

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 788
ANSWERED ON- 05/02/2026

NATIONAL SPORTS GOVERNANCE RULES, 2026

788 # SHRI BRIJ LAL:
DR. PARMAR JASHVANTSINH SALAMSINH:
SHRI SUBHASH BARALA:
SHRI SHAMBHU SHARAN PATEL:
SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA:
SHRI AMAR PAL MAURYA:
SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:
SHRI MADAN RATHORE:
SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

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

- (a) the key objectives and salient features of National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 notified under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025;
- (b) the provisions made for inclusion and representation of sportspersons of outstanding merit and women in governance structures of National Sports Bodies;
- (c) the timelines and procedures prescribed for elections and updating of affiliated units under these rules; and
- (d) the mechanism adopted to ensure effective implementation of these governance reforms across all recognised National Sport Federations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (d) The National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 framed under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 has been notified on 12.01.2026. The said Rules lay down a statutory framework relating to governance standards, recognition, compliance requirements, ethical conduct, and institutional accountability within the sports ecosystem. Every National Sports Body is required, within a period of six months, to amend its bye-laws in conformity with the provisions of the Act.

The Salient features of National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 are:

- Framework for the inclusion of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, composition of the General Body and Executive Committee, election procedures, and disqualification criteria for members of National Sports Bodies and Regional Sports Federations.
- Inclusion of at least four sportspersons of outstanding merit (SOMs) in General Bodies, with 50% being women. To ensure at least four women in Executive Committees, National Sports Bodies may reserve specific posts for women in the Executive Committee through their bye-laws.
- General eligibility criteria and tiered criteria for representation of SOMs in the General Body and Executive Committee of National Sports Bodies.
- Procedure for election to Executive Committee with timelines for each stage of election, starting from submission of application to be a SOM to call for elections, release of final electoral roll and invitation for nominations.
- Disqualifications for being a member of the General Body, or of any committee of a National Sports Body and declaring them ineligible for contesting for election to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee. Among the disqualifications, persons convicted by a court of law for an offence, followed by a sentence of imprisonment, are debarred from contesting for elections to Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee or being member in the General Body or any committee of a National Sports Body.
- Provision for Roster of the National Sports Election Panel.
- National Sports Bodies to ensure and facilitate the registration of all their affiliate units with the National Sports Board in such form and manner as may be specified by the National Sports Board from time to time.

All recognised National Sports Federations are required to adhere to the notified provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, as well as the associated Rules. NSFs are required to take all necessary steps to align their constitutions or bye-laws, institutional processes, and operations with this statutory framework within the stipulated timelines. Uniform and consistent compliance is essential to ensure an orderly and efficient transition to the governance structure established by the Act.

Copies of the Act, the Notification and Rules are available on the website of the Ministry at the following link:

<https://yas.gov.in/en/sports/nsga-2025>
