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Shri Dean Kuriakose
Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha
Indian National Congress
Idukki (Constituency)

Subject: Appreciation for remarks made in Lok Sabha on creating sports facilities in rural areas

Hon'ble Sir,

At the outset we want to thank you for your remarks made in the Lok Sabha that appeared in a news report where you spoke about creating more sports facilities in villages and rural areas. In a representation to the Union Sports Ministry made by Confederation of Sports and Recreation Industry (CSRI) in October 2022, this was one of the points that were raised.

Your remarks were as "All the sport academies are concentrated in townships. Mega events and sports stadiums may be there in the townships, and it is a welcome step. But the practicing academies should be concentrated in villages. Then only, we would get the advantage of more and more sportspersons."

A good percentage of India's Olympic medal winners and also those who have done well at the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games have come from rural areas where facilities are unfortunately lacking and they have had to move to bigger townships for opportunities. Moreover, some of the facilities in townships may not be affordable for athletes coming from rural areas, which prevents them from realising their potential.

As a parliamentarian your words are heartening because it would hopefully draw attention towards the lack of facilities in rural areas, which can, not just fill the gap that exists when it comes to lack of facilities but also give the training at a young age, which is very necessary.

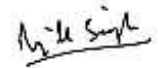
CSRI believes, if not possible at Panchayat, then we should try and create basic sports infrastructure at least at block and/or taluka level.

Of course, we at CSRI as an industry association at the apex level, which connects the complete ecosystem of Sports- Sports, Physical Education, Fitness and Leisure, is also available to support you and the government's endeavour. CSRI members are capable of implementing such projects gelling with local requirements, which are world class but economically viable.

We also aggregate the views of thought leaders for giving inputs toward necessary policy intervention.

For further information, we are attaching the profile of CSRI as well as the undersigned.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rajpal Singh", written over a horizontal line.

(Rajpal Singh)