Shut Down of Sports Training Centres Due to COVID-19

1462. SHRIMATI NUSRAT JAHAN RUHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 70 sports training centres of Sports Authority of India (SAI) were shut down due to rising COVID-19 cases and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the measures taken by the Government to continue providing sports persons with adequate guidance and support when training centers have been shut down;

(c) whether it is a fact that the National Sports Development fund did not attract significant Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contributions or donations from public sector undertakings or private companies during the last three fiscal years as expected in the budget estimates for the same year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

(a): In view of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Sports Authority of India (SAI) Training Centres were shut down and reopened from time to time, as per guidelines issued by the concerned State Governments.

(b): The following measures were taken for continuous guidance and support, along with knowledge upgradation and maintaining the physical fitness of athletes:

• Regular online training classes were conducted for athletes by the coaches to keep them motivated and fit during the period.
Athletes were also provided with online training modules for daily practice.

- Seminars and workshops were conducted in sports psychology, sports science/medicine, nutrition, strength & conditioning, high performance sports environment, etc. in online mode.
- Yoga sessions were conducted through video conferencing.
- Webinars on various matters such as doping, prevention of sexual harassment, etc. were also conducted.

(c) & (d): Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports has been interacting with the Corporate and Public Sector Undertakings on a regular basis with the request to contribute to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) and become active partners for promotion of sports and games in the country. Further, Coal India Ltd., India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited (IIFCL), Spice Jet and DCM Shriram are represented in the Council of NSDF.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) contribution/donation by Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) or private companies is purely voluntary. The PSUs or Private companies release CSR contribution/donation for the activities as per their respective policies/priorities. In view of this, budget estimation of such contribution is not possible.