

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1386

ANSWERED ON:14.07.2009

NATIONAL SPORTS POLICY

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new National Sports Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and the National Sports Federations have rejected the revised draft of the National Sports Policy;
- (d) if so, the measures taken by the Government to address the concerns of the Indian Olympic Association and the National Sports Federations in this regard;
- (e) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government to formulate the policy; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to promote the local games at national and international level?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M.S. GILL)

(a) to (e): No, Sir. The Government had earlier proposed to replace the current National Sports Policy, 2001 with a new National Sports Policy, but after going through consultations with the Indian Olympic Association (IOA), and recognized National Sports Federations, and taking into account the recent initiatives taken by the Government, for both broad-basing sports and promoting excellence in sports, it has been decided, to continue with the 2001 National Sports Policy.

(f): Government has recently relaxed the eligibility criteria for recognition of federations, dealing with the promotion and development of indigenous sports, at the regional and national level. Sports Authority of India also has a special scheme for the promotion of indigenous games and martial arts under which rural talent is spotted and nurtured.