



**PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,  
WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH AND SPORTS**

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Education, Women, Children, Youth and Sports headed by Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe, M.P., Rajya Sabha presented the 339<sup>th</sup> Report on Demands for Grants 2022-23 of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to the Rajya Sabha/laid in the Lok Sabha on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2022. The Parliamentary panel scrutinized the various aspects of the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in its meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2022. The panel discussed the matter thoroughly in a meeting spanning over 2 hours and 15 minutes with the representatives of Department of Sports and Department of Youth Affairs along with representatives of Sports Authority of India (SAI); National Anti-Doping Agency(NADA); National Dope Testing Laboratory(NDTL); National Sports University; Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and National Service Scheme (NSS). The panel also consulted the Department of Sports and Department of Youth Affairs through questionnaires so as to have a deep insight on the Demands for Grants. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee in its meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2022. The Observations/Recommendations made by the Committee in this Report are enclosed.

The Report is available on the Rajya Sabha Website <https://rajyasabha.nic.in/> under the link "Committees" with sub link "Report"

## OBSERVATIONS / RECOMMENDATIONS AT A GLANCE

### REVENUE AND CAPITAL WISE ALLOCATIONS UNDER DEMAND NO. 102 PERTAINING TO THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

The Committee notes that the year 2022 is the year of both the Asian and Commonwealth games and the Budgetary allocations for the Ministry is Rs. 3062.60 crore which is an increase of Rs. 305.58 crore as compared to RE 2021-21. It is also observed that the major share of the total budgetary allocation in BE 2022-23 for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is for the Department of Sports, i.e., 73.6%, whereas it is 26.4% for the Department of Youth Affairs. It is also noted that as compared to the projections made, the allocation has been less by 30.07 % in respect of Department of Youth Affairs and 20.75 % in respect of Department of Sports. The Committee welcomes the enhancement in the Budget to the Ministry; however, the Committee is of the view that such drastic gap between the projections made and the actual allocations call for a review by both the Departments in respect of assessing the reasons for the reduced allocation and the manner it will affect the various Schemes of the Departments in this crucial year. The Committee recommends that such a review be undertaken and based on it, enhanced allocations, if required, be sought at RE stage.

[ para 2.5 ]

The Committee observes from the table that out of the total outlay of ₹ 3062.60 Crore in BE 2022-23, ₹3057.28Crore, i.e., 99.83% is under Revenue and only ₹ 5.32 Crore, i.e., 0.17% is under Capital Head. It is also observed that the outlay provided for the Ministry under Demand No.102 for the upcoming financial year was higher than the outlay provided in BE 2020-21 as well the RE 2020-21 by approximately 18% which was however, 23.44% lesser than the projections made to the Ministry of Finance. The Committee is of the view that as the year 2022 is going to be a crucial year in which Indian sporting prowess will be showcased at the world stage through the Asian and Commonwealth games, funds should not prove any hindrance in the training of and making available the best of facilities to our sportspersons.

[para 2.6 ]

A perusal of the allocation of funds in terms of Revenue and Capital Scheme-wise of the Department of Sports in Table-III indicates that there is very little variation in the Non-Scheme under Revenue BE for the FY 2021-22 & 2022-23 and between RE 2021-22 & RE 2022-23. However, there is marked fluctuations in the Capital Scheme and Non-Scheme between BE 2021-22 & BE 2022-23 and RE 2021-22 & BE 2022-23. Moreover, the actual expenditure as on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2022 was approximately 55% which was quite less. The Committee recommends the Department to undertake an analysis of the same and factor in the parameters which are leading to low utilization.

[para 2.7 ]

The Committee observed that the actual expenditure as on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2022 in respect of Department of Youth Affairs in Table-IV was only 62.56%. The Department has informed that the lesser expenditure, than anticipated, was largely due to Covid-19 pandemic. The Committee observes that with easing of restrictions, the trend of



expenditure should increase on various schemes and recommends that as the normalcy returns and the activities resume, the Department and bodies under it should closely monitor the same so as to not lag behind in using of allocated funds and are able to resolve expeditiously any bottlenecks that may arise.

