

SHRI M. P. KAUSHIK: Sir, my question still remains unanswered.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have taken note of it.

SHRI P. K. THUNGO: About considering filling up of the seats which are vacant in all these streams and others by those students who are willing to take B. Com. and B.A. etc., I can assure the hon. Member that I would request the University to do some adjustment so that more Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students who are wanting to take up those streams should be admitted in various colleges.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. May I inform the hon. Member that not only the Minister but I, as the Chancellor of the Delhi University, have taken note of all these things.

Now, next question.

*82. [Transferred to the 2nd August, 1984]

*83. [The questioner (Shri M. Basavaraju) is absent. For answer, vide col. ...31 infra]

Sale of Tickets for the Los Angeles Olympics

*84. SHRI KISHOR MEHTA:

SHRI SURESH KALMADI:†

Will the Minister of SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) the body in the country which has been entrusted with the job of sale of tickets for the Los Angeles Olympics; and

(b) whether Government have received complaints about black-marketing of the tickets and if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, SPORTS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI

BUTA SINGH): (a) According to information furnished by Indian Olympic Association, the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee (L.A.O.O.C.) allocated tickets for Olympic Games, 1984 to Indian Olympic Association (I.O.A.). The I.O.A. has appointed M/s Pahlaj Bajaj & Co. (Franchising Division), 63, Nariman Bhavan, 227, Nariman Point, Bombay-400021 as its sole selling agents, on behalf of the I.O.A., for the tickets.

(b) To specific complaint has been received by Government about black-marketing of the Olympics '84 tickets.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: The hon. Minister has admitted that the Olympic Organising Committee had offered tickets for sale to the Indian Olympic Association. Many sport-lovers had sent their money for the tickets to the Indian Olympic Association. The Indian Olympic Association accepted the moneys, sent receipts and said, the tickets would follow. Later, when the International Olympic Association sends tickets to them. Then, one fine morning, we read that one Pahlaj Bajaj of Nariman Point Bombay has been appointed the sole selling agent for the tickets for the IOA. Now, when the IOA was asked whether Mr. Bajaj is going to honour it when already the IOA had received so much money and sent receipts also. They said, you go and talk to Mr. Bajaj. When the people went to Mr. Bajaj, he said, you are welcome; we will discuss the matter. And at that discussion, he said, I have nothing to do with the tickets which were supposed to be given by Indian Olympic Association; I don't know anything. But I am the sole selling agent and we can discuss the matter. When the people went and discussed with him, you will be surprised to know that he demanded from them money in black market at the value of 6 times the amount. First time it is happening and it is very tragic; it is a black day for the Indian sports that for these things also, black market is being resorted

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Suresh Kalmadi.

to by the sole selling agent. I can understand people buying tickets and selling them in black but the official body itself is selling tickets in black. It is the first time that it is happening in the country, and I would like to know from the Minister whether what I have said is correct, whether IOA accepted money from people and issued receipts and then left them in lurch.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member has made a speech about which I know nothing because all that I received from his side was that the sole selling agency for Olympic tickets was selling tickets in black market, that a number of complaints have been received and what action was taken in this regard. So I took action. I immediately got into touch with the IOA and they in turn told me that they were not handling the tickets themselves and they had appointed... *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who received the money?

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: The IOA received the money.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: The IOA reported that they were not selling the tickets directly. They are selling tickets through a sole selling agency about which they gave to the press also saying please contact... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Did the IOA receive the money or not?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, I have no information whether the IOA received the money or not

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: As Sports Minister you have no information.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please inquire... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, definitely I will go into it. Kindly bear with me. The IOA is an autonomous body; it is an elected public body under the

IOC Charter. As such, we have no control over their functioning but definitely. I will pass on the information to them and get a reply.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: No, Sir. This is absolutely wrong. My question is very clear and he has not answered it. That means it is admission of the fact that the IOA received money. I take a bet and leave it at that—I do not want to go any further.

