Government of India Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports Department of Sports

LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 75 TO BE ANSWERD ON 07.02.2019

Archery Association of India

*75. SHRI G. HARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Archery Federation has threatened to suspend the Indian Archery Federation/Archery Association of India over the outcome of the elections held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent such eventuality?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS [COL. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)]

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 75 FOR REPLY ON 07.02.2019 ASKED BY SHRI G. HARI REGARDING ARCHERY ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

(a)& (b) As per email dated 16.01.2019 from World Archery Federation, addressed to the newly elected president of the Archery Association of India (AAI) they had, inter-alia, noted that the World Archery Executive Board cannot accept the outcome of the General Assembly held on the 22nd December, 2018 and the election of the President and the rest of the Board since the constitution used to conduct the elections was never formally approved and only accepted by the Returning Officer. They had also asked for full minutes of the General Assembly of AAI for verification of the matter and informed that the World Archery Executive Board would take a decision on the possible suspension of AAI after receipt of the minutes.

Subsequently, however, Mr. Tom Dielen, Secretary General, World Archery Federation, vide his email dated 23.01.2019, addressed to Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Department of Sports, sought certain clarifications relating to the governance of the Archery Association of India and especially to decide what to do with the outcome of the elections held on the 22nd December 2018 and apprised that World Archery will take the time necessary to come with a decision on the validity of the elections.

(c) The matter of governance of AAI is sub-judice in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The entire election process, including revision of the constitution of the AAI, has been undertaken under the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, by a duly appointed Administrator.

Further, sports governance, both at the National and international level operates in an autonomous environment and the Government has no direct role in matters relating to affiliation of National Sports Federations by their concerned World/continental bodies. Such matters are governed by the guidelines of the concerned world/continental body. Thus, in order to obtain and/or continue the affiliation of the World Archery Federation, AAI has to fulfill the conditions laid down by the World body.

However, in response to the email dated 23.01.2019 from Secretary General, World Archery Federation, as mentioned in para (a) & (b) above, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Department of Sports has apprised him of the factual situation and informed him that the Government is taking all necessary steps to resolve all critical issues that may adversely affect players' interests. Secretary General, World Archery Federation, has acknowledged receipt of the reply of the Government.

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