

[श्री जगदम्बो प्रसाद यादव]

यह कारखाना भी बन्द हो जाएगा जब तक आप यहां पर डीजल इंजिन और इलेक्ट्रिक इंजनों के लिए भी सुविधाएं प्रदान नहीं करेंगे तब तक यह कारखाना ज्यादा दिनों तक चलने वाला नहीं है। चाहे रेल के डिब्बे हों या इंजिन, इसके लिए कोई व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिए। तो मैं जरा इसको जानना चाहता हूं। जमालपुर 6 P.M. वर्कशॉप फस्ट क्लास, थर्ड क्लास और स्पेशल क्लास अप्रेंटिस को ट्रेनिंग देता है लेकिन यह व्यवस्था भी ढाली पड़ रही है। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस व्यवस्था में ढाल न हो, इसको आप ठीक कर दें।

वैजनाथ घाम के लिये एक लाख यात्री रोज आते हैं लेकिन वहां आज तक रेल की व्यवस्था नहीं की, रेल पहुंचाने की व्यवस्था नहीं की गई। मैं मंत्री महोदय को याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि 4-6 महीने से वरियापुर स्टेशन से आगे कोडिया घाम में भी एक बाबा तैयार हो गये हैं। वहां पर दैनिक 10-11 हजार लोग जाते हैं। वहां वरियापुर स्टेशन पर करीब 200-400 आदमा रात को रहते हैं। छोटा स्टेशन होने के कारण वहां न वे सफाई कर सकते हैं और न उसकी ठीक से व्यवस्था कर सकते हैं। वहां रेलवे अधिकारी, लगता है कि, उसके लिये ठीक से कुछ नहीं कर पा रहे हैं।

एक बात मैं आप से कहना चाहता हूं आर०पी०एफ०...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा० बापू कालदाते) : खत्म कोजिये। समय खत्म हो गया। (व्यवधान)

श्री मुलाम रसूल मट्टू : आप कल बोल लेना। (व्यवधान)

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा० बापू कालदाते) : अच्छा एक दो मिनट कल लेना।

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION ON
POINTS ARISING OUT OF THE
ANSWER GIVEN IN THE RAJYA
SABHA ON 5TH NOVEMBER, 1986
TO STARRED QUESTION 23 RE-
GARDING POOR SHOWING AT
SEOUL ASIAD BY INDIAN
CONTINGENT....

SHRI JASWANT SINGH (Rajas-
than): Mr. Vice-Chairman. Sir at

the very outset, I would like to say that in the process of my submissions if I am constrained to use strong words or if I say anything which is hurting, it is not in any fashion a reflection of my lack of esteem of either the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development or indeed of my charming friend, the Minister of State, who. I do believe is imbued with a great deal of energy, dedication, and approaches her task with an exemplary sense of commitment.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):
He is glazing his arsenal. (Interrup-
tions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I have perforce, when discussing the whole aspects of ASIAD-86, to start from reminding the House about what was mentioned on the occasion of ASIAD-82. There were Members on this side who then mentioned to the late Prime Minister that this huge expenditure which was being incurred on the building up of various stadia was going to be wasteful because these were not going to be utilized. She, then, on one interruption dubbed all that criticism as lacking in national pride. Now, Sir, I cannot, in all sadness, help reflecting that all those stadia are now collecting dust and have become the venue of political jamboorees of dubious kinds. There were expectations about ASIAD-86. On an earlier occasion, in reply to a question the hon. Minister for Human Resource Development, indulged in some kind of statistical obfuscation. Indeed, the Minister of State attempted to put across that statistically we had actually performed better. Even then I was unconvinced. and I cannot help reminding the two hon. Ministers who are both present here that a very simple question needs to be answered. After sending what was possibly the third largest contingent, outside of South Korea, of course, which was

the host country, and the People's Republic of China, our next door neighbour,—we send to my understanding, a contingent of nearly 380—what was the end-result of this 380? And what was the ratio between the participants and officials? An observer, watching the ceremony on television,—which, in any case, I was feeling too disinclined to do—could not help reflecting that when the Indian contingent actually marched-past, it was full of elderly looking gentlemen, and it was clear that there were far few participants and more officials.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): As usual.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, what was the result of that 380? There was a gold medal performance—I can call it only that, a gold medal performance—by one woman athlete. There was possibly some silver and a shaming scattering of bronzes. Now, this is the compendium of the hon. Minister's statistical obfuscation. This, Sir, is a national shame. And I admit that when calling it a national shame, it is a strong word that I am using. But because the whole gamut of our sports policy, of its administration, and of our attitude to sports is called into question, I cannot but call it anything else but a national shame. There are some standard excuses which are put forward that the IOA is autonomous and, therefore, the Government of India can do very little about it; that essentially sports is a State subject and, therefore, unless it is brought on the Concurrent List we cannot do anything about it; and finally, that answer for all our problems that there is just no money so we cannot do anything about it. Now, these three may be, in their own right, reasonable excuses. But they are only excuses. I would like to know what has the Government of India done to get rid of these difficulties, to overcome these difficulties so that we do not keep on perpetuating such national shames.

Sir, I intend to cover this whole question of our participation in the ASIAD 1986 and the results that we obtained or did not obtain under four very broad heads—firstly, the Report of the IOA, secondly, about athletics, then very briefly about hockey, and finally a subject which is a subject of very, very great interest to me, in which subject I have personally participated in the First event that took place in Delhi after independence and about which possibly I can claim some knowledge and that is about international events relating to horses, equestrian events.

Sir, firstly the IOA Report. Sir, I have gone through this report, I received it this morning. I went through this in as much details as I could read it twice over and I cannot but help reflecting that this is an extremely poorly written report. It is carping and whining. It blames everybody else but itself. And this is the only effort that IOA can make. A considerable amount of money has gone into producing a report which says nothing. The impression that one gathers is that it is so poorly written, the recommendations are so inane and jejune as if the whole approach to sports had been turned into a kind of a complaining compendium. And I may just quote from it, Sir, very briefly. Amongst the things it says, it starts with, "What was wrong". It talks of what the shortcomings are and identifies lack of equipment as one possible shortcoming. Then it says that the Indian contingent did not train for long. It says, for how long did it train on equipment which was actually used at the Asian Games? One of the complaints is that the equipment with which our contingent trained was not the equipment which was eventually used at the Asian Games. A reasonable enough point and, perhaps, the Minister would like to answer this. The second thing, Sir, is about money. It makes an assertion here which perhaps the Minister would like to clarify or comment upon that the various State budgets

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in respect of sports vary from Rs. 45 lakhs to Rs. 1.5 crores. Then it makes a comparison with the People's Republic of China and South Korea and says that they spend as much as Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 crores, and statistically—a favourite subject with the hon. Minister—it goes on to assert that we spend less than two paise per capita per year in our country on sports. Now, this is an aspect which I would like to Minister to clarify. Is it correct that we are only spending two paise per capita per year? Further, Sir, it goes on to talk about our performance. There it displays a strange trait which, perhaps, the Minister would explain to me because I have not been able to understand. It makes an assertion that our performance in respect of other countries should not be judged against what South Korea does or what the People's Republic of China does but it should be judged in the category of how much money we have actually spent and therefore, if we spend only this much, find a country which spends only that much money but do not take into account the population of our country. Find that country in the world which spends only two paise per capital per year and then determine our performance. Then it makes a very strange statement which, perhaps, the Minister would like to clarify. It says that the IOA strongly feels that if comparison should be made, then it should be an apple for an apple and not an apple for a pine-apple." This is an official report of the Indian Olympic Association. It is a shaming statement to make and a shaming approach. It is not even correct usage of the language. Let me not waste time. Sir, on this. Therefore, I have kept only very select quotations from this.

