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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 204 TO BE ANSWERED ON - 25.11.2024

SUSPENSION OF FUNDS MADE TO INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

204 DR. BACHHAV SHOBHA DINESH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Olympic committee (IOC) and Olympic Solidarity has suspended all payments to be made to the Indian Olympic Association except for direct payments to athletes benefiting from Olympic scholarships, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the IOA treasurer has claimed that a faulty sponsorship agreement with Reliance India Limited (RIL) led to a loss of Rs. 24 crores to the IOA, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has instituted an enquiry to review into the issue, if so, details thereof, including the findings of the investigation, and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Government has undertaken any action to ensure that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) recontinues the payments to be made to the Indian Olympic Association, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS [DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA]

(a) Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has informed that International Olympic Committee (IOC) in their letter dated 11 October, 2024 has conveyed to IOA that IOC and Olympic Solidarity will not make any payments to the IOA, except for direct payments to athletes benefiting from Olympic Scholarships.

(b) IOA has informed that IOA had entered a sponsorship agreement with Reliance Industries Ltd. in 2022 and that Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) Audit Team has issued a half margin on 12.09.2024 giving its observations in the matter. IOA has informed that it has sent its reply on half margin to CAG Audit Team.

(c) IOA is an autonomous body registered under Societies Registration Act and is governed in terms of its constitution. Grants released by the Ministry to IOA from the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) are monitored in terms of the norms provided under the scheme.

(d) As IOA and IOC are autonomous bodies and the relationship of IOA with IOC is governed in terms of the Olympic Charter and the instructions issued by IOC to its affiliate members, the Government does not have role in the matter.

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