



Confederation of Sports and Recreation Industry

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Shri Karti P Chidambaram Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha Indian National Congress Sivaganga (Constituency)

Subject: Appreciation for remarks made in Lok Sabha to make sports compulsory in schools

Hon'ble Sir,

At the outset we want to thank you for your remarks in the Lok Sabha on sports being made mandatory in schools. 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, "Until you make sports compulsory in this country, no mother will send their daughters to play."

As a parliamentarian and as someone, who has been part of Sports Administration in India, your words are heartening because unfortunately sports is still seen as secondary in India compared to academics. Most parents do not see value in a career in sports for their children and would prefer their children to become lawyers, doctors and engineers.

However, if sports is included in the syllabus and a compulsory part of our education system as well as given credit through marks like any other main subject, parents would be more than happy to encourage their children to take up sports. Also making sports compulsory in schools will also create job opportunities for sports teachers and experts. Ultimately, it has also the potential to generate huge job opportunities as mentioned in the NSDC study.

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.

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

(Rajpal Singh)