

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 903
TO BE ANSWERD ON 17.09.2020**

Inclusion of Kabaddi in Olympics

903. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

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

(a) whether the Government has urged all Asian countries including Korea and Malaysia to ensure the inclusion of the popular contact sport, Kabaddi, which has already been added in Asian games, in Olympics;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken to improve the standard of the said game in the country and the details thereof;

(d) whether any sport must be played in at least 75 countries across the world for inclusion by the International Olympic Committee and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has any effective plan to propagate Kabbadi which is currently played in few countries only, across several geographical locations worldwide; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
FOR YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
[SHRI KIREN RIJIJU]**

(a) No Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(c) For making Kabaddi popular, the Government has taken following initiatives / measures:

(i) The sports facilities of Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Lakshmibai National Institute of Physical Education,

Gwalior and Guwahati have been made available free of cost for sports including Kabaddi for organising training programmes and sporting events.

(ii) Inclusion of Kabaddi in Khelo India Youth Games and Khelo India University Games.

(iii) 126 athletes of Kabaddi have been selected under Talent Search and Development vertical of Khelo India Scheme for Long Term Athlete Development Programme.

(iv) Coaching of sportspersons of Kabaddi discipline in SAI facilities.

Further, for promotion and development of Kabaddi, the Ministry is supplementing the efforts of the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India by providing support for training and competitive exposure within country and abroad.

(d) to (f) Inclusion of any sport discipline in the Olympic Games is decided by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Among other things, IOC has prescribed that a sport discipline must be governed by an International Federation which undertakes to follow the rules of the Olympic Charter and it must also be practised widely across the world and meet various criteria. It is for the International Kabaddi Federation to take required steps to promote Kabaddi at international level. However, the efforts of the Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India towards promotion and increase of spread of Kabaddi world-wide are supported by the Government by providing competitive exposure to Indian Kabaddi player abroad and for conduct of international Kabaddi events in India.
