scheme. Under the annual sports competitions conducted at block, district, state and national levels under PYKKA Scheme, there has been a very encouraging response from women. During the sports competitions in 2008-09, out of 7,21,519 participants, there were 2,49,190 women participants and during 2009-10, out of 22,48,944 participants, there were 8,73,842 women participants.

As regards prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports, the Ministry has issued instructions in August 2010 to all NSFs making it clear to them it shall be the responsibility of NSFs and other sports bodies to prevent sexual harassment of women in sports and to ensure their safety. They have also been directed to take appropriate measures, as per the judgment of 1997 of Supreme Court in the matter of Vishakha & others versus of State of Rajasthan, to prevent sexual harassment of women in sports sector.

Further, the guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports have been incorporated in the proposed National Sports Legislation.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 16, Para No. 5.16)

The Committee are extremely concerned to note the delay in overall arrangements for organizing the XIX Commonwealth Games, 2010 in India, apart from the huge cost overruns as is evident from the difference in the initial cost, estimates to the revised estimates of conducting the Games. Inability of the government to meet most of the deadlines in development of infrastructure projects and the consequent cost overruns are not only putting the nation in bad light but are casting staggering burden on the public exchequer. The Committee fail to comprehend that despite the Host city contract being signed in 2003, why the budgetary allocation for CWG was made four years later i.e. in 2007. As a result, the scheme for training of sportspersons could only be started in 2008. Also the development of critical sports infrastructure in time to conduct the Games suffered irreversibly. The Committee would like to quote the example of the city of London, the host city for Olympic Games, 2012, where the infrastructure has been nearly complete despite the Games still a good two years away. The Committee are of the view that ideally various projects which include development of stadia, training venues and development of city's infrastructure including residential facilities for sportspersons should have been completed at least one year before the start of the Games. Apart from the fact that the infrastructure is still not complete, the constant press reports on slippages in various projects is extremely disheartening. The Committee cannot but deplore the lethargic manner in which the matter was handled by the Central Government, Organizing Committee and GNCTD, particularly when the country's honour is at stake. They expect the government to probe all charges of corruption and cost escalations seriously after the Games. Meanwhile the Committee also urge the Ministry to utilize their PR mechanism optimally in case any exaggerated reports appear in the media. As for the athletes and sportspersons, the Committee sincerely hope that our sportspersons would give their best performance to bring laurels to the host country since such lifetime opportunities are too precious for each one of them.

The Committee are also concerned to note that Government is yet to decide about the actual utilization as well as maintenance of the sports infrastructure after the CWG. The Committee recommend that care must be taken to ensure an optimum utilization of the same throughout the year. As regards overall maintenance and repair,

the agency involved in construction of a stadium should be responsible for its maintenance for a specified period. The Committee also feel that the stadia should be given to various NSFs/Sports Associations for regular training of their sportspersons and holding championships in their disciplines. Such constant utilization of infrastructure would ensure their proper maintenance too, and thus in case of hosting any other mega sports event in future, large scale investments on the same could, perhaps be avoided.

The Committee are of the view that absence of any policy on hosting mega sports events is the reason for the present status of CWG projects. The Committee feel that had there been proper planning, the never ending delays in projects could have been avoided. The Committee desire that in future we should go for bidding for organizing Mega Sports events only after the ground work in this regard is done. Financial planning involving the cost benefit analysis should also be done well in advance keeping in view the cost escalation factors over the years. The Committee also desire that the level, at which the responsibility can be fixed in case of failure to achieve the target should be clearly defined. A proper plan of action for training the sportspersons to excel in such events should also be prepared. The Committee desire that a policy be chalked out by the government on these lines for organizing any mega sports events. The Government should also ensure its proper execution and transparency and accountability in all financial deals. The Committee therefore, recommend that the Ministry should seriously consider revising the Sports Policy to address all the matters raised by them.

Reply of the Government

Through a series of meetings of the Group of Ministers (GOM) and the Committee of Secretaries (COS), all the proposals/projects related to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 were regularly considered/approved and monitored for timely completion of the projects. This Ministry, being the nodal Ministry for overseeing the work related to the Commonwealth Games and release of funds in this regard has also been making timely and consistent efforts to get the approvals of the competent authorities for the various project related to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 in a time

bound manner and making the funds available to the various concerned agencies for timely completion of all the projects.