Let me next come to the aspect of selection criteria. Now the IOA in its selection criteria says and here it makes what I can call only a duplicitous statement. It says that an IOA special general assembly meeting was held on such and such a date and

that it determined what the Government stand on selection criteria ought to be and after some discussion it was decided to adopt the criteria suggested by the Government. Now, this is a very strange statement to make because my understanding is the total reverse of it and indeed here I am somewhat at a loss because the IOA have quoted, they themselves have quoted a letter which was addressed to the Secretary-General and as most letters of the Government of India are, it is marked "Most immediate," "by Special Messenger". This letter goes on to say that the "Government Resolution on National Sports Policy adopted by the Government in 1984, stipulates that national teams should be sent abroad to take part in international competitions only when by physical conditioning, coaching and practice they have attained standards required for such competition," "participation in the above two high level,"—referring to the Commonwealth and the Asiad—games because this involves national prestige and visibly poor performance of the members of the contingent etc. etc. Now the Government of India itself has laid down the criteria. Therefore, I would like to know why were these not followed.

Then, Sir, there are various lists here of eminent people who constitute this body, and amongst them are, I do not want to name all those people. But I would like to know how many of the officials of the Indian Olympic Association actually went to South Korea. What did these functionaries actually do? What were their precise responsibilities when they took this jaunt on your and my cost. Sir, just one more question. I do not want to take too much time on the recommendations part. Sir, in the recommendations part, some strange recommendations are made by this body. It starts by suggesting that there is no need for India to participate in 1988 and 1992 Olympic Games, unless it is more or less certain that for every entry we can achieve a minimum of sixth place.

Now, what is the Government of India's attitude to this? Is this a statement of policy of the Government of India? This is a very strange document to be circulating officially and making categorical assertions of this kind. It then talks about the questionable aspects of our national sports federations. I won't go into all the very jejune recommendations made by this body but one or two aspects which make me feel greatly concerned are that whereas it rightly recognises that universities etc. should be attached, involved with IOA but it says that that should be so "without any voting rights" and underlines it. Why does it want to do that? If universities and sports bodies and colleges are to be associated, well they might as well be fully associated. Finally, amongst the other recommendations it says that sports should be brought on the Concurrent List. About that I will come a little later. Now, Sir, about athletics I do not want to add much. I just want to quote from what Kon Bosen, who is the national track and field coach, what he had to say on the question of athletic team and its failures. He says: Unrealistically low qualifying criteria is one reason. Only 15 of the 48 candidates actually achieved performances that were even equal or better than their trial's best. Why? This is a worrisome matter. Then it says that there was just one manager for a 48 member team. When you load the rest of the contingent with so many useless hangers on, why was there only one manager for a 48-member team? I do not want to go into the various other things.

Then, Sir, a word about hockey. Now, I do not think I need to say what decline has taken place in hockey or where India stands in hockey today. Sir, your shaking of head tells the whole story. It is very shameful. The Vice-Chairman is shaking his head in great disgust and depression. I do not want to increase his depression by hanging on to hockey and longer. *(Interruption)* India,

one-time champion, today cannot even feature above the last place. This is a very very shameful situation. I do not want to keep on rubbing salt into this wound, which is everybody's wound, yours as well as mine. I would like to know, what are you going to do about it?

Finally, Sir, I come to equestrian sports. This is something about which I have some personal experience. I do not claim any great expertise but this is something about which I know personally. This is a somewhat involved story. Following upon ASIAD 1982, the Equestrian Federation of India made a report to the Government of India that our horses are of poor stock,—which, in itself, raises fundamental questions, about the breeding policy followed by the Indian Army. For the last forty years, periodically, we have been importing horses for breeding at great cost to the exchequer and all the forty years, not a single champion animal, for any of these equestrian disciplines, of proven merit, has been bred, has been produced. But that is altogether a different matter as it involves the breeding policy of the Army. For EFI, Government of India grant Rs. 10 lakhs. These are all facts and I would want the hon. Minister to reply categorically to each one of them. Government of India grants Rs. 10 lakhs for import of animals so that we could be adequately prepared for ASIAD 1986. This is after 1982. Rs. 10 lakhs are granted. Animals are imported in 1985. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, who authorised the purchase of these animals from Australia and not from any other country? From 1985, I have been agitating with the Minister concerned—Sir, I will not take more than two—three minutes—that the whole question of the functioning of the Equestrian Federation of India, of the import of these animals, has become a huge explosive scandal. Unless, therefore, you look into the functioning of this one Federation, which I am pointing out by categori-

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cal, provale examples you will not clean up the other national federations. If you do not clean up the other national federations, the working of the Indian Olympic Association will not improve and if that does not improve, we cannot hope to do any better than what we have done earlier.

Sir, on 14th October, 1985, I wrote to the Minister of State about these animals that were imported from Australia that as these animals were purchased to enable our riders to compete on equal terms in international events, it is absolutely vital that proven record or potentialability of these animals to participate in international competition be the only criterion of selection. This was the suggestion I made. This is the criterion which should have been adopted. But what has actually been done. Here, I have with me a copy of the veterinary report by the only qualified, internationally-accepted, veterinarian the only qualified veterinarian from the whole of the qualified veterinary doctors in the country. His report, of which I have a photostat copy here says—this is the inspection report in respect of the eight horses imported by the Equestrian Federation of India from Australia—” it is pertinent to mention here that out of the eight horses, four were in poor condition on the date of inspection and special care is required in a regulated and co-ordinated manner regarding their feed, exercise etc. This is more worrying. The report says.” The undermentioned horses, in my opinion, should not have been purchased by the purchasing officer for reasons stated against each. I do not want to name the horse as it does not mean anything to the House. Horse Dyllon was veterinarily unsound. Why is it that that horse was veterinarily unsound? Then there is the detailed report on that horse. There is an avulsion fracture of the proximal extensor aspect of the...it is a medical term. In simple language, it says that there

is a fracture of the leg. Now the Equestrian Federation of India has imported animals, the purpose of which is to participate in an international event and it has got a fractured leg. This is not the end of it.

AN HON. MEMBER: Was it a mare or a horse? Was it meant for breeding purposes?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: It was a gelding. It could not have been breed. It was brought for international competition. It was neither a stallion nor a mare. It was a gelding.

Now that is not the end of it.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Did it have three legs only?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I say that till date, even in October 1985, months after the import of animals, details of the purchase price, insurance, transportation etc. Have not been submitted either to the Executive Committee of the Equestrian Federation of India or to the Government of India, who in fact would have made the grant. I had pointed this out to the Minister. Is it correct? Have you now got the details of the purchase? Have they submitted accounts to you? The Equestrian Federation, thereafter, in its general body adopted a resolution which was passed on 23rd November, 1985 and this is the quote from the Resolution of the Federation's General Body:

“Resolved that the purchase of the Australian horses by the President through Lt. Col.—(I do not want to name) and Lt. Col. (again I do not want to name) is not acceptable to the General Body of the E.F.I.”

What has the Government done despite all this?

