

**Promotion of sports amongst young boys and girls**

1239. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes/programmes initiated for development of a structured system at the grass root level to engage young boys and girls in the age group of 8-10 years in various sports;

(b) the details of schemes/measures taken for ensuring availability of sporting equipments and wholesome nourishment to identified sports persons;

(c) the details of schemes/measures taken to set up sports science and sports medicines centres to support the sports fraternity; and

(d) whether infrastructure has been built to create sports science institutes, if so, the efforts of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) Sports Authority of India (SAI) under Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports through its National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC) Scheme is making every effort to engage young boys and girls in the age group of 8-14 years from school and nurture them by providing scientific training. Following are distinct Schemes of NSTC.

(i) Indigenous Games and Martial Arts (IGMA)

(ii) Akharas

(iii) Regular School of NSTC Scheme

Further, the Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme is joint venture of the Army and SAI wherein boys in the age group of 8-16 years are inducted under the scheme and after attaining the age of 17 ½ years, the trainees are enrolled in Army.

In addition to above, the Government is also considering a proposal known as National Sports Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS) under which it is proposed to identify sporting talent among students in the age group of 8 to 12 years and to nurture them so as to enable them to participate in National and International sports events. At present this is at a conceptual stage only.

(b) Funds are made available to sportspersons under National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) for promotion of sports, to individual sports person for achieving excellence at national and international level, for development of infrastructure, for supply of sports equipments and to take up research and development studies for providing support to excellence in sports.

Reputed organization/institutes engaged in promotion of sports activities, can also get financial assistance for creation of sports infrastructure, procurement equipments etc. under the NSDF.

In addition, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has also formulated a scheme namely, NSDF Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme with aim of identifying/selecting and supporting talented medal prospect for 2016 and 2020 Olympic games.

(c) and (d) Sports Sciences and Sports Medicine facilities are provided to elite athletes in Netaji Subhash National Institute of Sports (NS NIS), Patiala; SAI Regional Centres Bangalore, Gandhinagar, Kolkata and Delhi. Currently 24 Scientific /Medical Officers are working at various SAI centres across the country. Furthermore, process to recruit another 30 Scientific /Medical staff is being initiated by SAI to strengthen the scientific cadre.

In addition to above a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sri Ramachandra Medical University has been entered into by SAI, where National teams will be deputed for sport science support and analysis.

The Society for National Institute of Physical Education and Sports (SNIPES) established the Faculty of Sports Sciences on 22-1-1983 at Sports Authority of India, NS NIS with eight (8) different sports science departments. One of the major aims of establishing Faculty of Sports Science at SAI NSNIS, Patiala was to promote sports amongst young boys and girls. Besides promotion of sports, another one of the broad aims was to identify, select and develop talent, both amongst boys and girls for different sports disciplines.

In additional, there are proposals for setting up Indian Institute of Sports Science and Research for advance Research work, extension support services certification of nutraceuticals and for coordination between faculty of sports science and sports medicine within India and abroad. Proposal has also been initiated to fund Six Universities for setting up of Faculty of sports science and Six Medical Universities/Institute/Colleges for setting up of Department of sports medicine in the country. However, at present these proposals are at conceptual stage only.

#### **Indian athletes made to sign contract with PCI**

1240. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian athletes participating in the recently concluded Asian Para Games in South Korea, were made to sign a code of conduct agreement with Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), which authorized officials to search their possessions at the