Details regarding projected/envisaged cost for Commonwealth Games, to public exchequer since inception, are given in **Annexure-I**. Progress of work, for Commonwealth Games, was monitored by the Group of Ministers, the Committee of Secretaries, Empowered Committee of Delhi Government chaired by Chief Secretary and Infrastructure Monitoring Committee chaired by Secretary (Sports), on regular basis. The project undertaken by Central Government, Government of NCR and other bodies, for Commonwealth Games, funded out of the exchequer, alongwith budget, are given in **Annexure-II**. These cost escalations were due to certain inescapable factors like escalation in prices of construction material; ii) change in scope of work; iii) increases in build up area; iv) addition of new work; v) statutory levies which were not taken into account earlier and vi) quality assurances & other contingencies etc. These projects were completed before the commencement of the Commonwealth Games-2010.

To improve the performance of the Indian contingent in the Commonwealth Games-2010 a Scheme with allocation of ₹678.00 crore (2008-09) to 2010-11) was implemented for providing training to the elite sportspersons in all the disciplines of the Commonwealth Games, 2010. Systematic training in India and abroad under highly qualified Indian and Foreign coaches was given to sportspersons for Commonwealth Games and 155 meetings of the Steering Committee meeting were held to finalize the proposal for participation in various tournaments/Championship /training in India and abroad under the Scheme Preparation of Indian Team. 1140 elite athletes were identified for training and this no. was gradually reduced to 728 after pruning. 541 proposals related to participation/training of Teams abroad were processed and 3759 players (repeat visits included) were sent abroad for training/competition. With the help of the Scheme for Preparation of Indian Teams for Commonwealth Games, 2010, the performance of the Indian Sportspersons at the Commonwealth Games was exceptional and outstanding resulting in an unprecedented haul of medals, which were more than double the medals India had won at the last Commonwealth Games held at Melbourne in 2006. India also finished second in the medals tally, ahead of the major sporting nations such as England, Canada, South Africa, etc with a total of 101 medals,

the highest ever in any major multidisciplinary sporting event. Women sportspersons, in particular, performed brilliantly.

On the basis of the adverse report in the Electronic Media the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India had constituted a High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri V.K. Shunglu to investigate the matter relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010. The mandate given to the Committee, inter-alia, included examination of the role and responsibilities of the various agencies relating to the Commonwealth Games, 2010 and also to advise for the lessons learnt for the future including establishment of a mechanism for laying down timeframes and effective monitoring, creation of a legally sustainable framework for hosting similar international sporting events, appropriate financial management and internal audit, media interaction and communication. The committee has since submitted all its report/s to the Government which are under examination. Government has already initiated certain action on the recommendations of the High Level Committee.

As regards about the actual utilization as well as maintenance of the sports infrastructure after the CWG 2010, it is stated that the Ministry has constituted a Committee comprising eminent sportspersons and sports journalists under the chairpersonship of Director General, Sports Authority of India (SAI) for examining various options and for giving their recommendations for the legacy planning of the stadia in Delhi managed by SAI namely Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Swimming Pool, Dr. KSSSR Shooting Ranges, Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium and Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium after the Commonwealth Games 2010. The Committee is to give its recommendations on list of preferred sporting and other activities, which could be allowed stadia-wise; the correct balance between revenue generation objective and sports promotion objective, the strategies to leverage the stadia for hosting prestigious sporting events; the strategies for attracting commercially viable anchor-tenants who have a strong sports agenda like professional/commercial league etc; operation of players' academies by eminent sportspersons; alternative approved models for operations and maintenance of SAI stadia, including public private partnership and corporate social responsibility models. The Committee has submitted its report. Recommendations made by the Committee are being examined for proceeding further in the matter.

Further, for utilization of the sports facilities in SAI stadia, Sports Authority of India has launched 'Come and Play Scheme' in April 2011. Designated areas in the SAI stadia in Delhi viz., Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, Dr. Karni Singh Shooting Ranges, Dr. SPM Swimming Pool Complex, Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium, Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium (Gymnastics, Wrestling and Cycling Velodrome) have been thrown open for promoting community sports. The response has been encouraging. Apart from this, National Coaching Camps are also being run in respect of some sports disciplines like Hockey, Gymnastics, etc.

