

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

Subject: Report of the Enquiry Committee constituted to enquire into complaints filed by Ms. O.P. Jaisha, Athlete with regard to her participation in women's marathon at Rio Olympics, 2016.

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports constituted a committee to enquire into complaints made by Ms. OP Jaisha, Athlete, with regard to her participation in women's marathon at Rio Olympics, 2016. The committee since submitted its report. The findings and recommendations of the committee are as follows:-

A. FINDINGS:

- (i) Weather conditions in Rio during marathon race were hot and humid and the athletes required a lot of water to consume.
- (ii) The Team leader, Mr. Valson and the Deputy Chief Coach, Mr. Radhakrishnan did ask Mr. Nikolai on the eve of the marathon if Ms Jaisha required any personalized drink. They were told that she did not require any personalized drink.
- (iii) It cannot be conclusively determined whether Ms. OP Jaisha was personally asked by the team management or her coach if she wanted personalized drink.
- (iv) Ms. OP Jaisha did not herself make a request to anyone to provide personalized drink to her.
- (v) Water as available to athletes in general was available to Ms OP Jaisha as well.
- (vi) Indian officials were not present at the booths where personalized drinks were kept, but this was because they did not have any request for personalized drink for Ms. O.P. Jaisha. Other countries whose athletes requested for personalized drinks were present at the booths as per rules.
- (vii) Coach is the chief guide to an athlete and is required to take care of his/her interest. Ms. Jaish's coach, Mr. Nikolai should have been more careful in anticipating the requirements of Ms Jaisha during the marathon and projecting the same to the organizers. He also could have given the required advice/guidance to Ms Jaisha.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) Whether adequate water/refreshments were made available by the Organizers for all the participants of the women's marathon and whether this was done as per rules in a matter which may be looked into by the IOA in consultation with the Organizing Committee and other NOCs.
- (ii) In future marathon races, the decision of the athlete whether he/she will require any personalized drink may be taken in writing so that there is no ambiguity about it.

- (iii) AFI may educate the athletes about the benefits of opting for specialised drink. This will ensure that the athletes get adequate fluids in situation where organizers are unable to do so for any reason. Also, this will allow Indian officials an opportunity to have a word with them during the course of the marathon, boost their morale and keep a general watch on their condition.
- (iv) Athletes should be briefed in detail about the rules of competitions, their entitlements, and facilities which would be available to them during the competitions including marathon. Marathoners should be briefed about the details of the route and the facilities available along the route.

2. The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports has accepted the recommendations of the committee, action will be taken accordingly.
