

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4018  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2009  
PERFORMANCE IN OLYMPIC GAMES  
Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao

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

- (a) whether Indian sports persons have not been able to improve their performance in successive Olympic Games;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the reasons for the same and has prepared any long term action plan for improving the performance of Indian sports persons in the Olympics;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government has received any complaints on nepotism and favouritism in the selection of sports persons for the said games; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the steps taken to infuse transparency in the selection process?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

(a) to(d) While there has been some improvement in performance of Indian sportspersons at the Olympics, which is evident from the individual medals won in the disciplines of Shooting, Boxing and Wrestling at the last Olympic Games, 2008 held in Beijing, it is a fact that the level of performance at Olympics has not been satisfactory. The primary reasons for this are two fold viz. a lack of access to organized sports infrastructure and inadequacy of competitions, particularly in rural areas. These limitations have resulted in a very narrow pool of talented sportspersons, which has, in turn, affected our potential to perform better at international sporting events. The Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), which has been recently introduced by the Government, addresses both these constraints by promoting sports infrastructure and providing organized sports competitions at grassroot level. In addition, the Government has also taken up events specific action plans for preparation of our athletes. Currently, the plans for forthcoming Commonwealth Games, 2010 and Asian Games, 2010 are under implementation.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise.