

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2556
ANSWERED ON- 10/08/2023

PERFORMANCE ENHANCING DRUGS

2556. SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

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

- (a) the steps taken to specifically address the issue of inadvertent usage of performance enhancing drugs; and
- (b) the number of athletes banned in the last five years for doping and the details of the counselling given to them and the number of athletes reinstated after the ban?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a): The Government is committed to eradicate doping/drug abuse including inadvertent usage of performance enhancing drugs by sportspersons. To this end, Government of India set up the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. NADA conducts Anti-Doping education awareness programs for all athlete/athlete support personnel. The details of the steps/initiatives taken to address the issue of inadvertent usage of performance enhancing drugs are as under:

- (i) NADA Launched a mobile application namely 'Know Your Medicine', which allows Indian sportspersons in the country to easily query through the App to reveal whether the brand or generic of medicine they are taking for any reason contains any banned/prohibited substances as per the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) Prohibited List to avoid inadvertent usage of banned substances.
- (ii) NADA regularly releases information about Prohibited Substances as issued by WADA. The Doping Control handbooks and useful information are disseminated amongst the sportspersons in the form of pamphlets in different regional languages during such awareness programmes.
- (iii) Many sportspersons commit Anti-Doping Rule Violations (ADRV) due to the consumption of food supplements and sports drinks, which may contain prohibited drugs

or substances and other contaminants. To combat this problem, a MoU with the National Forensic Science University (NFSU) and the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) and NADA has been signed for strengthening nutrition supplements testing.

(b): The number of athletes, who have been sanctioned/banned in the last five years are as under:-

| Year | Cases of ADRV | Number of athletes reinstated after the ban |
|-------------|----------------------|--|
| 2018 | 61 | All 61 athletes have completed their ban period. |
| 2019 | 145 | 140 athletes have completed their ban period |
| 2020 | 92 | 79 athletes have completed their ban period |
| 2021 | 131 | 56 athletes have completed their ban period |
| 2022 | 62 | 11 athletes have completed their ban period |
| 2023* | 46 | Nil |

(* As on 07.08.2023)

Further, NADA, as a counselling measure, conducts anti-doping educational sessions for sportspersons and support staff regularly with the purpose of raising awareness about Doping and its various consequences across the country throughout the year, including during sports events/training camps. These sessions cover key topics such as principles of strict liability, ethical values in sports, the Doping Control process, health hazards, ADRVs, Therapeutic Use Exemptions, prohibited substances, etc.
