

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1516
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2011
BHARAT RATNA TO SPORTSPERSONS
Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the government has taken steps to make sport a category for awarding the Bharat Ratna; and
- (b) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): According to President's Secretariat's Notification No. 1-Pers./55 dated 08.01.1955, Bharat Ratna is awarded for exceptional services in arts, literature and science, and in recognition of public services of the highest order. A suggestion regarding modification in the existing eligibility norms has been received and is under consideration of the Government.