

# Lok Sabha passes Bills on sports governance, doping amid Opposition din

Congress MP Manish Tewari later said it was “exceedingly unfortunate that the Government chose to pass the Sports Governance and Anti Doping Bills when the opposition was protesting”.

Written by [Vikas Pathak](#)

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In his initial address on the National Sports Governance Bill, Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the idea was to promote sports in the country and win medals for India. (PTI Photo)

**The Lok Sabha Monday passed the National Sports Governance Bill 2025 and the National Anti-Doping Amendment Bill 2025 by a voice vote amid Opposition protests in the House on**

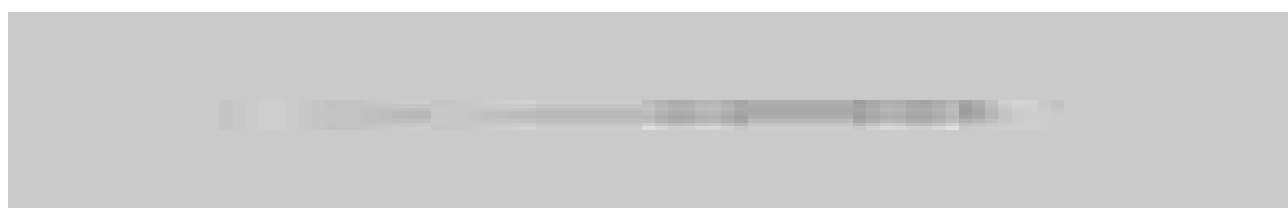
the 16th day of its functioning in the Monsoon Session.

The Opposition wanted the Bills to be referred to a Parliamentary committee for a detailed study.

In his initial address on the National Sports Governance Bill, when the Opposition was not present in the House, Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the idea was to promote sports in the country and win medals for India. “In 10 years, we have to reach the top 10 in sports in the world and in the top five in 2047,” the minister said, underlining that 65 per cent of India’s population was below 35 years of age, and the youth needed to be trained and encouraged to win medals for the country.

“India is about to bid for the Olympics. So we need a robust and transparent sports system. We will have to align ourselves to the Olympics Charter,” Mandaviya said. “In 1975, the first sports guidelines were made, but success wasn’t achieved. In 1985, a Bill was planned. In 2011, a sports code came up and a Bill was drafted. It was to reach the Cabinet, but nothing could be achieved because of politics. In 2013, Ajay Maken as Sports Minister tried to bring a Sports Governance Bill. It came to the Cabinet but could not reach Parliament.”

“The Sports Federations lack transparency. Our female athletes should get a chance transparently to take part in sports. We need women members in the sports federations,” he added. “We have had detailed discussions for one year on this. A robust Bill has been prepared. I have brought this Bill before the House today. The National Anti-Doping Bill has also been brought. We have to align with global rules on doping.”



Mandaviya said that after Independence, the sports sector was not given due importance and India could not perform well internationally, but added that Prime Minister [Narendra Modi](#) kickstarted reforms in the sector, and this Bill was part of it.

When just two speakers had spoken on the Bill, the Opposition returned to the House and began to raise slogans. After this, Sandhya Ray, who was in the Chair, put the Bills to a voice vote, and both Bills were passed amid the din.

After the passage of the Bill in the Lower House, Congress leader Manish Tewari wrote on X, “It is exceedingly unfortunate that the Government chose to pass the Sports Governance and

Anti Doping Bills when the opposition was protesting on an issue of substantive import that goes to the heart of India's democratic ethos. The Government lacks even the legislative Competence to enact the National Sports Governance Bill – SPORTS IS A STATE SUBJECT – Entry 33 , List II Seventh Schedule- Article 246.”

## The two sports Bills

The National Sports Governance Bill provides for the setting up of a National Olympic Committee, a National Paralympic Committee and National and Regional Sports Federations for every designated sport, says the PRS Legislative Research note on the Bill. The Bill empowers the Centre to create a National Sports Board that will grant recognition to national sports bodies and register their affiliated units.

The National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill seeks to give effect to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) convention against doping in sports. It established the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) to implement anti-doping rules, and provides for a National Board on Anti-Doping in sports to oversee NADA's activities and advise the Centre on anti-doping regulations.

[The Indian Express](#) had reported on August 7 that the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) will not be subject to provisions of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, after the government introduced amendments to the National Sports Governance Bill that has been tabled in Parliament. The Union sports ministry has cited a provision of the RTI Act, according to which only bodies “substantially financed” by the government can be defined as a “public authority”.

Earlier, as Lok Sabha assembled after lunch, Bills to amend the Income Tax Act 1961 and the Finance Act 2025 were introduced in the House.

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