

National Sports Policy guidelines

2629. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government framed any National Sports Policy guidelines recently, that is, after a decent performance in the just concluded XIX Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, which fix the upper age limit for heads of sports federations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons therefor; and
- (d) time-frame fixed by which this policy would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) and (b) Government *vide* order dated 01-05-2010 has prescribed an age limit of 70 years for office bearers of all National Sports Federations.

(c) The age limit is fixed on the basis of good governance practices adopted by the International Olympic Committee.

(d) The age limit shall apply to all office bearers elected after 01-05-2010.

Sports academies in tribal belts

2630. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to identify and nurture talent amongst youth in rural areas;
- (b) whether sports academies have been set up in tribal belts across the country especially in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken to encourage participation of girls in sports activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PRATIK PRAKASHBAPU PATIL): (a) Under the 'Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan' (PYKKA), playgrounds are developed in village/block panchayats, besides conducting annual rural competitions at block, district, State and national level. This provides a large base for identification and nurturing of sports talent. Sports Authority of India (SAI) with its Special Area Games (SAG) is also identifying and nurturing sports talent in the age group of 14 - 21 years from remote areas, including tribal and coastal areas.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.