## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

## LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2016 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01-08-2023

#### **National Sports Code**

#### 2016. SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM:

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

(a) whether the Government it has taken any steps against National Sports Federations which have failed to constitute an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) as mandated under the PoSH Law, 2012 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the oversight committee that was constituted to probe wrestlers' allegations against Wrestlers Federation of India (WFI) has reached any conclusion and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to address sexual harassment complaints more efficiently in the future and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it has taken any strict actions by the Government against National Sports Federation for non-compliance with guidelines on the prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports provided under the National Sports Code; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (e) Provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) (POSH) Act, 2013 are applicable

to National Sports Federations (NSFs) as applicable to any entity defined in the Act. The NSFs are bound to take action in terms of the extant legal provisions in the cases of sexual harassment reported to them.

The Ministry has written in January 2023 to the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and the NSFs to re-examine their structure and policies in terms of the said Act and make the necessary changes/modifications. The Ministry has also asked the IOA and the NSFs to sensitize their office bearers, coaches, administrative staff, and players about the prevention of sexual harassment of women in sports.

Details of the NSFs with duly constituted Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) are given at Annexure-I.

The Sports Authority of India (SAI), an autonomous body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, has issued specific instructions to ensure a safe and positive environment by making all stakeholders aware that there is an expectation, at all times, of appropriate behavior consistent with the core values of sportsmanship and appropriate moral conduct. In order to provide a safe environment in sports, the SAI also runs a 24\*7 helpline for the players. The following measures have been advised to NSFs:

- i. Women Coach to mandatorily be a part of the contingent with female athletes during Domestic/ International camps and competition exposures.
- ii. Compliance Officer (Male & Female) to be appointed in all National Coaching Camps and Foreign Exposures. The roles and responsibilities of the Compliance Officer include communicating regularly with athletes and others to ensure that the guidelines are being followed as well as enforce the Standard Operating Procedure on prevention of sexual harassment in sports. The Compliance Officer, among other duties, should ensure that if any member reports a violation, the same should be reported earliest to the responsible authorities.
- iii. Pre-Camp Sensitization modules to be designed and presented to all athletes, coaches and support staffs together before commencement of any National Coaching Camp and Foreign Exposure.
- iv. Increase the strength of women Coaches/Support Staff in National Coaching Camps by respective NSFs.

With regard to the wrestlers' allegations against the Wrestlers Federation of India (WFI), the Government 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 WFI. Further, as a purely interim measure, an Oversight Committee headed by Ms. M.C. Mary Kom, Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna Awardee and Olympic Medallist, was appointed by the Government on 23.1.2023 to enquire into the allegations of sexual misconduct, intimidation, harassment and 1 or financial irregularitiesand administrative lapses, levelled by prominent sportspersons; and to undertake day-to-day administration of WFI. The Oversight Committee has submitted its report to the Ministry. In the meanwhile, based on the complaints from wrestlers, Delhi Police had registered 2 FIRs on 28.4.2023, and the chargesheet has been filed in the Court by Delhi Police.

At present, the affairs of WFI, including the selection of athletes and making of entries for participation of sportspersons in international events, are being managed by that Ad hoc Committee constituted by the Indian Olympic Association until such time as the newly elected Executive Committee takes charge.

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ANNEXURE-I REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2016 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01/08/2023 ASKED BY SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM REGARDING NATIONAL SPORTS CODE

	1.	All India Tennis Association	
	2.	Indian Pancak Silat Federation	
	3.	Yogasan Bharat	
	4.	Squash Rackets Federation of India	
	5.	Archery Association of India	
	6.	Sepaktakraw Federation of India	
	7.	Amateur Soft Tennis Federation of India	
	8.	Kudo International Federation of India	
	9.	Wushu Association of India	
	10.	Indian Weightlifting Federation	
	11.	Rowing Federation of India	
	12.	Athletics Federation of India	
	13.	Cycling Federation of India	
	14.	Amateur kabaddi Federation of India	
	15.	Kho Kho Federation of India	
	16.	Indian Golf Union	
	17.	Gymnastics Federation of India	
	18.	Paralympic Committee of India	
	19.	Equestrian Federation of India	
	20.	Boxing Federation of India	
	21.	Hockey India	
	22.	Cerebral Palsy Sports Federation of India	
	23.	All India Football Federation of India	
	24.	School Games Federation of India	
	25.	Ju-Jitsu Association	
	26.	All India Chess Federation	
ſ	27.	WAKO India Kickboxing Federation	

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28.	National Rifle Association of India
29.	Shooting Ball Federation of India
30.	Roller Skating federation of India
31.	Swimming Federation of India
32.	Basketball Federation of India
33.	Fencing Association of India
34.	All India Sports Council of Deaf
35.	Special Olympic Bharat
36.	Bridge Federation of India
37.	Billiards & Snooker Federation of India
38.	Netball Federation of india
39.	Badminton Association of India
40.	Tenpin Bowling Federation (India)
41.	Yachting Association of India
42.	Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association
43.	Indian Polo Association
44.	Indian Triathlon Federation
45.	Table Tennis Federation of India
46.	Roll Ball Federation of India
47.	AtyaPatya Federation of India
48.	Tennis Ball Cricket Federation of India
49.	Indian Rugby Football Union
50.	Cycle Polo Federation of India
51.	Softball Federation of India
52.	Taekwondo Federation of India
53.	Wrestling Federation of India*
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\*At present the affairs of Wrestling Federation of India are being managed by the Ad hoc Committee appointed by Indian Olympic Association.