GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS (DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.361 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26-04-2016

Medal Target for Rio 2016

†361. SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state: (a) whether the Government has set a sportswise medal target expected to be

won by the country in the forthcoming Rio Olympics, 2016; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action plan prepared by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has not set a sportswise medal target for the country in the forthcoming Rio Olympics 2016. However, Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Boxing, Hockey, Shooting, Tennis and Wrestling are the focused disciplines from the point of view of India's chances of winning medals at Rio Olympics.

Preparations for the Rio Olympic Games 2016 are going on in right earnest. Government is making every effort to provide high quality training and coaching to Indian sportspersons and teams so that they win maximum number of medals and make the country proud. Identified medal prospects are being provided financial assistance for their customized training at Institutes having world class facilities and other necessary support under the Target Olympic Podium (TOP) Scheme, which the Government specifically formulated and launched in 2014 under the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and supporting potential medal prospects for Rio Olympics 2016 and Olympic Games 2020.

Further, National coaching camps are being organized and competitive exposure abroad is being provided to the identified probables so that more and more sportspersons qualify for participation in Rio Olympics 2016 and put up their best performance in the Olympic Games.

* * * *