

Facts and Figures about dope control in India

This refers to a news report in a newspaper regarding NADA a few days back. While some of the facts and figures for January to July 2018 were provided by NADA in the RTI, the interpretation thereof has been distorted, and does not convey a proper picture of the actual dope control scenario in India. The views expressed by the newspaper display ignorance of the subject on part of the reporter, or a deliberate attempt to conceal relevant facts. The following is the correct position with respect of each information as reported:

Incorrect reporting	Actual facts
This year number of dope tests in athletics is only 362.	602 dope tests of the country's track and field athletes have already been held during the first 10 months of the current year. The numbers are well distributed throughout the annual test plan in accordance with WADA guidelines.
Hockey, which accounted for just one failed test out of a total of 73 two years ago, is the most-tested sport out of competition, with NADA calling it a 'high-risk' game.	Scientific assessment of various risk parameters such as strength, endurance, popularity etc, form the basis of determining the numbers to be tested. Hockey is now getting more funding in India and has become high in popularity with probability of medal winning; all these have moved it up in our risk assessment and thereby increase in the numbers to be tested.
Some of the top players, including shuttler PV Sindhu, boxer Vikas Krishnan and almost all tennis stars have not been tested this year at all by the country anti-doping watchdog.	Testing is done in coordination and collaboration with the international federations and agencies to avoid any repetition of testing. The top players named are being regularly tested depending upon their presence in the country or outside the country. Boxer Vikas being tested thrice and shuttler PV Sindhu twice.
Most Indian athletes in NADAs two Registered Testing Pools (RTPs) (from November 2017 to May 2018 and May	The earlier RTP consisted of several players who were no longer in active sport, and many of them were not even

<p>onward) have been tested less than the mandatory three times.</p>	<p>selected for Commonwealth Games and Asian Games. As such the RTP was revised in May 2018 as per WADA guidelines, with several upcoming sportspersons and new entrants. They need to fill in their whereabouts information in the WADA software i.e. ADAMS. Due to limited reach of high-quality technology available with these sportspersons, many of them were unable to feed in the required information in the system. NADA has on the other hand made every effort via their respective national federations to make them fill in their information. NADA has even taken strict action and issued notices to the defaulting players in RTP. Since the revised RTP in May this year most of the RTP players stand tested once or twice, and would be tested at least thrice during the 12-month period.</p>
<p>UK and USA conduct much more dope tests than India.</p>	<p>The number of International players and Olympic medalists of UK and USA is much more than that of India. NADA India has a much higher ratio of the number of dope tests to the number of International athletes.</p>
<p>There is sharp reduction in number of tests conducted by NADA this year. Only 2062 tests were carried out by NADA so far.</p>	<p>Every year 3000 or more tests are carried out by NADA. During 2016 NADA conducted 3363 dope tests while in 2017 it was 3594. The target for the current year is 3500. We have already conducted 3334 tests in 10 months from January to October this year.</p>
<p>India has fallen from No. 3 position in dope offences to No. 6 position worldwide.</p>	<p>India has improved its position in dope incidence from a notorious No. 3 to a more decent No. 6 position worldwide. Various educational and awareness</p>

	<p>programs being carried out at all levels from junior athletes to the physical education support personnel have lowered the incidence of doping in India and consequently the number of dope positive cases.</p>
<p>714 tests were carried out in February during Khelo India Games.</p>	<p>Khelo India Games held in February 2018 were the most important multi-disciplinary games ever held for the youth in India during which 377 tests were carried out in addition to normal testing scheduled during the month. Dope tests of 12 Khelo India athletes returned positive which underscores the necessity of conducting testing during these games.</p>
<p>Out of Competition testing during training camps has reduced.</p>	<p>Out of competition testing has increased and has been diversified as per WADA guidelines, and is no longer restricted to only training camps.</p>