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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA  
LOK SABHA**

**COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN  
(2019-2020)**

**(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**FIRST REPORT**

**'YOGA AND SPORTS FACILITIES FOR WOMEN'**

*[Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2018-2019) on 'Yoga and Sports Facilities for Women']*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
MARCH, 2020/PHALGUNA, 1941 (Saka)**

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*[Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2018-2019) on ‘Yoga and Sports Facilities for Women’]*

Presented to Lok Sabha on 16 March, 2020

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 16 March, 2020



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**NEW DELHI  
MARCH, 2020/PHALGUNA, 1941 (Saka)**

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## CONTENTS

		Page No.
Composition of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2019-2020)		5
INTRODUCTION		6
CHAPTER I	Report	7
CHAPTER II	Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government.....	20
CHAPTER III	Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government.....	43
CHAPTER IV	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee .....	44
CHAPTER V	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Government have furnished interim replies.....	46

### Annexures

I	Minutes of the sitting of the Committee on Empowerment of Women (2019-2020) held on 03 March, 2020 .....	51
II	Analysis of the Action Taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report of the Committee (Sixteenth Lok Sabha).....	53

(i)

**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

**(2019-2020)**

<b>Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit - Chairperson</b>	
<b><u>Members</u></b>	
<b>Lok Sabha</b>	
2.	Smt. Locket Chatterjee
3.	Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo
4.	Smt. Annpurna Devi
5.	Ms. Bhavana Gawali (Patil)
6.	Ms. Ramya Haridas
7.	Smt. K. Kanimozhi
8.	Km. Shobha Karandlaje
9.	Smt. Malothu Kavitha
10.	Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse
11.	Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai Maadam
12.	Smt. Jyotsna Charandas Mahant
13.	Smt. Jaskaur Meena
14.	Smt. Queen Oja
15.	Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
16.	Smt. Riti Pathak
17.	Smt. Satabdi Roy (Banerjee)
18.	Smt. Gomati Sai
19.	Smt. Sarmistha Sethi
20.	Smt. Geetha Viswanath Vanga
<b>Rajya Sabha</b>	
21.	Smt. Jaya Bachchan
22.	Smt. Misha Bharti
23.	Smt. Vandana Chavan
24.	Smt. Shanta Chhetri
25.	Smt. Sarojini Hembram
26.	Ms. Saroj Pandey
27.	Smt. Kahkashan Perween
28.	Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
29.	Smt. Sampatiya Uikey
30.	Smt. Chhaya Verma

***SECRETARIAT***

1.	Smt. Kalpana Sharma	- Additional Secretary
2.	Smt. Suman Arora	- Joint Secretary
3.	Shri A.K. Garg	- Director
4.	Smt. Reena Gopalakrishnan	- Additional Director
5.	Smt. Raji Manish	- Assistant Executive Officer
		(ii)

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Empowerment of Women, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this First Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in their Fourteenth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject 'Yoga and Sports Facilities for Women'.

2. The Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Empowerment of Women was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 13 February, 2019. The Ministry of AYUSH and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have furnished the action taken replies to all the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Report.

3. The Committee on Empowerment of Women (2019-20) considered and adopted the draft Action Taken Report at their sitting held on 03 March, 2020. Minutes of the sitting are given in Annexure I.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in Annexure II.

5. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations/comments of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the body of the Report.

**NEW DELHI**  
**03 March, 2020**  
**13 Phalgun 1941(Saka)**

**DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT**  
**CHAIRPERSON**  
**COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

## CHAPTER I

### REPORT

This Report deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Fourteenth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Empowerment of Women on the subject 'Yoga and Sports Facilities for Women' pertaining to the Ministry of AYUSH (Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy) and Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

2. The Fourteenth Report of the Committee was presented to Lok Sabha on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 and was simultaneously laid in Rajya Sabha on the same day.

3. The Action Taken Replies in respect of all the 26 observations/recommendations contained in the Report have been received from the Government. These have been categorized as follows:-

- (i) Observations/Recommendations, which have been accepted by the Government.

Recommendation Para No:- 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, 2.18, 2.19, 2.20, 2.23, and 2.26

Total :20  
Chapter-II

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government.

Recommendation Para No:- Nil

Total: 00  
Chapter-III

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration.

Recommendation Para No:- 2.12 and 2.17

Total: 02  
Chapter-IV

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Government have furnished interim replies.

Recommendation Para No:- 2.21, 2.22, 2.24 and 2.25

Total : 04  
Chapter-V

**4. The Committee trust that utmost importance would be given by the Government to the implementation of their recommendations. In case where it is not possible for the Government to implement the recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason , the matter should be reported to the Committee with reasons for non-implementation. The Committee further desire that the Action Taken Notes on the recommendations/observations contained in Chapter-I of this Report and final reply to the observations/recommendations contained in Chapter-V of the Report on which Government has submitted interim reply, may be furnished to the Committee within three months of the presentation of this Report.**

5. The Committee will now deal with those actions taken replies of the Government, which need reiteration or merit comments.

**(Recommendation no. 2.7)**

**Yoga for Women in Prisons/ in Shelter Homes/in Vulnerable Conditions**

6. The Committee , in their fourteenth report, had recommended as under:-

"The Committee are aware that prisons/correctional homes or Juvenile Homes are highly volatile places requiring sensitive management and cautious handling. The women prisoners undergo emotional and psychological trauma which is more pronounced than encountered by their male counterparts. The Ministry of AYUSH has apprised the Committee that so far they have not taken up activities in this area and they are willing to extend all possible support if the Ministry/Department concerned earmarks a specific role for AYUSH Ministry in this area. The Committee have also been apprised that Morarji Desai National Institute for Yoga is developing a special course for the prisoners. The Committee find this a highly welcoming step and recommend that this special course may be developed and



introduced in all the prisons/juvenile homes across the country without delay. The Committee also recommend that Ministry of AYUSH may take up the issue in right earnest with all the stake holders concerned and work in tandem with State Governments to take concrete steps to integrate Yoga into the lives of women prisoners, girls in juvenile homes, women/girls in shelter homes and in vulnerable conditions so that they succeed in addressing their special psycho-social needs and lead a life with quality.

7. The Ministry of AYUSH in their action taken reply on the aforementioned recommendation have stated as under:-

"State/UT Governments have been addressed in this matter (as it falls in their jurisdiction), and they have been assured of technical support through MDNIY.

An initiative has been taken up through the MDNIY to conduct Yoga Training programme and Yoga Teachers Training Programme (CCYW) for the Jail Inmates.

The CCRYN organises Yoga classes at NirmalChhaya complex at Tihar Jail, New Delhi by deputing a female Yoga Therapist for some period. Further, Council is conducting Yoga Classes for women and it has also intimated to Jail Authorities at Rohini to avail these facilities.

A project of NIN is in Pipeline to start Naturopathy and Yoga service for Jail inmates at Yerwada Jail, Pune and Arthur road Jail in Mumbai. Special provision will also be given to address the Yoga needs of women prisoners. The courses offered by NIN, including Yoga may also be extended to the jail inmates."

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**8. The Committee note that in pursuance of their recommendation, the Government have taken a lot of efforts to integrate Yoga in the lives of women in prisons. At the same time, the Committee note that except for the yoga classes being conducted at Nirmal Chhaya complex, Tihar Jail, the Ministry have not stated anything specific about the efforts taken to address the yoga needs of girls in juvenile homes and women/girls in shelter homes/in vulnerable conditions. While recognizing the steps taken by the Government to address the yoga needs of the women prisoners, the Committee feel that there is an urgent need to finalise the special yoga course being developed by Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) for prisoners to propel the efforts to bring yoga into the lives of women/girls in vulnerable conditions. Hence, the Committee would like to**

**underline their earlier recommendation to take concrete steps to introduce the said course in all the prisons/juvenile homes across the country without any delay and address the special psycho-social needs of women prisoners towards leading a life with quality.**

**(Recommendation no. 2.9)**

**Need for Integration of Yoga in Schools**

9. The Committee, in their fourteenth Report , had recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that the different components of Yoga such as Asanas, Pranayama, Meditation, Yogic Kriyas etc. help in overall development of personality at the physical, mental and social planes of existence. The Yogic practices are known to increase concentration and enhance memory in children. It also improves other cognitive functions. The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed integrated syllabi on health and Physical Education in which the content of yoga has been included for classes I to X. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) also covers Yoga as a subject. The Ministry of AYUSH also has expressed their willingness to extend all possible help if the Ministry of HRD earmarks any role for them in integrating Yoga into school health programmes. The Committee wish to point out that the lives of children today are not stress free. They not only experience social, family, study and peer pressures but also suffer from anxiety, abuse and bullying in school. Children require a safe, nurturing and supportive environment to develop their potentials and equip themselves to deal with the pressures in subsequent stages of life successfully. As there is no panacea for the problems that we face in the society or in the world as far as security, safety and nurturing is concerned, the Committee feel that conscious approach is necessary to find means to equip the children with physical and mental wellbeing and develop their full potential so that they grow into satisfied and successful human beings. Hence, the Committee recommend that the Ministry of AYUSH, instead of waiting for Ministry of HRD to

earmark a role for them, should take up the matter with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and find means to include Yoga as a regular practice for all students from class I to XII."

