

Coaching Camps, purchase of equipment etc. Level of financial assistance to NSFs is in accordance with the categorization of the sports discipline in three categories *viz.* priority, general and others. Hockey is included in the priority category.

(c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has never accorded the status of national game to hockey.

(d) and (e) Hockey is not mentioned as national game in any official document of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

#### **Performance of Indian players in Olympic**

†2160. SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian players have performed very badly in the Olympic games being held in London this year;

(b) the details of medals won by India and the status in this regard as compared to other countries; and

(c) the reasons for bad performance by India in the said games and the steps being taken for improvement in coming years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) In the London Olympics, 2012, Indian sportspersons won 6 medals (2 Silver and 4 Bronze ) which is the best ever performance by India in the Olympic Games. Although some of the sportspersons such as P. Kashyap, Tintu Luka, Vikas Gowda, Krishna Poonia, Irfan, Vijender Singh and Joydeep Karmakar could not win medals but their performance was creditable. Though India won less medals as compared to other countries *viz.* China, United States of America (USA), United Kingdom (UK), yet the increase in the number of medals won by Indian sportspersons in the London Olympic Games over the previous Olympic Games is noteworthy and commendable. Preparation of Indian sportspersons with a view to maximizing India's medal prospects in international sports events is an ongoing exercise. Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) containing details about coaching camps, foreign exposures etc. are prepared and finalized in consultation with concerned National Sports Federations.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.