*[para 2.8]*

The Committee after going through the Tables IX & X observed that the actual expenditure for Department of Sports was approximately 55.09 % as on 31<sup>st</sup> Janaury,2022. The Department of Sports informed that lesser expenditure was due to Covid related restrictions and cancellation of sporting events at both national and international level. Department of Youth Affairs also cited similar reasons for under utilization of its funds which stood at 62.56% as on 31<sup>st</sup> Janaury,2022. The Committee recognizes the reason for under utilization of allocated funds and recommends that efforts may be made to streamline the projects/schemes/sporting events stalled so that there is optimum utilization of funds.

*[para 2.10]*

#### **SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

The Committee noted the cut in the allocations of funds in the BE 2022-2023 and enquired about the same. The Department of Sports has informed that one of the reasons for the reduced allocations of budget in respect of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports was due to lesser allocation by the Ministry of Finance on account of Covid. The Secretary further informed that many infrastructure projects and big sporting events could not be organized because of restrictions imposed due to Covid. The Committee, however, expressed the hope that with the easing of restrictions the Department of Sports would be able to utilize the funds optimally in coming months.

*[para 3.1.6]*

#### **KHELO INDIA SCHEME**

The Committee, therefore, recommends that better management and optimum utilization of funds allocated to the Department may be undertaken so that no scheme or projects lag behind moreover that Covid related restrictions have now been eased considerably. It further recommends that the expansion of Khelo India centres and National Centres of Excellence (NCOEs) may be done appropriately for wider and easier access by the players in each corner of the country.

*[para 3.1.11]*

Stressing the need for better management of injuries at sports centres or during sports activities, the Committee strongly recommends that Sports Authority of India (SAI) should tie up with specialized hospitals across the country to ensure that proper and advance treatment is provided to sportspersons without any loss of time besides providing preventive and awareness measures towards better management of injuries. The Committee also recommends for exploring feasibility of tying up with hospitals at smaller towns and at grassroots level so as to reduce time towards access to better

health services. The Committee further recommends that there should be more such centres where medical colleges should have the facilities of sports medicine.

*[para 3.1.12]*

The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that efforts may be made to settle past liabilities on priority basis so that it does not get repeatedly reflected in coming financial years. Once these committed liabilities are offset, the budgetary allocations would be able to reflect the trend of allocation and expenditure more realistically. The Committee further recommends that all other activities under the umbrella of Khelo India scheme may be suitably complied with and all the sporting activities may be undertaken in the wake of substantial fund allocation. The Committee also recommends that the timeline for proposed construction of new projects at Varanasi and Naranpura may be adhered to stringently, removing all possible bottlenecks in the process.

*[para 3.2.5]*

#### **PRIME MINISTER'S DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE (PMDP)- ENHANCEMENT OF SPORTS INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES IN J&K**

The Committee therefore, strongly recommends that Sports Authority of India (SAI) must identify the possible reasons for such gross under utilization of allocated funds and be more careful in studying the gaps in generating requirements for the UT of J&K and ensures that sports and related activities are not neglected or relegated to the background.

*[para 3.3.3]*

#### **SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE TO NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATION**

The Committee in the light of submission made, accordingly recommends that the Department should come out with a proper plan of action for bodybuilders through Federation of Bodybuilding and a proper forum be evolved where these sportspersons can get sponsors and scope for a dignified livelihood may be explored.

*[para 3.4.5]*

On the issues of recognition or certification of quality which is of national level or Olympic standard, the Committee recommends that in case national level certification is required, the Department of Sports must provide the same after taking suitable fee.

*[para 3.4.6]*

The Committee, therefore, recommends that a realistic assessment of projected expenditure may be made and ensure that funds are utilized to the optimum for better results and achievement of targets. The Committee further recommends that with

Covid-19 on decline and easing of the restrictions on several activities including sports, efforts may be made to cover the lost ground expeditiously.

