

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3132  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2023**

**Awareness Programmes for Sportspersons**

**3132. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:**

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

**(a) whether the Government has conducted any assessment to identify issues which are faced by the sportspersons or athletes on a regular basis;**

**(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take any measures to address those issues and if not, the reasons therefor;**

**(c) whether the Government conducts awareness programmes for sportspersons, coaches and officials regarding gender sensitization and prevention of sexual harassment cases; and**

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

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
[SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR]**

**(a) & (b): National Sports Federations (NSFs) are self-regulated autonomous bodies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, Companies Act etc and are governed by their own constitution and have their own mechanism to redress the grievances/ complaints filed with them by sportspersons.**

**The Government of India emphasizes ethical conduct as a key factor in the fair administration of the sporting disciplines and**

**facilitates safe environment free of harassment and discrimination for all stakeholders participating in sports, including the athletes. It is also imperative for the sport that individuals observe the highest levels of ethical conduct.**

**The Government is providing all requisite support and facilities to the athletes to enable them to do their best in the international sporting events.**

**(c) & (d) Provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) (POSH) Act, 2013 are applicable to NSFs and other sports organizations, including those under the Central Government and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, as applicable to any entity defined in the Act. The NSFs and other sports organizations are bound to take action in terms of the extant legal provisions in the cases of sexual harassment reported to them.**

**The Ministry has again 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.**

**SAI organises awareness programmes at its Regional Centres to sensitize on the prevention of Sexual Harassment, from time to time. In order to provide the safe environment in the sports, the following measures have been advised by SAI 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.**

**In addition to the above, a 24x7 call centre is also run by SAI to address grievances of the sportspersons.**

**\*\*\*\*\***