Now, Sir, I would like to point out that these animals are brought to the country and thereafter they are lodged with the army. I wrote to the

Minister of State, who is looking after these services. I pointed out the anomalies and now I request the Minister to tell me what the replies to these anomalies are about the purchase of animals and the other difficulties that I have mentioned. If the animal is purchased from a grant given by the Government of India, how are they being lodged with the army? And if it is being lodged with the army now, who is paying the livery charges of the animals? Why should the army take on the responsibility of looking after the animals that have been purchased by somebody else? If it is the army that wanted to purchase the animals, why did the army not follow the procedures that are laid down for purchase of animals? These animals are then put through tests. Let us see what actually happens when it comes to ASIAD 86. For ASIAD 86 18 animals are under training. The serum samples of these animals are sent to Korea. Out of 18 samples, 11 samples are rejected by Korea on grounds of glanders, communicable equine necropolytis or on grounds of African horse sickness. Rejection of 11 out of 18 is a big ratio and it may be both unbecoming and churlish of the Minister of State as she has gone on record—as per newspaper reports—to say that the Koreans were less than fair to us. It is extremely unbecoming of a Union Minister of State to have gone on record to say that there was anything but an honest approach in the testing of serum samples that were sent from there. Eleven out of 18 animals being rejected only in respect of India, why? Why only in respect of India? I would like to have a clarification, on account of whose neglect were these animals rejected?

Thirdly, is it not the laid down procedure by the International Equestrian Federation that whenever serum samples are sent for testing, on that very day at least two alternative tests are obtained so that if there is dispute with one serum sample, the

serum sample of that very day is then produced to the appealing body? This was not done. I would appeal to the hon. Minister of State not to mislead by what she might have been informed by her official in this respect, because whatever I am saying I can prove categorically with my papers. There has been gross neglect, gross mismanagement and I have taken the example of only one federation. I am now concluding, Sir, in just one minute.

In concluding, in addition to the questions that I have already asked, I request the hon. Minister of State to clarify just one or two other things. How much did it cost the Indian exchequer to send this contingent of 380? What was the overall cost? I know that Government of India will not be able to give me figures which will take into account all the cost for training camps etc. but whatever figures you have, please give me an idea of how much did it cost to the country to send them? I would like to make a suggestion to the hon. Minister. Whenever such contingents go abroad, till the last minute, till the aeroplane is almost leaving, travel procedures etc. are not cleared. The participants, the athletes do not know. So will you please improve these procedures?

I would make a recommendation and a suggestion for a school, college, university level assessment, not because the IOA says so but because I believe there lies an answer to our problem. From here where do you go? Where do you intend going? How do you intend going there? What are your aims, aspirations for improving the national sports situation? How do you intend achieving your aims? Instead of, I submit, Sir, these grotesque wasteful extravaganza like this hoax which is miscalled 'Apna Utsav', please spend.....

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH (Maharashtra): No, Sir. We are talking of sports. We are not

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talking about 'Apna Utsav'. Mr. Vice-Chairman, I seek your protection. This is my point of order.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): What is your point of order?

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: The matter for discussion is sports. Is the Indian contingent in Seoul. It is the Asian Games. It is not 'Apna Utsav'. (Interruptions)

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Let me just reiterate that instead of this grotesque wasteful extravaganza like the...

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: No, No.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): It is his opinion. You may have another opinion.

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: No, No.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Instead of this grotesque, wasteful extravaganza like this mis-called 'Apna Utsav'

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: No.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: ...Please spend our money—yours and mine—on real Utsavs... Only then will the sports improve. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): Hon. Minister. She will first answer.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: I have a point of order, please.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): That is over. You have another point of order? Not on this? On whatever he said. It is all over.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV (Maharashtra): No, not on that. I have another point of order. This is a very important subject which we are discussing here. It is not a mere discussion. It is the prestige of the nation as a whole that is involved. So half-an-hour discussion is quite insufficient for this. So I would like to ask the Chair that this should be made a short duration discussion and some three-four hours should be given. This is my point of order. It is very important.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: I am on a point of order. The procedure so far has been...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): I know the procedure. I will ask the Minister first. I know it.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: The Minister has to reply first, according to the procedure.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): The procedure is not like that. The rule is here. Anyway the Minister is free....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): This is the procedure that has been followed in this House.

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: We must follow the rules.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI-MATI MARGARET ALVA): A number of points have been raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: What about my point of order?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): That will be taken sometime afterwards.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: How can a point of order be taken up after some time?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): That is a different matter. That can be discussed in the Business Advisory Committee and a decision taken.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We have asked for a discussion. We want a discussion and we will be very happy if the Business Advisory Committee were to give a whole day so that many more Members can participate.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: It is very important.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): I have already said.

SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: This is a Half-an-Hour discussion.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): Why are you taking time? I have already said what I had to say.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, the Honourable Member started off by saying that I will essentially make four excuses. I assure him, I am not here to make any excuses. Sir, he has raised four points to begin with. One is about the huge contingent. He also quoted the IOA report. I want to tell him, when he raised this question whether it is a document on behalf of the Government, that it is not a document on behalf of the Government. We have said in Parliament before that the IOA was submitting its report to us which we would study with the experts concerned and then perhaps react to the suggestions and the blame that they tried to lay at the doors of various people. But about the contingent itself I would like to say—and I think

the honourable Member has also quoted the Government criteria which were very clearly laid down that we would not go beyond the third place—that since the IOA in its report has said that Government was responsible for changing, I would like to quote from the letter of the IOA—which I will, if necessary place on the Table of the House—dated 22nd May, after the delegation of the IOA called on Shri P. V. Narasimha Raoji, and I quote from their letter:

“The IOA delegation has explained that in no country in the field of sports is the selection criteria laid down by the Government of that country. This is the prerogative of the National Olympic Committee of the country. Therefore, it will be wrong if the Government lays down a selection criteria and insists on its being followed by the National Olympic Committee. This will tantamount to interference by the Government in the functioning of the National Olympic Committee. The IOA delegation submitted that the Government could suggest a criteria and finance only such competitors who come within the criteria. The IOA, in accordance with its own selection criteria accepted by it, would then consider bearing the expenditure on the competitors who do not qualify on the Government's suggested criteria.”

Accordingly we stuck to our criteria, we cleared up to the third, and others went at the cost of the IOA and the federations. I want to make it very clear to you that it was not we who changed the criteria. It was the IOA who insisted that they have the right to decide who should go.

Sir, about the officials and the non-officials I would like to give the figures to the honourable Member. I would like to say that compared to all other contingents I don't think our officials were in any way more than what.... I don't want to say

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 "statistics" because he has been saying a lot of things about my statistics. But what I am trying to say here is, I will give figures... (Interruptions)
 ...the statistics which I have quoted...

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: You have written off the statistic... (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am sorry, I correct myself. Because, he made a couple of comments on my quoting statistics before. As far as the Indian contingent was concerned, we had a total of 296 competitors and 84 officials in all.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: One is to three.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: If you take the statistics of others, since you are quoting Japan, China and others comparatively ours had not in any way been higher than what the other countries had. I can assure you about that... (Interruptions)... This is the first part of it.

