

**Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1138
TO BE ANSWERD ON 08.02.2018**

Performance in Olympics

**1138. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:
SHRI B.V. NAIK:**

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

- (a) whether the performance of our country is below potential to compete in the Olympics;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any plan for India's participation in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the process of identifying medal prospects for 2020 Tokyo Olympics has been initiated by the Government; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the measures taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
[COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)]**

(a) & (b): Madam, participation in Olympics is through qualification. However, it is true that the performance of our country in the field of sports has been below potential. Some of the constraints that have led to this situation include, among others: -

- poor governance in sports by NSFs due to lack of professionalism**
- absence of strong domestic competition structure**

- **lack of strong talent identification and long term athlete development system**
- **non-integration of sports with education at school, college and university level**
- **inadequate support in terms of high performance coaches and other support staff, sports sciences and medicine etc.**

(c) to (e): Madam, the Department had held consultations with various stake holders including eminent sportspersons, coaches and National Sports Federations (NSFs), etc. in an effort to improve India's performance in future competitions. It has been decided, among others, to enhance performance monitoring, emphasize on greater role of coaches in devising training programmes of medal prospects and strengthen sports science set up. National Observers have been appointed in select disciplines to support athletes and the federations.

Further, NSFs have been advised by the Department to identify medal prospects and their support staff for the 2020 Olympic Games so as to ensure that the core probable get support of dedicated world class support staff on a continuing basis to be able to work as a coherent team and deliver.

The TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) Identification Committee identifies elite sportspersons and the Mission Olympic Cell examines and provides assistance to these sportspersons for training and participation in international competitions including Olympics 2020 with an aim to increase the medal tally in the aforesaid events.