As regards the recommendations of the Committee to the effect that in future we should go for bidding for organizing Mega Sports events only after the ground work in this regard has been done, it is stated that the Ministry will keep the recommendations of the Committee in view while deciding on the proposals received for bidding for mega sport events.

CHAPTER – V

RECOMMENDATIONS / OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No. 5.3)

The Committee observe that excelling in sports is no longer a matter of stamina and endurance alone. Sports at national and international level has become a specialized endeavor comprising physiological, bio-mechanical, nutritional & physiological elements. It has been rightly said that in today's world, an international sports star is not just born or found, but is created through a well researched and discipline-specific scientific process, backed by appropriate incentives. The specialists in these disciplines in India are, however, a counted few. The Committee, therefore, strongly feel that sports should be developed as a science and its physiology, pharmacology, biomechanics, nutrition and medicine, etc. need to be a part of higher education. These disciplines should be popularized and be made available in maximum number of Institutes. The Committee desire that Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports should continue to take up the matter with the Ministry as well as the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of HRD and other relevant bodies/institutes and urge them to take concrete steps in this direction.

Reply of the Government

Sports Sciences are an integral part of the training of sportspersons. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) centres at the National Institute of Sports (NIS), Patiala, Kolkata and Bangalore have well established sports science facilities, which are manned by experts. The scientific support to national campers is an essential part of the system of preparation of national athletes for participation in international competitions. Sports science facilities have been strengthened at Bangalore, Bhopal, Lucknow, Gandhinagar, Thiruvanthapuram, Kolkata, Aurangabad, Imphal and Sonapat centres of SAI, as part of preparation of sportspersons for Commonwealth Games, 2010.

Application of scientific techniques is aimed at the following objectives:

- (i) to enhance potential of Indian sportspersons
- (ii) to improve health & fitness assessment of athletes
- (iii) to provide physiotherapy and rehabilitation to injured sportspersons.
- (iv) to enhance optimum work output in the field.
- (v) designing of weight control programme for weight category sports.

Following are the departments of the Sports Medicine and Sports Science which intend to apply medical knowledge to sports with the aim of preserving the health of the athletes whilst improving his or her performance:

- (i) Department of Sports Anthropometry
- (ii) Department of Bio-chemistry
- (iii) Department of Exercise Physiology
- (iv) Department of Sports Psychology
- (v) Department of Sports Biomechanics
- (vi) Department of Sports Nutrition
- (vii) Department of General Theory & Methods of Training

Further, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has constituted an Expert Group in February 2011 under the chairpersonship of Secretary (Sports) and comprising of experts from sports medicine, sports injuries, nutrition, dope testing laboratories, distinguished sportspersons and sports administrators to give suggestions for strengthening various aspects of sports science including sports nutrition. Terms of reference of the Expert Group are as follows:

- (i) To be the Centre of excellence for education and research in sports sciences in the national endeavour to improve sporting performances;
- (ii) To be a comprehensive centre for evaluation, prevention and treatment for sportspersons;
- (iii) to provide a centre of faculty exchange, collaboration and research among various sports universities of the world; and
- (iv) to promote research and application of sports sciences to enhance performance in sports.

The Ministry will take further action in the matter on submission of the report by the Expert Group.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 5.11)

One of the objectives of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) is to take up research & development studies for providing support to excellence in sports. The Committee note with concern that no R&D studies have been undertaken so far despite the fact that NSDF was institutionalized around 12 years back. The stand taken by the Department of Sports before the Committee was that if any viable project is received for funding R&D in sports, it would be given serious consideration, which is not convincing enough. Therefore, the Committee desire the Ministry of YA&S to become proactive and take the required initiative in conducting a study on providing scientific support to sportspersons instead of waiting for any viable project to come up. In this regard, the Ministry can engage research institutions with proven track record or experience in the field of sports science. Such research studies can be funded by the Ministry from NSDF. The objective of the study should be to see how to integrate the development in the field of biomechanics, nutrition, physiology, pharmacology, sports medicine etc. with sports. The Committee further recommend that since new developments occur in the field of sports, engagement in R&D studies should be a continuous process for which adequate funding must be ensured. The Committee desire that the Ministry may identify, in consultation with experts, specific areas where R&D is critically required. They would like to be apprised of the action plan of the Ministry on the matter.

