GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.900 ANSWERED ON 07/02/2023

Exploitations of Women Wrestlers

900. SHRIMATI SAJDA AHMED:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of alleged exploitations of women wrestlers by coaches and office bearers of the federations; and
- (b) if so, the details of action taken by the Government?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. Some wrestlers staged protest/ dharna levelling allegations of sexual harassment, arbitrariness and mismanagement in the functioning of the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI).

As the matter pertained to the well-being of the athletes, the Ministry immediately took note of the allegations and instructed the Executive Committee of WFI to abstain, as an interim measure, from administering and managing the day-to-day activities of the Federation. Further, as a purely interim measure, the Government has appointed an Oversight Committee headed by Ms. M.C. Mary Kom, Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna Awardee and Olympic Medallist, to enquire into the allegations of sexual misconduct, harassment and / or intimidation, financial irregularities and administrative lapses, levelled by prominent sportspersons; and to undertake day-to-day administration of WFI.