Secondly, he has mentioned about officials—how many people went from IOA. These were 10 who went from the IOA. Their names are here but I do not want to take time. And there were, of course, some who went as judges, as referees, who had been invited by the organizers—and this was an honour to the country. Their board and lodge was looked after by the organizers. We only gave them tickets to participate. There were, incidentally, many many others who landed there. I suppose any Indian who has a passport and a right to travel can go to watch the Games.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Kalmadi was also there.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: He was on the Government delegation; we paid for him. There were State Ministers who landed here with

officials. There were teams of MLAs from Opposition States, some of them and some from others, who landed there. There was a team of 34 MLAs who came from Karnataka.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Kindly yield for a minute because you mentioned about Karnataka and Opposition States. I also did receive a message, a letter from the Chairman of the IOA asking whether I would like to go to Korea as a parliamentary observer, which I found so objectionable and so wholly unacceptable. What would I do as a parliamentary observer when sporting events were taking place? Because I did not find any rationale for my going to Korea as a parliamentary observer, in fact, somewhat hesitatingly, I had to refuse, I had to decline this wonderful invitation. Please therefore, don't mention about Opposition and MPs.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am very glad that you have raised this point because this letter has gone, I think, to around 50 or 60 MPs, not only to you, saying that they had been recommended. When they approached the people concerned, they have been told, "What could I do? The Government has refused to put you in." Let us not go into politics. I have been getting these copies from so many MPs asking "Why did you reject my name?" Sir, the names never came to me, as you know. I am Sure, you will agree that parliamentary observers are sent only by the Chairman and the Speaker of the two Houses, and not any other organisation outside. This is a different question altogether.

About the expenditure, he said that I might not have the figures. I have the figures for the expenditure that was incurred on the games and training and foreign exposure for our teams over the last two years. It is Rs. 63,23,000, and the details of the camps are here which I am prepared to give. There have been the largest number of camps ever held for any event by way of training.

[Shri Suresh Kalmadi]

to train these children, especially those under 14 or 16. I requested Gen. Narendra Singh who was there, why don't you adopt 5-6 children who have come from all parts of the country and mostly from Poona and Maharashtra, children of 12-14 years of age? I am happy that he agreed readily on the spot to adopt 10 children. (Interruption) I would like to say very clearly that let us not have two opinions on that. The S.A.I. should concentrate on coaching, not to organise this; that should be the job of the Federations. At various levels we are conducting it, every year, every month. We are able to identify which are the children good in Maharashtra and Poona. The S.A.I. are not the persons to identify the talent. That is what I am trying to say. (Time bell rings) I would be very happy if that process starts.

Also, Sir, about the sports infrastructure, I agree with the report of the Olympic Association that there must be the infrastructure. There must be synthetic tracks. It is all very well to say: we must do well. But where are the synthetic tracks in this country, for hockey? In and around Seoul there are synthetic tracks. But we have got one in the entire country. How do you expect our sportsmen to compete with them? So there is need for the infrastructure. Every one city in every State must have total infrastructure. Now there is the budget with the Government. I think they must go about doing this.

Also, I would like the hon. Minister to concentrate on ten games. Do not concentrate on 25 disciplines or 30 disciplines. Concentrate on just ten games—games at which we have been very good, may be hockey or some others. Athletes is the mother of our games which makes a number of other games.

Also, Sir, we must have the involvement of industry. There are a lot of industries which are ready to come forward and sponsor a lot of games. Catch hold of one industry and tell them: hockey training is yours. Catch hold of another industry, athlete training is yours. We must have the involvement of industry. They get a lot of time on the television. This involvement would be very ideal.

The last point which I would like to make is about my State and the city of Poona. Poona is a sports city. People are sports-loving. It has got a beautiful climate. We have been denied a branch of the N.I.S. That has gone to some other parts of the State, which is a good thing. But Poona cannot be neglected. There are the people. There are the organizations. There is a good set-up in Poona.

Before I end, I would like to say that you have to work to a plan. You have got the budget. I think, as Margaret rightly said, this debacle in Seoul should be an eye-opener from now onwards. I think, the Government should now be particular that everything goes in the right direction. Either you can go in the right direction or you can bungle. I hope you will go in the right direction.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, there cannot be a second opinion to the fact that our performance in Seoul was dismal, disappointing and disastrous. The country that sent the biggest sporting event drew a blank in basket-ball, sporting event drew a blank in basket-ball, cycling, football, golf, gymnastics, tennis, rowing, table-tennis and also archery because in our country we used to pride about the brave valour of Arjuna in archery. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we have not learnt lessons from the others. Chinese never entered the arena until 1974. When they entered the field, they came in flying colours. South Korea's achievement was not a miracle. It was the result of expert, continuous training for 600 days. So, conducting coaching camps here and there will not help you to get better results. Sports training in this country has neither purpose nor direction nor constructive plans to train and produce champions. We have spent nearly a thousand crores on Delhi A.S.I.A.D. Even then you have not produce the results. Only one improvement you have made. You have changed the name of the Indraprastha Stadium. You named it after Mrs. Indira Gandhi. That is the only achievement you have made.

Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how these officials or the persons were sent. For example, how did

SHRI M. A. BABY: That should be rejected.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: It should be rejected outright.

Sir, you are aware that a lot of ills that this country today is facing is because of the present set-up of the Indian Olympic Association. Sir, you are aware that the Indian Olympic Association, in the past year or so, passed forty amendments, rushed through forty amendments, and that shows that there is an authoritarian trend in the Indian Olympic Association. They have not only passed forty amendments, but they have also disregarded all the guidelines for the tenure of office-bearers. Everybody is trying to hang on to the posts. There are clear 8-year guidelines which have been brought forward and the Indian Olympic Association has itself said that this is no more applicable and so, the same old people want to be there for a lifetime and, Sir, this is where the problems of the country insofar as sports is concerned start and end. There is a requirement, Sir, for a major surgery to be done on the Indian sports and I think that that surgery should be started from the top and I do think that there is a need to dissolve the Indian Olympic Association. I think that if the Indian Olympic Association is dissolved, because they have been doing so many unconstitutional things like bringing forward forty amendments which even the International Olympic Association had not asked them to pass, that would be better. I asked them, "Has the International Olympic Association asked you to pass them?" They said, "No." Nowhere in the world are they passing amendments like this, but it is only in this country that this is happening. There is every reason also for dissolving this body. Because of their behaviour, because of their not adhering to the guidelines of tenure, this body can be dissolved and I think that this is the first thing that should be done.

Sir, there is a hue and cry now, I do not know why there is so much of hue and cry. I am saying this because I would like to ask what the Government has done over the years for sports. Where is the infrastructure? Where is the

budget? Where is the equipment. Where are the coaches? Where is the will, the national will, to build up sports? It is all very well to talk about other countries. We are talking of South Korea and China. But all of them worked to a very hard eight-year perspective and twelve-year perspective and there is need for us to learn. There is no co-ordination between the various sports bodies. There is the Sports Authority of India; there is the NIS; there is the Federation; and then there is the Government. But there is no linking. The Sports Authority of India was launched with much fanfare and we also expected a lot from it. But then we find that it has done precious little other than having or holding a few jamborees sitting in Delhi. They have not gone to the rural areas and they have not gone to the tribal areas. They just sit in Delhi and try to create the infrastructure throughout the country which they have not been able to do. They are holding talent contests. I would like to tell, Sir, that conducting such talent tests is not the job of the Sports Authority of India, but it is the job of the Federation. I can expect the Sports Authority of India doing it also once they have the infrastructure all over the country. But that infrastructure is not there today. So, calling three thousand or four thousand people from all over the country is not going to help at all. You have to leave it to the Federations. I am aware of the fact that many Federations are not working properly at all. So, you have to see how these Federations can come up. For that, you have to make these Federations the backbone of your policy. We had in Pune a marathon the other day. It is the only marathon recognised in the international circuit and the Minister also was there the other day to inaugurate it in Pune. Ten thousand people took part in this marathon in various age groups. It was a massive exercise and it is the biggest in Asia and the participants are under 12, under 14 and under 16. The problem now is this: We had taken the trouble of organising this at a great cost and, after organising it, I do not know what to do. I do not have the time and money

