Complaints regarding treatment to differently abled athletes

1545. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain complaints regarding shoddy treatment to differently abled athletes, usurping of facilities and passes meant for them by PCI officials and delayed disbursement of sanctioned allowances to these sportspersons during recently held paralympic games in London have been received by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by Government thereon; and
- (c) the remedial steps taken by Government to avoid such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) Sir, complaints were received against office-bearers of the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI) alleging that, coaches and escorts who were part of the Indian Contingent for London Paralympic Games, 2012 were not allowed to stay in the Games Village and were asked to stay in the city (outside the Games Village) at their own expenses whereas the officials of PCI were staying inside the Games Village supposed to be meant for the coaches. There were also allegations of delay in reimbursement of allowances to the athletes and coaches etc.

Based on the complaints, a Show Cause notice was issued to PCI to explain the matter in details. PCI has reported that the number of athletes and team officials allocated to each National Paralympic Committee is based on the quota formula, laid down by the International Paralympic Committee. As per their guidelines, team officials should not exceed 60% of the participating athletes. Hence, for the Indian Team of 10 athletes, a maximum of 6 officials were allowed to stay inside the Games Village. PCI accommodated 2 coaches, 2 escorts, 2 team officials to assist the 10 participating athletes.

All the expenses towards boarding and lodging, transportation, pocket allowances, etc, as per norms, have been paid to the athletes and officials apart from reimbursement of the cost of the air passage. Also, the PCI and Sports

Authority of India have been advised to take advance action to avoid such incidents in future.

Funds provided for sports facilities in the country

1546. SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sports in the country has not developed commensurate with the infrastructure/facilities provided;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of Government thereto:
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up new sports complexes/stadia and other sports facilities in the various districts of the country, including in Rajasthan for promoting sports; and
- (d) if so, the details of the funds provided for the purpose, State-wise, in the last three years and current year till date, year-wise, along with the expenditure, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Sir, availability of sports infrastructure/facilities are an important element in training etc. Sports in the country has been developing over the years. Improvement in sports infrastructure/facilities is one of the reasons for this.

(c) and (d) The Government of India provide fund to States/UTs for creation of sports infrastructure mainly under two schemes; Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan (PYKKA) and Urban Sports Infrastructure Scheme (USIS). Under USIS, which was introduced in 2010-11 on pilot basis, financial assistance is given for specific sports facilities like construction of a multipurpose Indoor Hall and laying of synthetic turf for Hockey/Athletics/Football. The projects sanctioned and funds allocated under the Scheme State-wise/Year-wise are given in Statement-I (See below) Under PYKKA, which was introduced in 2008-09, assistance is given for development of playfields in the States/UTs. The state-wise details of proposals approved and amount released for development of playfields under PYKKA scheme during the last three years and current year upto 31/10/2012 are given in Statement-II.