I will now come to the next part. Though he said no complaints have been received, I am really surprised at this because I think it is the national talk that these tickets went into the black market. But he says he has not received any complaints. The same gentleman is the person solely responsible for the equipment in the country—all the Olympic equipment which has come into the country is through this gentleman. Also it is the same gentleman—Prahlaḍ Bajaj—who has been given the sole selling agency for the Doordarshan coverage of the Olympics. The same man is monopolising everything for Olympics—how? He must be having tremendous influence with the powers-that-be in Delhi and even as far as the Doordarshan is concerned, he has made money, left, right and centre. I want a CBI inquiry into this entire matter—all dimensions of the Olympics and as far as television is concerned about this man. He has made a lot of money and I want a CBI inquiry into this. Mr. Sports Minister, my specific question to you is this: Whether any tenders were called for or any advertisements were put in the national dailies as to who was to be appointed and on what basis Prahlaḍ Bajaj was given all these things?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, you will kindly bear with me. The functional responsibility of handling the IOC tickets, uniforms, badges, etc., is exclusively with the IOA, as I mentioned earlier, and the IOA has made its own arrangements independently.

They have not consulted the Government and there is no stipulation that they should consult it.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: What is the Ministry of Sports for?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: We are for discharging the duties which are cast on us under the Constitution, to promote sports through the IOA, and there are duties which the IOA knows and he also knows. He has been a member of the IOA. He knows it very well.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: I have not been a member of the IOA.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: He knows very well all the functions of the IOA vis-a-vis the Government of India's departments. Sir, one thing he asked me was about the selling rights of Doordarshan programmes. I am afraid the question primarily relates to the functioning of the Doordarshan and he should address the question to Doordarshan. Definitely, if there are specific complaints about the sale of tickets in black market, if he gives complaints in black and white, I am prepared to go into them.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has made a very general complaint about everything.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: I demand a CBI inquiry into it. Let the Government agree to a CBI inquiry if you feel everything is okay. All sports lovers in the country have been taken for a ride. I demand a CBI inquiry into this.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: I am bound by the IOC Charter and the IOC Charter is very very specific about it—that no Government interference will be tolerated in the matter of National Olympic Committees and the IOA is the National Olympic Committee. The hon. Member knows it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not interfering in the functioning; you are interfering in the malfunctioning.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Let there be a case; I am prepared to look into it.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Even in the selection at the last minute he was associated. How can he say that he has not got anything to do with the Olympic Association. The team was allowed to go only when he approved. The Government has everything to do with the Olympic Association.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: I cannot deduce from the hon. Member's general statement that all crows are black and therefore all blacks are crows.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: I am not saying anything. I am not blaming you. You were busy with Punjab. You could not look after it.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, if he gives specific complaints, . . .

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kalmadi, you do stray from the point. You have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister to some irregularities, alleged irregularities, and I am sure. . .

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Let there be a CBI inquiry. Whether it is alleged or true, will come out. It is a specific. . . (Interruptions)

SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: I have been recognized by the Chair. May I be allowed to speak? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is the sports representative.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: He must speak.

SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Definitely, I will speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I had the pleasure to nominate him. . .

SHRI VISHVAJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH: Sir, I have heard the reply of the hon. Minister. I have only one thing to ask him. I agree with his contention that the Ministry

of Sports and the Government of India cannot interfere in the working of the IOA. But where they come across malfunction or maladministration within the IOA, they can bring it to the notice of the International Olympic Authority so that they can take action against the IOA. Has it been done or has it not been done? I fully endorse the views of my hon. friend Mr. Kalmadi as far as Prahlad Bajaj is concerned. I have read their name in all sorts of newspapers and advertisements. In everything to do with sports, it is always Prahlad Bajaj which is selected. I agree there should be a CBI inquiry into Prahlad Bajaj.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Again my problem is that they are vague, general statements. Let there be a specific case.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: This is a specific case.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: The information with me is that there is no malpractice in the IOA. I am sorry, I cannot just reach the IOA without specific complaints, and it is not the practice that we report to the IOC. When we can do it here, when we can deal with the IOA, why should we go to the IOC?

