

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1570
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
NATIONAL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT FUND
Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh

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

- (a) the objectives and composition of the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) along with the details of grants received by it from the Government and other sources separately, during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the details of the criteria laid down for sanctioning of funds under the scheme;
- (c) the details of sportspersons assisted, funds sanctioned and released under the NSDF scheme during the said period, sports discipline-wise;
- (d) the steps taken to create awareness amongst the sportspersons across the country about the availability of Government assistance through NSDF; and
- (e) the steps being taken for generation of more resources for NSDF?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) The objectives of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) include financial assistance for promotion of sports; financial assistance to individual sports- persons for achieving excellence at national and international level; development of infrastructure for promotion of excellence in sports; supply of sports equipments; to take up research and development studies for providing support to excellence in sports.

The Fund is managed by a Council with Union Minister- in-charge of Youth Affairs & Sports as Chairperson. The members of the Council include Senior Officers in the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, a representative of Department of Public Enterprises, representatives of Sports Promotion Boards of various organizations, representatives of Corporate Apex Bodies, etc. The day to day functioning/activities are managed by an Executive Committee headed by Secretary (Sports). Both the Council and Executive are constituted by the Central Government.

The details of the contributions to NSDF for the years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 are given in the statement at Annexure I.

(b) Top level sportspersons, who are medal winning prospects in Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and other international competitions, are selected for financial assistance from NSDF. The assistance is given for their customized training both in India and abroad, to prepare them for winning medals at international levels. The proposals are considered by the Executive Committee of the NSDF which is headed by the Secretary, Department of Sports. The Committee takes decisions based on the past performance and future potential of the player. The Sports Authority of India (SAI) and the concerned National Sports Federations are normally consulted before selection of such sportspersons.

Reputed organizations/institutes, engaged in promotion of sports activities, can also get financial assistance for specific project for sports promotion like creation of sports infrastructure, procurement of equipments etc. Such proposals are also considered by the Executive Committee of NSDF.

NSDF has now formulated guidelines for consideration of proposals and sanctioning money from the Fund.

(c) The details of NSDF assistance to sportspersons for the years 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014- 15 are given in the statement at Annexure II.

(d) The NSDF scheme has been uploaded on the website of Ministry of the Youth Affairs and Sports. NSDF has requested the Indian Olympic Association and National Sports Federations/National Coaches of major disciplines to identify and forward the list of potential sportspersons, who are medal prospects in Olympics and other international competitions, for consideration under a newly formulated scheme namely, 'NSDF Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme' with the aim of identifying/selecting and supporting talented medal prospects for 2016 and 2020 Olympics Games.

(e) Government has taken several steps to generate more resources for NSDF which, inter-alia, include 100% Income Tax exemption for contribution to NSDF and inclusion of various sports activities in Schedule VII of the Companies Act 2013, etc. In addition, Government in various forums, makes appeal to the corporates to contribute liberally to NSDF.