

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-635
ANSWERED ON- 23/07/2026

CASES OF CORRUPTION IN SPORTS FEDERATIONS

635 # SHRI NEERAJ DANGI

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

- (a) whether cases of corruption have been reported in several sports federations, depriving deserving coaches, players and other staff of proper opportunities and if so, the action taken against the officials involved;
- (b) the action taken by Government on reports of administrative lapses and misuse of funds in sports federations across the country; and
- (c) the policy of Government to address concerns regarding the autonomy of National Olympic Committee and National Sports Federations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) to (c) Sports Federations are autonomous bodies registered under the Society Registration Act, 1860 or under the Societies Registration Act of a State, or under Section 8 of Companies Act, 2013 or under Indian Trust Act, 1882 or under Trusts Act of State, and their functioning is regulated in terms of applicable laws under which they are registered. The Government recognizes National Sports Federation (NSFs) at the National Level for promotion and development of sports, in terms of laid down criteria for grant of recognition of NSFs. The Ministry ensures that recognised NSFs abide by the basic and cardinal principles, such as age & tenure restrictions in respect of office bearers of the NSFs, conduct of fair and transparent elections, protection of athletes' interests, selection of athletes in a fair and transparent manner, etc. The Government insists on observance of the provisions of the Sports Code by the NSFs to maintain their recognition on year-to-year basis. Wherever any such violations are noticed, necessary action including suspension, non-renewal of annual recognition and withdrawal of recognition is taken.

Additionally, in order to ensure that grants are utilized for the purpose for which they have been sanctioned, utilization certificates and audited accounts are obtained from the NSFs. Further, NSFs receiving grant of Rs.1.00 crore and above are subject to the audit by Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Further, with a view to have a legally enforceable framework for good governance in sports administration, Ministry has introduced the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 which inter-alia, provides a comprehensive statutory framework for governance of sports bodies in India. The Act establishes universal principles of good governance, ethics, and fair play based on the Olympic Charter, Paralympic Charter, and international best practices. It mandates democratic functioning of NSFs, transparent elections, athlete welfare measures, and accountability mechanisms.