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: I demand that the IOC be dissolved after the Olympics. The Indian Olympics Association must be dissolved after the Olympics. That is my demand.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: The IOC must be dissolved and action taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you can deal with the IOA, I suggest you do it.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, have to a complaint, I will do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What more complaint do you want? In the House they are charging ...

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Sir, I have to give some details. (*Interruptions*) The thing is, I expected the hon.

Member to be specific and get some information. I am sorry he is not being specific. Either he does not have the information or he does not intend to have information. He is here only to malign the IOA. Now let me give you the information. The IOA informed the Government of India that they were going to make some arrangement in the IOC for getting tickets for the next Olympics at Los Angeles and they gave their demand of purchase of tickets to the tune of 9,704, and all that they asked us was they wanted release of foreign exchange to enable them to buy the tickets in foreign currency. We examined their request and in consultation with all concerned in the Government of India, we came to the conclusion that they could be allowed 50 per cent of the demand which they had put forward and accordingly we conveyed our decision and the IOA bought the tickets from the Los Angeles Organizing Committee, and the tickets were 4,854. And in turn they appointed Mr. Prahlad Bajaj. I am sorry to say, since they had selected M/s. Prahlad Bajaj, the Government of India has nothing to do with that; and they must have done according to established practice.

SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: How has the Government of India got nothing to do with it?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: This M/s Prahlad Bajaj is the same which handled the tickets of the Olympics in Moscow. Sir, there are only a few people in our country. I do not hold brief for anybody.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is this organisation?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: They are dealing in sports goods.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are they ticket experts?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: They are primarily dealing in sports goods, and they have their rapport with inter-

national organisations. And I am sorry, Sir—I have to share with the hon. House—in this field we do not have very many people to organise such kind of things on the international scale. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, if you cast your enquiring eye on them, it would be a good thing, and if you promise this much they will be satisfied.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: I have asked them to send specific complaints.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have already made many allegations. Just have a look into them.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: Yes.

SHRI J. K. JAIN: The IOC is an international body. If the Boeing company appoints Mr. Suresh Kalmadi as an agent, how can the Government of India come into the picture? The IOC has appointed Mr. Prahlad Bajaj.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who is this person? I would like to know. That is a sufficient assurance.

National book policy

*85. **SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:**†
SHRI J. P. GOYAL:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had set up a Committee to prepare the draft of a National Book Policy;

(b) whether the said draft has since been prepared;

(c) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(d) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, by when a National Book Policy is likely to be finalised?

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shrikant Verma.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) No, Sir. In September 1983 the National Book Development Council was re-constituted by the Government for the development of the Indian Book Industry and one of the Council's functions according to the Resolution of Government of India is to draft a National Book Policy which might represent a harmonious blend of the interests of the readers.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) The Council has held two meetings so far. At its second meeting held in April 1984, there was a general discussion on the need for a National Book Policy to promote book-mindedness and develop book industry in the country. This discussion covered inter-related issues concerning book production, problem of finance, marketing, distribution of books supported by a strong library movement. The Council will take up this further in its subsequent meetings in conformity with the functions entrusted to it.

श्री श्रीकांत वर्मा : सभापति महोदय, कोई भी देश हो बिना पुस्तक नीति के अपने साहित्य, शिक्षा का विकास नहीं कर सकता। इतने वर्ष हो गये, बड़े दुख की बात है कि सरकार के पास कोई राष्ट्रीय पुस्तक नीति नहीं है। उसके पास कौंसिल्स बहुत-सी हैं, परिषदें बहुत-सी हैं और बहुत-सी गोष्ठियाँ हैं लेकिन अब तक उनके विचार-विमर्श से कोई निष्कर्ष पर न तो शिक्षाविद् पहुंच सके हैं कि क्या इसकी पुस्तक नीति है और न प्रकाशक समझ सके हैं कि क्या पुस्तक का मूल्य होना चाहिये, गरीब देश में कितने दाम पर वह उपलब्ध होनी चाहिये छात्रों को और कौन-सा साहित्य छात्रों तक पहुंचना चाहिये, कौन-सा नहीं पहुंचना चाहिये? इस पर कोई विचार-विमर्श अब तक नहीं