

[8th December, 2000] RAJYA SABHA

in the matter of granting telecasting rights of cricket matches; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken against the persons involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKIRISHNAN): (a) In its report, CBI has indicated that their current inquiry has not looked into the matter of grant of television rights since this issue is being dealt with separately.

(b) Subsequently, CBI has informed that it has registered 5 cases against DD officials and others in the matter of granting telecasting rights. Out of these, 3 cases relate to cricket and to Tennis.

Withdrawing Arjuna Award for match fixing

2212. SHRI D.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to withdraw the "Arjuna Award", given to those players who have been found indulged in match fixing scandal;

(b) whether Government are going to take legal action against the players found guilty in match fixing, in order to punish them; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKIRISHNAN): (a) to (c) After receipt of CBI Report on Match Fixing and related malpractices, the Government is examining the same and consulting concerned Ministries about the future course of action. BCCI has also been asked to take action against the indicted persons as per its rules and Code of Conduct and send its comments on the report. The Government will decide future course of action after getting the advice from all concerned.

Promotion of DART game

2213. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests from sports organisations for promotion of DART game as a sport, in various parts of India;

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) what are the details thereof;

(c) whether DART game is very popular and inexpensive and is played all over Europe; and

(d) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to promote and popularise DART game, as a sport in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKIRISHNAN): (a) In the recent past, Government has not received any request from any sports organisation for promotion of DART games as a sports in various parts of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This is a recreational and time passing sports and is not a competitive sport. This discipline is also not included in Asian, Commonwealth and Olympics Games. As such Government has not given recognition to any Sports federation for promotion of this game.

Schemes of SAI

2214. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of schemes/programmes being implemented by the Sports Authority of India (SAI) in the country;

(b) whether steps are being taken to consolidate its existing schemes, with a view to achieve excellence in sports at National and International levels;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the SAI is also establishing one centre of excellence in each regional centre for girls; and

(e) if so, how much budget is earmarked for this purpose during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SUSHREE UMA BHARTI): (a) the Sports Authority of India (SAI) implements several of its sports promotional schemes as also Govt, schemes on agency basis.

Sports Promotional Schemes:

The Sports Authority of India imparts training to sports persons under its Sports Promotional Schemes i.e. National Sports Talent Contest, Army Boys Sports Company, SAI Training Centres, Centres of Excellence and Special