

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No-2870
ANSWERED ON 19/12/2024

SAFETY OF ATHLETES

2870 SHRI NARESH BANSAL:
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:

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

(a) whether the National Sports Federations have suitable mechanisms to ensure the safety of athletes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to monitor the safety of the athletes?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a)& (b) 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.

The Government emphasises on providing a safe environment to the athletes participating in sports. NSFs are required to implement safety protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of athletes.

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.
- v. Constitution of the core group comprising representatives from NSFs & SAI to formulate the guidelines for prevention of sexual harassment in Sports.