10 The Ministry of AYUSH in their action taken reply on the aforementioned recommendation have stated as under:-

" From Ministry of AYUSH, MDNIY is coordinating with NCERT, NCTE and Department of School Education of MHRD to introduce Yoga in schools. Further, the Ministry has also given its inputs as per the Committees advice."

### **Comments of the Committee**

**11. To equip the school children with mental and physical well being, the Committee had desired that the Ministry of AYUSH should take proactive steps to get yoga included as a regular practice for all students from Class I to XII. In this regard, the Committee observe from the reply that the Ministry, through MDNIY, have taken steps to coordinate with the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) and Department of School Education to introduce yoga in schools and have also given their inputs as per the advice of the Committee. While appreciating the initiatives made by the Ministry, the Committee would like to be further apprised in detail about the progress achieved in this regard along with the timeline worked out for the inclusion of yoga as a regular practice for all students from Class I to XII.**

**(Recommendation no. 2.12)**

### **Budget allocation to MDNIY**

12. The Committee, in their fourteenth Report , had recommended as under:-

" The Committee have been informed by the Ministry that budget allocation to the organisations working under the Ministry are comparatively less and needs to be

strengthened. As per the details provided by the Ministry, the budget allocated to Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga for the financial year 2017-18 was a mere Rs.12.02 crore. A study of the budget allocation to MDNIY since 2013-14 reveal that skewed funds have been earmarked to this important Institute mandated with the training and teaching of Yoga. The Committee understand that Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga is besieged with various issues like shortage of land and space, hostel facility for the students, staff quarters etc. The institute is also contemplating to start specialised Yoga Education and Therapy programmes for special women groups and this require support in terms of finance and manpower. It is a matter of serious concern that an autonomous organization created with the sole aim of promoting deeper understanding of Yoga philosophy and practices based on ancient yoga traditions for holistic health and well being is facing shortage of finance and various other constraints. The Committee, therefore, call upon the Ministry of AYUSH to take up the issue of requirement of necessary funds with the Ministry of Finance and also find appropriate solutions for the various other issues being faced by MDNIY at the earliest, especially the issue of hostel accommodation for students and residential accommodation for the staff ."

13. The Ministry of AYUSH in their action taken reply on the aforementioned recommendation have stated as under:-

" Budget Estimate for the year 2019-20 is Rs. 18.00 crore, the details of which is given below:

1. GIA general – Rs. 8.70 crores
2. Salary – Rs. 9.00 crore,
3. Swachata Action Plan – Rs. 0.30 crore

The Ministry has considered the advice of Committee in mind and projected an adequate increased requirement of funds."

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**14. The Committee observe that as compared to the budget estimate for the year 2017-18 for Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), there has been an increase of 06.00 crore rupees in the year 2019-20 i.e. from 12.02 crore rupees**

to 18.00 crore rupees. The Ministry have also stated that they had considered the advice of the Committee and had projected an adequate increase in the requirement of funds. However, the reply is totally silent as to how the enhanced allocation is proposed to be utilized to address the specific issues plaguing MDNIY like shortage of space, hostel facility for students, staff quarters etc. The Committee also doubt whether this enhancement of 06.00 crore rupees is just towards the incremental enhanced general requirements of MDNIY over a span of two financial years. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that the Ministry of AYUSH may apprise the Committee about the road map chalked out to find appropriate solutions for various major concerns of MDNIY especially the issue of hostel accommodation for students and residential accommodation for the staff.

**(Recommendation Para No. 2.17)**

**Transparency and Accountability in Selection of Coaches and Sportspersons**

15. The Committee, in their fourteenth Report , had recommended as under:-

"When the Committee desired to know about how the Ministry is ensuring transparency and accountability in the recruitment process and selection of coaches and girls/women sports persons, the Ministry did not give a suitable reply. Instead of answering the question directly, the Ministry gave an indirect reply as to how the Ministry is encouraging women candidates by exempting them from payment of fee for recruitment etc. The Committee are surprised at the evasive reply of the Ministry to a very pertinent question. The Committee feel that it is absolutely imperative that people who have talent, commitment and dedication should get into Sports as coaches or players. Even today, education tends to be the highest priority for the average Indian instead of extra curricular activities. Even though, there are scholarships and endowments that ensure a basic minimum standard of living, due to lack of transparency in the system, many times parents and players lose faith that talent will be acknowledged and valued. Hence, it is necessary to have a transparent system for selection of coaches and players

to be in place for the advancement of sports in the country. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take stringent measures to ensure that transparency is maintained in the selection of coaches and players/trainees and excelling in sports becomes the only concern."

16. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in their action taken reply on the aforementioned recommendation have stated as under:-

"The selection of sportspersons including women athletes under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes, is done strictly based on the schemes approved selection criteria. For inviting talented sportspersons for selection trials in the identified sports disciplines the concerned in-charge centres carryout wide publicity through various means. The selection of promising sportspersons is done by a duly Constituted Selection Committee either on potential or performance based criteria.

Further, Selection of coaches and players is the mandate of the National Sports Federations (NSFs) concerned. The Government doesn't have any direct involvement in this process. However, National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 provides for transparency in Sports sector. It covers all aspects of sports including good governance in National Sports Federations (NSFs), fair and transparent selection of athletes, accounting and audit, etc.."

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**17. Considering the importance of maintaining transparency in the selection of coaches and players, the Committee had recommended stringent measures by the Ministry. In this regard, the Ministry have replied that the selection of coaches and players is the mandate of the National Sports Federations (NSFs) and the Ministry do not have any direct involvement in the process. The Committee are quite unhappy to see this reply wherein the Ministry have not taken any responsibility for ensuring transparency in the selection process despite having specific provisions for the same in the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011. All that is needed to bring in transparency is to get the parametres for selection and the scoring of each athlete/coach against each parameter during the selection process publicly available on the website of the authority/federation etc. Moreover, the Committee are of the view that if the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports scrupulously reviews the working of the NSFs while reviewing annual**

**recognition to NSFs, transparency in the functioning of the NSFs can be ensured to a great extent . Hence, the Committee reiterate their earlier recommendation that the Ministry should take stringent measures to ensure that transparency is maintained in the selection of coaches and players/trainees and the specific steps taken to ensure transparency as suggested by the Committee may be intimated within three months from the presentation of this Report.**

**(Recommendation No. 2.21)**

**Sexual Harassment in Sports**

18. The Committee, in their fourteenth Report had recommended as under:-

"The Committee note that 24 sexual harassment cases have been filed by the sportspersons against their coaches/SAI officials during the last five years. The complaints are dealt with in SAI as per the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012. The Committee have been informed that SAI is following a zero tolerance policy on all matters related to sexual harassment. A look at the data provided by the Ministry conveys that coaches who are in power and authority appears to be the alleged perpetrators. In many cases, the charges against the coaches have been proved and action has been taken against them. Sexual harassment of women pervades all walks of life and Sports is not an exception. The Committee need not point out to the Ministry that sexual harassment in sports can negatively affect the physical and psychological health of the sportspersons, especially women. It can not only lead to deterioration in the performance of a sportsperson and eventually force her to drop out of sports but can even cause psychosomatic illness, anxiety, depression, EA substance abuse, self harm and even suicide of a female sportsperson. Hence, the committee strongly recommend the Ministry and SAI to ensure the following:

(a) First and foremost of all, the Committee urge that the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012 should be followed in letter and spirit in SAI.

(b) While selecting a player or a trainee under SAI promotional schemes or sports schemes, along with the selection letter, they should be given a standard letter of information containing the details about the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) in place, the names of the Members/contact numbers, the name of the website

where the players can register their complaints, the rights of the players/trainees etc. The letter of information should also explain in detail how a woman player/trainee can register a sexual harassment complaint under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012.

(c) Awareness classes may be conducted for all the female trainees/coaches about sexual harassment at workplace.

(d) Male sportspersons and coaches may be sensitized about gender sensitive behaviour on and off the field.

(e) Details of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), including phone numbers of those to be contacted in case of sexual abuse should be displayed on a board in all training centres, women/girl's accommodation centres under SAI.

(f) create appropriate forums for women sportspersons / coaches to raise issues relating to sexual harassment SAI.

(g) All the National Sport Federations (NSF) should also ensure that a properly defined and publicized sexual harassment committee is in place."

19. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in their action taken reply on the aforementioned recommendation have stated as under:-

"SAI is following a zero tolerance policy on all matters related to sexual harassment of sportspersons under training in SAI Schemes.

The sexual harassment of women at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012 is followed strictly by SAI. The details of Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) including phone numbers of the members are displayed appropriately at the training centres. Regular awareness classes are conducted for all the female trainees /coaches about sexual harassment at work place. Similarly, sensitization of male sportspersons and coaches is also done to avoid such offences.

Besides, the Government has already issued directives to the NSFs to put in place mechanisms to prevent sexual harassment of women in sports. The matter is again being taken up with NSFs to ensure compliance. "



## **Comments of the Committee**

**20. The Committee note that the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 is being implemented in letter and spirit in Sports Authority of India and directives have been issued to put in place properly defined and publicized sexual harassment Committee in all National Sports Federations (NSFs). However, the Committee observe that the Ministry is silent on the recommendation to provide a letter to players/trainees along with their selection letter informing them about the details about the rights of the players/trainees and the details about the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), the name of the website where the players can register their complaints of sexual harassment nature and how to register them etc. Considering the increasing number of sexual harassment cases being reported against women sports persons, the Committee strongly feel that such a letter of information would be really useful for the women players. The Committee, therefore, desire that they may be apprised of the action taken by the Ministry in this regard. The Committee may also be apprised of the details of the ICC set up at each NSFs as per the direction of the Government.**

### **(Recommendation Para No. 2.23)**

#### **Gender Discrimination in Sports**

21. The Committee, in their fourteenth Report , had recommended as under:-

"The Committee have been apprised by the Ministry that gender discrimination in any form is not tolerated in SAI. The Ministry has also informed that the financial norms applicable under SAI are implemented in letter and spirit for both the genders and women players are getting equal salary similar to their male counterparts. The Committee highly appreciate this. However, the Committee are a little perturbed about the NSFs which do not come under the purview of the Ministry and which apparently follow a policy of unequal wages for men and women players. A few months back the media had been abuzz with the news of unequal pay between the male and female cricket players. The Committee feel that the root cause of this gender discrimination in sports lies in inadequate

participation of women in sports. If the number of talented women sportspersons increase, audience will come to watch their games which in turn will attract more sponsors and will fetch more money for the women sportspersons. Hence, the Committee urge the Ministry that while ensuring zero gender discrimination in sports against women players, the Ministry should take concerted efforts to increase the participation of women in sports as a one step solution for The issues faced by women sports persons."

22. The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports) in their action taken reply on the aforementioned recommendation have stated as under:-

"It is a fact that NSFs do not function under the direct control of the Department of Sports. However, their annual recognition depends on their following of the Department's guidelines issued from time to time. Further, National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 provides for transparency in Sports sector. It covers all aspects of sports including good governance in National Sports Federations (NSFs), fair and transparent selection of athletes, accounting and audit, etc. There is no gender discrimination between male & female athletes as far as the Sports Promotional Schemes implemented by SAI is concerned. Equal opportunities and entitlements are provided to the sportspersons of both genders to excel in their respective field of play."

### **Comments of the Committee**

**23. The Committee understand from the replies of the Ministry that National Sports Federations (NSFs) which apparently do not follow the policy of equal wages among their male and female players do not come under the direct control of the Ministry. The Committee feel that such state of affairs does not augur well for the growth of women players in the country. The Committee, are of the considered view that since the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports award annual**

**recognition to various National Sports Federations based on their compliance of the guidelines issued and adherence to the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, the issue of gender inequality among male and female players under NSFs can be effectively addressed if the Ministry scrupulously monitors the working of the NSFs while awarding annual recognition. Hence, while appreciating the Government for providing equal opportunities and entitlements to the sportspersons of both genders in SAI, the Committee would like to hear more about this being emulated in NSFs in the final action taken statement.**

## CHAPTER II

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

#### Recommendation (Para No. 2.1)

##### **Promotion of Yoga and Infrastructural Facilities**

The Committee note that various Universities across the country are imparting Yoga education at Certificate, Diploma, Graduate, Post Graduate and PHD levels. More than 40 Yoga Institutions are imparting yoga education and training, Ministry of AYUSH is supporting Yoga seminars, conferences, workshops etc. Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY) is the key vehicle through which the Ministry implements its activities to promote and develop Yoga. Various Yoga training programmes, Yoga promotional activities and outreach activities for Yoga are organised by MDNIY to spread awareness about the goodness of Yoga. Publications relating to Yoga are there to disseminate information about the benefits of Yoga. Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN) is engaged in systematic and scientific research into Yoga. The Committee have been apprised that CCRYN had also organised one month free Yoga training in all the districts of India on account of International Day of Yoga. Around 200 Yoga parks are also being established for learning and practising Yoga by the general Public. The Committee observe that the interest in Yoga has seen a sudden spurt in the last four years subsequent to the observance of International Yoga Day. However, considering the population in the country and the circumstances in which they live in, the existing promotional activities and infrastructural facilities do not seem sufficient to cater to the yoga need of the masses. Further, a substantial majority of the beneficiaries who get trained in Yoga discontinue the practice after a few months. This does not augur well for the growth of Yoga in the country. Considering the challenges of modern day life, strewn with stress and lack of ability to balance life, the Committee feel that it is highly necessary for the country to adopt this ancient science of physical and mental well being so that both men and women are equipped with the potential to lead their lives successfully. Hence, the Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry of AYUSH should devise a concrete action plan to take yoga to the people in every strata of the society in general and the women in particular by roping in qualified and committed Yoga teachers, increasing the existing infrastructure facilities after assessing the various requirements and motivate both men and women to join and continue Yoga practices.

The Ministry need to take pro active measures in this matter and genuinely persuade all the stakeholders concerned to understand the importance of Yoga for the wellbeing of the country. In this regard, the Ministry may work in tandem with State Governments, wherever it finds it necessary.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

The Ministry of AYUSH has taken concrete efforts to promote the system of Yoga. The mainstay of these efforts have been its autonomous bodies namely National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN), Pune, Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), New Delhi and Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy (CCRYN), New Delhi. The details are given below:

- MDNIY conducts various programmes comprising of Yoga Education and Training, Yoga therapy, seminars/workshops etc.
- CCRYN carry out Research & Development activities at all India level. It has implemented following Scheme/Programme for society in general including women:-
- Established 15 OPDs and Wellness Centres across the Country and nearly 65 % of the beneficiary are women.
- At present 02 Post Graduate Institute of Yoga & Naturopathy Education and Research (PGIYNER) with 200 bedded Yoga & Naturopathy Hospitals are being constructed at Jhajjar, Haryana and Nagamangla, Karnataka.
- CCRYN proposes to take research projects particularly based on the women disorders in future.
  - Further, National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN), an autonomous body the Ministry, is also constantly striving to promote Yoga in all walks of life by conducting eight yoga sections with qualified Yoga professionals every day; of which one exclusive session is also being dedicated for women. The percentage Yoga participation ratio of men to women at NIN is 40:60. NIN offers Yoga therapy with qualified Yoga therapists from 7 AM to 9 PM, patients are taught therapeutic Yoga on one to one basis. 50% of the Yoga teaching faculties at NIN are women.
  - Furthermore, Ministry of AYUSH is supporting various activities under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) for development of AYUSH System including Yoga & Naturopathy. Further, component of setting up of up to 50 bedded integrated AYUSH hospital also provides support for Yoga & Naturopathy.

- Through the Information Education and Communication (IEC) Scheme of the Ministry, numerous activities are taken up to promote Yoga. Among these, the most prominent is the observation of International Day of Yoga (IDY) in which crores of people participate.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

### **(Recommendation no. 2.2)**

#### **Educational Courses in Yoga**

The Committee find that 51 Yoga universities across 16 States and the Union Territory of Delhi are imparting Yoga education at Certificate, Diploma, Graduate, Post Graduate and PHD levels. The Committee also observe that more than 60 per cent girls are admitted in various courses conducted by Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga. The Committee find this trend of girl students considering Yoga as a career and a subject worth studying a positive and progressive inclination. However, the Committee feel that this trend can sustain only if conducive environment for career progression is available in the field of Yoga. Further, yoga can be spread across the country only if the number of educational courses are increased in Yoga across the country. Hence, the Committee recommend that the Ministry of AYUSH should make concerted efforts to introduce Yoga education at Certificate, Diploma, Graduate, Post Graduate and PHD levels in all the States so that students, both boys and girls can opt for these courses and make a career out of this stream besides keeping themselves physically and mentally fit.

#### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

The Ministry of AYUSH has taken up required activities to introduce programmes for Yoga Education.

