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Title: Need to take steps for participation of Dutee Chand, a female athlete in all international events at the earliest.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of this House and through this House of the Government regarding the said plight of Dutee Chand, who was subjected to hyperandrogenism that two global bodies have thrust on athletes the world over. Dutee was supposed to participate in the Commonwealth Games and all are sure that she was to get us Gold medal.

I would draw the attention of the Government that androgen levels in a woman's body are no yardstick to determine whether she can participate in competition or not.

I am told that the DG, Sports Authority of India, has asked Dutee to move the Court of Arbitration for Sports in Lausanne against International Olympic Committee and International Association of Athletics Federation's stand on hyper androgenism.

Why are we bent on reducing or eliminating an inherent advantage that a woman is born with? Just because Usain Bolt's height is to his advantage, will the International Authority want his legs chopped off to ensure a level-playing field?

The presence of high level of androgen is not the fault of the athlete. I would urge upon the Government to support Dutee in her battle against this bias and ensure that her lawyers insist on this biological factor at CAS.

Dutee has a dream. This athlete, a determined and vivacious girl is desperate to return to the track. She has rejected therapy. I would urge upon the Government to stand by her and support her to the hilt. Sports Authority of India should offer her accommodation at NIS, Patiala. The entire cost should be borne by SAI. All attempts should be made to make her participate in the Olympics from where she is definitely to fetch Gold medal for us. Thank you.

HON. DEPUTY-SPEAKER

Shri P.P. Chaudhary and

Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat are allowed to associate themselves on this issue raised by Shri Mahtab.