[Shri M. A. Baby]

title. He won it for the second consecutive time. When he came back, to his astonishment he was served with a notice for explanation by the Badminton Association of India for not obtaining advance permission. I personally know this case. He had duly applied for permission but the application was never processed in time. His father, who is a sports enthusiast, tried his level best to persuade the authorities and get the permission in time, but he failed. He got only a verbal permission. Believing them he went and he successfully defended his title. For that he was rewarded on his return with a show cause notice. So, this is the type of things that are happening. My learned friend was saying something about the equestrian events and he was mentioning about the horse-breeding which has something to do with the poor performance in the equestrian events. But horsetrading is what ails the Indian sports area. Regarding equestrian events it may be correct. But you have so many associations and the associations are always fighting with each other. It is a political game that is being played in various associations which is coming in the way of the development of real games and sports. So it is this which has to be streamlined. Within the existing socio-economic setup and within the available facilities and things, there are a lot of things which can be done; all of us know. I hope that some earnest efforts will be forthcoming in the coming days. You must streamline the existence of so many of these sports boards, sports associations, federations, and so on. I hope all these things will be seriously looked into. I do not, however, have any illusion that the overhauling of this sports perspective can be achieved within the existing socio-economic setup, because you do not have the teachers in hundreds and thousands of schools. How will you have physical training instructors when you do not have laboratories and libraries? How will you have shuttlecocks and rackets and footballs? This is the dismal situation that exists in our country today. (time-bell-rings) I do not know what the Government can do within the existing socio-economic setup. I don't believe that by our mere pious wishes and repeated guarantees in

this type of forums things can be improved. In some countries, though not overnight, fundamental changes have been brought. But in our country if we continue to proceed in the present fashion, as we have hitherto traversed, since 1947, I don't think there will be even a modicum of improvement in the coming days. Of course, I do not want to paint only a dismal picture. I do look forward to more and more gains in games and sports for our country. If some serious and earnest efforts is made, I am sure some changes will take place. I suggest there should be more detailed discussion on this vital question on which depends the health of the whole nation. The health of the nation depends on the sports culture. That is the primary necessity. (Time-bell-rings) With these words I conclude.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): Shri Suresh Kalmadi.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: He is a part of the contingent.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): I am very happy that Mr. Gopalsamy is taking a lot of interest in sports. Usually he is busy having petty fights with Anna-DMK. But when he is talking about national games, I am very happy.....

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: I know your voice will be stifled after some time.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: There has been a lot of hue and cry after Seol and, quite rightly so, because, after all, sports constitutes national pride and definitely the national pride, the pride of the country, has been hurt. And, Sir, everybody, I think, must take the blame. The Government must take the blame, the Indian Olympic Association must take the blame and the various Federations must take the blame. There is just no point in blaming poor Maggie, our Maggie here, and I agree with Mr. Jaswant Singh when he says that this Report of the Indian Olympic Association is nothing but passing on the buck.

Asiad, I would not have stopped criticising the sports policy because the question is not just one of winning two or three more medals. What is our approach towards sports? Do we have a sports culture in our country? What is our perspective regarding developing human beings with a sound mind in a sound body? So far as the sound that comes out of the sports body in our country is concerned, the Asiad has already proved it pathetic, so many other international meets have already proved it. Regarding soundness of the mind, I do not want to go into it, since already we have the Mental Health Bill in the agenda and we may discuss it there.

The primary and fundamental point in relation to the concept of our sports policy is that we just reduce it to participation in certain international competitions. And just before the competition, our aim is to win somehow or other more and more medals. This is not the correct approach. The question is of inculcating a popular sports culture.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:
What is that sports culture?

SHRI M. A. BABY: Sports culture is that every human being should be provided with opportunities to physically develop oneself.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO:
That is in the new education policy.

SHRI M. A. BABY: By establishing elitist schools you hope that a popular sports culture can be developed? Again you will be confining the opportunities to a limited few and you will announce from house-tops that this is the popular sports culture and this is in the education policy. I totally disagree with you. I am sorry, I beg to disagree with you.

While congratulating P. T. Usha and others on their stellar performance, we must admit that they achieved this despite the callous attitude, the lackadaisical manner in which we treated sports development. This is a fact. Can we take pride in the achievements of P. T. Usha? Of

course, she being an Indian, all of us can take pride in her achievements, but apart from that, what is the contribution of the society in developing her? I know so many stories. Fortunately or unfortunately, I come from Kerala which produce any number of sports men and women, of course, along with so many other States. In my own village, there is one great sportsman by name Raghunathan who was an outstanding athlete. Since he belonged to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes community, as we call them these days, he was not promoted properly. This is a fact. International Yohannan hails from my own home district of Quilon. Suresh also hails from my home district. Where are they today? When they were performing for India and winning medals, they were taken on your shoulders. Now they are being ignored. Nobody knows about them now. Yohannan languishes somewhere without proper medical care. I do not want to go into all those details. Occasionally we find a few sports-persons like P. T. Usha or Padukone. Who will succeed them? Can P. T. Usha continue her performance in the coming years? Perhaps Shiny Abraham may continue for a few more years. (Time-bell rings) Sir, considering the fact that I come from Kerala, I hope you will be magnanimous enough to give me some more time.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): It is not a question of Kerala or Maharashtra. It is a question of giving for every-body. Please conclude.

SHRI M. A. BABY: From Kerala there was one Vimal Kumar who could have succeeded Padukone. Vimal Kumar won the French Open Badminton title twice. It is not a tournament where top-most players like Morten Frost play. But still you know what happened.

7.00 P.M. Once he had applied for permission to go to France, to Paris to defend his title. The authorities procrastinated the issue in the name of procedure. They did not open up the file till the eleventh hour. At the last minute he was given some verbal sanction and was told, 'You go now, the file will be processed and you will be given the sanction'. Believing what he was verbally told, he went there and he defended his

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I am not saying that. I am saying that they have improved our national and the Asian marks of the last games. These are the facts. But others have done better than us and it does not mean that we have slid down.

As far as sports, shall I say, standard of the country is concerned, we have gone up. We have definitely gone up in timings and in the return of the results. But as I said earlier, they were not good enough to get the first three places to convert them into medals. Therefore, I think, it will be unfair for Parliament to condemn all our athletes and say that they have done nothing and they were useless and they have slid down. They have tried, they have done better but the only point is that they have not been able to convert all that into actual medals. I think, I have answered all the points raised by Mr. Jaswant Singh.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. BAPU KALDATE): Shri M. A. Baby. It would be better if you can try to be as brief as possible.

SHRI M. A. BABY (Kerala): Right Sir.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, our hon. Minister has concluded her speech stating that it would be wrong to condemn our athletes. We would like to set the record straight that we are not condemning our athletes. We never condemn the athletes. We congratulate the athletes who performed well despite the mismanagement of the Sports Authorities and the powers that be. This is the first point which I would like to mention.

