

Regarding establishment of regional sports academies in Mysore and Kodagu, Karnataka to promote indigenous traditional games- Laid

SHRI YADUVEER WADIYAR (MYSORE): I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the urgent need for establishing dedicated sports academies for indigenous games in the Mysore-Kodagu region of Karnataka. Mysore and Kodagu have a rich and diverse sporting heritage ? from the traditional Vajra Musti wrestling and Mallakhamba in Mysore, to the globally renowned hockey tradition of Kodagu, and age-old Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, and yoga-based fitness disciplines that are deeply rooted in the cultural fabric of the region. These sports are not only part of our history but also integral to our identity and community life. However, the absence of structured training facilities, scientific coaching, and dedicated infrastructure for these indigenous sports has led to a steady decline in participation, particularly among the youth. The establishment of specialised sports academies ? with modern infrastructure, qualified coaches, and talent identification programs ? will help in reviving these traditions, nurturing local talent, and preparing athletes for national and international competitions. I, therefore, urge the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports to immediately sanction and establish regional sports academies in Mysore and Kodagu dedicated to indigenous games, integrating them into the Khelo India framework and ensuring sustained funding and promotion.