

Scheme include scientific coaching, exposure to competitions, equipment grant to the school, stipend @ Rs. 3000/- per month for 10 months, and sports kits to each trainee. Specific schools are adopted under the Scheme.

SAI Training Centre (STC): The objectives of the Scheme is to impart scientific training to sportspersons in age group 14-19 year who have attained the minimum required level of sports proficiency. The Scheme has both residential and non-residential components. The facilities provided are more or less on the same lines as NSTC with higher levels of assistance in the case of the residential component. Unlike NSTC under which schools are adopted, STCs directly train selected sportspersons.

(c) The Navodaya Vidyalaya Canacona has been covered under the NSTC; STCs are in operation at Ponda, Mapusa (Peddem) and Margoa (Fatorda).

(d) No financial grant is provided to the State Government under the Schemes. However, during the last years, SAI has been spent following the amounts on meeting the expenditure on Boarding/Lodging Competition Exposure, Sports Kits, Sports Equipment, Educational Expenses, Medical/ Insurance Expenses & Maintenance of the STCs in the State of Goa:—

2002-03	Rs. 31,06,557
2003-04	Rs. 36,10,264
2004-05	Rs. 37,46,903
2005-06	Rs. 43,79,903
2006-07	Rs. 52,52,864

Monitoring of Indian cricket team

3190. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that International Cricket matches especially when Indian Cricket Team is playing a particular match, becomes a national prestige and winning or losing evokes public frenzy and in the event of Indian team's defeat, the Players are solely blamed;

(b) if so, how such an attitude towards players is justified when Cricket administrators, selectors, trainers, lack of congenial environments, near

absence of training tools and equipment of international standard, etc. should be made equal partners of any defeat; and

(c) whether purposeful and professional association and monitoring by his Ministry could improve matters?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Given the immense popularity of cricket in the country, there is a lot of public involvement in the game, which is also a source of inspiration to the team. Inevitably, there is public disappointment and disapproval when teams perform below expectations, even as there is euphoria when they do well.

(b) As far as facilities to the Indian team are concerned, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has reported that these are at par with international standards. Moreover, technical and administrative aspects are taken into consideration during performance reviews, including the performance of the players.

(c) BCCI administer the game of cricket in India and manage all technical and administrative aspects, within the overall policy guidelines laid down by the Government of India. BCCI also obtain inputs from experts to continuously improve training and other requirements of the players. Government and BCCI to facilitate further improvements. Such interaction will be further considered in the context of present preparations for a Comprehensive Sports Policy to improve and expand upon the National Sports Policy, 2001.

Training Centres of SAI

†3191. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of training centres being run at present by the Sports Authority of India;

(b) the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have made arrangements for providing training to athletes in Bihar; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.