

Government does not interfere in their day to day functioning. However, the efforts of the National Federation towards promotion of their respective sports discipline are supplemented by the Government by providing financial assistance under the Scheme of 'Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations'. Whenever any allegation regarding doping or wrong selection of players is received by the Government, reports are called for from the concerned National Sports Federations. Independent reports are also sought from the Sports Authority of India.

Government has dealt with the problem of doping in sports both at preventive and punitive levels. Elaborate efforts are made to educate the players during the national coaching camps about the prohibited substance and methods as notified by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and its harmful effects. Random checking of the rooms of the campers is also done to ensure that no banned drugs are being used. Apart from above, random tests are also done during coaching camps, selection trials, domestic competitions as well as prior to participation in international competitions. NSFs including IWF have been asked to take action against sportspersons found guilty of doping as per IOC code or code of the concerned national/international federation and compliance reports are obtained from them.

In the recent past, following a spate of media reports regarding selection of the Indian hockey team, the Ministry had convened a high level meeting which was presided over by the Minister. Following the Ministry's intervention, the IHF constituted a Selection Committee which selected the probables for the Athens Olympics.

#### **International standard training facilities for Indian athletes**

**889. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA :** Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up international standard training facilities in the country to help Indian athletes prepare themselves in a better way for the next Commonwealth Games;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken to promote all form of sports and games in the country?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) The process of upgrading and creating facilities of International standard in order to prepare our sportspersons for future international events is an on-going one.

(c) Government of India, in addition to providing sports infrastructure, has taken the following measures to further improve the performance of sportspersons, especially in the forthcoming Olympic and Commonwealth Games:

- (i) Finalization of Long Term Development Plans (LTDP) for various sports disciplines in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations, former international sportspersons, sports scientists and experts. Plans are under implementation.
- (ii) Provision of equipment and scientific support to sportspersons.
- (iii) Intensive coaching of the players by Indian and foreign coaches in coaching camps.
- (iv) Financial assistance to concerned federations for participation of sportspersons in international tournaments.
- (v) Intensive training abroad to the teams.
- (vi) Assistance for purchase of equipment, scientific support and training and participation within the country and abroad under the 'Scheme relating to talent Search and Training' and the 'National Sports Development Fund'.

#### **Change in venue of National Games 2005**

890. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any change in the venue of the National Games 2005 from Assam to Jharkhand is proposed as reported in the media;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is financial crisis in preparations for holding the National Games; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to remove the financial constraints?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) No, Sir.