

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:321

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2005

CONSUMPTION OF BANNED DRUGS BY SPORTS PERSONS

Masood Shri Rasheed

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

- (a) whether Indian sports persons have been found guilty of consuming banned drugs in international events;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to check recurrence of such incidents ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(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. 321 FOR 14.12.2005 REGARDING CONSUMPTION OF BANNED DRUGS BY SPORTS PERSONS ASKED BY SHRI RASHEED MASOOD.

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) With increasing pressure from parents, coaches and with their personal desire to achieve success and earn laurels, sports persons get tempted to use performance- enhancing substances, with a view to gaining an unfair competitive advantage. It is a worldwide phenomena. In India, it has been reported recently, in a few disciplines like weightlifting and athletics.

(c) The control of doping in sports requires a multidimensional approach with primary responsibility of direct action vested with the Indian Olympic Association and the National Sports Federations. The Ministry through Sports Authority of India (SAI) has played the role of facilitator in this regard. Following actions are taken by the Sports Authority of India:-

(i) Educate and counsel the sportspersons about the banned drugs and their harmful effects during the National Camps through Coaches.

(ii) Conduct lectures during camps through sports scientists, doctors and sports specialists.

(iii) Display of the list of banned drugs and placards for education of players in the rooms of the campers.

(iv) Regular checking of the rooms and belongings of the players.

(v) Random test of urines samples of sports persons during the coaching camps.

(vi) Publication of two booklets `Drugs in Sports-Directory` and `Drug Education Hand Book on Drug Abuse in Sports` respectively for disseminating information, spreading awareness about prohibited substances and methods as well as Indian trade names of medicines containing banned substances among sportspersons, coaches, sports officials and doctors, etc.

In addition, India has signed the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti -Doping and has recently registered the National Anti-doping Agency (NADA) as Apex Body for anti-doping programmes and activities. Government have set up a modern Dope Control Laboratory. Upgradation of the laboratory is taken up as part of a continuous process.