[para 3.4.8]

#### **NATIONAL CENTRE FOR SPORTS COACHING**

The Committee, therefore, recommends that the issue of para-athlete classification should not be neglected and a proper system may be evolved for identification, education & training and database of classifiers to instil among the para-athletes a sense of dignity and pride. This will also ensure transparency about the whole process of identification and selection of para-athletes.

[para 3.5.3]

The Committee noted that immediately after the closing of an Olympic games, the Olympic games for para-athletes are organized which has international significance. The Committee, therefore, recommends that sincere efforts may be made to submit viable proposals and identify suitable coaches/classifiers to ensure that young talents are not left behind for want of better guidance. The participation and medal prospects among para-athletes may be given equal importance and encouragement by way of better classifiers.

[para 3.5.5]

#### **NATIONAL CENTRE OF SPORTS SCIENCES AND RESEARCH (NCSSR)**

The Committee, therefore, recommends that more conducive environment may be created for better research in the field of sports science and medicine and such facilities may also be extended to smaller towns and cities in addition to the proposed *Hub and Spokes*.

[para 3.6.4]

#### **SCHEME OF HUMAN RESORUCE DEVELOPMENT IN SPORTS (HRDS)**

The Committee recommends that the Scheme of Human Resource Development in Sports may be advertised/publicised more with suitably enhanced fund allocation so as to build a sporting environment and culture in the country and also allow this scheme to blossom into an alternate source of livelihood.

[para 3.7.5]

The Committee further recommends that since sports is an interdisciplinary subject, the setting up of National Sports Education Board as envisaged by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports may be got expedited for better co-ordination between sports and education and other related fields and overall co-ordination with several stakeholders may be established for synchronization of efforts.



*[para 3.7.6]*

#### **NATIONAL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT FUND (NSDF)**

The Committee notes that the budget of the National Sports Development Funds (NSDF) has been substantially reduced as compared to the BE 2021-22 and the projection made for 2022-23. The Committee notes that since the government provides an amount equivalent to CSR contribution or donations, this indicates that NSDF did not attract adequate CSR contributions or donations from public sector undertakings or private companies. Noting that NSDF was set up with the main aim and objective of providing financial assistance to sportspersons to excel in their fields at the national and international level through specialised training and this also provides assistance to elite athletes under Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), both core and development, it is recommended that the factors bogging the initiative be evaluated and corrective action be taken by the Department to realize the aims of NSDF.

*[para 3.8.3]*

#### **NATIONAL SPORTS UNIVERSITY, MANIPUR**

The Committee while lauding the initiative of starting the National Sports University, suggested that it should be known to one and all. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the work and progress of the University may be advertised and publicised and be brought to the notice of people at large especially with regards to Sports Science.

*[para 3.9.4]*

The Committee is of the view that this University has the potential to emerge as the sporting powerhouse of not only the State but of the country. The Committee recommends that it is prudent that all necessary efforts be made towards defining and implementing effectively its programmes, policies and infrastructure as the success of the University will create the "right ecosystem" for sports and games and will be an example to emulate by other State and other Universities and Colleges so that sports and sporting culture thrives all across the country.

*[para 3.9.5]*

#### **NATIONAL DOPE TESTING LABORATORY (NDTL)**

The Committee recommends that allocation of funds should not be a constraint in expansion of the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL) and more funds may be sought if need be. Also aggressive awareness programme coupled with education and training should be started to ensure that budding athletes, sportspersons as well as coaches become more and more aware and educated towards doping substances as well

as its procedures.

*[para 3.14.5]*

The Committee noted that at present there is just one such laboratory of international standards in the country and recommends that feasibility of opening of more such laboratory be explored so that gradually NDTL and its branches caters to grassroots level sportspersons especially in such areas where there is abundance of raw talents of athletes including tribal areas.

*[para 3.14.6]*

The Committee, overall, strongly recommends the Department of Sports and Sports on two aspects:

(i) the schemes, projects and bodies of the Department may be extensively and aggressively advertised through all channels including social media so that people across the country are well aware about its schemes and are suitably benefited; and

(ii) there should be an integral and pivotal role of people's representatives at Centre and State level as well as local representatives in identifying and encouraging the sportspersons.