Reply of the Government

One of the objectives of NSDF is to identify problems and take up research and development studies for providing support to excellence in sports. However, NSDF has not received any proposal for R&D studies in the field of sports. Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports will explore the possibility of conducting such studies by engaging reputed research institutions in the field of sports sciences.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No. 5.14)

Cases of mismanagement in various National Sports Federations (NFSs), who are responsible and accountable for the overall management, direction, control, regulation, promotion and development of particular sports disciplines are rampant and

thus a matter of great concern to the Committee. Though it is a fact that these Federations are autonomous yet by virtue of the fact that they receive funds from the Government and function for the public, they have been rightly declared by the Government as public authorities. The Committee appreciate the recent initiatives taken by the Government in introducing a system of annual recognition of NSFs to bring transparency & fairness in their functioning. The Committee feel that had such a step been taken by the Government long back, the current murky situation could have been avoided. The Committee are of the opinion that autonomy should not lead to arbitrariness and transparency and accountability in dealings including election of members would definitely help the NSFs in gaining respect and admiration among the sports community. The Committee would further like to underline the pressing need to conduct regular auditing of accounts of those NSFs which are being funded by the Government by either the C&AG or reputed Chartered Accountants. The Committee recommend the Ministry to take up the matter with NSFs and also conduct random checking of their accounts. The Committee are also of the view that there should be no discrimination by the Government in giving funds to NSFs. Federation promoting indigenous games and performing well consistently like Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Wrestling should not face the resource-crunch.

The Committee are perturbed to note the absence of any grievance redressal mechanism in the NSFs. The Committee, therefore, recommend that existence of such a mechanism should also be made a criterion for giving recognition and financial assistance by the government to any NSF. Since the matter regarding the tenure of members of NSFs is sub judice, the Committee would like to be apprised of the final position in this regard. The Committee would like the Ministry to advise the NSFs to include eminent sportspersons in their Boards. For NSFs involved in women sports disciplines like women hockey etc., the Committee would recommend establishing some quota for sportswomen in their Boards, as well.

Reply of the Government

With a view to ensuring financial accountability and for monitoring the utilization of funds for the purpose for which are sanctioned, the Ministry insists upon the national Sports Federations to follow proper accounting procedures and have their accounts

audited on regular basis which is also a prerequisite for obtaining and maintaining recognition with the Ministry. They have to submit timely utilization certificates to the Ministry with respect to all the grants received by them. Any federation, not submitting the UCs in time, is not given any further financial grant. The accounts of the Federations receiving financial grant of more than ₹1 crore are audited by Comptroller & Auditor General.

From January, 2010, a mandatory annual recognition procedure for the NSFs has been introduced. In order to update records of National Sports Federations (NSFs), the Government has undertaken an exercise to collect and maintain the data/documents with regard to legal, financial, management and operational status of NSFs. NSFs have also been asked to draw the calendar of their activities for the year so as to enable players/States units, Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and School Games Federation of India to plan their participation and sporting activities.

Only those NSFs, who submit the requisite documents, including financial statements, prescribed by the Ministry, are being granted annual recognition certificates.

Most NSFs do not have proper grievance redressal mechanism. Ministry has been insisting upon the NSFs for good governance practices. Recently, Ministry had declared IOA and all NSFs as public authorities under Right to Information Act, 2005. This measure will go a long way in grievance redressal as the affected parties can access information under RTI Act. Further, normally the grievances of the sportspersons relate to selection criteria and of conduct of coaching camps etc. In this regard, the Ministry has issued detailed guidelines for more efficient management of coaching camps, selection of coaches, selection of athletes, etc in September 2008.