My second point is that in the guise of proposing certain solution to correct the dismal performance of our country in a very ingenious manner, our hon. Minister has put across an idea that sports should be taken over in the Concurrent list as if with that take over, everything can be solved. Taking this opportunity, I strongly register my protest to this proposal and our demand is that not only sports should be kept in the

State list but education should also be brought back to the State list. I would like to mention this before going into other aspects. Now, our hon. Minister has in a very ingenious manner tried to defend an indefensible case. Our Minister, who used to otherwise figure well in our House today cut a sorry figure unfortunately in defending the performance of our country in Seoul Asiad. I do not want to go into the details or the statistics. A very specious argument has been advanced that we should not compare our performance with countries like Peoples Republic of China, Japan, South Korea and so on. Then, with whom, should we compare our performance? With Pakistan, with Sri Lanka or with Maldives. This is a most shameful demand, put across from the Treasury benches. Take the situation in Peoples Republic of China since 1949. In our school days, we used to learn about China as the sick country of the East. This is what we have studied about China and in the year 1949, certain changes had taken place there and the performance of China, not only in the area of sports but perhaps, the Minister may also agree with me, in the area of productivity and in so many other areas have been excellent and it advanced by leaps and bounds and two year's earlier to China's successful political change, we got political independence and a particular party has been in power with a particular ideology and economic policy and all other policies—educational planning, sports planning, everything is related to the economic perspectives. You have been at the helm of affairs. Today, you are saying that we should not compare our performance with the performance of Peoples Republic of China or that of Japan. I am so sorry to say that this is not, at all, a sound argument. This is unbecoming of a Minister of your stature. Now, we will discuss about the performance of our country in the Seoul Asiad. I do not want to confine this discussion into merely a question of winning medals. At least there I agree with the Minister that we may not juggle with statistics. Even if we had won two, three or four more gold medals than at Delhi

I am compelled to come back to the point he raised about the disastrous showing of the Indian team. For one thing I would not be fair by saying that in every event it was a disaster.

You can compare events past and present and the participation in many ways. Sir, I would like to tell Mr. Jaswant Singh that since 1951 when the first Asian Games took place, many countries including China did not participate. In 1954 Asian Games we had 18 medals, in 1958 13 medals, in 1962 34 medals, in 1966 21 medals, in 1970 25 medals, in 1974 28 in 1978 28 medals and in the last Asiad which was held on the home ground in Delhi for the first time we have won 57 medals. To say that we have come down in the medals tally is not correct. I think this has been the best performance which I said the other day and they all shouted me down. Sir, on a foreign ground this has been the highest tally we have had ever. I do not justify; we could do better.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: A great joke.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: When you compare figures, let us not compare sports figures with China, Japan or with Korea. Let us talk about the general productivity, the industrial part of it and every aspect of development in this country maybe compared as well as investment in infrastructure, in facilities, in emphasis and so on. It is unfair to say that the Indian athletes must compete with them without having the necessary supporting measures from society which are necessary including the physical fitness, stamina, food intake and nutrition.

Sir, they will say what have you been doing, because that is going to be the usual question back to me. Let me tell the hon. Member that after the last games in Delhi for the first time in 1984 we adopted the national policy on sports, realising the importance and knowing that we have been left behind. In the Seventh Plan compared to the Sixth Plan, outlays for sports were increased from Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 200 crores which meant the real process of creating an infrastructure and building infrastructural facilities started in 1985.

Sir, for children we never had any programme by which our little children could be picked up and trained over long periods. We have introduced it last year. We have selected children under 12 and we hope to go down under 8 may be in the coming years. We have started adopting schools for specialized training for these little children. We have launched various special area games for picking up children from the tribal areas and from special communities in the various events. The results may not be seen in two years or in one year, Sir, but I can assure the House that whatever the IOA has said in its report and whatever hon. Members have been talking about here and what the press has been talking about has already started in our planning and in our implementation. As I said earlier, after these games something concrete did emerge. We have already set up an expert group to recast the coaching of our coaches, because I have realised over the last one year from whatever I have seen we do need to update our coaches training very much. You know that techniques in the games have changed so fast and we cannot just stay. We are now prepared to bring foreign coaches immediately for important teams which we would like to train. Sir, as I have said earlier, training for the next Asiad would have to start today which means that certain very important decisions at various levels would have to be taken. We are in the process of studying them and I can assure Mr. Jaswant Singh and the House that the day after we returned from Seoul, the process of introspection, correcting and recasting and some of our, shall I say, systems and conditions have started. I do not want to say the hockey team did badly. I was there. I have seen them play. It is just that other teams are very much quicker and fast. They fought back and you cannot help in sports. I will give you the statistics. There are many, many events wherein our own athletes have improved upon Asian records and have yet come fourth or third or second and not getting a gold medal.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAGRABORTY (Assam): Is it a consolation?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: No, they did not participate in Korea.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Did you receive the Accounts till today?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: They were used in the national events, which were held in the country earlier. The younger ones did very well, according to them, by they say they will be totally ready for participation by 1990.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Have you received accounts. Not one of them ostensibly purchased for Korea participated in Korea.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Not one of them went to Korea.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Have you received accounts?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Accounts of what?

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Of the Federation for the purchase of these animals, the cost price, the bill, transportation etc.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Rough accounts have been submitted to us. As I said there have been a couple of objections about certain matters which have been referred back to the Federation. We have asked for a detailed report. The moment it is there, we will be able to take . . .

I am sorry, I correct myself. I have just been told that four out of the eight horses which went to Seoul, were Australian imported horses. So, I stand corrected.

Now, as far as the second part of my statement, is concerned and which he challenged; I may say I was there myself. But more than that I have also got the report from the Federation. Of course, he may say this is wrong information to me, but I am here only to convey an information which an official federation officially on its letterhead has given to the Government. The Secretary-General, Mr. Balasubramaniam, has

said that the results of the serum test were received from Korea on 8th, August, 1986. He said as the results were not convincing, the cases were taken up with the authorities and the serum samples were sent to the Animal Virus Institutes in England—they have named three places. All of them cleared the serum which was sent for testing and said that there was absolutely no problem.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, if the hon. Minister would again do me the courtesy, I would say this is misleading. It is misleading because, as I submitted, when I started saying that when you take serum samples

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIHMA RAO): One minute, Mr. Jaswant Singh, please. We are discussing and trying to disclose facts which are in our possession. Some facts are in our possession; others are, maybe, in Mr. Jaswant Singh's possession. Maybe those facts are also in our possession, but what are we really talking about? Here is a case where the whole matter is shrouded in some kind of doubt. For one year we have been trying to get these matters cleared. At this moment, I have no hesitation in saying that we have come to the conclusion that there is a case for an inquiry. If this is going to give a quietus to the bandying of information across the floor of the House, I would be happy. We have come to that conclusion and we will take steps.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Thank you

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: So, I would not go into the details except for the reports on the serum tests, which I mentioned, we have got. They were cleared by the others and yet the Seoul authorities refused to accept. So, I did make a statement at that time that was unfair that when these have been cleared by the international authorities, Seoul should not insist upon it. We closed it at that and the horses did not participate. And that is why, perhaps, we did have a problem with the Equestrian Events.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Contingent costs?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Contingent costs are also with us. We have advanced up to now Rs. 34 lakhs. But we expect that, travel, broad, lodge, contingencies of the transportation and equipment and so on could reach around Rs. 90 lakhs. The final accounts have not yet been worked out by the IOA. We are in the process of finalising them, and I will come back to Parliament when they are finally available. That much about contingents.

He has spoken about the infrastructure not being used. It is true that we do have very impressive infrastructure in Delhi. But I do not say, it is not being used. I would like Mr. Jaswant Singh some time to come and visit any day of the week the training of young children, which is going on in the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, in the National Stadium and in swimming in the Talkatora Swimming Pool as well. It is true that the Indira Gandhi Stadium which is still with the DDA, has not been totally utilised as yet. We are in the process of taking it over, and then we hope that the indoor games would be organised by us. It is not as yet with us, it is still with DDA. They have refused to hand it over to us for various reasons all this time.

The question of the Concurrent List has been raised. We are not making excuses. But this has been the unanimous resolution of the meeting of the Sports Ministers of the States held this year as well as that last year. And Shri P. V. Narasimha Raoji has addressed a letter to the Chief Ministers of all the States saying that they would like the States to support so that, with education in the Concurrent List and with our effort to integrate sports and physical training into the new education policy, it would be very useful for us to be able to plan on a national level for this propose, and every State represented at the last meeting of the Sports Ministers had supported it but we have still kept it open for the Chief Ministers to finally give their opinion.

