

English translation:

The national sport of Bangladesh, as I have already mentioned, is *kabadi*. *Kabadi* is not very popular in the cities. Let me give you some basic knowledge on this matter. *Kabadi* is popular in the village areas. It is popular in the villages of Bangladesh. There, almost everyone played the game at one time; [people] still play it. It is also very popular in the suburban areas.

Bangladesh is [good at] another game – this game can't be called an outdoor game; it is an indoor game, namely, shooting. Bangladesh has been successful in shooting. Bangladeshi shooters have performed very well in the Commonwealth Games. They have also participated in the Olympics. They have brought home medals from the Asian Games; they have won gold, silver and bronze medals. Bangladesh holds the fifth position in hockey in Asia, though not in the world as a whole. The Bangladesh hockey team is positioned behind the teams of the following countries: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Malaysia. South Korea also performs well in this sport. Sometimes Sri Lanka falls behind the Bangladeshi team; sometimes Bangladesh comes forward. So, Bangladesh has retained the fourth or fifth... fifth position in hockey, and this position has been retained over the last twenty or twenty-five years. That is to say, there has been no significant improvement or deterioration in the Bangladesh hockey team's performance. However, sometimes the performance becomes really poor, and sometimes the players... hockey players can maintain their level of performance.

And in other games, Bangladesh has not been that successful in the world or in Asia. But all sorts of games are played at the national level. [We] play table-tennis, basketball, and volleyball. All games are played to a greater or lesser degree. And, in Bangladesh, cricket is... an emerging sport that has lately received a lot of attention from the Bangladesh government's Youth and the Sports ministries. [On account of this], an institution called BKSP has been started [with the aim of training] schoolchildren with sporting talents by giving them scholarships. These students are trained at that institution by special coach[es]. The results have been good so far. Many of these rising cricketers from BKSP have performed well at the national level. Aside from this... efforts are being made to bring in more of these talented players from schools in the suburban areas... different places in the country. I have the greatest hopes for Bangladeshi cricket, as well as for the future of other sports in the country. I sincerely hope that the Bangladesh sports sector has a prosperous future. May Bangladesh perform better and better in the sporting arena – in all sorts of [sports]. Thank you.

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