Separately the Ministry is in the process of enacting the National Sports Law, a preliminary draft of which has been published on the website of the Ministry. The proposed National Sports Development Bill contains, inter alia, elaborate suggestions for setting up a National Sports Ombudsman and Appellate Authority to provide for speedy and effective dispute resolution mechanism in sports through the process of arbitration, mediation and conciliation. Ministry has received a number of

suggestions/comments, on the Preliminary Exposure draft on the proposed National Sports Legislation. The Ministry has constituted a Committee on 6.4.2011 under the chairmanship of Justice Mukul Mudgal, Retired Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, to examine all comments and suggestions received, both from sports governance and legal angle, to make specific recommendations on each comment/suggestion with specific reference to sports administration, sports development and welfare of sports persons, to make specific comments on the sports arbitration mechanism etc.

Based on the receipt of the report of the Committee, the Ministry will proceed further in the matter for obtaining the approval of the Cabinet for introduction of the National Sports Law in Parliament.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15, Para No. 5.15)

National Sports Policy, 2001, envisages that it would be reviewed periodically in order to incorporate changes/modifications which may be necessitated by technological and other advancements in the field of sports. Reviewing of existing schemes of Ministry and introduction of new schemes is a way of implementing the existing policy and does not imply a review of the National Sports Policy as has been interpreted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports. The Committee observe that an attempt was made to review this policy and a draft comprehensive National Sports Policy, 2007 was prepared. However, due to opposition from IOA & NSFs the draft was not approved. The Committee are of the view that the existing Sports Policy has not been successful in generating enough enthusiasm about sports in the country so far and thus needs certain modifications, particularly in post CWG scenario, for instance, committing to establish at least one centre of excellence in sports in every State as per international standards and recommending a better convergence and coordination among departments handling education and sports etc. Besides sports quota in education and employment should be made more effective. The Committee further are of the view that vested interests have really harmed the country's sports scene and thus there is an urgent need for establishment of an independent sports arbitration and mediation mechanism, as was proposed in draft policy, 2007. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the existing policy be revised and a Sports Regulatory Body be

established for resolution of disputes arising within or between NSFs or between an individual NSF and the players. Cases of doping and sexual harassment of sportspersons should also be brought within its jurisdiction. As the government is examining the possibility of a new sports law, the Committee would like the Ministry to apprise them of the issues the law is likely to address as well as the status of the same.

Reply of the Government

With the objective of formulating a suitable legal framework for national sports development including good governance among sports bodies, the Ministry proposes to enact national sports legislation. For this purpose, the Ministry has prepared an exposure draft paper on the proposed national sports legislation with a view to invite the comments and suggestions and placed the same in the public domain since 22.2.2011, on the website of the Ministry. The Draft Legislation has the following broad principles:

- (i) Some of the core principles enunciated in the 'Basic Universal Principles of Good Governance' proposed by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and endorsed by the XIII Olympic Congress, which include fair and transparent election process; age and tenure limit in respect of office bearers; and participation of athletes in decision making process.
- (ii) Best practices in sport governance identified from the legal framework of sports obtaining in other countries.
- (iii) Anti-doping regulations compliant with WADA code to be given legislative backing. As a signatory to the UNESCO convention, India has shown highest commitment to movement against doping. It is a member of the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) and has constituted its own National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) on the lines of WADA.
- (iv) Measures to prevent sexual harassment of women following the guidelines enunciated by the Supreme Court in the Vishakha judgement.
- (v) Foolproof guidelines for detection and prevention of age fraud in sports.
- (vi) Effective and speedy resolution of sport-related disputes, including redressal of athletes' grievances, through conciliation and mediation process by appointing a National Sports Ombudsman.

A large number of responses have been received in response to the Preliminary Exposure draft on the proposed National Sports Legislation. The Ministry has constituted a Committee on 6.4.2011 under the chairmanship of Justice Mukul Mudgal, Retired Chief Justice of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, to examine all comments and suggestions received, both from sports governance and legal angle, to make specific recommendations on each comment/suggestion with specific reference to sports administration, sports development and welfare of sports persons, to make specific comments on the sports arbitration mechanism etc.

Based on the receipt of the report of the Committee, the Ministry will proceed further in the matter for obtaining the approval of the Cabinet for introduction of the National Sports Law in Parliament.

