

In response to IOA's taking up the matter with IOC, the latter replied stating that Dow Chemicals had no connection with the Bhopal tragedy since Dow Chemicals did not have any ownership stake in Union Carbide until 16 years after the accident and 12 years after the US \$470 million compensation agreement was approved by the Supreme Court.

The Ministry also took up the matter directly with International Olympic Committee (IOC) urging it to go beyond lesser considerations, and in the larger interests of the ideals of human rights, compassion and solidarity, cancel the sponsorship of Dow Chemicals for the London Olympics, 2012, thereby apart from assuaging the feelings of millions of people, send a strong message the world over, for upholding the noble ideals of the Olympic Movement. In response, the IOC reiterated its earlier stand. The matter had also been taken up through diplomatic channel with Government of U.K. While the United Kingdom Government has taken the position that the sponsorship by Dow was an agreement between the International Olympic Committee and Dow chemicals company, the International Olympic Committee as well as London Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) have indicated their inability to drop Dow as a sponsor the London Olympic Games. In view of the response so far, it has been agreed that the matter should continue to be taken up to create a wider awareness about strong and legitimate view on this issue widely through our Missions in countries which are members of the International Olympic Committee to the host Government(s) as well as the Olympic Association of the host country. This would help to raise the diplomatic awareness on this subject and create a wider understanding of our position. It would also serve to remind the rest of the world that the tragedy of Bhopal lingers on and evokes deep public sympathy in the country for the innocent victims. The Government will continue to increase awareness amongst other Olympian countries about our justified grievance on this issue and reiterate our support to the strong public sensitivities.

Scheme of Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons

1859. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA :

DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM :

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the scheme of pension to meritorious sportspersons to medal winners of national championships, to create a sense of security among the young talent and to attract them towards sports as their career;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of international and national level sportspersons who were given financial assistance for treatment of serious injuries or other ailment etc. during the last five years; and

(d) the measures taken for promoting sports among women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN) : (a) At present, there is no proposal to extend the scheme of pension to meritorious sportspersons to medal winners in national championships.

(b) The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports gives incentives such as cash awards and pension to the sportspersons who excel in international sports events.

(c) The details regarding financial assistance given to sportspersons for treatment of injuries and medical treatment are given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) All schemes of the Ministry and the Sports Authority of India are inclusive schemes and are equally applicable to women sportspersons. Further, for encouraging sports among women, sports competitions are held at district, state and national levels under the scheme of National Championship for Women, presently merged with the scheme of Panchayat Yuva Krida and Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA).

Statement

The Names of Sportspersons given Assistance for Treatment of Injuries and Medical Treatment during Last Five Years.

Year	Sl.No.	Name of Sportsperson	State/UT to which beneficiary belongs	Amount Paid	Purpose
1	2	3	4	5	6
2007	-	Nil	-	-	-
2008	-	Nil	-	-	-
2009	1.	M/s Barbara J. Francis, Ex-Hockey Player (70 years old)	Maharashtra	Rs. 1,50,000/-	Medical treatment
	2.	Shri J. Sreedharan, Boxing Coach, paralysed since 2006	Karnataka	Rs. 3,00,000/-	For medical treatment
2010	3	Shri Prabir Sarkar physically handicapped sportsperson	West Bengal	Rs. 1,50,000/-	For procurement of artificial limb

1	2	3	4	5	6
	4.	Shri Ajit Singh - Pole vault player, (24 year old) suffering spinal injuries in January 2005 during National School Games - paralyzed since 2005	Haryana	Rs. 3,00,000/-	For treatment of injuries
	5.	Shri S.K. Pathania - Ex-athletics player (74 years old)	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 1,00,000/-	For medical treatment
	6.	Shri Baljit Singh, Hockey Player	Punjab	Rs. 33,08,301/-	For treatment of eye injury
2011.	7.	Ms. Arunima Sinha, a national level player, who met with an accident on 13th April 2011 and her left leg got amputated.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 2,08,714/-	For injury treatment
	8.	Shri Desh Prem Azad, coach of cricketer Kapil Dev	Chandigarh	Rs. 3,44,703/-	For medical treatment

Cash Prizes to the Winners of Asian Games

†1860. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) the cash prizes given by the Central and State Governments to the medal winners of Asian Games;

(b) whether Government is considering to increase the amount of prize money given to Indian players on winning medals in national and international competitions;

(c) whether the coaches of medal winners in the Asian Games have also been honoured with prizes; and

(d) whether any Indian player has received any medal after the results of doping tests carried out during the Asian Games; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN) : (a) Medal winner of Asian Games - 2010 have