About the Equestrian Federation, I do agree with Mr. Jaswant Singh. In fact, we have been exchanging letters, we have been discussing this problem over the last one year, and the whole question has got to be looked at from various angles. I would separate the two : one is my statement about the Asian Games and the horses, and the other one is the problem of the Equestrian Federation itself. Sir, there have been differences within the Federation, and very big people formerly connected with the armed forces and others have been running the Federation. I do not want to mention the names or go into the details. As he said, the horses were imported. They were authorised by the Government of India because otherwise the foreign exchange of Rs. 10 lakhs would not have been released, and it is from the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs that the money has been paid for the horses. But horses are, if I may use the term, equipment, as far as the Federations are concerned, because they are used for training, and we use the same rule as we use for importing the synthetic tracks or other things under which a proposal comes, it is studied and the foreign exchange as required is finally released. The horses were purchased by the Federation and they were brought in. After that there have been various controversies. I admit two of those horses had died since then. They are with the Army. Postmortem reports have been submitted, which some of the people in the Federation are challenging. There are other issues. The President, has, at the last general Body meeting, as quoted in the minutes, has taken the sole and total responsibility for the purchase of the horses. And he said I am responsible and I will deal with the problem. We have now asked for certain explanations. There had been certain objections. The moment we get all these we will have an audit report. I am prepared to discuss the issue because we have nothing to hide. This is tax-payers money and anyone who has utilised it has a responsibility to explain how and why it was spent. I am open to Mr. Jaswant Singh....

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Did any one of those imported animals from Australia participate in Korea?

the Swimming Federation of India send one Mr. K. V. Sharma shown as a coach? Mr. Sharma had absolutely nothing to do with the preparation of the team. And he has never trained a champion of any club at regional level or national level. But he was sent there. And the Indian sporting crowds felt ashamed—it has been reported in the press—whenever the Indian gymnasts fell on their backwards. So, Mr. Kalmadi was correct that in certain disciplines you should not have participated at all. Even the Chinese have not participated in all the disciplines. That is why I say that we have not learnt the lesson from the Chinese. The five time-gold medalist from Japan, I think, in Hammer Throw, in an interview has said that the Indians lack the technique. We cannot blame the athletes. They lack the technique. Then, our sports policy should be such that we evolve better techniques and we get the services of result-oriented coaches. Why didn't you get foreign coaches, result-oriented experts? Madam, our women athletes did exactly well. Glory goes to the golden girl P. T. Usha. But it is on their own. But our male athletes, sprinters, quarter-mile and middle and long-distance runners, jumpers, throwers and quarter-mile relay runners stand below the par performance. Our football team was another disaster. Regarding the hockey team, the 12-time Olympic champions, what has happened? In the recent World Cup event, we have been relegated to the 12th position. And we do not have a synthetic turf more than one. It is so in hockey. Therefore, Madam, I would like to know what the answer is to the question of Mr. Jaswant Singh about the 6th place selection criteria.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I gave you the answer.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: You are not accepting it.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I gave you that answer.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Regarding the cyclists it has been reported in the press that a cyclist Maxwell was handicapped by a five year old against the best in Asia. It has been reported in the press; and the road cyclists were a disgrace.

They invariably pulled out from the event after a few hundred metres with mysterious mechanical problems. This is because of the poor equipment you have provided. I would like to know from the Minister whether they are going to get the services of result oriented experts, foreign coaches. Thank you.

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVJIT SINGH, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I will be very very brief because most of the things that I wanted to say have either been said by the Hon. Minister or by the other Members.

In the first instance I want to say that it was very unfair of the hon. senior Member from Rajasthan to have said that these are the three excuses which the Government is going to make and that though they are there and they have got some substance, I do not want to accept them, and he went on to list his charges. The fact of the matter is that those three excuses are correct and they are the main reasons. Unfortunately the hon. Minister also has not really laid emphasis on them. The fact is that these are the three reasons which are the cause of the debacle which we suffered in Korea. The first reason is that sports is in the State List, it is a fact. It is not in the Central List. The hon. Member must know that the Centre does not have funds or the laws or the authority to actually do anything about it. That is one of the main hurdles and stumbling blocks for the development of sport in this country. That is the first reason. The second is the fact money is not available. I am coming to that a little later, as to how much money is being spent. It is because of lack of resources also that we are suffering. The third reason is because of the fact that the IOA and the federations are actually independent. They are independent autonomous bodies. That is a fact. There are other countries which claim that the IOA is independent, whereas it is not actually independent. In this country, I am glad to say that the IOA is independent. But it is that very independence which has been misused by various forces within the country. It is that very independence which has been misused. I know it for a fact. I am giving you my own example. When I became a Member of Parliament, a whole

[Shri Vishvijit Prithvijit Singh]

lot of people came to me and said, Sir, we want to make you the chairman of one of the federations, I will not name the sport. They said, we want to make you the chairman of this federation. They said, you will not have to bother. I used to play squash when I was in school. Now I am too fat to do that. They said, no, no, Sir, we want to make you the chairman of this federation, you can go wherever you like, Olympic games, Asian games. I said, absolute nonsense. I do not want to do it. They want patronage. The IOA needs votes from the various federations in the States. The IOA gives them all kinds of facilities. They elect delegates to the IOA. Then come a whole lot of other things. The vested interests get together. It is that problem which we have to solve. I would urge upon the hon. Minister to look into this and see whether this whole system cannot be changed. An Hon. Member said we must dissolve the IOA. No, we do not dissolve the IOA. Let us change the system. Let us have a proper system of representation. If a federation is not functioning, why should it be recognised at all? It should not be recognised. That federation must be disbanded. Let us start at the grassroots. Let us start at the level of the federations rather than blame the IOA, because you know, after all, we get what we deserve. We elect the Government which we want. We elect the representatives whom we want. If the very base is going to be bad, what we get at the top is also going to be bad. That is a fact. If we allow all kinds of vested interests to get involved in the federations, IOA will also remain like this. No matter what you do. You may dissolve hundreds of IOAs. It will still be exactly the same thing.

As far as IOA report is concerned—everybody has been quoting the IOA report—the hon. Minister has very categorically said that it has nothing to do with the Government. Neither the IOA nor the IOA report has got anything to do with the Government. I would go even further and say that even those institutions which are under the control of the Government, supposedly under the control of the Government, like the SNIPES, which is called

the Society of National Institute for Physical Education and Sports, are run by private autonomous bodies. The IOA Chairman was the Chairman of SNIPES, which is an apex Government body giving training to individuals in the country. This institution itself was being handled by that autonomous body which, as I have already pointed out, has got a rot in it, has got a cancer in it, a cancer in it. This autonomous body was running this whole huge Government's infrastructure. (*Time bell rings*)

Sir, we have got to change the system. I am glad, the Chairman of SNIPES has been replaced by an official... (*Interruption*) by the Minister. I hope, the hon. Minister will now at least be able to look into this. We can take some lessons from our neighbours in this regard like Singapore, Sri Lanka, China etc. there, it is through Government fiat that the whole thing is done. We have got to have the same system in our country if we want to compete in international events.

