

Self appraisal of sports' standards

1437. SHRI K. RAHMAN KAHN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the opportune time has come for a self appraisal of our standards in various fields of sports, in view of our dismal performance in recent Sydney Olympics, where smaller countries showed better results; and

(b) if so, by when such exercise, in each area of sports, would be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) The performance of the country in Sydney Olympics had shown some improvement over the last Olympics held at Atlanta though we did not secure many medals. A detailed analysis of the performance in Sydney Olympics was done after the games. Appraisal of performance and taking corrective steps is a continuous process.

Sports infrastructure in rural areas

1438. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of sports infrastructure facilities in rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to start any effective programme for youths in rural areas; and

(c) the details of schemes under which financial assistance is provided for promotion of sports in the country through NGO's and performance review of such schemes, particularly in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) "Sports" is a State subject. It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to create sports facilities at various places of the State including rural areas. However, in order to supplement their efforts in this direction, the Central Government

provides Central assistance to State Governments etc. for creation of sports facilities under the Schemes of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure" and "Grants to Rural Schools".

(c) Under the Scheme of "Grants for Creation of Sports Infrastructure", Central assistance is rendered to State Government and NGO's who are active in field of sports for creation of various sports facilities. State-wise details of NGO's including Maharashtra to whom the Central assistance has been sanctioned under the scheme from 1998-99 to 2000-2001 (as on 30.11.2000) is as below:

State	No. of proposals of NGO's approved	Central assistance sanctioned (Rs.in lakhs)
Assam	4	130.86
Gujarat	1	30.12
Karnataka	1	18.00
Kerala	2	22.25
Maharashtra	4	149.90
Manipur	3	209.87
Nagaland	3	196.50
TOTAL:	18	757.50

2. The Scheme was reviewed during 1998 and to make it more popular and effective, admissible assistance for various projects was enhanced. Accordingly, the revised scheme has received good response and so far 136 sports projects all over India including 18 above projects of NGO's have been approved involving central assistance of Rs.39.61 crore.

Blackmailing of K. Malleswari by Chief Coach

1439. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that K. Malleswari, the only Indian to win a medal