As regards establishment of at least one centre of excellence in sports in every State as per international standards and recommending a better convergence and coordination among departments handling education and sports etc, it is stated that the primary responsibility of for promotion and development of sports in the country including establishment of centres of excellence is that of States, as 'sports' is a State subject. However, for supplementing the efforts of the States, the Ministry provides assistance under its various schemes. For the purpose of creation of sports infrastructure facilities of international standards, which may serve as centres of excellence, the States can apply for assistance under the recently approved Scheme of Assistance for the creation of Urban Sports Infrastructure.

NEW DELHI;
21st December, 2011
Agrahayana 30 ,1933(S)

FRANCISCO SARDINHA,
CHAIRMAN,
COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES.

**Details regarding projected/envisaged cost for Commonwealth Games
to public exchequer****(₹ in crores)**

Sl. No.	Estimates Presented	Estimated Amount
1.	Estimate presented before Cabinet on 10.09.2003 based on their assessment of IOA	618
2.	Estimate projected by IOA in Bid Document in November 2003 (\$ 407.65 million)	1835
3.	Estimate presented before Cabinet on 09.04.2007	3566
4.	Estimate presented before GOM on 06.08.2007	4352
5.	Estimate presented before CCEA on 27.3.2008	6504
6.	Estimate presented before Cabinet on 03.10.2008	7862
7.	Estimate presented before Cabinet on 04.12.2008	7907
8.	Estimate presented before Cabinet on 08.05.2009	9599
9.	Final Allocation	11687.25

Annexure - II**The details of the projects undertaken for Commonwealth Games****(₹in crore)**

S.No.	Name of Stadium	Construction Agency	Initial Cost	Revised Cost	Date of completion
1.	Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium	SAI/CPWD	465	961	01.08.2010
2.	Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium	SAI/CPWD	113	262	14.01.2010
3.	Indira Gandhi Stadium Complex	SAI/CPWD	271	669	29.06.2010
4.	Dr. SPM Swimming Pool Complex	SAI/CPWD	145	377	18.07.2010
5.	Dr. Karni singh Shooting Rangers	SAI/CPWD	16	149	31.01.2010
6.	Rugby Main Ground and other training venues	DU	222.27	306.41	11.07.2010
7.	Training Venues and JMI	JMI	33.41	42.57	04.08.2010
8.	R.K.Khanna Tennis Stadium	AITA	30±15%	65.65	11.07.2010
9.	Big Bore Shooting Kadarapur	CRPF/CPWD	15	28.50	10.05.2010
10.	DPS Lawn Bowls	CPWD	1.73	1.73	30.04.2010
11.	Delhi Development Authority(DDA)--- i)Sirifort Sports Complex ii) Yamuna Sports Complex iii) Game Village etc.	DDA	325.00 ±25%	827.86	31.08.2010
12.	Govt of National Capital Territory of Delhi i) Thyagraj Sports Complex ii) Ludlow Castle Hall iii) Chattrasal stadium	GNCTD	416.76	416.76	i) 02.04.2010 ii)29.01.2010 iii)09.04.2010

In most of the cases, initially, the targeted dates of completion of the project were December, 2009/January, 2010.

APPENDIX - I

MINUTES OF ELEVENTH SITTING OF COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (2011-2012)

The Committee sat on Friday, the 16th December, 2011 from 1400 hrs. to 1510 hrs. in Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

1. Shri Bhakta Charan Das - Convener
2. Shri R. Dhruvanarayana
3. Shri Ninong Ering
4. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
5. Shri M. Krishnaswamy
6. Shri S. Semmalai
7. Shri M. I. Shanavas
8. Shri Ganesh Singh
9. Shri Ijyaraj Singh
10. Shri Jagadanand Singh
11. Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
12. Shri Hukamdeo Narayan Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. Shri P. K. Grover | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. Shri S. C. Chaudhary | - | Director |
| 3. Smt. Anita B. Panda | - | Additional Director |
| 4. Smt. Juby Amar | - | Deputy Secretary |

2. At the outset, the Convener welcomed the Members to sitting of the Committee.
3. The Committee then took up for consideration following Draft Reports for consideration and adoption
 - (i) Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Sports - Policy, Infrastructure and Training Facilities' pertaining to Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports).

