

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3439
ANSWERED ON:17.03.2015
PREPARATION OF OLYMPIC GAMES
Mullappally Shri Ramachandran

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any special arrangements to impart sports training and other support for preparation of sportspersons participating in the Rio Olympic Games 2016;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of sports facilities made available and the funds allocated/released for this purpose so far, sports discipline-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has received any sponsorship from companies under the Corporate Social Responsibility programme, and if so, the details thereof, sports discipline-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has reviewed the preparation of said games and if so, the details thereof and the present status of preparation of sportspersons of the said games;
- (e) whether the Government has identified promising sportspersons for the said games and if so, the details of sportspersons and support offered by the Government to them, sports discipline wise; And
- (f) whether the Government has taken steps to make India a leading competitor in world sports and if so, the details thereof and the other support given to sports persons including disabled sportspersons?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Preparations for improving the performance of the sportspersons and teams of the country in international sports events including Rio Olympics 2016 is an ongoing exercise. Coaching camps, customized training within the country and abroad with scientific back-up, competition exposures and engagement of foreign coaches are finalized in consultation with National Sports Federations (NSFs) and implemented accordingly. Further, a programme, namely TOP (Target Olympic Podium) Scheme, has been formulated within the overall ambit of National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games. Focused disciplines will be Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Boxing, Wrestling, Weightlifting and Shooting. The selected athletes will be provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support. Benchmark for selection of athletes under the scheme will be in relation to international standards. There will be annual/ semi-annual review of performance of selected athletes.

The Ministry has not received any sponsorship from companies under Corporate Social Responsibility Programme. However, contribution to the tune of Rs. 86.41 crore has been made by various entities and individuals to National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) since its inception viz., 1998-99.

Further, 'Training to promote rural sports, nationally recognized sports, Paralympic sports and Olympic sports' has been included in the Schedule VII of the Companies Act 2013, which would allow companies to spend on development of sports from the funds earmarked for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) related activities. Inclusion of sports in the CSR activities will give a boost to the promotion and development of sports in the country and the much needed funds from companies, both in public and private sector, will flow in the sports sector.

(e): Training of probable identified sportspersons and teams in the sports disciplines in which sportspersons are expected to qualify for participation in Rio Olympics 2016 which will be on the basis of qualifying norms prescribed by Organizing Committee of Rio Olympics 2016 is already going on as per Annual Calendar of Training and Competitions (ACTCs) finalized in consultation with NSFs. However, as stated in reply to parts (a) to (d) above, focused disciplines will be Athletics, Archery, Badminton, Boxing, Wrestling, Weightlifting and Shooting under NSDF Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme. Total 75 athletes are proposed to be identified for Olympic 2016 under TOP Scheme. 45 athletes have been identified through a process of research and consultation with the concerned stakeholders. 30 more athletes are being identified.

(f): Schemes of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports viz., Scheme of Assistance to NSFs, National Sports Development Fund, Scheme of Human Resource Development in Sports, and of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) viz., National Sports Talent Search (NSTS) Scheme, Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme, SAI Training Centres (STC) Scheme, Special Area Games (SAG) Scheme, Centres of Excellence (COE) Scheme are geared towards making India a leading competitor in world sports and for extending training and financial support to sportspersons including disabled sportspersons.

