

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

LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.343  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2015

Foreign Support in Sports

†343. DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:

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

- (a) whether Sports Authority of India, Athletic Federation of India and International Association of Athletics Federation signed a MoU to establish an IAAF high performance academy in athletics, if so, the details thereof and the salient features thereof and the manner in which it will help in development of sports in the country;
- (b) whether some British Companies have shown interest in skill development initiatives in India, if so, details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to send Indian youths abroad for skill development, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH  
AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

- (a) Yes, Sir. An Expression of Intent between Sports Authority of India(SAI), Athletic Federation of India (AFI) and International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) has been signed on 6.10.2015 for establishment of a High Performance Academy, called "The SAI-AFI-IAAF High Performance Academy (SAIHPA)" in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Complex, New Delhi. The Academy will

have a profession environment and approach to Athletics/Track & Field events with the following objectives :-

- To provide excellent coaching, integrated support services, education and great experience for Athletes.
- Create an environment in which youth/junior potential elite Athletes can grow with the SAIHPA helping to shape their careers by building them into the best athletes and champion performers.
- Establish an extremely focused and professional atmosphere - which will stay with the Athletes 'mind set' and permeate into their future athletics and career life style.
- Build the Athletes mental skills, confidence, focus and determination that will enable these Athletes reach their goals and compete at their best every day, and Assist the Athletes to develop their skills to be effective leaders, including leadership qualities, communication skills, character building and accountability.

(b) Department of Sports has not been approached by any British Company for skill development initiatives in India in the field of sports.

(c) Under the Scheme of Human Resource Development in Sports (HRDS), the Ministry encourages professionals in the field of sports to exchange ideas and enhance knowledge and skills through participation in Seminars, Workshops and Conferences overseas and provide support for such seminars, workshops and conferences in the country. Also under NSDF, selected sportspersons are being sent abroad for coaching and improving their skill.

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