(ii) * * * * *

4. The Committee adopted the draft Reports at (i) above with some modifications suggested by the Members of the Committee as per **Annexure.**

5. The Committee then authorized the Convener to finalize the Reports in the light of modifications suggested as well as other consequential changes arising out of the factual verification, if any, by the concerned Ministries and present the same to the Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.

Modification carried out in the Draft Action Taken Report on the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the subject 'Sports - Policy, Infrastructure and Training Facilities' pertaining to Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports)

1. **After Page No. 10:** Para Nos. 1.9, 1.10 and 1.11 may be added which read as under:-

B. Need for encouraging rural sports talent by strengthening PYKKA Scheme

Observation/Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 5.4)

1.9 The Committee had recommended as follows:

“Indigenous games like Wrestling, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho etc. are extremely popular among rural youth. In this context, the Committee appreciate the efforts of the Ministry in launching a new scheme in the year 2007-08 namely Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) for around 2,50,000 village and 6400 block Panchayat units in the country. The Committee observe that with the transfer of four centrally sponsored Sports Infrastructure Development Schemes to the State sector w.e.f. 1.4.2005, the development of sports infrastructure had come to a standstill due to paucity of funds with the States. Hence, PYKKA was launched in 2007-08 to enable the State Governments get the requisite Central assistance, which will help them in achieving the goal of ‘broadbasing of sports’. Assistance of ₹250.77 crore for covering 22854 village Panchayats and 601 block Panchayats have been stated to be approved under the scheme so far. The Committee hope that promising local sports talent available in each village/block would be identified and encouraged under the scheme.

In this connection, the Committee feel that PYKKA is an ambitious programme in view of the sheer number of village and block Panchayats in the country. At the same time, the Committee are of the view that the current amount of ₹ 22,000 per annum being given to each village panchayat as Annual

Acquisition and Operational Grants for acquisition of sports equipment, accessories, repairs/maintenance and to meet operational expense is grossly insufficient. The Committee feel that under the current economic scenario in the country, it is virtually impossible to do anything concerning sports even at the village level with such a meager sum and thus recommend that the same needs to be a realistic amount. The Committee desire that the Ministry should conduct a study of the cost factor involved in providing even the most basic sports facility in a village and accordingly modify the scheme with revised amount. The Committee hope that the amount would be increased from next financial year onwards.

As regards, achievement of PYKKA so far, the Committee note from the Ministry's deposition that the scheme has received good response from State Governments. The Committee, however, observe that the target of training master trainers during the year 2009-10 could not be achieved. Only 254 master trainers could be trained as against a target of 600. Training of Master trainers and kridashrees is of utmost importance for the success of PYKKA. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the State Governments should be asked to achieve the target in the best possible manner. The Committee also desire the Government to ensure that village panchayats dominated by SC/ST or other backward sections of the society are adequately covered under PYKKA. The Committee further recommend that a Monitoring Committee with local MPs/MLAs as its members may be set up in their constituencies to monitor the implementation of PYKKA. The Committee are also of the opinion that the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) could be linked with the same. As the PYKKA empowers the village/Block Panchayats to create basic sports facilities in their area, employment opportunities thus emerging could be given to the rural workforce. The Committee would urge the Ministry of Sports to consult Ministry of Rural Development on the matter and take suitable action".

1.10 The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports in their action taken reply stated as follows:

“Scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), introduced from 2008-09, has been received well in the States/UTs. For the last three years and upto 31.3.2011 since PYKKA Scheme was launched in 2008-09, ₹572.00 crore had been released to States/UTs for development of sports infrastructure in village/block panchayats and for conduct of annual competitions in block, district, state and national level. PYKKA Scheme in respect of sports infrastructure is being implemented in 28 States and 3 UTs. Efforts are being made to cover under the scheme the UTs of Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu.

