

**Complaints of disturbed psychological well being
of female SAI trainees**

2870. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of several complaints regarding living conditions and disturbed psychological well-being of the female Sports Authority of India (SAI) trainees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response of Government thereto;

(c) whether SAI is hiring counsellors to interact with female SAI trainees for their psychological well-being;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the centre-wise details of other steps taken/being taken to enhance the facilities and security to the female athletes including female trainees residing in different SAI hostels in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL): (a) and (b) The living conditions in most Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centres are reasonably good. Complaints with regard to the following SAI Training Centres (STC) were received and necessary funds have been sanctioned to carry out major repairs/renovations through the respective Regional Centres:

- Boys Hostel Building of STC, Bhiwani
- Hostel Building of STC, Alwar
- Boys and Girls Hostel building at STC, Imphal.

SAI provides regular maintenance grant of upto ₹ 20 lakhs to each training centre for regular upkeep of the existing facilities. However, for the Centres which require major repairs/renovation, proposals are examined on case to case basis and works for upgradation/ creation of facilities are taken up accordingly.

Further an Expert Committee has been constituted by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) under the Chairmanship of Ms. Ashwini Nachappa, renowned Athlete to look into functioning of SAI STC/Special Area Games (SAG) Centres and to suggest remedial measures for improving the existing conditions and facilities in the Centres.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Psychologists/Counselors are available to interact with female trainees at various SAI Regional Centres. They are either on rolls of SAI or have

been engaged on contract or fortnightly visit basis. Orders have been issued to all SAI Regional Centres to ensure that Psychologists/Counselors are engaged to counsel young athletes specially, the girl trainees in the Centres.

(e) SAI has taken following steps to ensure security and well-being of its female athletes residing in SAI Centres/hostels:

- (1) Posting of full time lady warden in SAI Centres having female trainees.
- (2) Round the clock security arrangements for regular watch and ward of the Centre.
- (3) In-charge, SAI Training Centres and coaches have been advised to be more vigilant and sensitive towards the concerns of the female trainees.
- (4) Yoga has been introduced as a compulsory activity in SAI Training Centres and part time Yoga Teachers/Instructors have been engaged to ensure holistic development and emotional well-being of the trainees.
- (5) School-going trainees provided with services of suitable tuition masters/teachers to assist them in academic matters.
- (6) To provide them reading room having newspapers, magazines, journals and recreational/leisure activities during free time.
- (7) Regular meeting with the parents of both boys and girl trainees by the Centre Incharge and Coaches.
- (8) A 24X7 helpline for SAI Trainees for redressal of their grievances specially for reporting cases of sexual harassment, ragging etc.
- (9) Nodal Officers have been appointed for each STC/SAG Centres to take up proposals requiring immediate and long term development of the Centre.
- (10) Upgradation/repair/renovation of sports infrastructure in various SAI Centres on fast track basis.

Ragging in SAI hostels

2871. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of complaints received regarding ragging prevalent in Sports Authority of India (SAI) hostels in the country along with the action taken thereon during last three years and the current year;

(b) the status of availability of counsellors for junior athletes especially for girls in all the centres of SAI;

(c) whether it is a fact that not many studies have been conducted by Government on gender issues in sports, such as performance of women athletes, self-image, social