

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1434**  
ANSWERED ON - 30/07/2026

**HEALTHCARE FACILITIES FOR ATHLETES**

1434 DR. SIKANDER KUMAR:

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

- (a) the specific implementation timeline for newly signed Memorandum of Understanding between the Sports Authority of India and Safdarjung Sports Injury Centre;
- (b) the key, evidence-based treatment protocols and injury prevention strategies being developed under this collaboration to protect elite and grassroots Indian athletes;
- (c) the current operational status of high-performance biomechanical labs at Sports Authority of India training centres in Dharamshala, Shillaroo and Bilaspur; and
- (d) the structural steps taken to build research, training, and capacity building models in sports medicine that cater directly to distinct physiology and requirements of Indian athletes?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

- (a) The MoU signed between Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Safdarjung Sports Injury Centre shall be effective from the date of its execution and shall remain in force for a period of three years from the last date of its signing or till it is modified or revoked, whichever is earlier.
- (b) The collaboration envisages evidence-based protocols covering injury-risk screening, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and return-to-sport, including management of musculoskeletal injuries, concussion, ligament, tendon and cartilage injuries. Injury-prevention measures such as workload monitoring, biomechanical screening, recovery optimization, sleep and nutrition interventions, and athlete education are also among the areas of focus. The protocols are intended to remain aligned with evolving scientific evidence and clinical outcomes, as appropriate.
- (c) The Sports Authority of India (SAI) has operational training centres at Dharamshala, Shilaroo and Bilaspur, where sports science support is provided to athletes as per the requirements of the respective disciplines. The Sports Science Division extends technical guidance for strengthening sports science infrastructure, including biomechanics-related facilities, at identified centres such as Bilaspur, based on sport-specific requirements, institutional needs and availability of resources.

(d) SAI, through National Centre for Sports Science and Research (NCSSR), follows a multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach to strengthen research, training and capacity-building in sports medicine. SAI has undertaken institutional collaborations with the Sports Injury Centre (SIC), Vardhman Mahavir Medical College & Safdarjung Hospital, IIT Delhi, and the Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Ministry of AYUSH, in the areas of research, innovation, technology development and clinical expertise. The framework includes professional training, capacity-building programmes, fellowships, continuing education, workshops, clinical training and support for MD (Sports Medicine) programmes in identified Medical Colleges under the NCSSR scheme. Collaborative research and standardized methodologies are also undertaken in areas including injury epidemiology, biomechanics, exercise physiology, rehabilitation and performance optimization, with due emphasis on ethics, participant safety and data confidentiality.

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