

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-155
ANSWERD ON- 20/07/2023

COMPLAINTS BY NATIONAL WRESTLERS

155 SHRI JAWHAR SIRCAR:

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

- (a) the time taken by Government to act upon the complaints national level wrestlers against the inappropriate behaviour of the president of the Wrestling Federation;
- (b) the reasons for delayed action;
- (c) the reasons due to which an FIR was not registered until the Supreme Court intervened;
- (d) the reasons for using force on pretesting national level wrestlers; and
- (e) the present status in the matter?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) Sir, some wrestlers had staged protest/ dharna in January, 2023, levelling allegations of sexual harassment, arbitrariness and mismanagement in the functioning of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). As the matter pertained to the wellbeing of the athletes, the Government immediately took note of the allegations and instructed the Executive Committee of WFI to abstain, as an interim measure, from administering and managing the day-to-day activities of the WFI. Further, as a purely interim measure, an Oversight Committee headed by Ms. M.C. Mary Kom, Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna Awardee and Olympic Medallist, was appointed by the Government on 23.1.2023 to enquire into the allegations of sexual misconduct,

harassment and / or intimidation, financial irregularities and administrative lapses, levelled by prominent sportspersons; and to undertake day-to-day administration of WFI.

(c): After receiving various complaints, Delhi Police had conducted preliminary enquiry and accordingly on the basis of facts, 2 FIRs were registered on 28.4.2023.

(d): Protesters were removed from Jantar Mantar as they had violated the orders under section 144 of Criminal Procedure Code (Cr.PC) and a criminal case under Sections 147/149/186/188/332/353 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 3 of Prevention of Damage to Public Property (PDPP) Act, 1984. During the agitation, proper security was provided by Delhi Police for the safety of wrestlers.

(e): Chargesheet has been filed in the Court by Delhi Police.
