

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6170

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2002

CRICKET TIES WITH PAKISTAN

PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RUDRAGOUDA PATIL;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

**Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government of Pakistan have taken any decision to revive cricket ties with India as a first step to improve relations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any bilateral or multilateral games or matches have been planned; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKIRISHNAN)

(a) & (b): The Government is not aware of any such decision of Government of Pakistan. However, as per the existing policy clarified to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), the Government considers it inappropriate to participate in a two-nation tournament between India and Pakistan at present. The Government has also taken a decision not to play any matches at non-regular venues at least for a period of three years. India will thus continue to play against Pakistan in multilateral tournaments at regular venues. However, the permission to a particular event will be given on receipt of the proposal on case to case basis after completing requisite formalities.

(c) & (d) A proposal has been received from the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for participation in ICC Champions' Trophy 2002 scheduled to be held in Sri Lanka from September 12-30, 2002. In the tournament all test playing countries including Pakistan will participate. A decision on participation of Indian team in this event is yet to be taken.