

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 366
ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023

Football Training For FIFA World Cup

***366 Smt. Jebi Mather Hisham:**

Will the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has adopted any modus operandi in imparting football training with the aim of qualifying for the 2026 FIFA World Cup;
- (b) the places where football trainings are being held in the country maintaining international standards; and
- (c) whether any understanding has been arrived at with FIFA in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *366 TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023 REGARDING “FOOTBALL TRAINING FOR FIFA WORLD CUP” ASKED BY SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM, HON’BLE MEMBER OF RAJYA SABHA.

(a): Participation of football team of a country in the Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup is based on the qualification as prescribed by FIFA. The All India Football Federation (AIFF), as the recognized National Sports Federation (NSF) for development and promotion of football, is responsible for taking the requisite steps so that the Indian Football Team qualifies for the FIFA World Cup, 2026. The AIFF has informed that the Indian Football Team (Men) is training and playing on regular intervals as per the FIFA International match windows.

On its part, the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports is providing all requisite support in terms of training and competitive exposure to the AIFF.

(b): The AIFF has informed that there are more than 25 professional clubs in India where regular training happens in multiple locations across the country.

(c): The AIFF has informed that FIFA gives equal importance to all its 211 Member Associations and has been always supportive towards India with its various projects, policies, and programs.
