

Revival of traditional games

475. SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that many of our ancient rural games, which are able to strengthen mental and physical fitness, have been losing charm and are on the verge of disappearance;

(b) if so, the number of such games identified, if any, by Government in consultation with State Governments or otherwise for revival;

(c) whether Government would take immediate corrective steps for their revival, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would contemplate introducing them in the school curriculum to save and popularise them in younger generation, if so, the action plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) to (d) Sports is a State Subject and the Central Government only complements and supplements the efforts of the State Governments towards this end. Further, matters relating to individual sports disciplines are managed by the respective Sports Federations. Recognized National Sports Federations are provided assistance for conducting national championships and international tournaments in India, participation in international tournaments abroad, organizing coaching camps, procuring sports equipment, engagement of foreign coaches and disbursement of salaries of the paid Joint/Assistant Secretaries engaged by NSFs.

In addition, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) an autonomous organization under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Department of Sports, is implementing a number of Sports Promotional Schemes to promote sports activities in the tribal and rural areas of the country, details of which are given in Statement (See Q No. 471). School curriculum are decided by respective School Boards under State Governments and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) under Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD).

Centre at Hazaribagh to train sportspersons from tribal areas

476. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has set up a centre in Hazaribagh to train sportsmen from tribal areas;

(b) if so, the total expenditure on its construction as well as annual recurring expenditure on its infrastructure upkeep;

(c) the reasons for which security clearance for the Centre had not been obtained from the State; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to make it operational at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Sports Authority of India (SAI) had established a Sub Centre at Padma, Hazaribagh in 2010 to train sportspersons from the rural/tribal region of the State.

(b) SAI Centre at Hazaribagh was established at a cost of ₹ 14.16 crores. The centre could not be made operational due to security concerns.

(c) and (d) No security clearance is required from the Centre to run the Centre, but difficulties were experienced due to threat perception. However, factoring the security concern, it has been decided to restart the Centre at Padma, Hazaribagh in the sports disciplines of Archery, Judo, Hockey, Wushu and Wrestling to train talented sportspersons from the region.

Further, SAI has also entered into an understanding with Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to establish a CRPF sports company on the lines of Army Boys Sports Company (ABSC) Scheme.

Financial crunch faced by sportspersons participating in luge winter games

477. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sportspersons participating in Luge Winter Games are faced with financial crunch from Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to overcome the financial crunch; and

(d) the year-wise details of the funds demanded by the sportspersons and expenditure of Government on Luge Winter Games during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) to (d) Sir, Promotion and development of specific sports disciplines is mainly the responsibility of the concerned