

(d) whether there would be an overall review in terms of policy, structure manpower and operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (d) Government of India, for the first time, has introduced a centrally sponsored scheme with national coverage for the promotion of basic sports infrastructure and sports competitions in all village and block panchayats of the country. The Eleventh Five Year Plan outlay for this scheme, which was launched in the financial year 2008-09, is Rs. 1500 crore. The scheme envisage to cover around 2.50 lakh village panchayats and 6,400 block panchayats (including their equivalent units) in a phased manner over a period of 10 years at an annual coverage of 10%. The scheme is implemented through the State Governments/UTs administrations. Apart from broad-basing sports, it is expected to, in the long run, expand the talent base for the promotion of excellence in sports.

National Games 2010

2258. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Games 2010 would be held at Kerala;

(b) if so, whether there was consensus with various officials of Centre and State Government that Kerala should focus on upgradation of existing infrastructure for the National Games 2010;

(c) if so, the Competent Authority of Kerala had submitted proposal and request for financial assistance for upgradation of existing stadium and modernizing a few existing SAI training centres of Kerala;

(d) if so, the action taken in details;

(e) if so, whether steps would be taken in affirmative for the same;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (g) A Central Team with representatives from Department of Sports, Planning Commission, Indian Olympic Association and Sports Authority of India has visited the State of Kerala from 19th to 22nd May, 2009 to evaluate the proposal of Government of Kerala for Central assistance to host the 35th National Games. The Central Team has recommended that Planning Commission may consider grant of Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 110 crore (50% of the project cost) to the State Government of Kerala for conduct of 35th National Games.