

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:259

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2016

Growth of Sports

Singh Shri Raj Kumar

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

- (a) whether office bearers of various Sports Federations in the country are non-sportspersons and if so, the details thereof, sports federationwise;
- (b) whether these persons have monopolized taken control over the Sports Federations for decades without giving the sportspersons an opportunity to participate in their own sports bodies; and
- (c) whether this has resulted in the growth of various games and sports being stymied, if so, the details thereof along with the steps the Government proposes to take to reform the system, and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.259 FOR REPLY ON 15-03-2016 ASKED BY SHRI R.K. SINGH REGARDING GROWTH OF SPORTS.

(a) Madam, Government deals only with the national level sports federations. National Sports Federations (NSFs) are registered under various Acts such as Societies Registration Act, Companies Act etc. Government does not get into their day to day affairs. The composition of the office bearers of the NSFs include sports persons as well as non sports persons. However, complete data of such persons elected as office bearers in various NSFs w.r.t their being a sportspersons or a non-sportspersons is not maintained.

(b) & (c) Instances had come to notice of the Government where some persons had continued as office bearers for unduly long periods. With a view to ensure that no person continues to hold important posts in the NSFs, for unduly long period, Government has issued instructions limiting the age and tenure of office bearers of the NSFs. These instructions have also been made part of the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 (NSDCI). The salient features of the said instructions are under:-

(i) The President of any recognized National Sports Federation, including the Indian Olympic Association can hold the office for a maximum period of twelve years with or without break.

(ii) The Secretary (Secretary General/General Secretary) and the Treasurer of any recognized National Sports Federation, including the Indian Olympic Association, may serve a maximum of two successive terms of four years each after which a minimum cooling off period of 4 years will apply to seek fresh election to either post.

(iii) The President, the Secretary and the Treasurer of any recognized National Sports Federation, including the Indian Olympic Association, shall cease to hold that post on attaining the age of 70 years.

Further, to ensure adequate representation of sportspersons in the NSFs, a condition has been laid down in the NSDCI for inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit as members of the respective sports federations. The strength of such prominent sportspersons with voting rights should be a certain minimum percentage (say 25%) of the total members representing the federation.

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