

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2193
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
REFORMS IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT
Jha Shri Raghunath

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

- (a) whether performance of the country in international sports events is dismal in comparison to many other countries despite spending considerable amount of money on its promotion;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to bring about change in parental and societal attitude towards sports as well as reforms in sports management and governance to make it result-oriented?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b) Performance of Indian sportspersons has shown some improvement in recent international sports events. India got the 4th position at the Melbourne Commonwealth Games, 2006 and joint-fifth in the Doha Asian Games, 2006, while in the SAF Games, 2006 India got the 1st position. Details of medals won by India in major international events during the last decade are given in Annex. However, considerable scope remains for substantially improving India's performance at the international level.

(c) Multi-pronged efforts are being made to improve the performance level of Indian sportspersons. While the National Sports Federations (NSFs) are primarily responsible for the development of various sports disciplines and excellence therein, their efforts are being significantly supplemented by the Central Government through the Scheme for Financial Assistance to National Sports Federations for organizing national and international tournaments in India, participation of Indian teams in tournaments and events abroad, provision of coaching through Indian and foreign coaches, backed-up with requisite technical support, procurement of equipments etc., within Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) for each discipline. Detailed discussions are also being held with individual Federations with a view to further streamlining these plans and making them more result oriented, and suitable modification in various norms under the scheme are also proposed. In addition, action is being taken under the various schemes of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) to establish state-of-the-art training infrastructure and facilities in different parts of the country and spotting and nurturing sports talent in their Centres spread across the country, including in areas with special potential for different identified sports disciplines. As a result of efforts of SAI, the number of trainees in their Centres has increased from less than 10,000 at the beginning of the Xth Plan to around 14,000 (anticipated) by the end of the current year, and a target of increasing this to 50,000 during XIth Plan has been kept. The Ministry is also providing support to talented and elite sportspersons for further improving in their performance through its Schemes of Talent Search and Training and the National Sports Development Fund. With a view to broad-basing sports and creating avenues to provide access for the vast sections of the youth, particularly in the rural areas, to organized sports and games facilities, both as an essential ingredient of youth development and with a view to significantly expanding the catchment for spotting talent, the Ministry is also considering the launching of a Scheme titled 'Panchayat Yuva Khel Abhiyan' (PYKA) during XI Plan. Consultations with various stakeholders and Ministries etc., are underway for finalizing the Scheme. It is expected that, this would also result in the generation of greater sports consciousness and culture at different levels in the country.