

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1786
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.12.2017**

Inconvenience/Embarrassment to Indian Girl's Hockey Team

1786. SHRI KALYAN BANERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the report that an Indian Girl's hockey team faced inconvenience and embarrassment recently in a foreign country;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether the Indian Girls Hockey team had to protest against lack of facilities and support against the organizers therefor; and**
- (d) the details of the report of International School Sport Federation (ISF) and the host country in this regard?**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
[Col. RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (RETD.)]**

(a) to (d): Madam, on invitation from School Sports Australia, School Games Federation of India(SGFI), the National Sports Federation for promotion of sports among school children in the country, fielded teams in various events including hockey, in the 10th Pacific School Games 2017 held at Adelaide, Australia from 1st to 10th December, 2017. The cost of participation was met by SGFI and Government has not incurred any expenditure. SGFI has informed that Indian contingent reached Adelaide on 1st December, 2017 and the organizer made separate accommodation arrangements for the participants and provided them with detailed Booklet of events and Accreditation Cards for availing free public transport facility. But perhaps due to different work pattern conditions prevailing in Adelaide and due to time zone difference and jet lag, Indian hockey girls' players missed out their opening two morning matches. As soon

as SGFI came to know about the situation, immediately they deputed Mr. Gaurav Dixit (PRO to SGFI) and Mr. K.R. Rao (Basketball Coach) to Adelaide who immediately took up the matter with the Indian High Commission and the Organizers and restored the situation by providing Liaison Officers who were Hindi translators as well and thereafter everything went on smoothly. SGFI has also informed that the said event was not an ISF event, but was hosted by School Sports Australia who is also a member of ISF. It was organized in association with Government of South Australia. Participants from 9 different countries and all States of Australia comprising of 4100 athletes in different sports disciplines had participated. The Government has however instituted an enquiry in the matter.
