

Athletes facing financial crisis

305. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether top athletes of India had to face financial crisis to complete in Sri Lanka's National Athletics Championship, which could help them to qualify for "the London Olympics"

(b) whether it is also a fact that some top athletes of India could not take part in the Sri Lanka's National Athletics Championship due to financial crisis;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has taken any steps against the persons responsible for the incident;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) No Sir. With a view to prepare athletes and teams for London Olympics 2012 the Ministry had launched 'Operation Excellence for London Olympics 2012' (OPEX 2012) project in March, 2011. Under OPEX 2012, core probables were identified and were provided comprehensive and intensive training, both within country and abroad and competition exposure in international sports competitions as per the approved Annual Calendar of Training and Competition (ACTC) under OPEX 2012. Funding was provided from the Scheme "Assistance to National Sports Federations" and the National Sports Development Fund. Under these schemes approximately an amount of Rs. 142.43 crore has been spent on preparation of athletes for London Olympics, 2012 till 25.07.2012. The details in this regards are given below:

Sl.No.	Purpose	Expenditure incurred
1.	Coaching Camp	Rs. 61.65 Crore
2.	Foreign Exposure	Rs. 70.55 Crore
3.	Assistance under NSDF	Rs. 10.32 Crore
GRAND TOTAL:		Rs. 142.43 Crore

(d) to (f) Question does not arise.