

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:277

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2010

REVIVING HOCKEY

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Dhurve Jyoti

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

(a) whether the Government has any programme/proposal for reviving the sport of hockey including promoting it to priority category to facilitate higher funding for the development of proper infrastructure and training facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there have been reports of several disputes plaguing the sports bodies involved in hockey administration at the National and States levels;

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to resolve such disputes and to seek the active participation of past and present hockey sports persons in the administration of hockey in the country; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to provide better financial remuneration for men and women hockey players?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 277 FOR REPLY ON 16-3-2010 BY SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE AND SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA REGARDING REVIVING HOCKEY.

(a) & (b): Hockey is already in Priority category and government is providing all round support for the preparation of national men and women teams, which includes intensive coaching, engagement of high performance coaches, latest equipment, sports science support and foreign competition exposure. The amount spent by the Government during the last three years and the current year for development of hockey, including imparting training and participation in international sports events is given below:

Rupees in crores

2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 (Till 1-3-2010)

2.03 3.16 3.45 9.23

(c) Government derecognized Indian Hockey Federation and Indian Women Hockey Federation after they were disaffiliated by Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and International Hockey Federation (FIH), and granted conditional recognition to "Hockey India" established by IOA as the unified body at the national level to promote men and women hockey in the country. The recognition was subject to various conditions, including holding of fair and transparent elections. However, the elections to "Hockey India" have been postponed thrice due to various issues related to affiliation of state bodies and the election process.

(d) The Government issued detailed guidelines for holding the elections in a free, fair and transparent manner and has appointed an election observer. The Government has also appointed three Government Observers, who were eminent players, to oversee the selection of players and functioning of the federation.

(e) Players contract is a contractual agreement between the federation, sponsor and players and the government is not involved with it.