

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2042

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2017

FIFA U-17 World Cup

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to organize FIFA U-17 World Cup and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of countries likely to participate in the said tournament;
- (c) the details of facilities provided by the Government to the Indian players, coaches and support staff to meet the challenges of the said tournament;
- (d) the details of FIFA and Asian Football Confederation (AFC) ranking of the Indian National Football Team at present;
- (e) the details of the preparedness of Indian team for the said tournament; and
- (f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to promote the football games across the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS  
(SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a): Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) has awarded FIFA Under - 17 Football World Cup 2017 to India. The tournament is being organized on behalf of FIFA by Local Organizing Committee comprising of, inter-alia, officials of Government of India and All India Football Federation (AIFF). It will be played from October 6 to October 28, 2017 in six Cities viz. Goa, Guwahati, Kochi, Kolkata, Navi Mumbai and New Delhi. Government of India is supporting the said event.

(b): Twenty Four countries will be participating in the FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017 as per list given in the Annexure.

(c): The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports through Sports Authority of India has allocated Rs 15.00 crore to All India Football Federation (National Sports Federation for Football in India) during last two years for the customized training under expert coaches, competition exposure in domestic & abroad, Sports Sciences back-up including dedicated support staff such as Medical doctor, Physiotherapist, Masseuse, Nutritionist, Mental trainer and administrative support staff etc., for preparation of Indian team for the U17 Football World Cup India 2017. So far an expenditure of Rs. 13.76 crore has been incurred on the above account.

(d): As per information provided by AIFF, present FIFA and Asian Football Confederation (AFC) ranking of the Indian National Football Team as on 17th July 2017 is as follows:

FIFA Ranking Men's Team: 96

AFC Ranking Men's Team: 12

(e) As per information provided by AIFF, as part of the preparation, the Indian team is in a transit camp in New Delhi from 16th to 26th July 2017 enroute to Mexico for their participation in a 4 nation Tournament organized by Mexican Football Association, where Chile, Colombia and Mexico are the other 3 participants.

An International friendly match against Australian U-17 team and a couple of matches with preparatory training in Australia are planned from 20th August to 4th September 2017. The Indian team will play a couple of International friendly matches in India with teams of other groups on return to India in the first week of Sept. 2017 till 5th Oct. 2017.

(f): Government is promoting Football through an outreach programme called "Mission XI Million" in association with All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). The programme was officially inaugurated on 10th February, 2017.

This programme envisages targeting boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 18 years across India in around 15,000 schools to reach to 11 Million students mark by September 2017 before the FIFA U-17 World Cup being hosted by India. Around 8,800 schools and 5.6 Million students have already been covered under the said program.

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