

Legalising Betting on Cricket

4557. SHRI ABANI ROY :

SHRI K.M. KHAN :

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

(a) whether Government have been actively considering to make betting on cricket legal;

(b) if so, whether stern steps would be taken to cleanse the game of cricket of betting and match-fixing.

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have directed BCCI Secretary to submit a detailed report about match-fixing controversy;

(e) whether the poor performance of our cricket team in the recent matches have surfaced doubts on the involvement of players in scandal; and

(f) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Government has taken a decision to entrust the matter of alleged match-fixing to CBI for appropriate Inquiry and necessary action and it would look into all aspects related to this matter.

Poor Performance of the Indian Cricket Team

4558. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked the Indian Cricket Board to send its report to Government about the poor performance of the Indian Cricket team in the match played recently;

(b) if so, details of the report received by Government;

(c) whether the Cricket Board received any complaint of match-fixing during the last five years; and

(d) if so, the action taken on such complaint by the Cricket Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Government kept a meeting on 27-4-2000 with BCCI office bearers to discuss Plans to raise the standards of Indian Cricket, The BCCI has agreed to give a detailed Plan in this regard within 3 months which will be further discussed with BCCI.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had instituted One man Justice Y. V. Chandrachud Committee to look into the complaints of match-fixing. The report of the Committee stand laid on the Table of the House on 24-04-2000.

Interrogation of Persons in the Match-Fixing Case

4559. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of persons interrogated in the match-fixing case;
- (b) whether the name of any Indian cricket player has come in the light, so far; and
- (c) if so, the action taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH): (a) to (c) Government has taken a decision to entrust the matter of match fixing to CBI for appropriate Inquiry and necessary action and it would look into all aspects related to this matter including interrogation of alleged persons. However, Delhi Police has arrested two persons in a case registered vide FIR No. 111/2000 against Mr. Hansie Cronje and Others.

Match-Fixing in Pepsi Cup Series

4560. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 200 transactions were reportedly made in the cricket match-fixing of the Pepsi Cup Series held recently in India between Indian and South African Teams;
- (b) whether India's Foreign Secretary kept informed the South African authorities regarding involvement of certain members of their cricket team in match-fixing;