

Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports

18th April, 2017

Report on the visit of Union Sports Secretary-cum-DG SAI on 4th April, 2017 to Bhopal

I visited Bhopal on 4th April, 2017 on the invitation extended by the State Government. I visited a number of State sports facilities, including Academies being run by the State Govt. The State Sports Minister was also present during the visit to Sports Academies. The State Sports Secretary and the Director (Sports) gave an overview of the efforts being made to promote sporting excellence in the State.

2. Madhya Pradesh has emerged as a front-runner in promotion of sporting excellence. The credit goes to the State Sports Minister, Smt. Yashodara Raje Scindia who introduced the concept of State Sports Academies way back in 2007. The State Govt. has promoted 19 Sports Academies, out of which 14 are located in Bhopal (Hockey-Men, Equestrian, Shooting, Canoeing & Kayaking, Rowing, Sailing, Judo, Wrestling, Taekwondo, Wushu, Fencing, Boxing, Karate and Athletics); 2 in Gwalior (Hockey-Women and Badminton); one each in Jabalpur (Archery) and Hoshangabad (Swimming).

3. The above mentioned Academies provide training to best available talents; 80% of the trainees belong to State and 20% of trainees have been inducted through Pan India talent hunting. In all, there are 518 residential trainees, 366 non-residential trainees, receiving generous support under State Academies Scheme. Since its inception in 2007, the State Academies have shown an impressive growth and consolidation. Without hesitation, I would like to state that Madhya Pradesh has emerged as a role model State in sports promotion, which other States could emulate.

4. The huge emphasis on sporting excellence has given considerable dividends in terms of performance at the national as well as international level. At the national level, Madhya Pradesh has improved its ranking from 12th position in 2007 to 5th position in 2015. Further, 7 of their athletes also participated at Rio Olympics, 2016.

5. During my field visit, I first went to:

- a) Shooting Academy, which has top class facilities in Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Sports Pistol and Shot Gun. The Academy has 10M, 25M and 50M ranges. The Shot

Gun facility boasts of latest equipment in the country. The facility has been built keeping in mind the requirements for holding major national and international competitions.

- b) Thereafter, I visited the Equestrian Academy, which is equipped with state-of-the-art training facilities as well as good hostel accommodation. It also has the covered facilities.
- c) After that, I visited the Water Sports facility, which has Kayaking, Canoeing, Rowing and Sailing. Undoubtedly, this is one of the best Water Sports Complex in the country. The facility boasts of latest training boats as well as training and conditioning equipment. It is heartening to learn that sizeable number of top athletes are being produced by the academies in three water sports. I was told that Jetty facility is being further expanded. Besides this, the State Govt. also created a top notch facility at Maheshwar on river Narmada for Canoe/Slalom events. I am told that this is one of the best natural water rapids we have in the country. We can develop this into a regular centre for national camps in Slalom.
- d) I then visited Hockey Academy for Boys. Shri M.K. Kaushik, who was earlier National Coach for Women Hockey and Shri Ashok, son of late Dhyan Chand, are looking after this Centre.
- e) I finally went to the Tantia Tope Stadium, which is the main stadium with athletic track, football ground and indoor sports facilities apart from a Sports Science Centre. I visited various academies located in the Stadium, namely, boxing, judo, taekwondo, wrestling, wushu, karate and fencing. Each of them is a small facility, but very efficiently managed. The complex also has a good gym facility.

6. Post field visit, a detailed presentation was made by the Director (Sports), Govt. of M.P., and following support was sought from the Central Government :-

- i. Inclusion of extremely talented athletes of State Academy Scheme under TOPS.
- ii. Replacement of the athletic track in Tantia Tope Stadium
- iii. Construction of a multi-purpose indoor hall at Tantia Tope Stadium
- iv. Opening of a State 'Khelo India' Centre at Bhopal
- v. Support for developing Slalom facility at Maheshwar as national facility
- vi. Support for creation of additional facility at Shooting Range at Bhopal.

