

Construction of stadiums at Panchayat level

†2822. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has planned to construct new stadiums in every Panchayat for promotion of sports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof in respect of Bihar; and
- (c) the details of amount given to Bihar under this scheme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, the Government is implementing the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) from the current financial year (2014-15) under which construction of a sports complex for both outdoor and indoor disciplines in each block of the country will be undertaken. Further details of scheme are given in Statement (*See below*).

- (c) Does not arise.

Statement***Regarding construction of stadiums at Panchayat level***

The Central Government is implementing the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Abhiyan (RGKA) scheme, under which it is proposed to construct a sports complex (comprising outdoor playfield and indoor sports hall) in each block of the country, including the State of Bihar, both for outdoor and indoor sports disciplines, on land measuring about six - seven acres at a cost of ₹ 80 lakh each (Total ₹ 1.60 crore). There is also provision of ₹ 15 lakh for sports equipment to be provided by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

All the 6545 blocks in 634 districts will be covered in a phased manner over a period of 5 years. Funds for construction of the block level sports complex will be converged from different schemes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA); Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF); Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR -Central); Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts, of the Ministries of Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Development of North Eastern Region (DONER) and Planning Commission

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

respectively with RGKA. Development of playfields at village level will be undertaken under the MGNREGA.

Three Sports Trainers (one Master Sports Trainer and two Sports Trainers, out of serving Physical Education Teachers) will be engaged in each block level sports complex for training of sports persons. They will be given suitable honorarium in addition to their normal salaries received from respective school/college.

Annual Sports competitions viz., Rural Sports Competitions, Women Sports Competitions, North-East Games and Special Area Games (for LWE affected regions) shall be held under RGKA upto the National level. The grants for holding the above competitions have also been enhanced.

Counselling of sportspersons on emotional stability

2823.SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian woman boxer Sarita Devi who refused to accept the bronze medal at the recently held Incheon Asian Games presently under suspension by the International body is likely to face a lengthy ban preventing her to qualify for the 2016 Rio Olympics;

(b) whether Indian players and athletes require more counselling on emotional stability at times of crises and provocations like the one Sarita Devi faced at Incheon; and

(c) whether Indian players tend to be hypersensitive with a misplaced zeal of national honour than true sportsman spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) Government hopes that no such thing will happen, as, alongwith others, it has made serious efforts to ensure that Sarita Devi's case is considered sympathetically by the Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA).

(b) Sports psychologists and mental trainers are being attached to the National Coaching Camps as per specific requirements to provide counselling to the players. Further, wherever required, sports psychologists and mental trainers also accompany the Indian teams for international events.