

India (SAI), such as Panchyat Yuva Krida aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA), Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme, Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations, Talent Search and Training, National Sports Development Fund (NSDF), Come and Play Scheme, National Sports Talent Contest Scheme (NSTC), Army Boys Sports. Company Scheme, SAI Training Centres Scheme (STC), Extension Centre of STC/ Special Area Games, Special Area Games Scheme, Centre of Excellence Scheme are aimed at encouraging mass participation in sports and excellence in sports.

(c) and (d) Performance of Indian hockey team in London Olympics, 2012 was not as per expectations. The primary responsibility of promotion and development of specific sports discipline is that of concerned National Sports Federation. However, the Ministry and SAI under their various schemes complement the efforts of the National Sports Federation.

Status of national game

2159. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

- (a) whether as per an RTI reply furnished by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, no game has been given status of national game, so far;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the basis on which hockey had been so far awarded the status of the national game;
- (d) whether hockey has been mentioned as national game in any official document ever; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has not accorded status of national game to any sports or game. Promotion of sports and games is the responsibility of the concerned National Sports Federations. The Government supplements the efforts of the NSFs by way of providing financial assistance for participating in international competitions abroad, holding of international events in India, conducting National Championships,

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.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.