

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5295
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2013
CIRCUMSTANCES OF FEMALE HYPERANDROGENISM
Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has listed the standard operative procedure to identify circumstances of female hyperandrogenism which render sports persons ineligible to compete as female athletes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any guidelines regarding the criteria adopted for the test; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the conditions in which the conduct of this test is necessary?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has recently formulated the standard operative procedure (SOP) to identify circumstances of female hyperandrogenism in which a particular sportsperson will not be eligible to participate in competitions in the female category. The SOP is available on the website of the ministry under the Department of Sports section (www.yas.nic.in). The salient features of the SOP are as follows:-

- (i) This SOP is only to determine whether a sportsperson is eligible to compete in the female category of any sports competition and does not deal with determination of gender of any person. This procedure is not to be treated as one relating to gender tests.
 - (ii) Under no circumstances, should every female Sports person be subjected to such medical examination. It must be applied only when there is a reasonable doubt regarding Female Hyperandrogenism condition of a particular Sports- person.
 - (iii) If a Sports person is not satisfied with the result of the medical examination by a doctor, she can apply for a review.
 - (iv) The charges for all medical examinations in this regard will have to be borne by SAI/NSF, initially asking the Sports person to undergo the test.
 - (v) None of the results of the medical examination in this regard are to be publicized. The results have to be kept confidential.
- (c) & (d) Under the provisions contained in the SOP issued by Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, medical investigation of a female sportsperson will be carried out on the request of any of the following:

(i) Written request of the Sportsperson herself (a sportsperson who is concerned about personal symptoms of Hyperandrogenism). The sportsperson is required to give a written request in person to any of the female nodal officers (from Sports Authority of India / Concerned National Sports Federations (NSF) stating her address and telephone number. The sportsperson should also enclose copy of her photo identity card with the request.

(ii) Written request of the Medical Officer of Sports Authority of India (SAI)/ Concerned National Sports Federation who may have doubt about a sportsperson having female hyperandrogenism on the basis of her periodic health examination. The request of the doctor will contain the basis of making the said request, report of the medical examination conducted by the said doctor, his/her name, address, telephone number, registration number, stamp and signature. The doctor will clearly identify the sportsperson in the request.

(iii) A written complaint. The complaint is to be made by the complainant to any of the nodal officers (from SAI/NSFs) in person. The request will contain the basis of making the said request and the name, address, telephone number and signature of the complainant. The complainant will clearly identify the sportsperson in the request. The complainant is also required to submit a copy of his/her proof of address and his/her photo identity along with the complaint. The complainant is required to show the originals of the said identity documents to the nodal officer while making the request. The complainant is also required to show the originals of the documents on the basis of which the request is being made, if any, to the nodal officer while making the request.

Female nodal officer of Sports Authority of India (SAI) / concerned National Sports Federation (NSF) will examine the requests in light of the requirements in the said SOP and requests which do not satisfy the same or lack substance will be rejected by the nodal officer.

