GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1438
ANSWERED ON- 28/07/2022

FUNDS FOR WOMEN'S SPORTS

1438 SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:

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

(a) the details of steps taken to improve the state of women's sports during the last five years;

(b) the details regarding the funds allocated for women's sports during the last five years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure the safety of female sportspersons; and

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

ANSWER

MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]

(a) & (b): All schemes of the Department of Sports are gender-neutral and cater equally to all sportpersons. However, one of the components of Khelo India Scheme "Sports for Women" is specifically dedicated to promotion of Sports among Women. Under this component, Women's Leagues in various disciplines are conducted in collaboration with the National Sports Federations, in order to increase the participation of Women in Sport, and to utilize the League as a platform for Talent Identification and to provide competition exposure to women athletes of the different age groups. The details of funds released under the above component during last five years are given below:

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
2.20	9.50	2.34	5.00	2.22

Further, to provide special emphasis for the Promotion of Sport among the talented women sportspersons in the country, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has established one National Centre of Excellence (NCOE) and three SAI Training Centres (STCs) exclusively for women as indicated below:

1. NCOE Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh, having 33 women athletes (Athletics, Kabaddi, Kho-Kho & Volleyball)
2. STC Badal, Punjab, having 47 women athletes (Athletics, Hockey & Volleyball)
3. STC Tellicherry, Kerala, having 95 women athletes (Athletics, Fencing, Gymnastics, Volleyball & Wrestling)
4. STC Solalgaon, Assam, having 54 women athletes (Boxing, Football & Weightlifting)
5. Two Extension Centres under STC Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh
    (i) Nivedita Girls Inter College having 12 women athletes (Wrestling)
    (ii) Banaras Hindu University having 32 women athletes (Athletics, Boxing)

Besides, a total number of 3146 women athletes are trained across the country under the Sports Promotional Schemes of SAI. Further, under the "Talent Search and Development" component of Khelo India Scheme, 1374 women athletes are being trained across the country and supported with a maximum financial assistance at the rate of ₹6,28,400 (including ₹1,20,000 as Out of Pocket Allowance) per annum per athlete.

Apart from above, the details of funds allocated for Women's Sports under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme, are as follows:

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
106.66	137.10	133.94	102.73	52.93

(c) & (d): To ensure safety of female sportspersons and to provide a safe environment to live, study and train, SAI has a strong system in place to prevent and redress cases of sexual harassment:

1. There is an Internal Complaint Committee in place at each SAI Regional Centre and academic institution, with a senior lady officer as the Chairperson of the Committee. Members include a lady official from a local NGO and lady officers of SAI.
2. To sensitize athletes about issues of sexual harassment and to strengthen them to come forward and register complaints, workshops in local languages are conducted in every region on a regular basis.
3. A toll-free call centre is functioning 24X7 for registering grievances.
4. Lady Coaches/Lady Managers accompany the team on outstation tours.
5. CCTV Cameras have been installed in all SAI Centres. Other activities in the campus /hostel areas and playing areas are also covered under CCTV surveillance.

Further, a detailed circular has been issued by SAI with to ensure a safe and positive environment by making all stakeholders aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behaviour, consistent with the core values of sportsmanship, and appropriate moral conduct, on part of all participants.

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