- MDNIY has started the following new courses during the year 2019-20:
  - M.Sc. (Yoga) – 2 years regular course.
  - Post-Graduate Diploma in Yoga Therapy (PGDYT) – 1 year regular course for medical & paramedical personnel.
- In addition to the above, the following regular short-term courses have been commenced w.e.f. 01/01/2020:

- Yoga Programme for De-stress & Rejuvenation – 3 days
- Foundation Course in Yoga science for Wellness – 10 days
- Certificate Course in Yoga for Protocol Instructor – 1 month.
- CCRYN is running “Yoga Health Education” Programme of one month duration at Hq.
- NIN offers a 200 hour Yoga teacher training course to generate qualified Yoga teachers. The students of Yoga teachers course of NIN get international recognition. To enhance the knowledge in Clinical Yoga, NIN is offering a Fellowship program in Yoga and Physical Culture for Physicians.
- The Ministry has also set up the Yoga Certification Board (YCB) as an adjunct to the MDNIY, which offers certification (at different levels of proficiency) to individuals and accreditation to Yoga institutions.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

**(Recommendation no. 2.3)**

**Outreach of Yoga in the North-East Region**

The Committee also note that the Ministry is taking various measures to spread Yoga to the nook and corner of the country with an aim to bring in holistic changes in the physical and mental well being of the masses, especially the women. However, the Committee are concerned to find that the outreach activities of the Ministry and the various organisations concerned are scanty as far as the North-East region is concerned. Further, the Committee also observe that no State University in the North-East is offering any course in Yoga whereas in States like Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal, State Universities and Central Universities are offering various courses in Yoga. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Union Government should chart out a definite roadmap, including various programmes designed to address the need for Yoga facilities and requisite infrastructure in the North-East region at the earliest.

**Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

Under NAM Scheme, Ministry of AYUSH is supporting the State Governments to teach Yoga to the community along with other preventive and promotive AYUSH healthcare interventions. This will be done through Health & Wellness Centres (HWCs) being operationalized by the AYUSH departments in the States & UTs including North-East region, depending upon the requirement projected by those governments.

Ministry of AYUSH through CCRYN has extended its financial support to selected Yoga and Naturopathy Organizations of the North - East for establishment and running of OPDs and Hospitals with various bed strengths. CCRYN has also conducted seminars on Yoga and Naturopathy in North - East region from time to time to create awareness among the public regarding these health care sciences.

Ministry of AYUSH, with the support of the State Governments and other stake-holders organised IDY in a befitting manner in the North-East region in the past 5 years. As part of IDY observation, thousands of people were given free training in the Common Yoga Protocol (CYP).

Such programmes and activities are further being intensified through MDNIY, NIN and CCRYN.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

#### **(Recommendation no. 2.4)**

#### **Quality of Yoga & Yoga Certification Board**

The Committee understand that as the element of commercialisation is slowly making inroads into the field of Yoga, some dilution is happening in the authenticity and quality of Yoga teaching. With the mushrooming of yoga Centres that solely intent to mint money, traditional Yoga which aims at the holistic development of a human being is being diluted and new commercial forms of Yoga are being roped in. The Ministry of AYUSH has recently constituted a Yoga Certification Board (YCB) to set the benchmarks for certification of Yoga professionals, Yoga schools/Institutions and to bring uniformity in Yoga courses conducted across India and abroad. The mandate of YCB also includes the responsibility of promoting Yoga as a career skill, collaborating with national and international organisations for promotion of Yoga, developing models for assessment and certification for Yoga professionals and Yoga schools / Institutions / Organisations etc. Formulating guidelines pertaining to accreditation of Yoga centres , certification of Yoga professionals as well as recognising Yoga courses in the private sector are also in the action plan of the Ministry. The Committee are of the considered opinion that the quality of Yoga teaching professionals and Centres should be maintained diligently to keep up the authenticity of Yoga and get the desired benefits of wellbeing and hence the Committee exhort the Ministry to initiate urgent measures in this direction. The Committee



also recommend that the Ministry may address the issue of rampant increase in untrained yoga teachers and fake Yoga centres with the appropriate authorities and such Yoga centres/teachers be brought to books with some stringent punishment.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

The Ministry has set up the YCB to achieve these objectives. YCB is presently an adjunct of the MDNIY, and it has evolved a mechanism for certification of Yoga professionals and accreditation of Yoga institutions. The work of the YCB will improve the quality of Yoga teaching, Yoga professionals and Yoga Institutes in different parts of the country.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

### **(Recommendation no. 2.5)**

#### **Monitoring Mechanism for Yoga**

The Committee observe that there is an unprecedented growth of Yoga in the past four years due to the observance of International Day of Yoga. With the interest of the people rising in practising Yoga, it is highly imperative that the quality of Yoga is not compromised so that people can benefit from this science of self-development through self-direction and self-discovery. In order to maintain the quality of Yoga teaching centres/yoga professionals, it is necessary to keep a vigilant monitoring mechanism in place. The Committee are given to understand that Yoga Certification Board will regularly monitor the functioning of Yoga Institutes across the country. Hence, the Committee recommend that the guidelines/yardstick pertaining to the monitoring mechanism may be adhered to in letter and spirit and utmost care be taken in diligent monitoring of the functioning of Yoga teaching centres/yoga professionals across the country.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

The Yoga Certification Board (YCB) has been set up with this objective, and it has already made a successful beginning in these matters.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

### **(Recommendation no. 2.6)**

## **Yoga for the health of Women**

2.6 The Committee understand that in this technological era of fast pace life full of fierce competition, many people, especially women, are unable to cope with the present days demand and suffer from stress and various kind of diseases. Scientific studies have provided certain concrete evidence that Yoga works to improve general health and keeps various diseases at bay. The various Yogasanas and Pranayama involved in Yoga sadhana can help to manage stress, gain physical health and attain harmony between mind and body. Further, it is a significant medium to take care of women's health due to its adaptability and low cost. Hence, to manage the stress issues and to address the various health issues found in women as well as to increase the quality of life of women, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should expand its outreach activities and awareness campaigns may be conducted especially for women groups so that they get conversant with the benefits of Yoga and are encouraged to take up Yoga as a way of living.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

- The Fit-India Movement, the following activities are initiated for the purpose of Yoga awareness:
  - Identification and training of Fitness Volunteers in Yogasana with special focus on women.
  - Developing age appropriate Yogasan capsules and disseminating in schools.
  - Database of places where Yogasan sessions are held regularly.
- The steps initiated by the Ministry to achieve the above include:
  - Strengthening the certification activities of the Yoga Certification Board and coordination with stake-holding Yoga Institutions, Professional Certification Bodies (PrCBs) for enlisting fitness volunteers in Yogasana.
  - Yoga protocols for children and adolescents developed and disseminated widely.
  - Yoga protocol for women in the age group of forty and above has been developed and disseminated widely.
- Design for creation of database on Yoga training services finalised. An App YogaLocator has been developed and launched.

- MDNIY has come out with some protocols related to Yoga for women's health as follows:
  - Yoga for Children of Age 3-6 years.
  - Yoga for expecting mothers.
  - Yoga for Adolescent girls.
  - Yoga for Lactating mothers.
- Under Information Education and Communication (IEC) Scheme of Ministry of AYUSH, activities include steps to reach out to people and to create awareness about Yoga. IEC activities include programs on TV, Radio, Print-media etc.
- As a part of observation of International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 21<sup>st</sup> June, this Ministry has reached out to about 2.5 lakh Gram Pradhan with suggested plan of action for Yoga promotion in villages. Common Service Centers (CSCs) of the Ministry of Electronics & IT have also been roped in for promotion of Yoga in rural areas.
- National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN), Pune, conducts on an average 16 outreach activities every month to popularize Yoga and Naturopathy. NIN regularly conducts Yoga oriented lectures and sessions in schools, government, private organizations for healthy living as outreach programs. In all major events of NIN, Yoga competition and sessions for students is regularly conducted to bring in awareness amongst the girl children and women groups.
- In addition to the above, Ministry of AYUSH is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) through States/ UTs. Under NAM there is a provision of financial assistance for Yoga wellness Centres, School Health Programme and AYUSH Gram. Under NAM State/UT Governments are availing financial assistance for these activities as per the provision of NAM guidelines by submitting their proposals through State Annual Action Plan and providing different services including Yoga to community including girls and women.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

**(Recommendation no. 2.7)**

**Yoga for Women in Prisons/ in Shelter Homes/in Vulnerable Conditions**

2.7 The Committee are aware that prisons/correctional homes or Juvenile Homes are highly volatile places requiring sensitive management and cautious handling. The women prisoners undergo emotional and psychological trauma which is more pronounced than encountered by their male counterparts. The Ministry of AYUSH has apprised the Committee that so far they have not taken up activities in this area and they are willing to extend all possible support if the Ministry/Department concerned earmarks a specific role for AYUSH Ministry in this area. The Committee have also been apprised that Morarji Desai National Institute for Yoga is developing a special course for the prisoners. The Committee find this a highly welcoming step and recommend that this special course may be developed and introduced in all the prisons/juvenile homes across the country without delay. The Committee also recommend that Ministry of AYUSH may take up the issue in right earnest with all the stake holders concerned and work in tandem with State Governments to take concrete steps to integrate Yoga into the lives of women prisoners, girls in juvenile homes, women/girls in shelter homes and in vulnerable conditions so that they succeed in addressing their special psycho-social needs and lead a life with quality.

**Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

State/UT Governments have been addressed in this matter (as it falls in their jurisdiction), and they have been assured of technical support through MDNIY.

An initiative has been taken up through the MDNIY to conduct Yoga Training programme and Yoga Teachers Training Programme (CCYW) for the Jail Inmates.

The CCRYN organises Yoga classes at NirmalChhaya complex at Tihar Jail, New Delhi by deputing a female Yoga Therapist for some period. Further, Council is conducting Yoga Classes for women and it has also intimated to Jail Authorities at Rohini to avail these facilities.

A project of NIN is in Pipeline to start Naturopathy and Yoga service for Jail inmates at Yerwada Jail, Pune and Arthur road Jail in Mumbai. Special provision will also be given to address the Yoga needs of women prisoners. The courses offered by NIN, including Yoga may also be extended to the jail inmates.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

**Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 8 of Chapter I)

**(Recommendation no. 2.8)**

**Yoga for Divyangjan**

2.8 The Committee observe that the Ministry of AYUSH is seized with the idea of working with divyang schools and that they have developed a protocol for divyangjan. The Committee also understand that concerted and integrated efforts of the Government, NGOs, corporates, educational institutions and many other stake holders concerned are needed to break the barriers built by disability and integrate the divyangjan into the main stream of society. Nevertheless, the Committee are of the considered opinion that along with providing financial, educational and skill based support, the divyangjan should be imparted with the knowledge of Yoga in order to realise their full potential. It is evident from various studies that application of Yoga as a therapeutic intervention takes advantage of the various psychophysiological benefits of the practice and helps to access an inner strength that allows one to face anxiety, frustration and challenges of everyday life. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take concerted efforts to spread Yoga into the lives of divyangjan, especially women, so that they are able to lead a life of dignity, independence and satisfaction and become an asset for the social and economic development of the country.

**Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

3% reservation is being provided to Divyangs in all the education and training programmes of MDNIY.

NIN is conducting Special programs on different occasions to divyang school to impart Yoga for specially-abled children.

Efforts would to impart Yoga training to Divyanjan especially women are further being stepped up through a directive from the Ministry to these institutions.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

**(Recommendation no. 2.9)**

**Need for Integration of Yoga in Schools**

2.9 The Committee note that the different components of Yoga such as Asanas, Pranayama, Meditation, Yogic Kriyas etc. help in overall development of personality at the physical, mental and social planes of existence. The Yogic practices are known to increase concentration and enhance memory in children. It also improves other cognitive functions. The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed integrated syllabi on health and Physical Education in which the content of yoga has been included for classes I to X. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) also covers Yoga as a subject. The Ministry of AYUSH also has expressed their willingness to extend all possible help if the Ministry of HRD earmarks any role for them in integrating Yoga into school health programmes. The Committee wish to point out that the lives of children today are not stress free. They not only experience social, family, study and peer pressures but also suffer from anxiety, abuse and bullying in school. Children require a safe, nurturing and supportive environment to develop their potentials and equip themselves to deal with the pressures in subsequent stages of life successfully. As there is no panacea for the problems that we face in the society or in the world as far as security, safety and nurturing is concerned, the Committee feel that conscious approach is necessary to find means to equip the children with physical and mental wellbeing and develop their full potential so that they grow into satisfied and successful human beings. Hence, the Committee recommend that the Ministry of AYUSH, instead of waiting for Ministry of HRD to earmark a role for them, should take up the matter with the Ministry of Human Resource Development and find means to include Yoga as a regular practice for all students from class I to XII.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

From Ministry of AYUSH, MDNIY is coordinating with NCERT, NCTE and Department of School Education of MHRD to introduce Yoga in schools. Further, the Ministry has also given its inputs as per the Committees advice.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 11 of Chapter I)

### **(Recommendation no. 2.10)**

#### **National Policy for Promotion of Yoga (NPFY)**

2.10 The Committee note that no separate National Policy has been framed for promotion of Yoga. The Ministry has apprised that National Health Policy, 2017 provides room for

application of Yoga in many areas of Public Health. The Ministry of AYUSH has further informed that they along with the Ministry of HRD and various State Governments issue various guidelines from time to time and hence a separate National level Policy for Promotion of Yoga is not found necessary at present. The Ministry has also stated that the National Commission for Indian Systems of Medicine Bill provides for the regulatory framework about Yoga. While taking note of the above submissions, the Committee would, however, like the Ministry to ensure that the guidelines issued and the regulatory framework prescribed in this regard are strictly adhered to.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

The Ministry of AYUSH commits to adhering to this advice.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

### **(Recommendation no. 2.11)**

#### **Research and Development in Yoga**

2.11 The Committee note that the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN) lead and coordinate research activities in Yoga and Naturopathy. So far, CCRYN and its four Collaborative Research Centres at Delhi, Bengaluru, Mysore and Pune have completed 51 research projects. CCRYN is also disseminating the highly significant research findings in the field of Yoga and Naturopathy through its research journal 'Indian Journal of Yoga and Naturopathy'. A look at the budget allocation of the Ministry also shows that a sizeable portion of the allocation is going to CCRYN for research activities. As research is a tool for building knowledge and for facilitating learning, the Committee hope that CCRYN will ensure development of research projects that will have real impact in the field of Yoga and Naturopathy fostering new ideas and to help people in identifying and providing solutions to their problems.

### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

The CCRYN has intensified its activities in this direction. It has established four Collaborative Research Centres one each at Delhi, Bengaluru, Mysore, and Lonavala, Pune, thereby enhancing the scope of research activities. The clinical/literary research studies have been initiated/to be initiated at these centres. One literary publication has been brought out after completing a literary research programme at Mysore. Council's research journal 'Indian Journal for Yoga and Naturopathy' is to be started soon. The Council is making efforts to initiate intra mural research projects at its OPDs/Wellness Centres with real impact in the field of Yoga and Naturopathy and with new ideas and to help people in identifying and providing solution to their problems.

NIN has started a research department and has role out more than 25 publications on Naturopathy and Yoga. The Fellowship program on Research methodology is aimed at

improving the research skills of the clinicians to validate more Naturopathy and Yoga practices scientifically.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

**(Recommendation no. 2.13)**

**Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga(MDNIY) and National Institute of Naturopathy (NIN)**

2.13 The Committee note that MDNIY and NIN, both are engaged in yoga activities. MDNIY is mandated with offering educational, training and therapy courses in Yoga. As naturopathy and Yoga go hand in hand, NIN is also offering yoga tools for physical and mental well being and they are also closely involved in the promotion of Yoga. However, the Committee feel that there are many areas where the mandate of MDNIY and NIN seem to collide or rather mingle into one. For instance, both MDNIY and NIN are doing outreach activities as well as training programmes. The Committee would like the Ministry to clearly demarcate the mandate of these two organisations so that there is no conflict in the areas of activities they undertake and both the Institutes are able to function optimally.

**Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

Since NIN is located in Pune, and MDNIY in Delhi, steps have been taken to align the activities geographically, with MDNIY focussing on North and NIN in south on converging activities. Taking this further, in future the activities of MDNIY and NIN would be distinctively demarcated.

In this regard, the Ministry has decided to devote PGIYNER at Jhajjar, Haryana to Naturopathy and PGIYNER at Nagamangala, Karnataka to Yoga specifically.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

**(Recommendation No. 2.14)**

**Schemes of the Ministry & Representation of Girls in Sports**



The Committee are happy to note that the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports have various schemes in place to broadbase sports, enhance women participation in Sports and promote excellence in sports. The Khelo India Scheme includes a dedicated vertical of 'sports for women' to encourage female players in the entire country. Sports Authority of India (SAI) is implementing various grass root level schemes and elite schemes to identify talented sportspersons in the age group of 8-25 years and train them to achieve excellence at National and International level competitions. Nonetheless, these schemes have not been able to attract more girls/women into sports as is evident from the fact that presently only 4335 girls are being trained under residential and non-residential basis vis-à-vis 10059 boys in 291 SAI Sports Centres operational throughout the country. The committee find this number of women trainees, which is a mere 30.11 per cent, quite disheartening. The Committee believe that this less number of female representation in Sports is not due to lack of talent in girls but due to lack of identification of talent at the right time as well as various socio-cultural-economic barriers coupled with lack of awareness among parents and girls as well as safety and security concerns relating to girls. The Committee understand that under the vertical of 'Sports for Women' in Khelo India Scheme, emphasis is being laid on such sports disciplines where there is less participation of women so that more and more women participate in such disciplines. The Committee find this very encouraging and believe that if this scheme is implemented in right spirit it can address the lack of representation of girls/women in sports to a great extent. Hence, the Committee urge the Ministry to implement this scheme in right earnest across the country so that more and more women are brought into sports. The Committee also urge the Ministry to give wide publicity to the schemes of the Ministry through print and electronic media, institute adequate incentives in the form of cash awards and medals, improve the stipend given to the students, develop infrastructure in both rural and urban areas including construction of sufficient number of girls sports hostels to address the safety and security concerns etc.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

To increase participation of women in sports and sports related development activities, a component namely "Sports for Women" has been included in Khelo India Scheme. It has also been proposed to hold annual national competitions for women. Emphasis will be laid on such sports disciplines where there is less participation of women so that more number of women will participate in such sports disciplines. Under this component, a support of Rs. 3 crores had been given to Boxing Federation of India (BFI) to conduct AIBA World Women Boxing Championship 2018 held at New Delhi from 15th to 24th November, 2018.

