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Title: Mr. Speaker made a reference regarding achievements of Indian Sportspersons in the 15<sup>th</sup> Asian Games held at Doha.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, it is a matter of great pride that in the recently concluded 15<sup>th</sup> Asian Games at Doha, India which finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the medals tally, bagged 10 gold, 18 silver and 26 bronze medals.

India's golden journey began with the winning performance of Ms. Koneru Humpy in the women's rapid format chess event. She won another gold along with Pentala Harikrishna and Krishnan Sasikaran in the Chess Mixed team Classical Swiss Event.

The title clash for men's billiards event was an all Indian Affair. In the finals Pankaj Advani defeated Ashok Shandilya thus winning both the gold and silver medals respectively for the country.

India won yet another gold medal in the Kabbadi event when they defeated Pakistan in the finals.

Our ace shooter Jaspal Rana who won three gold medals in the pistol shooting event, was also a nominee for the Most Valuable Player Award at the Games. Along with him, two of his team mates Vijay Kumar and Samresh Jung also won gold in the team event.

The women's 4x400m relay team also had a golden run when the Indian quartet of Pinki Paramanik, Chitra K. Soman, S. Geetha and Manjeet Kaur finished first.

India also won two gold medals in tennis. The first was by the team of Leander Peas and Mahesh Bhupathi in the men's doubles and another in the mixed doubles by the team of Leander Peas and Sania Mirza.

The achievement of our sportspersons has done the country proud. I am sure the House would join me in congratulating all of them on their accomplishments.

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