

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3129
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION OF SPORTS GAMES
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

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

- (a) the details of sports/games recognised by the Union Government and out of them which are traditional and foreign games;
- (b) the criteria laid down for recognition of sports by the National Sports Federation /Association;
- (c) whether the criteria/guidelines have been followed strictly; and
- (d) if not, the details of violations of the criteria and the action taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

- (a) At present National Sports Federations for the following traditional /foreign games are recognised by the Government:

Traditional games:

Archery, Kabaddi, Atya Patya, Carrom, Cycle Polo, Hockey (Men & Women - both traditional and foreign games) Kho- Kho, Mallkhamb, Tennisball Cricket, Tug of War, and Wrestling (both traditional and foreign).

Foreign games:

Athletics, Badminton, Billiards & Snooker, Boxing, Chess, Football, Hockey (Men & Women - both traditional and foreign games), Rowing, Shooting, Tennis, Cycling, Wrestling (both traditional and foreign) Weightlifting, Swimming, Basketball, Kayaking & Canoeing, Equestrian, Fencing, Golf, Gymnastics, Handball, Judo, Squash, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Yachting, Winter Games, Ballooning , Ball Badminton, Baseball, Body Building, Bridge, Cricket, Cricket (Women), Karate, Korfbal, Motor Sports, Netball, Polc Powerlifting, Roller Skating, Sepak Takraw, Softball, Shootingball, Taekwondo, Tenni-Koit, Throwball, Triathlon, Ten-Pin Bowling and Wushu.

- (b): Government recognizes National Sports Federations for promotion of a particular sports discipline. The laid down criteria for this purpose as contained in the Guidelines for Assistance to National Sports Federations are reproduced at Annexure-I.

(c) & (d): The guidelines are being followed by and large by the NSFs in the overall interest of the development of sports except that a few of them have not been following the guidelines with regard to tenure of their office bearers. Government have not considered any action against these Federations by way of withdrawal of recognition or suspension of assistance in the larger interests of our sports persons.

ANNEXURE -I

ANNEXURE-I REFERRED TO REPLY TO PART (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3129 FOR 23.12.2 REGARDING CRITERIA FOR RECOGNITION OF SPORTS/GAMES ASKED BY DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR.

1. The Federation should have a legal status as a voluntary registered body, not being a proprietary concern or partnership firm and should exist and function for the sole purpose of the development of that discipline of sports whose name it bears.
2. The Federation should have an exhaustive written Constitution in unambiguous terms providing for its efficient functioning, in particular, election of office bearers, truly representative character of the General Body, protection of the interest of players, promotion of the Game, maintenance and audit of accounts, moving of no confidence resolutions etc.
3. The Federation must have actively existed for more than three years on the date of application for recognition. Its various business meetings, as required under its Constitution, should have been duly held.
4. At the time of applying for recognition, the Federation/Association should have affiliated Units in at least 2/3rd of total States/UT s of India.

5. Tenure of the Office-bearers:- The tenure of office-bearers shall be in accordance with the Government Orders issued under letter No. 11-4/74-SP.I dated 20th September 1975. As per above Orders, Office-bearers of NFS s may hold office for one term of four years and may be eligible for re-election for a like term or period provided the office bearers have secured not less than 2/3 votes of the members. However, no such office-bearers shall hold office consecutively for more that two terms or eight years.
6. No office bearer of a National Federation shall hold office simultaneously, in any other National Federation, excepting the Indian Olympic Association.
7. The Federation should have the accepted Mercantile system of accounting. The accounts should be maintained properly and audited annually by registered Chartered Accountants.
8. The Federation should have held, unless exempted for technical reasons, annual National Championships for specified age-group at the Senior, Junior and Sub-Junior levels, consecutively for the three years preceding the year in which recognition is sought. These competitions should be organised through Inter-District Competitions in each State/UT.
9. The membership of the Federation should be confined to the corresponding State/UT and other special units affiliated (like Sports Control Boards etc.) and where Federation grant membership to individual clubs or individual persons, such membership does not confer on such members the right to vote in any of the Federation's meetings.
10. At the National level, there will be only one recognised federation for each discipline of sport. Only the duly recognised National Sports Federation would be entitled to financial grants as admissible. Only one State/UT Association from each State/UT shall be admitted as a member of the Federation, provided it has a minimum, of 50% of the District level Associations affiliated to it. Any organisation of an all India standing and connected with the Sport may be given the status as that of a State or that of a U.T. and admitted as affiliated Member. Other categories of membership may also be given, but while each affiliated State/UT Unit shall have a right to cast vote in the General Body Meetings, no other class of Member (s) shall have any right to vote, in the Federation's meetings. While granting recognition/affiliation to a State /UT Association, the National Federation should take into consideration the representative character of the State/UT Association so as t! o ensure that only truly representative body of the game gets the recognition/affiliation.
11. Federations are required to have the headquarters of the paid Joint Secretary/Assistant Secretary at Delhi, to avail themselves of the reimbursement of his salary/allowances. For this purpose, the Federation should have a proper office at Delhi.
12. There would be only one recognised Federation for each discipline of sport, irrespective of the fact that the particular sport caters to youngsters, men, women or veterans. However, this condition shall not apply to Federations already recognised by the Department.
13. The Federations are required to intimate Government well in advance about its General Body Meeting and other Meetings where election of office bearers and other important decisions are to be taken. Wherever considered necessary, the Government will have the right to send its observer to the above meetings.
14. The Federation shall update their accounts immediately after completion of the financial year and bring out annual report covering salient features of their activities during the year. The Federation shall appoint a practising Chartered Accountant to audit their accounts. The records and accounts of the Federation will be accessible to the Government and these shall have to be produced as and when asked to do so.
15. Where an international federation for the sports exists, the National Federation must be affiliated to the respective international federation.
16. Wherever the National Federation is affiliated to an international federation, it must provide the Department with an attestation from the international federation certifying that the National Federation is a member in good standing.
17. The Federation must be autonomous and resist all pressures of any kind, whatsoever, whether of a political, religious, racial or economic nature.
18. The federation must hold a General Body Meeting at least once in year and a special meeting convened over four years (or earlier as required under the tenure of office bearers) to elect the members of the Executive Body including the President, Secretary etc.
19. The State level associations which are affiliated to the National Federation should in turn have a minimum number of affiliated district-level associations (say 50% of the districts in the State).
20. Inclusion of prominent sportspersons of outstanding merit as members of the respective sports federations on a tenure basis. The strength of such prominent sportspersons with voting rights should be a certain minimum percentage (say 25%) of the total members representing the federation and selection of such sportspersons should be in consultation with this Department.