To pay a special attention to women sportsperson, SAI has also established the following three sports training centres exclusively for women sportspersons: -

- STC Badal (Punjab)
- STC Dharamshala (Himachal Pradesh)
- STC Medikeri (Karnataka)

In rest of the SAI Sports Centres, the girl athletes are provided separate hostel facilities along with hostel Lady Warden to ensure safety & security of girl athletes. More number of sports hostel are being constructed to accommodate larger pool of talented sportspersons including women athletes.

To give wide publicity of schemes of the Department, all schemes of the Department are available in public domain at the website of the Department. Further, all sports events conducted under Khelo India Scheme are given a 360-degree promotion through print, television and digital media platforms. Khelo India Mobile App was also launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister to undertake a detailed fitness assessment of school going children, which is now available for general public to get information and ease of access to the various aspects of the game. In addition, mapping of sports infrastructure is also available in a district/sub district on the App.

To develop sports infrastructure, 173 new sports infrastructure projects including construction of hostel under Khelo India Scheme has been approved at a total sanctioned cost of Rs.1226.61 crore.

These are the continuous process. However, Department of Sports will consider the suggestions of the Committee made in its 14<sup>th</sup> Report for improving better participation of women in sports.

### **(Recommendation No. 2.15)**

The Committee are of the considered opinion that there is no dearth of sports talent amongst girls in our country. However, it is necessary to identify the talent at the right time and nurture and support the talent with proper guidance and training. Many times, along with various other socio-cultural reasons, finance is a major impediment for parents to engage their girl children in sports. Lack of availability of good coaches and sporting equipment in schools or in the nearby areas force the parents to hire a private coach and buy equipment from outside which eventually put a financial burden on them as a result of which not so well to do parents are often compelled to stop the sports activities of their children however talented they may be. The Committee find this situation pathetic and desire that the Ministry should look into this aspect and find means to address this issue.

## **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

To bridge the gaps in availability of good coaches, a cascading model of “Community Coach Development” has been adopted by the Department under Khelo India Scheme for development of community coaches across the country. This will involve skill development and certification system. A short term community coaching development programme will be evolved and identified Physical Education Teachers (PETs) nominated by States/UTs will be trained as master trainers or coach developers. Such Master Trainers will, in turn, train other PETs/Volunteers in their respective States/UTs as community coaches and develop teams at community level. Under this, Master training programme are organized in LNIPE, Gwalior and LNIPE (NERC), Guwahati, in which a number of Master Trainers received community coaching training. In addition, first National level Training of Trainer Programme (TOTs) for Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) Teachers was held and 193 Physical Education Teachers trained are certified as Master Trainers. Total 31 Regional/State Level TOTs have been conducted where a total number of 1,671 Certified Regional Trainers were trained.

Further, the most of the sportspersons including female athletes identified and admitted in SAI Sports Centres belong to the rural/ tribal & backward areas of the country. The selected athletes are provided requisite facilities for regular training in the form of expert coaches, sports equipment, boarding, lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, Misc. & Contingencies and Stipend as per the approved Scheme norms.

Efforts are being made to utilize the existing available sports infrastructure in the country through a system of active management committee consisting of players and members of neighbourhood community as well all over the country under the Khelo India Scheme.

### **(Recommendation No. 2.16)**

The Committee also note that the schemes of Department of Sports are gender neutral and afford equal opportunities to women for participating in sporting activities. However, many times it is difficult for girls to cross the cultural barriers and get into Sports even though they have aptitude and talent. These cultural barriers is one of the reasons for strong regional imbalance in terms of participation of women in sports. Hence, the Committee feel that merely giving gender neutral and equal opportunity to women will not serve the purpose. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to go extra miles to address this issue by making girls and their parents understand the importance of sports, provide adequate support wherever necessary and help them cross their limitations and develop their potential to the maximum.

## **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Keeping in view of less participation of women in sports, a component namely “Sports for Women” has already been included in Khelo India Scheme in order to provide opportunities to women too for participating in sporting activities and development of sports. Despite being all schemes of the Department as gender neutral, it is striving to encourage women. As a result of these efforts, participation of women in sports has increased gradually.

As a matter of facts out of **11868** sportspersons presently being trained under Sports Authority of India (SAI)’s Schemes, (**8220** Boys & **3648** Girls) **30.73%** are girls’ athletes. In order to pay a special attention to women sportsperson SAI has also established the following three sports training centres exclusively for women sportspersons: -

- STC Badal (Punjab)
- STC Dharamshala (Himachal Pradesh)
- STC Medikeri (Karnataka)

These are the continuous process, however, the efforts are made to select more number of female athletes to allow greater participation for women sportspersons in various sports disciplines.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

### **(Recommendation No. 2.18)**

#### **Facilities/Infrastructural Amenities Available for Women Sportspersons**

The Committee have been apprised by the Ministry that women sportspersons are provided with sports facilities at par with their male counterparts. They are entitled to sports facilities in the form of services of expert coaches, playing facilities, boarding and lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, sports equipments, educational expenses and insurance/medical expenses and stipend as per the approved scheme norms. They are also provided with regular yoga training and counselling from time to time. However, despite these facilities being in place, we find that effective participation of women in sports is still very low. Hence, the Committee recommend that the Ministry as well as SAI should focus on identifying the problem areas where women players/girl trainees are facing maximum issues, be it in terms of lack of availability of good coaches or equipments or sports clubs or sports centres or safe transportation issues or safe and hygienic hostels to stay or stipend given to players and take a call accordingly to address

the issue. The Committee feel that in order to build a sporting nation, Government should focus on increasing the infrastructural facilities, especially in the rural areas and give wide publicity to the facilities available for girl/women players so that they are encouraged to participate in sports. The Committee also recommend that the Ministry should focus on bringing in as many talented and deserving women coaches as possible since the female players would feel more confident and comfortable with a female coach.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Increasing facilities such as creating sports infrastructure, producing/providing good coaches, creating awareness about sports, increasing participation in sports, etc. are the continuous process.

However, the efforts are being made to select more number of female athletes to allow greater participation for women sportspersons in various sports disciplines. Under the component of “Creation of Appropriate Sports Infrastructure” of Khelo India Scheme, grants-in-aid is provided to States/ UTs, SAI, etc. to develop critical sports infrastructure and other infrastructure where there are gaps.

Further, the sportspersons including women athletes admitted in SAI Schemes are assured requisite training facilities and conducive atmosphere so that, there regular training is not hampered. The girl athletes in contact sports are trained by female coaches and they reside in a separate hostel under the supervision of a Lady Warden. Regular counselling is also done to ensure emotional well-being during their stay in the campus. While travelling for competition to outstation venues, they are always accompanied by female coaches. A decision has also been taken to ensure parity amongst all level of trainees in giving financial assistance towards diet, food supplements earlier it was depended on levels of athletes.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

### **(Recommendation No. 2.19)**

#### **District Level Sports Centre**

The Committee are given to understand that under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes, there is no provision for establishment of district-wise sports centres across the country. However, the Committee also understand that one of the major initiatives under Khelo India Programme is creation of sports infrastructure at Tehsil, District and State levels. The Committee feel that in order to identify the talent in the rural/urban/semi rural/tribal and backward areas of the country, it is necessary to create adequate district or Tehsil level sports centres so that the talent pooled in at the local community level or school level can be properly identified and nurtured. The Committee observe that the Ministry

has not furnished any proper reply in this regard to the Committee. The Committee would like the Ministry to furnish further information about this in their action taken replies.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Scheme for adoption of schools as Sports Schools in each district of the country under Khelo India Scheme has been introduced. 04 Kendriya Vidyalayas has been adopted as State Level Khelo India Centres in which 92 students (between 10-14 years in classes VI – VIII) in total have taken admission and are currently undergoing sports training in their respective schools.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

### **(Recommendation No. 2.20)**

#### **Support and Nurturing Facilities for Women Players and Inclusion of Girls in Tribal/Rural/Backward Areas in Sports Activities**

The Committee note that the grass root level schemes of Sports Authority of India (SAI) are meant to nurture and support sports talent in the age group of 8-18 years. The Committee further .note that the talented women sportspersons, including women sportspersons from rural / tribal/ backwards areas, identified and nurtured under SAI schemes, are provided with various kinds of sports facilities including discipline wise coaches, infrastructure facilities, competition exposure, educational expenses and medical expenses. The Committee have also been informed that when the First Khelo India Games was held from 31 January to 08 February, 2018, wide publicity was given to the same through print, visual and social media to attract students in the entire country including rural/tribal/backward areas towards their participation. The Committee also observe that the second edition of Khelo India Youth Games, 2019 held at Pune witnessed an approximate participation of 10,000 persons which is almost double in comparison to the participants in Khelo India Games 2018. The Committee appreciate the efforts taken by SAI to make the Games popular and hope that SAI will continue to nurture and support the women/girl players/trainees without any laxity to develop their full potentials. The Committee would also like to urge the Ministry to give special attention to spreading awareness among the parents and girls in rural, tribal/backward areas about the facilities available for girls in the sports field, the importance of sports, the manner in which sports can bring in positive changes in the lives of the girls/women players etc. so

that the parents and girls shed their inhibitions and come forward to participate in sports so that the dream of inclusion and empowerment of women in the field of sports come true.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Khelo India Mobile App was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister to undertake a detailed fitness assessment of school going children and facilitating general public/youths to get information easily about the various aspects of the game such as 'how to learn and to play different sports', available sports infrastructure in a district/sub district etc.

