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Title: Request government to review the rule of on emonth clousre of field/football ground for practice by the tree Football Clubs in West Bengal.

**SHRI PRASUN BANERJEE (HOWRAH):** Sir, this is a very important problem relating to sports, most probably, football. सर, मैं थोड़ा बांग्ला में बोलना चाहता हूँ ।

\*Many many thanks to you Hon. Speaker Sir. There are problems in sports, particularly in football. So I would like to speak in Bengali. Sir there are 3 clubs in India, Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting. These are national clubs. A rule was framed in 1882 during the British period which stated that these clubs would be allowed to run their camps on the ground barring one month when they would have to stay away from the field. This rule was introduced by the army. This practice is still continuing even after independence of the country in 1947. The 3 big clubs have lakhs of supporters, fans, innumerable spectators throughout the world. Mohun Bagan, East Bengal and Mohammedan Sporting are the best football teams of the country. I have never raised this issue earlier. Through you Sir, I urge the Hon. Minister of Defence to look into the matter and help us. This practice of closure of field for one month started during the British period and it is being followed even today. So I request Hon. Minister to do away with the rule with immediate effect. India is a free nation today. So why the army would be allowed to exercise its authority to bar the football clubs from using the ground for one month? I appeal to review this rule and give a boost to Indian football Sir.

सर, मैं आपको एक और दफा धन्यवाद देता हूँ । आप फुटबाल लवर हैं, मैं चाहता हूँ कि तीनों टीम्स...(व्यवधान)

**SHRI ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY (BAHARAMPUR):** Sir, I also want to associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.