



ISSN: 2456-4419

Impact Factor: (RJIF): 5.18

Yoga 2018; 3(1): 886-887

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www.theyogicjournal.com

Received: 01-11-2017

Accepted: 02-12-2017

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## National game of India

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### Abstract

Every nation has accepted or approved a game as their national game. Baseball is the national game of America; Cricket it is national game of United Kingdom like wise India also might have accepted or approved a game as the national game. Then what is that? Is it field hockey, or Kabaddi or chess or some other?

**Keywords:** game, sports

### Introduction

In India 90% of the people say that Hockey is our national game. Even the sports connected people like physical educationists, coaches and the sports officers also believe that hockey is our national game. But it is not so.

**Statement of the topic:** "National game of India"

### Definition of terms

**Game:** i) Game is a form of competitive activity or sport played according to rules. ii) It is an activity that one engages in for amusement or fun. A complete episode or period of play ending in a final result.

**Sport:** Sport is an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment. Sport is an athletic activity regarding skill or physical prowess and often of a competitive nature.

### National game

A game which has to be considered as the national game it should be factored in popularity, success in international level, acceptability in the country.

### Need of the topic

The RTI (Right to information) centre have announced that hockey is not the Indian National game.

Actually a game is to be considered as the national game. It should be accepted in the parliament (Central Govt.) like national animal, national bird, national tree etc. But till today no game have been accepted or approved as the national game by the Indian Govt.

### Why hockey is assumed as the national game?

Even though, the Indian Government has not announced or accepted any game as its national game, many of us, say about 90% of the Indians assumed or believed that Hockey is our national game. There are many reasons for this belief, and they are as follows.

1. India won all the gold medals from 1928 to 1956 *i.e.* till 1980 we have won 11 medals in Olympic Hockey.
2. Hockey was chosen as the national game because of the team's performance during the phase of 1928 to 1956. India had played 24 Olympic matches won of all and them scoring 178 goals and conceding only 7 goals.

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We can say that Hockey is a de-facto national game, but according to sports ministry it is not.

Recently (in the year 2012) RTI has revealed that India has no national game. Earlier Hockey enjoyed the special status. The below mentioned games are also having eligibility to become the national games of India.

### **Cricket**

It is the most popular game in India. And it deserves to be national game of India on merit.

### **Kabaddi**

India has been the undisputed king of indigenous game Kabaddi in Asian countries.

### **Wrestling**

It is being called as Kusti or Mallayudda. Wrestling has been an indigenous sport since mythological days. With the past glory and recent good show at the world stage, the game deserves more respect and admiration.

### **Tennis**

It is one of the rising sports in India with Indians achieving new heights in the last couple of decades and rapid development of the budding talents. The game is all set to flourish in the next few years.

### **Badminton**

It is considered that Badminton is originated in India. However the game has captured the imagination of one and all only after Saina Nehwal's Olympic bronze medal winning feat. Indian Badminton has the promise of more glory ahead.

### **Chess**

The game of chess has been originated from India as a successor to Chaturang or Shataranj. It is raised in popularity in India over the last few decades, primarily due to the achievement of star player Vishwanathan Anand.

### **Conclusion**

After going through all these factors we can conclude that Hockey is not a national game of India, whereas it is a de-facto national game.

Not only this, till today India not having any national game.

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