7. In the afternoon, I visited the Regional Office of SAI and interacted with the Centre incharge, coaches and staff. The Bhopal Regional Centre has huge facilities spread over 100 acres. I visited the outdoor/indoor facilities. The outdoor facilities include an athletic track, 2 synthetic hockey fields with flood lighting, 1 grassy football field, 3 basketball courts, 3 volleyball courts, 1 cricket ground and a jogging track. There are 2 indoor halls, one is large hall (60M x 40M) and the other small hall (30M x

20M). There are 4 hostels with a total capacity of 300 beds. In addition, it also has Sports Science Centre and Strength & Conditioning Hall. In short, this is an extremely well-endowed centre of SAI, which is currently being used for holding national coaching camps in Hockey (Women), Judo and other sports. The new projects sanctioned for this Centre include 25M x 16M swimming pool, 100-bedded hostel facility and replacement of second hockey turf. During the visit, I found the following deficiencies which requires immediate attention of Director (Infra.) :-

- i. The sprinkler system and flood light of new hockey pitch requires repairs.
- ii. One Girls hostel has been renovated, which looks good, similar renovation needs to be carried out in other hostels on need basis.
- iii. The large multipurpose indoor hall has a problem of leakage in the roof, which needs to be attended immediately, as it is damaging the maple flooring.
- iv. 2 more small indoor halls on the line of model indoor hall constructed at J.N. Stadium, New Delhi, under RGKA may be constructed at RC, Bhopal under 'Khelo India' scheme. JS(Development) may look into this.
- v. Kitchen should be modernized.
- vi. There is a requirement of relaying of internal roads in some patches.
- vii. Hostel No. 3 also requires some renovation.

8. After that, I had interaction with the coaches and others, I emphasized on the need to make our activities more outcome-oriented. I urged the Centre in-charge to develop a perspective plan for the next 5 years. Based on the interaction held, the following points emerged for necessary action :-

- i. The demand of restarting Centre of Excellence for Hockey (Women) may be examined and put up by the Operations Division within one month.
- ii. Whenever SAI team participated in national championships organized by the recognized NSF, the players should be given the entitlement equivalent to junior camps, the cost of which may be borne by SAI under Operations budget. ED (Ops.) may put it up on file for formal orders / notification.
- iii. It was suggested that SAI should also participate in Hockey Senior National Championship. ED (Ops.) and ED(T) may do the needful in this regard.
- iv. The issue of grant of affiliation to SAI for participation of SAI teams in National Athletic Championship was also discussed and it was decided that this may be taken up with AFI for necessary action.
- v. It was decided that STC, Dhar should be merged with SAG, Dhar because of poor infrastructure at STC, Dhar.
- vi. There is an urgent requirement of consumables in sports equipment, for which a proposal is being submitted by RC, Bhopal. However, based on discussion, it

was agreed to sanction Rs. 60.00 lakhs for procurement. ED (Ops.) to take immediate action after discussion with Regional Centre. Further procurement may be done at the Regional Office based on existing delegation of financial powers.

- vii. To meet the additional water requirement, the proposal of Regional Centre to obtain a new water connection from the Bhopal Municipal Corporation was agreed to.
- viii. It was suggested that sports kits money for coaches also to be transferred directly to their under DBT. ED (Ops.) and ED(T) to examine and put up on file.
- ix. The facilities extended to Academy trainees were discussed. I directed that there should not be any compromise on facilities to be provided to academy trainees (Middle & Long Distance Athletics). ED(SP) to look all aspects of Academy trainees at Bhopal.



(Injeti Srinivas)

Secretary (Sports)-cum-DG, SAI

To

- 1) Chief Secretary, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
- 2) Joint Secretary (Development), MYAS, Gol
- 3) Principal Secretary (Sports), Govt. of Madhya Pradesh
- 4) ED (Operations)
- 5) ED (T)
- 6) ED (SP)
- 7) Director (Infra.)
- 8) Regional Director, SAI Regional Centre, Bhopal

CC:

- 1) PS to MOS (I/C), YA&S, Govt. of India
- 2) PS to Minister of Sports, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh