

Delhi Commonwealth Games budget \$11.53 billion

The budget of the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games has soared and the current projection has touched Rs.5,165 crores (\$11.53 billion), a report of the Standing Committee on Human Resource Development has said.

The 57-page report, tabled in parliament Tuesday, says that an allocation of Rs.150 crores (\$33.51 million) has been made in the Budget Expenditure 2006-07 for the games, and goes on to give the break up of the ever-increasing games budget.

Giving details, the committee says the conduct of the games would cost Rs.896 crores (\$20 million), the Games Village Rs.955 crores (\$21.33 million), venue infrastructure (without furnishing) Rs.1,700 crores (\$379.80 million), civil infrastructure Rs.1,314 crores (\$293.56 billion) and the Indian contingent's training Rs.300 crores (\$67 million).

The committee recommends says that the Commonwealth Games' 'concerned agencies should be asked to expedite its planning and projections so that the annual break up of funds required during the next four years could be worked out'.

'The special plan of action prepared in respect of imparting training to athletes should be finalised at the earliest,' says the committee that also contains replies by Sports Minister Mani Shankar Aiyar.

'The committee would like to be apprised about the evaluation of performance of Indian athletes in the (Melbourne) Commonwealth Games 2006.'

According to details made available to the standing committee, the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has projected a demand of Rs.1,500 (\$335.12 million).

This is part of the infrastructure expenditure.

On preparation of teams, the report says: 'Discussions with all stakeholders are held. This ministry has made a preliminary projection of Rs.300 crores (\$67.02 million) for this purpose.'

Delhi Police have sent a proposal of Rs.264 crores (\$58.98 million) towards requirements of manpower, vehicles and equipment and to upgrade security.

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