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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.419 TO BE ANSWERED ON 15/12/2016

Betting in Matches

+*419. SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:

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

- (a) the details of cases of alleged betting and fixing reported in various games including cricket matches/series during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry into such cases and if so, the details along with the outcome thereof;
- (c) the details of action taken against the persons found guilty in this regard;
- (d) whether involvement of underworld has come to notice and if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.419 FOR REPLY ON 15-12-2016 ASKED BY SHRI GOPAL SHETTY REGARDING BETTING IN MATCHES.

(a) to (e) Madam, Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has informed that the last time that a betting/ fixing case was reported in cricket was in May 2013 when some cricketers and team officials were reported for alleged illegal activities in IPL. There have been no cases since then.

The Delhi and Mumbai Police had enquired into these cases and some people including cricketers, team officials and bookies were arrested. The cases are pending in the High Courts.

BCCI in accordance with its Anti Corruption Code imposed life ban on the three cricketers namely S.Sreesanth, Ajit Chandela and Ankit Chavan and also suspended Mr. Gurunath Meiyappan of Chennai Super Kings and Raj Kundra of Rajasthan Royals. Delhi Police had filed a case against the three players under MCOCA, but the special court did not approve of the same. The Delhi Police then appealed against this decision in Delhi High Court.

The Supreme Court appointed a three member committee consisting of Justice R.M.Lodha, Justice A.Bhan and Justice R.Raveendran. The Justice Lodha Committee found both the team officials, Gurunath Meiyappan and Mr. Raj Kundra guilty and they were banned for life time and their teams namely Chennai Super Kings and Rajasthan Royals have been suspended from participating in IPL for two seasons i.e. 2016 and 2017.

BCCI has taken measures like introducing a strong Anti-Corruption Code, Educational Programs, appointment of anti-corruption officials in Domestic matches and IPL, working closely with ICC anticorruption unit and appointment of integrity officers with each of the IPL teams.

To curb the incidents of unfair practices in sports, various agencies of the Government are taking action under the existing laws. A bill has been prepared by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports to deal with sporting frauds including match fixing.