*[para 3.14.7]*

The Committee is also of the view that there is a need for major reforms to be examined and undertaken to provide a thrust to the way sports is managed in the country. The Committee therefore recommends that the following aspects may be considered, in consultation with States, to help transform the sporting scenario of Indian Sports:

- as Sports in the country have been historically viewed from the angle of entertainment and recreational activity, rather than as a fulfilling profession, there is a need to make sustained efforts to break that perception. Towards this aim the proposal to transfer Sports to the Concurrent List of the Constitution needs a thorough examination in consultation with the States;
- need for an independent regulator for Sports as a “ Sports Regulatory Authority” can also bring numerous benefits towards streamlining the working of Sports Federations and in improving coordination and cooperation between the Department of Sports, National Sports Federation (NSF), Indian Olympic Association and the Sports Authority of India;
- constitution of Sports Tribunals as a first level of resolution mechanism to expeditiously resolve Sports related disputes;
- putting in place a strict Anti-Doping Legislation to check doping in Sports and also to provide a regulatory framework to bring awareness about the issue; and
- insensitise Sports funding and participation through public private partnerships.

*[para 3.14.8]*

However, the Committee feels that there should be culmination of some of the schemes into one and, therefore, recommends that steps may be taken for integrating of schemes for optimum utilization of resources and weeding out any duplication of work.

*[para 4.2.4]*

#### **NEHRU YUVA KENDRA SANGATHAN (NYKS)**

The Committee appreciated the efforts of the Department of Youth affairs and involvement of huge number of volunteers which was reflected in the data presented before the Committee. However, the Committee observed that these volunteers were not to be seen around or their presence was not felt in the field which led to speculate about the veracity of data provided. The Committee, therefore, recommends that there should be a robust mechanism for collection and verification of data regarding the volunteers working in the field/grassroot level for said development work.

*[para 4.2.5]*

The Committee also felt that there was a lack of transparency in the selection of Nehru Yuva Kendra and the appointment process within it. The Committee recommends that the Department of Youth Affairs must examine this perception and make efforts to either take corrective action or dispel the same. The Committee also felt that there is a need to keep public representatives aware of the activities and the initiatives being taken by the Department and recommends that sensitization programmes in this respect be held from time to time.

*[para 4.2.6]*

The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Department of Youth Affairs should aggressively advertise/publicise its various schemes on social media platforms to effectively interact with the youth and sensitize them about its importance.

*[para 4.2.8]*

#### **NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH AND ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT (NPYAD)**

The Committee, therefore, recommends that volunteers involved in National Programme for Youth and Adolescent Development should be trained in counseling about family values and concern for each other and especially about management of mental health to ensure that youth are not left rudderless at the time of crisis.

*[para 4.4.3]*

The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that role and scope of Organ Donation in serving the society may be taken up seriously and prominently by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and may be included as an item for generating awareness among youth especially during Youth festivals.

*[para 4.4.4]*



## **INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION**

The Committee while appreciating the youth exchange programme of the Department of Youth Affairs with other countries, recommends that instead of working in silos, it should venture into collaborative efforts with the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) which in a way does parallel work and other similar organizations.

*[para 4.5.2]*

## **NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME (NSS)**

The Committee has gone into the details of the National Service Scheme (NSS) and its contribution towards the society at large. Based on the inputs made available by the Department, and the challenges posed by the Covid pandemic, the Committee recommends for increasing the number of volunteers within the ambit of the scheme. The Committee further recommends that the rates for activities of regular nature and special camping may be suitably revised to attract more and more volunteers especially youth. The Committee also recommends that the certificates issued to the volunteers should be duly accredited by standard norm across the country to attract more numbers of employers i.e. to make the scheme more employability friendly.

*[para 4.9.4]*

## **RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (RGNIYD)**

The Committee recommends that the allocation of funds may be utilized optimally in order to achieve the main objective of the Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development i.e. in-depth research and training by diversifying into youth related issues as well as handholding of States in carrying out several specific socio-economic activities.

*[para 4.10.5]*