

BY SPEED POST

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Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

Dated: 26.12.2008

To

The President/Secretary General
Indian Olympic Association,
B-29, Qutab Institutional Area,
New Delhi.

The Presidents/Secretary Generals of
All Recognized National Sports Federations.

Sir,


In the matter of Karm Kumar Vs Union of India & Others, the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has directed Government to review the matter of participation of foreign nationals of Indian origin in the national teams and bring out a uniform national policy in the best interest of sports in the country.

The matter has, in pursuance to the above direction of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, been carefully considered after seeking comments of Indian Olympic Association, recognized National Sports Federations and others concerned.

Based on this consultation, an overwhelming view has emerged that the best interest of Indian Sports would be served by ensuring that players who are Indian citizens only represent the country in the National Teams. This would ensure that the limited resources available are invested optimally in building world-class athletes. This would also provide the opportunity of giving international exposure and training to deserving local talent, which would further improve them to world class performance levels. This would also act as an inspiration for budding talent. Finally it would serve the long term interests of the country to emerge as a front runner in the field of sports.

In view of the above, it has been decided that, henceforth only players who are citizens of India would be entitled to receive government support for representing the country in the national teams. Further, the above policy decision would also be applicable in the consideration of proposals for the participation of the national teams in international sports events.

Yours faithfully,


26/12/08
(Shankar Lal)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India