18th May, 2023, Chandigarh

**Vikram Sahney, MP appreciates Government for fulfilling his demand of Including Gatka in National Games**
MP Vikramjit Singh Sahney raised the issue in Parliament for inclusion of Sikh Martial art Gatka in National games on March 16th, 2023 during the Budget session of Parliament by asking a question to Sports Ministry.

Mr. Sahney said that he wants to appreciate the Union Sports Minister Sh. Anurag Thakur and Indian Olympic Association (IOA) for considering his request and taking a prompt response on addressing the issue raised by him and making Sikh Martial Art Gatka a part of 37th national games happening in Goa this year.

Mr. Sahney added that Gatka is a part of Vibrant Rich Sikh Culture and Heritage, this is undoubtedly a welcoming step by the concerned authorities and a proud moment for the aspiring sportspersons of the state. Punjabis have always led from the front in almost every sport. Gatka which is an indigenous sport of the state, Punjab will definitely perform the best in it.

Talking about the sport Mr. Sahney said that Gatka is a form of martial art associated primarily with the Sikhs. It is a style of stick-fighting, with wooden sticks intended to simulate swords. Punjabi name, gatka, refers to the wooden stick used. Gatka's theory and techniques were taught by the Sikh gurus. Gatka was employed in the Sikh wars and has been thoroughly battle tested. This divine history of the sport makes it not just physical practice but spiritual too.

Mr. Sahney also said that now, when we have reached a milestone of taking Gatka to national level our next target is to make it international sport and we will continue with our efforts to make it happen.

