

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1132  
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013  
SUSPENSION OF IOA  
Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan Singh

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

- (a) whether the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has been suspended by the International Olympic Committee (IOC);
- (b) if so, the present status thereof;
- (c) the details of the difference between IOA sports code and Olympic charter;
- (d) the names of sports federations and their members who voted in International Olympic Association election; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to conform to the Olympic Charter in future and find a way out to hold new election of IOA?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (e): The International Olympic Committee (IOC) at its Executive Board meeting held on 4th December 2012 took a decision to suspend the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). Reasons cited by IOC for suspension of IOA were: IOA's failure to comply with the Olympic Charter and its statutes, failure to inform the IOC in a timely manner, and as a protective measure against Government interference in the IOA's election process. Vide a subsequent letter dated 6.12.2012, the IOC has also not recognized the elections of the IOA which were held on 5.12.2012. It is clarified that these elections were held under the directions of the Delhi High Court in Civil Writ Petition No. 195/2010. The High Court had specifically directed that the elections should be held keeping in mind both the constitution of the IOA as well as the National Sports Development Code which lays down certain age and tenure restrictions which are broadly similar to those in the constitution of the IOC itself. In this respect, the Sports Code does not in any manner violate the Olympic Charter.

For resolution of the matter, a delegation led by Shri Jitendra Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs & Sports and consisting of Shri P.K. Deb, Secretary (Sports), Shri Abhinav Bindra, Olympian and Shri Malav Shroff, Olympian and Sports Administrator visited Lausanne (Switzerland) from 14-16 May 2013 for a meeting with the representatives of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) for discussing the matter relating to suspension of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) by IOC. The discussions were fruitful. IOC has decided to pave the way to revoke the suspension of IOA. A roadmap has been finalized in consultation with IOC and National Sports Federations (NSFs). During the meeting in Lausanne, issues relating to principles of good governance, transparency and accountability in the functioning of IOA and NSFs were also discussed. The Government delegation reiterated its position that the Government respects the autonomy of NSFs. However, as the government funds 40 to 90% of the budget of NSFs and as this is public money, the Government needs to ensure that public money is well spent and accounted for.

The difference between provisions of the constitution of IOA and Olympic Charter mainly relate to age and tenure of office bearers and Code of Ethics.

The Ministry has not received any information from the Indian Olympic Association about the National Sports Federations and members who voted in the election of IOA held on 05.12.2012.