Further, all sports events conducted under Khelo India Scheme are given a 360-degree promotion through print, television and digital media platforms. Every year since 2018, Khelo India Youth Games under the Khelo India Scheme is being organized with a view to encourage mass participation of youth in sports.

'Promotion of Rural and Indigenous/Tribal Games' under the Khelo India scheme:

- 04 disciplines i.e. **Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka and Thang-Ta** have been identified for which financial support is being given for infrastructure development, equipment support, appointment of coaches, training of coaches and scholarships.
- Total amount sanctioned for the FY 2019-20 is Rs. 10.85 Crore. Presently, Rs. 2.92 Crore has been released.
- An amount of Rs. 4.02 crore has been sanctioned towards scholarship for 335 Medal Winners of Mallakhamb, Kalaripayattu, Gatka and Thang-Ta. (Rs.10,000/- per athlete for a period of one year). Presently, **185** athletes are receiving the Scholarships from 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2019.
- Letters to all 28 State Governments and 09 Union Territories have been issued to identify indigenous rural and tribal sports.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

**(Recommendation No. 2.23)**

### **Gender Discrimination in Sports**

The Committee have been apprised by the Ministry that gender discrimination in any form is not tolerated in SAI. The Ministry has also informed that the financial norms applicable

under SAI are implemented in letter and spirit for both the genders and women players are getting equal salary similar to their male counterparts. The Committee highly appreciate this. However, the Committee are a little perturbed about the NSFs which do not come under the purview of the Ministry and which apparently follow a policy of unequal wages for men and women players. A few months back the media had been abuzz with the news of unequal pay between the male and female cricket players. The Committee feel that the root cause of this gender discrimination in sports lies in inadequate participation of women in sports. If the number of talented women sportspersons increase, audience will come to watch their games which in turn will attract more sponsors and will fetch more money for the women sportspersons. Hence, the Committee urge the Ministry that while ensuring zero gender discrimination in sports against women players, the Ministry should take concerted efforts to increase the participation of women in sports as a one step solution for The issues faced by women sports persons.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

It is a fact that NSFs do not function under the direct control of the Department of Sports. However, their annual recognition depends on their following of the Department's guidelines issued from time to time. Further, National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 provides for transparency in Sports sector. It covers all aspects of sports including good governance in National Sports Federations (NSFs), fair and transparent selection of athletes, accounting and audit, etc.

There is no gender discrimination between male & female athletes as far as the Sports Promotional Schemes implemented by SAI is concerned. Equal opportunities and entitlements are provided to the sportspersons of both genders to excel in their respective field of play.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 23 of Chapter I)

#### **(Recommendation No. 2.26)**

### **Role of Yoga in Sports**



The Committee note that the well established benefits of Yoga in improving health and vitality and in maintaining fitness and agility can be gained by sportspersons through regular practice. The Committee further note that Yoga is specially beneficial for women sportspersons in some aspects of their physiological function in terms of hormonal balance and major milestones. The Committee have been informed that the sportspersons being trained under SAI schemes are provided with regular yoga classes in SAI centres. The Committee highly appreciate this initiative taken by SAI and hope that the women sportspersons will be able to overcome the limitations through the practice of Yoga and take their sporting abilities to new heights. The Committee would like to urge the Ministry to spread awareness about the importance of Yoga in sports with assiduity so that the sportspersons give due diligence to practising yoga to enhance their abilities.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Yoga and physical fitness is an integral part of Sports. Keeping this in view, all sportspersons including women being trained under SAI Schemes are provided with regular yoga classes while training in SAI Centres. The yoga practice invariably helps them to manage stress, gain physical health and attain harmony between mind & body. Further, Fit India Campaign was launched by the Department on 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 with a view to promote and aware the people about the importance of fitness and encourage them to keep themselves fit by involving in physical activities as well as simple yoga.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

## **CHAPTER III**

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT**

- NIL -

## CHAPTER IV

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE

#### (Recommendation no. 2.12)

#### **Budget allocation to MDNIY**

The Committee have been informed by the Ministry that budget allocation to the organisations working under the Ministry are comparatively less and needs to be strengthened. As per the details provided by the Ministry, the budget allocated to Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga for the financial year 2017-18 was a mere Rs. 12.02 crore. A study of the budget allocation to MDNIY since 2013-14 reveal that skewed funds have been earmarked to this important Institute mandated with the training and teaching of Yoga. The Committee understand that Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga is besieged with various issues like shortage of land and space, hostel facility for the students, staff quarters etc. The institute is also contemplating to start specialised Yoga Education and Therapy programmes for special women groups and this require support in terms of finance and manpower. It is a matter of serious concern that an autonomous organization created with the sole aim of promoting deeper understanding of Yoga philosophy and practices based on ancient yoga traditions for holistic health and well being is facing shortage of finance and various other constraints. The Committee, therefore, call upon the Ministry of AYUSH to take up the issue of requirement of necessary funds with the Ministry of Finance and also find appropriate solutions for the various other issues being faced by MDNIY at the earliest, especially the issue of hostel accommodation for students and residential accommodation for the staff .

#### **Replies of the Ministry of AYUSH**

Budget Estimate for the year 2019-20 is Rs. 18.00 crore, the details of which is given below:

- GIA general – Rs. 8.70 crores
- Salary – Rs. 9.00 crore,
- Swachata Action Plan – Rs. 0.30 crore

The Ministry has considered the advice of Committee in mind and projected an adequate increased requirement of funds.

(O.M. No. S.11012/25/2018-YN dated 07<sup>th</sup> January, 2020)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 14 of Chapter I)

#### **(Recommendation No. 2.17)**

## **Transparency and Accountability in Selection of Coaches and Sportspersons**

When the Committee desired to know about how the Ministry is ensuring transparency and accountability in the recruitment process and selection of coaches and girls/women sports persons, the Ministry did not give a suitable reply. Instead of answering the question directly, the Ministry gave an indirect reply as to how the Ministry is encouraging women candidates by exempting them from payment of fee for recruitment etc. The Committee are surprised at the evasive reply of the Ministry to a very pertinent question. The Committee feel that it is absolutely imperative that people who have talent, commitment and dedication should get into Sports as coaches or players. Even today, education tends to be the highest priority for the average Indian instead of extracurricular activities. Even though, there are scholarships and endowments that ensure a basic minimum standard of living, due to lack of transparency in the system, many times parents and players lose faith that talent will be acknowledged and valued. Hence, it is necessary to have a transparent system for selection of coaches and players to be in place for the advancement of sports in the country. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should take stringent measures to ensure that transparency is maintained in the selection of coaches and players/trainees and excelling in sports becomes the only concern.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

The selection of sportspersons including women athletes under SAI Sports Promotional Schemes, is done strictly based on the schemes approved selection criteria. For inviting talented sportspersons for selection trials in the identified sports disciplines the concerned in-charge centres carryout wide publicity through various means. The selection of promising sportspersons is done by a duly Constituted Selection Committee either on potential or performance based criteria.

