

Indian cricket team should not tour Pakistan, says Gill

Union sports minister M.S. Gill said Friday the Indian cricket team should not tour Pakistan for the series next month.

The tour has been in serious doubts after last month's [Mumbai](#) attacks. Investigations have revealed that the perpetrators were of Pakistani origin and were allegedly trained in Pakistan which has strained the ties between the two neighbours.

Gill said it was not the right time to play cricket with Pakistan when 'people from their soil were indulging in mass murder in India'.

'Is it possible for one team to arrive in Mumbai and indulge in mass murder, and have another team go and play cricket in the winter afternoon sun at Lahore,' he said.

Gill also said that sporting contacts are meant to enhance friendship between human beings.

'It requires those in authority in Pakistan to give a clear indication, satisfactory to the world, of doing everything possible to prevent such murderous incursions, and to root out the basis of it all,' Gill said.

Gill also said that money should not be a factor in deciding the fate of the series.

'I have played cricket. I know the spirit of cricket. Cricket is not commerce,' he said.

The Indian team is scheduled to play five one-dayers, three Tests and one Twenty20 International during the tour starting Jan 6.

(© IANS / India eNews)