

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS  
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 152**  
ANSWERD ON- 20/07/2023

**SAFETY, RESPECT, AND DIGNITY TO THE SPORTSPERSONS IN THE COUNTRY**

152 SHRI K.R.N. RAJESH KUMAR:

Will the MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a growing number of issues in terms of safety, respect and dignity to the sportspersons in the country with the authorities;
- (b) if so, the details of the incidents and complaints received from the players in the last five years;
- (c) the steps taken in this regard to resolve the issues smoothly; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) to (d): National Sports Federations (NSFs) are self-regulated autonomous bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, Companies Act etc and are governed by their own constitution and have their own mechanism to redress the grievances/ complaints filed with them by sportspersons.

As regards complaints of sexual harassment, provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) (POSH) Act, 2013 are applicable to NSFs and other sports organizations, including those under the Central Government and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, as applicable to any entity defined in the Act. The NSFs and other sports organizations are bound to take action in terms of the extant legal provisions in the cases of sexual harassment reported to them.

On its part, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under administrative control of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, has issued instructions to ensure a safe and positive environment by making all stakeholders aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behavior consistent with the core values of sportsmanship and appropriate moral conduct. In order to provide the safe environment in the sports, the following measures have been advised to NSFs:

- i. Women Coach to mandatorily be a part of the contingent with female athletes during Domestic/ International camps and competition exposures.
- ii. Compliance Officer (Male & Female) to be appointed in all National Coaching Camps and Foreign Exposures. The roles and responsibilities of the Compliance Officer include communicating regularly with athletes and others to ensure that the guidelines are being followed as well as enforce the Standard Operating Procedure on prevention of sexual harassment in sports. The Compliance Officer, among other duties, should ensure that if any member reports a violation, the same should be reported earliest to the responsible authorities.
- iii. Pre-Camp Sensitization modules to be designed and presented to all athletes, coaches and support staffs together before commencement of any National Coaching Camp and Foreign Exposure.
- iv. Increase the strength of women Coaches/Support Staff in National Coaching Camps by respective NSFs.

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