

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2379
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003
RECRUITMENT OF SPORTSPERSONS
M.H. AMBAREESH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited recruits sportspersons in order to promote sports in the country ;
- (b) if so, the sports which have been encouraged by the BSNL;
- (c) whether the BSNL does not encourage Hockey and has not recruited any players since its formation;
- (d) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the step being taken by the BSNL in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI , PRADHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sportspersons are recruited in BSNL in the following sports disciplines :

Individuals Games	Team Games
1. Athletics	1. Basketball
2. Badminton	2. Cricket
3. Carrom	3. Kabaddi
4. Chess	4. Kho-Kho
5. Cycling	
6. Table Tennis	
7. Weight Lifting/Power Lifting/ Body Building	

(c) BSNL encourages Hockey by organising Telecom Circle level and All India level Hockey Tournaments every year. However, Hockey has not been included in the scheme of recruitment of sportspersons.

(d) The decision of the Organisation has been to concentrate on 4 team games in the beginning.

(e) Once national level teams are built up in the selected 4 team games, the recruitment scheme can be reviewed to consider inclusion of other team games like Hockey.