One last point, Sir. In the Fifth Five-Year Plan, we have allotted Rs. 5.3 crores, in the Sixth Five-Year Plan, Rs. 15 crores and in the Seventh Five-Year Plan, Rs. 200 crores. What percentage does it come to, Mr. Vice-Chairman? It comes to 0.2 per cent of the Central Budget. This is all we are going to spend in the Seventh Plan. Let me point out to you that during the ASIAD, our total expenditure on training the athletes was Rs. 64 lakhs as has been mentioned by the hon. Minister. Rs. 64 lakh for two years of training. Another Rs. 90 lakhs was spent in sending the athletes and bringing them back. In other words, sending the athletes and bringing them back cost more than training them. What a shame! On an average, a football team of a small town in England costs them two and a half to three million pounds annually, which is nearly Rs. 6 crores. This is the amount involved in training one football team. Here, we are talking about the sportsmen of the entire country and our allocation in the Sixth Five-Year Plan was Rs. 15 crores.

Therefore, I would put before the hon. Minister for consideration these two suggestions. One, we have got to spend more on sports and, secondly, we have got to change the system right from the grass-roots level, that is, from the federation level. Thank you.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I will start with the point which Mr. Baby has raised. I do not want to enter into the ideological dispute which he raised. But he spoke about the lack of sports culture in the country. This is, in fact, our basic problem also. I may just for his information quote Entry 33 in List II, the State List in the Constitution which mentions sports. It is given in Entry 33. It says "Theatres and dramatic performances, cinemas, sports and entertainments and amusements". They are all clubbed together as one entry with amusements, entertainments and so on and so forth, showing that traditionally, we really have not given sports the type of place which the country today would like it to get. I only hope that things will change now that the new emphasis has been laid.

About the State and the Central Lists and other points, as I said, it is a different debate altogether. I have placed before the House what we feel would help us, may be, to play a more dominant role as the House is seeking in putting things right and unless Parliament is prepared to support our efforts in this direction, it will be useless if we go on criticising the federations saying that they should be doing this, because there is no other way by which we can enforce it. About Mr. Kalmadi, he has already left but he did speak about coordination between various sports organisations, between various bodies which exist now. We have already stated in the Parliament that we are in the process of working this out and we will come back before long with the final project of the whole scheme which is being worked out. I do not agree with Mr. Kalmadi that the SAI has not been doing anything. He is probably not aware of some of the schemes which have been undertaken. For instance, we have picked up children for Archery from the tribal area. They were here for three

months. Having put them on to international equipment, within one year four of them have broken the existing national marks in archery. This shows how new talent is being spotted out. But as I said, we are not immediately able to compete internationally and show you the results. We have also got schemes like this for swimming and other events. He, however, seemed to contradict himself. On the one hand, he was talking about the marathon and mass participation and the need to put people on to it. Yesterday I was there and the 10,000 children were there. It was a beautiful sight to watch 10 thousand people run in Poona, as if the whole city seemed to be running. At the same time, he says that this is the job of the federations, picking up talents and mobilising. I would like to ask, why did the federations not do this earlier? They could have picked up children up to the age 12 and said, here they are. It is only after they are in the field, after they have been trained by some organisation, institution, that they are picked up and it is to support the fact that we are trying to find new young talent and train them. As matters today stand, it is the federations who should turn round and tell me that this is the talent. In fact, I have letters. I do not want to take time of the House but I can say that when complaints came to me about some injustice in selections in the Asian games, when I contacted and talked to them, I got replies from them saying that the Government has no business to interfere with selections, that this is our prerogative and that political interference in selections is uncalled for. These are the replies from the Hockey Federation, from the Swimming Federation, when we talked to them. I have got to place before you the problems which we face. You cannot say like that. You cannot go beyond a point. Selections were made by the federations. They were endorsed by the IOA and we finally cleared the teams to go.

Mr. Gopalsamy raised the question about the football team. I may just quote two lines from the letter of recommendation from the IOA. On this recommendation the football team qualified for competing in the Tenth Asian Games. The IOA has reason to believe that the Indian football

[Shrimati Margaret Alva]

has taken a turn for the better and it would be no surprise if the Indian football team are finalists in the Asian Games." This is the recommendation from the 10A and you know, what would have happened if we had not sent the team? You yourself would have said, when the recommendation of the 10A was there, why was the team not sent? So, when we let them go, you say why did we let them go and when we have sent, you say why did you send the team. Then, you spoke about Shri K. V. Sharma. Sharmaji was the national coach appointed by the Federation. His name was finally recommended by the 10A. In the circumstances, I would like to know what you expect us to do.

You spoke about the basketball team. Your facts seem to be wrong because we did not participate in basketball at all, in this time.

So, I don't say that we have done brilliantly. We should have done brilliantly and we should have done better. My national pride is hurt as much as of anybody else, but I do not think there are any short-cuts to problems. As I said, we are on the job of taking corrective steps.

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: What about the foreign coaches?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We are very much concerned about the need for better coaching. We can recast coaching. It will take two or three years if we started recasting coaching processes, new systems and so on. We are now committed and we do believe that foreign coaches on three-year contract would be necessary to prepare us for the next Asian Games. We have an open mind. We are prepared to review the position and we are hoping that we will be able to find the best coaches who can train the talent which we have for the next Asian Games.

SHRI M. A. BABY: Just one clarification. The absence of too many Members in this House shows the lack of sports culture among them. As a part of this, may

I suggest one thing? Can you think of organising some sports activities for the Members of Parliament also?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Mr. Baby, I am prepared to do it straightaway, but it is a question of the number of M Ps. who will attend the sports meet, if we organise it. If you want I am prepared to do it.

SHRI VISHVIIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: I will be the first to take part in it.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Two or three other points were raised by hon. Members. Some of them I had answered before, but it does raise the very important question of control and coordination of the various sports bodies which, I think, is something which all of us are seeking to do and I am confident that something like this will happen. The outlays have gone up. I can assure you that with Rs. 200 crores we could work miracles, if we could utilise this amount. But here I want to share with the House some of my concern. We make allotments. I think Mr. Baby should look into this. They ask for grants, the first instalment is given for putting up the stadium or complex or something like that. But the utilization certificate never comes for the first instalment. The foundation stone is laid and maybe something starts and there it ends. We are not able to release the second instalment because the receipts and utilization certificates in respect of the first instalment do not come, with the result that so many of these projects are still half done in the States. I have been sending reminders, giving lists of unfinished projects, to State Chief Ministers requesting them to complete the first part of works so that I can give them the balance which has been allotted to them, but somehow it does not happen.

Now these are some of the things. Money is there. We are also going in for artificial tracks and playing fields. I agree with the Members what we have achieved is despite the constraints, despite the Federations and despite perhaps the lack of sports culture which this country has yet to build. I would not therefore agree that

money is not sufficient. We should have more money, but with what we have, I do believe that a better future for sports is possible.

Sir, just one thing I would like to place on record, again with your permission, for those who have been very strong in their criticism. I must say, as I said at the beginning, even of the 9 medals which we won in athletics, seven were new Asian records in shooting the three medals we won were all new records; in swimming the silver medal which we won was again a record; volley-ball we have won for the first time after 24 years; we won a bronze, coming back again into the game. (*Interruption*) That is a different question. That can happen. A horse broke its leg, or somebody was sick, Shiny Abraham crossed

the track and did not get a medal—these are all different questions. And in judo we participated for the first time. We won 4 bronze medals. So there are certain fields in which we have come in for the first time, have improved in some and I hope with the support from Parliament and from everybody and with every one talking about sports at least, whether they intend to actively participate or not, we will be able to do better in the future. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN DR. BAPU-KALDATE): The House stands adjourned till 11 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at thirty-nine minutes past seven of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 25th November, 1986.