

(c) and (d) Release of grants under the RGKA and USIS are demand-driven and made against proposals received from States/UTs, including the State of Rajasthan, and other eligible entities, and which are complete in all respects as per provisions of the Scheme and subject to the condition that no Utilization Certificate is pending from the concerned beneficiaries against grants released by this Ministry. As such, there is no State-wise allocation of funds under any of the above Schemes.

Women badminton players from AP

316. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the disquiet and sense of neglect among the national women badminton players particularly doubles players from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to address the players' concerns in matters related to their coaching, training and participation in international tournaments; and

(c) whether Government would advice the badminton body to appoint a separate national coach for women's doubles players?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To address the players' concerns, it has been decided to appoint a specialist foreign coach for doubles events. As a matter of routine, concerns expressed by players regarding their training and participation in international tournaments are addressed by Sports Authority of India and the Department of Sports in consultation with National Sports Federations (NSFs) wherever necessary.

(c) Badminton Association of India has already identified and recommended one of the top doubles coaches from Malaysia viz., Mr. Tan Kim Her, which has been approved in principle by the Government for imparting training at a separate centre only for paired events at Hyderabad.

Inadequate funding for promotion of football

317. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funding for promotion of football in India is not adequate;