

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3776
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18/03/2021**

Release of Student Trainees by SAI centres

3776. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

- (a) the number of student trainees that the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre in Thiruvananthapuram has released in its “weeding out” process in 2020;**
- (b) whether these student trainees were released in the middle of the academic year;**
- (c) whether some trainees who were released had met their annual performance targets and had been retained by the centre in March 2020;**
- (d) whether these student trainees were given the option of being transferred to other SAI Centres or any other support or counselling;**
- (e) the criteria in deciding which student trainees were to be released;**
- (f) whether all trainees who had not competed at a State or national level were released;**
- (g) if not, the reasons thereof; and**
- (h) whether the results of any assessment that was carried out were communicated to the student trainees?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

- (a) A total of 47 trainees were weeded out in 2020 from the National Centre of Excellence (NCOE), Thiruvananthapuram.**

(b) No Sir.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Barring those athletes who did not meet the benchmark even for transfer to Sports Authority of India (SAI) Training Centres (STCs), athletes were retained or shifted to other STCs after a proper retention /weeding out process was carried out by a Committee consisting of experts.

(e) In its endeavor to train athletes to achieve excellence, SAI has upgraded some of its centres, including the one at Thiruvananthapuram, as National Centres of Excellence (NCOE).

The NCOE scheme envisages induction of sportspersons, who have performed well at various National Competitions or have potential to achieve excellence. Therefore, retention /weeding out process was undertaken by a Committee of experts headed by a High Performance Director.

This duly constituted committee recommended induction/ retention/ transfer/ weeding out of athletes after taking into account various factors of induction like, sports achievements, specific Sports test and other battery of tests.

(f) & (g) No Sir. Weeding out was done after taking into account a various factors, on the recommendation of the duly constituted Committee and based on the availability of vacancies in each sports discipline.

(h) Yes, Sir.