Further, Selection of coaches and players is the mandate of the National Sports Federations (NSFs) concerned. The Government doesn't have any direct involvement in this process. However, National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 provides for transparency in Sports sector. It covers all aspects of sports including good governance in National Sports Federations (NSFs), fair and transparent selection of athletes, accounting and audit, etc.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 17 of Chapter I)

### **CHAPTER V**

## **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAVE FURNISHED INTERIM REPLIES**

### **(Recommendation No. 2.21)**

#### **Sexual Harassment in Sports**

The Committee note that 24 sexual harassment cases have been filed by the sportspersons against their coaches/SAI officials during the last five years. The complaints are dealt with in SAI as per the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012. The Committee have been informed that SAI is following a zero tolerance policy on all matters related to sexual harassment. A look at the data provided by the Ministry conveys that coaches who are in power and authority appears to be the alleged perpetrators. In many cases, the charges against the coaches have been proved and action has been taken against them. Sexual harassment of women pervades all walks of life and Sports is not an exception. The Committee need not point out to the Ministry that sexual harassment in sports can negatively affect the physical and psychological health of the sportspersons, especially women. It can not only lead to deterioration in the performance of a sportsperson and eventually force her to drop out of sports but can even cause psychosomatic illness, anxiety, depression, EA substance abuse, self harm and even suicide of a female sportsperson. Hence, the committee strongly recommend the Ministry and SAI to ensure the following:

(a) First and foremost of all, the Committee urge that the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012 should be followed in letter and spirit in SAI.

(b) While selecting a player or a trainee under SAI promotional schemes or sports schemes, along with the selection letter, they should be given a standard letter of information containing the details about the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) in place, the names of the Members/contact numbers, the name of the website where the players can register their complaints, the rights of the players/trainees etc. The letter of information should also explain in detail how a woman player/trainee can register a sexual harassment complaint under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012.

(c) Awareness classes may be conducted for all the female trainees/coaches about sexual harassment at workplace.

(d) Male sportspersons and coaches may be sensitized about gender sensitive behaviour on and off the field.

(e) Details of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC), including phone numbers of those to be contacted in case of sexual abuse should be displayed on a board in all training centres, women/girl's accommodation centres under SAI.

(f) create appropriate forums for women sportspersons / coaches to raise issues relating to sexual harassment SAI.

(g) All the National Sport Federations (NSF) should also ensure that a properly defined and publicized sexual harassment committee is in place.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

SAI is following a zero tolerance policy on all matters related to sexual harassment of sportspersons under training in SAI Schemes.

The sexual harassment of women at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Act, 2013 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act), 2012 is followed strictly by SAI. The details of Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) including phone numbers of the members are displayed appropriately at the training centres. Regular awareness classes are conducted for all the female trainees /coaches about sexual harassment at work place. Similarly, sensitization of male sportspersons and coaches is also done to avoid such offences.

Besides, the Government has already issued directives to the NSFs to put in place mechanisms to prevent sexual harassment of women in sports. The matter is again being taken up with NSFs to ensure compliance.

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 20 of Chapter I)

**(Recommendation No. 2.22)**

**Code of Conduct for Coaches and Trainees**

The Committee have been apprised by the Ministry that the sportspersons trained under SAI schemes are constantly sensitized and made aware of the do's and don'ts while staying in the hostel, in the dining hall as well as on the playing fields. However, the Committee feel from the replies of the Ministry that no proper Code of Conduct for Coaches is not in place in SAI . An examination of the sexual harassment complaints received during the last five years in Sal reveal that out of 24 complaints, 20 complaints have been against coaches. The Committee believe that the number could be higher as many times cases against coaches also might have gone unreported/ not complained against. The Committee find it quite unfortunate that the mentor and guide himself turning the predator. Hence, the Committee feel that it is necessary to have a Code of Conduct for Coaches to be in place which will provide guidelines for the professional behaviour of a coach. The Code of Conduct will promote fair and responsible behaviour by the Coach towards the sportspersons he is in charge of. The Committee fail to understand why the Ministry!SAI has so far never enforced a proper Code of Conduct for the Coaches despite so many instances of sexual harassment cases against coaches cropping up. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that the Ministry/SAI should put a Code of Conduct for Coaches in place at the earliest. The Committee would like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard.

**Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Reply is awaited from the Autonomous Bodies under the Department of Sports

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

**(Recommendation No. 2.24)**

**Portrayal of Women Players in the Media**

With regard to the portrayal of women players in the media, the Ministry has apprised the Committee that women players are always given due importance whenever they bring laurels for the country but they are also criticized whenever they perform poorly. However, the Committee feel that the ground reality is that women sportspersons receive less media coverage than their male counterparts and it is quite detrimental to the growth of female sportspersons. The Committee feel that instead of doing sweet and nice stories about women sportspersons, the media should do positive criticism of their performances and adequate coverage should be given to their performances. This will not only boost the morale of female players but will also make women sportspersons more visible in the

sports world which had been a male bastion for so long. If a female sportsperson is not given sufficient media publicity, the audience also will not be inspired or interested in watching their games. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to take steps in this direction and apprise the Committee.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Reply is awaited from the Autonomous Bodies under the Department of Sports

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

### **(Recommendation No. 2.25)**

#### **Financial Security and Assured Career Progression for Women Players**

The Committee observe that along with various reasons that contribute to the lack of female participation in sports, lack of financial security after their retirement and assured career progression for women players play a significant role in hindering women from opting for sports as a career.. The Committee have been apprised that Government is implementing the Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons under which lifelong monthly pension is given after their retirement from active sports to those sportspersons who have won medals in Olympic Games! Paralympic Games and World Championships (in the disciplines included in Olympic Games and Asian Games). Further, the Ministry is implementing the Scheme of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons for giving lump sum ex-gratia financial assistance to sportspersons and their families who are living in indigent circumstances. The Committee find these steps taken by the Ministry highly laudable and hope that this will address the financial concerns of female sportspersons to a greater extent. However, the Committee would like to urge the Ministry to ensure that the female sportspersons should not have to run from pillar to post to get the benefits under these schemes once they retire. The Ministry may ensure that a smooth and hassle free procedure may be put in place for the female sportspersons to avail these benefits. The Committee would also like to recommend that the Ministry should think of means to provide medical coverage to female sportspersons once they are retired. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps taken by the Ministry in this regard.

With regard assured career progression for female sportspersons, the Committee have been informed that the Government is already supporting the drive for women empowerment by providing equal job opportunities for women sportspersons. Even after their retirement, women are providing active participation and services to sports by training the players as coach or serving as physios, psychologists, support staff etc.



However, the Committee would like to point out here that all women players do not get a job or do not get an opportunity to take up any job relating to sports after their retirement. Many of them face severe financial crisis and find it difficult to make both ends meet many times. Hence, the Committee feel that the Ministry should have a more comprehensive and holistic scheme in place to cover the financial needs and the career progression needs of women sportspersons so that their future is secured and girls are encouraged to take up sports as a career.

### **Replies of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**

Reply is awaited from the Autonomous Bodies under the Department of Sports

(O.M. No. 14-93/2013-SP CDN dated 23.01.2020)

**NEW DELHI;**  
**03 March, 2020**  
**13 Phalgun, 1941 (Saka)**

**DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT**  
**CHAIRPERSON**  
**COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN**

**COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN (2019-2020)**

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON  
TUESDAY, 3rd MARCH, 2020**

The Committee sat from 1500 hrs. to 1730 hrs. in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Dr. Heena Vijaykumar Gavit - **Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

**LOK SABHA**

2. Smt. Locket Chatterjee
3. Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo
4. Smt. Annpurna Devi
5. Km. Shobha Karandlaje
6. Smt. Raksha Nikhil Khadse
7. Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai Maadam
8. Smt. Jyotsna Charandas Mahant
9. Smt. Jaskaur Meena
10. Smt. Shardaben Anilbhai Patel
11. Smt. Riti Pathak
12. Smt. Sarmistha Sethi
13. Smt. Geetha Viswanath Vanga

**RAJYA SABHA**

14. Smt. Vandana Chavan
15. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
16. Smt. Kahkashan Perween
17. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
18. Smt. Chhaya Verma

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Smt. Kalpana Sharma - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ajay Kumar Garg - Director
3. Smt. Reena Gopalakrishnan - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members of the Committee to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee then took up the following draft Action Taken Reports for consideration:

(i) Draft Action Taken Report on the subject 'Yoga and Sports facilities for Women'.

(ii) \*\*\*\*\*

(iii) \*\*\*\*\*

4. After some deliberations, the Committee adopted the Draft Reports without any modification and authorized the Chairperson to finalize the Draft Reports and present them to both the Houses of Parliament.

5. \*\*\*\*\*  
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6. \*\*\*\*\*  
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*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*\*\*\*\**Matters not related to this Report.*

(Vide Para 4 of the Introduction)

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE FOURTEENTH REPORT (SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA) OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN (2018-2019) ON THE SUBJECT 'YOGA AND SPORTS FACILITIES FOR WOMEN'.**

(i)	Total No. of Recommendations	26
(ii)	Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government: Para Nos. 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5,2.6, 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 2.10, 2.11, 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, 2.16, 2.18, 2.19, 2.20, 2.23, and 2.26  Percentage	20  76.92%
(iii)	Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:  Percentage	NIL  0%
(iv)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee Para Nos. 2.12 and 2.17.  Percentage	02  7.69%
(v)	Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Government have furnished interim replies/final replies of the Government are still awaited:  Para Nos. 2.21, 2.22, 2.24and 2.25  Percentage	04  15.38%