Details about number of Village/block panchayats approved and financial assistance released to States/UTs upto 31.3.2011 are given as under:

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|---------------|
| (a) | Number of village Panchayats approved | - | 47,058 |
| (b) | Number of block panchayats approved | - | 1,417 |
| (c) | Total Grant-in-aid released | - | ₹449.00 crore |
| (d) | Number of States participated in the PYKKA competitions increased from 8 in the year 2008-09 to 26 in 2009-10. | | |
| (e) | Total amount released to States during 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 for conduct of annual sports competitions at block, district, state and national levels is ₹8.15 crore, 30 crore and ₹84.85 crore respectively. | | |
| (f) | Total number of participants in PYKKA competitions held at all levels in 2009-10 was 22.50 lakh including 8.75 lakh women participants as against 7.22 lakh participants in 2008-09. | | |

Regarding identification of sports talent in village/block panchayats, it is stated that main objective of PYKKA Scheme is mass participation of rural youth in sports. However, annual competitions being held under PYKKA at various levels provide a huge base for identification and nurturing of sports talent by SAI and State Governments for nurturing them under their respective schemes.

Recommendation of the Committee with regard to enhancement in the amount of annual acquisition and annual operation grants would be kept in view at the time of conducting the review in consultation with Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance for continuance of the scheme in the XII Five Year Plan.

The training of Master Trainers was introduced in the second half of 2009-10 after setting up of PYKKA Resource Centre in November, 2009 at LNUPE, Gwalior (MP), as a capacity building measures. Around 557 Master Trainers were trained which is close to the annual target of 600. In the subsequent years, target of training of 600 Master Trainers annually would be achieved.

The scheme already provides 10% annual coverage of village/block panchayats in the normal States and 20% coverage in the case of North Eastern States and special category States. This automatically takes care of the village/block panchayats dominated by SCs/STs and other backward sections of the society.

The States/UTs have already been advised to associate Members of Parliaments in the district level PYKKA Executive Committee. Most of the States have reported that notifications have been issued in this regard. The remaining States have been reminded to expedite the same.

The matter regarding availing of funds under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme for leveling of playfield land already been taken up with the Ministry of Rural Development. Further, States/UTs were also advised to avail the benefit admissible under MGNREGA scheme for development of playfields. Some of the States had confirmed that they were availing the benefit of MGNREGA scheme for leveling of playfields, construction of boundary wall/fencing etc”.

1.11 From the action taken reply submitted by the Ministry, the Committee note that the Scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), which was introduced from 2008-2009, has been received well in States/UTs and a total number of 47,058 village pachayats have been approved to receive grants under the scheme. Main objective of PYKKA scheme is broad basing i.e. mass

participation of rural youth in sports. However, the Committee feel that there is still scope to identify and nurture promising young sportspersons from the villages/semi-urban areas particularly from the Eastern and North-Eastern States. The Committee, therefore, opine that for PYKKA to succeed in its objective, there is a need for transparent and robust infrastructure for the selection of rural sportspersons to harness their hitherto unknown talent and potential. There are District Sports Officers (DSOs) in each district to conduct various sports and youth oriented scheme/programmes. In view of the fact that DSOs work at the grassroot level, the Committee feel that the role of DSO can be expanded further. The Committee suggest that region-wise sports talent search programmes can be conducted in the East, West, North, South and Central Regions of the country under PYKKA by the Sports Authority of India, with active involvement of DSOs. This would also lessen the impact of mismanagement rampant in various Sports Federations, due to which many promising sportspersons fail to come to the fore.

The Committee further suggest that wherever possible, a database of rural sportspersons' details and their performances in PYKKA games, should be created, so as to help Selection Committees take informed decisions. The Committee also suggest that the DSO should be entrusted with creating awareness about the rural sports programmes/schemes in the villages too. The Committee recommend that the Ministry may re-examine the PYKKA scheme in the light of their above suggestions.

APPENDIX – II

(vide introduction to Report)

ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE EIGHTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

(i)	Total number of recommendations/observations	16
(ii)	Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by the Government: (Sl. Nos. 2,4,5,7,13 – Total 5)	
	Percentage	31.25%
(iii)	Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's reply: (Sl. No. 9 – Total 1)	
	Percentage	6.25%
(iv)	Recommendations/observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee: (Sl. Nos. 1,6,8,10,12,16 – Total 6)	
	Percentage	37.50%
(v)	Recommendations/observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited: (Sl. Nos. 3,11, 14, 15 – Total 4)	
	Percentage	25.00%