

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has in July, 2013 recommended the name of Late Major Dhyan Chand to Prime Minister for considering him for the 'Bharat Ratna Award' for his outstanding achievements in the field of sports.

Sexual harassment of women sports-persons

1545. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has received any complaints regarding sexual harassment of women sportspersons in various sports bodies;

(b) If so, the state-wise details of the complaints and action taken against the offenders; and

(c) the mechanism existing with Government to deal with the cases of sexual harassment of sportspersons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRASINGH) : (a) and (b) Sir, during the past, a few cases of sexual harassment of women sportspersons in various sports bodies were received by the Government. While action on such complaints including seeking reports from the concerned NSFs and giving suitable advice to NSFs was taken by the Government, state-wise data is not maintained.

(c) In order to bring in transparency and good governance in sports bodies, the Government has issued guidelines which, *inter-alia*, provide for prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports. These guidelines are contained in the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 (NSDCI) which are effective from 31.1.2011. Under these instructions, the National Sports Federations (NSFs) are to take the following steps :

- (i) Notify, publish and circulate in appropriate ways, express prohibition of sexual harassment.
- (ii) Include rules/regulations prohibiting sexual harassment in their rules and regulations and provide for appropriate penalties in such rules against the offender.

- (iii) Provide appropriate conditions in respect of work, leisure, health and hygiene to further ensure that there is no hostile environment towards women and no employee woman should have reasonable grounds to believe that she is disadvantaged in connection with her career.
- (iv) Women should be allowed to raise issues of sexual harassment in appropriate forums and it should be affirmatively discussed.
- (v) Complaint Mechanism: The NSFs should set up a complaint mechanism for redressal of the complaint made by the victim. Such complaint mechanism should ensure time bound treatment of complaints.
- (vi) Disciplinary Action: Where such conduct amounts to misconduct, appropriate disciplinary action should be initiated in accordance with rules.
- (vii) Criminal Proceedings: Where such conduct amounts to a specific offence under the Indian Penal Code or under any other law, the NSFs shall initiate appropriate action in accordance with law by making a complaint with the appropriate authority. In particular, it should ensure that victims or witnesses are not victimized or discriminated against while dealing with complaints of sexual harassment. The victim of sexual harassment should have the option to seek transfer of the perpetrator or their own transfer.
- (viii) Complaints Committee: The complaint mechanism referred to in (g) above, should be adequate to provide, where necessary, Complaints Committee, a special counselor or other support service, including the maintenance of confidentiality. The Complaints Committee should be headed by a woman and not less than half of its member should be women. Further, to prevent the possibility of any undue pressure or influence from senior levels, such Complaints Committee should involve a third party, either NGO or other body who is familiar with the issue of sexual harassment.
- (ix) Awareness : Awareness of the rights of the female employees in this regard should be created in-particular by prominently notifying the guidelines in a suitable manner.

- (x) Third Party Harassment: Where sexual harassment occurs as a result of an act or omission by any third party or outsider, the NSFs will take all steps necessary and reasonable to assist the affected person in terms of support and preventive action.

Sports Commission for problems of youths

†1546. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government would constitute a Sports Commission for the problems of youths and their solution; and
(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Presently there is no such proposal under consideration of the Government.

SC/ST category students in District Level Sports Schools

1547. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of students belonging to SC/ST category enrolled in District Level Sports Schools (DLSSs) is not satisfactory; and
(b) if so the steps taken by Government to increase the number of students belonging to SC/ST categories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) It is proposed to develop District Level Sports Schools (DLSSs) in every district of the country so as to identify and nurture sporting talent including SC/ST category in the country. The whole project is still at the conceptual stage only. Hence, no details could be provided at this juncture.

Scheme for promotion of sports and games in schools and colleges

1548. SHRI AAYANUR MANJUNATHA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for promotion of sports and games in schools and colleges;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.