

Title: Need to felicitate the Indian Power lifting team for winning the 7<sup>th</sup> Asian Power Lifting Championship.

DR. K.S. MANOJ (ALLEPPEY): Sir, the seventh Asian Powerlifting Championship was held in Alleppey from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2005 to 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2005. India won the Team Championship. This is the first time that in Asian Championship India won 43 gold medals, 33 silver medals and 6 bronze medals. India scored 373 total points. I would like to congratulate the team members as well as those who won the titles in this Championship. The sad thing is that in our country certain sports items are not getting adequate support from the Government. We had a detailed discussion in this regard last week. We approached the DD Sports Channel for the live telecast of the event. Since it was an Asian event, we approached the DD Sports. At first, they agreed to the live telecast of the programme. But, later on, they demanded Rs.5.59 lakh for the live telecast of that event. As I said earlier, since it was an international event, we approached the DD Sports.

So, I urge upon the Government that in the case of national and international events, they should be telecast freely. The important thing is that it is not only a question of sports but also it helps in the promotion of health. So, these events should be promoted. The Government should pay adequate attention to this event.

I would, once again, congratulate the team members who won the title and championship. Thank you.