

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO.162**  
**ANSWERD ON 03.08.2023**

**Indian National Football Team**

**\*162. Shri A. A. Rahim:**

Will the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for the ineligibility of the Indian football team for the Asian games;
- (b) the details of the results of the Sports Ministry's policy since 2018 which stipulates that for team events, only those sports which have achieved a ranking upto 8th among participating countries of Asia in the last one year should be considered for participation for the Asian Games;
- (c) whether there is any plan to repeal or alter this policy; and
- (d) the budget being spent by Government for the development of football across the country each year for the last three years?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS**  
**(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)**

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 162 FOR REPLY ON 03.08.2023 ASKED BY SHRI A. A. RAHIM REGARDING INDIAN NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM.**

(a) & (b): Sir, based on the selection criteria prescribed by this Ministry on 10 July 2023 for participation of individual athletes and teams in the forthcoming Asian Games 2022, only those sports which have achieved up to the 8<sup>th</sup> rank among participating countries of Asia in the last one year are to be considered. At present, the Asian ranking of the Indian Football Women's and the Men's team is 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> respectively. Thus, both these teams did not fulfill the prescribed selection criteria for participation in the said Games.

However, since both the teams have a huge potential, and their rankings are steadily improving, the matter of participation of the football teams in the Asian Games 2022 was examined by this ministry in consultation with experts, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and the Sports Authority of India (SAI), and has been recommended.

(c): No such proposal is under consideration.

(d): Financial assistance is provided to the National Sports Federations (NSFs) for conduct of national championships, for international tournaments held in India, for participation of Indian athletes in international events abroad, for coaching camps, diet charges, food supplements, procurement of sports equipment, engagement of coaches and support personnel etc. Financial assistance has been made available to the AIFF, the recognized NSF for football in the country, as per norms of assistance prescribed under the scheme of Assistance to NSFs. Details of the budget allocation to the AIFF and the expenditure incurred are given below:

(In Rs crore)

<b>Year</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>
2021-22	5.25	5.25
2022-23	15.00	14.49
2023-24 (up to September, 2023)	10.06	1.32 (as on date)

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