

I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (3) of section 97 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Energy (Department of Power), Notification G.S.R. No. 749, dated the 18th June, 1977, publishing the Bhakra Beas Management Board (Amendment) Rules, 1977. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-610/77]

**CALLING ATTENTION TO A  
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC  
IMPORTANCE**

**Reduction in number of athletes re-  
presenting India at the World Athletic  
Meet**

SHRI BHAIRAB CHANDRA MAHANTI (Orissa): Sir, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Education, Social Welfare and Culture to the reduction in the number of athletes representing India at the World Athletic Meet due to the quarrel in the Athletic Federation which has also adversely affected their training and the steps taken by the Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): Sir, I rise to make a statement with reference to the calling Attention Notice regarding the reduction in the number of athletes representing India at the World athletic Meet due to the quarrel in the Athletic Federation.

As the Hon'ble Members are aware the Sports Federations/Associations in India are autonomous bodies who are competent to manage their affairs including selection of teams for participation in international events, without interference from Government. The Amateur Athletic Federation of India is one such national Federation, and certain disputes in this Federation were recently brought to Government's notice. These disputes relate mainly to the validity of certain persons continuing to hold some offices in the Federation allegedly contrary to the Constitution of the Federation.

As pointed out by me, the Government of India has no jurisdiction to interfere in such matters.

However, taking note of the adverse effect such disputes have on the functioning of the Federations, the developments in the Amateur Athletic Federation were considered by the Executive Committee of the All India Council of Sports in its meeting held at New Delhi on 18th July, 1977. A representative of the Indian Olympic Association was also invited to present the facts to the Committee. The latest position, as revealed from the statement made by the representative of the Indian Olympic Association in the meeting of the Executive Committee, is that the groups in the Amateur Athletic Federation of India have agreed to discuss and try to resolve their differences in a meeting to be held on 30th July, 1977 at New Delhi. An observer from the Indian Olympic Association would also attend this meeting. Hopefully, the disputes in the Federation will be resolved after the impending meeting.

I might, briefly, inform the House that according to the original proposal received in my Ministry Indian athletes were to participate in an Asian Athletic Championship proposed to be held in Seoul in June, 1977, and on the results of this competition the Asian Amateur Athletic Association (AAAA) had to select a certain number of athletes to represent the Asian contingent in the first World Athletic Meet being held at Dusseldorf, Federal Republic of Germany in September, 1977. The Asian Championship was not held as scheduled due to certain reasons, subsequently the AAAA decided to select the Asian team according to the known records of the athletes from various Asian countries. According to unconfirmed reports, as published in the press on 20th July, in the 46 member Asian team for the World Athletic Meet, 5 Indian athletes have been included. It is difficult for me to say whether but for the reported disputes in the Amateur Athletic Federation of India, more Indian athletes

[Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder] would have been selected in the Asian team. However, in so-far as the proper training and coaching of the Indian athletes is concerned, intensive coaching under expert coaches has been provided to the Indian athletes under the supervision of the Netaji Subhas National Institute of Sports, Patiala. Two coaching camps were held at Patiala during April-May, 1977 and the third coaching camp is presently in progress from 20th June, 1977 and would last till the athletes leave India for the World Meet.

It is proposed to undertake a comprehensive review of various sports programmes and policies shortly. This review will also cover steps needed to remove obstacles in various sports bodies militating against the promotion of sports in the country and to enable India to make a mark in International sports. As the question has various ramifications including the stipulations laid down by various international sports bodies regarding autonomy of sports Federations, it will take us some time to complete the proposed review. We will have to consult various autonomous sports organisations as well as State Governments as sport is a state subject. It will be my privilege to inform the House as soon as the proposed review is completed.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, before we take it up, I would like to make one submission. If we are going to follow the information given by his Ministry, this discussion may not be of much use. Therefore, I request the Minister to keep an open mind, and on the points which the Members raise he should be in a position to decide himself and give the reply instead of going through the papers which the Ministry has given to him. Firstly, he has said that sports is a State subject. Secondly, he has said that the federations are autonomous. Thirdly, he has said that we cannot interfere with the Federation. These are the 'very things about which.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN; You will get a chance to speak. Your name is there. Mr. Mahanti.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI (Orissa): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, although this Calling Attention has been allowed, it restricts the limit of discussion on this vital subject. I would try to restrict myself to the Calling Attention Motion.

Sir, next in importance to food, housing and clothing, to a man perhaps games and sports. Though this matter was raised during the last session of the House, you have been pleased to admit it this time also. But I would plead with the hon. Education Minister and with you, Sir, that in this situation you may please give an opportunity to the House to discuss this important issue for a full day.

As I said last time, and I also repeat, that unlike the socialist countries where games and sports are virtually nationalised in a way, it is not so in our country and for good reasons. I insist that sports should not be nationalised in this country of ours. But, at the same time, for the simple reason that after Independence, India has got into some prominence in international sports where the responsibility of the Government of India comes in, we cannot avoid our responsibility. After all, for a nation of 600 million people to have no place in the Montreal games even to the extent of losing our supremacy in Hockey, is something which should be seriously thought of by the public and also by the Government. As I said last time and I maintain it that in spite of the fact that the Sports Federations in this country are autonomous in character and that they should continue to be autonomous in character, the Government can even then evolve certain ways and means to control them and to put them on proper track. The position in regard to athletics is this. At Chandigarh, the Amateur Athletic Federation had its last Annual General Meeting. Some gentleman "was elected as the Pre-

sident. Soon after it, India was to go to Montreal to participate in Montreal games. It is from that day that cracks were seen in the Amateur Athletic Federation. The fact was that the names of the representatives to the various International Athletic Bodies who were to meet at Montreal were withdrawn by the successive office bearers. Now, as has also been pointed out by the hon. Minister, it is a fact that the quarrel is over the legality or otherwise of a particular gentleman who was elected as the President at Chandigarh, continuing to be the President of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India. That fact is there. In accordance with the constitutional provisions of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India that gentleman ceases to be a Member of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India. He was a Member of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India by virtue of his being the Deputy Minister of Railways. He represented the Railways Sports Control Board in the Amateur Athletic Federation of India. The constitutional provision of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India is that when a member ceases to be a representative of his parent organisation, he, *ipso facto*, ceases to hold any office in the Amateur Athletic Federation of India. There the trouble started. If he was really serious and sincere about the good of Indian athletics, he should have resigned and the General Council of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India would have elected its own President. That did not happen. Therefore, those in the Amateur Athletic Federation of India who respected the constitution of the Amateur Athletic Federation of India, called a requisition meeting at Bombay as per the constitutional provision of the Federation and another gentleman was elected as the President. Now, the point is this. The hon. Minister has mentioned about the part that has been played by the All India Council of Sports and the part that has been played by the I.U.A. But the question remains as to whom they are, in the meantime, recognising—

the older one which, according to me, is constitutionally illegal or the new one which was elected at Bombay in that crucial meeting. He has also mentioned that the training of the athletes has been there in two or three camps. Who sponsored these athletes? If the Government of India thinks in terms that the sports federations are autonomous in character, it naturally comes to this that the athletes to be trained at the NIS coaching camp must be selected and sponsored by the federation concerned. Here, which is the federation recognised. Because, Sir, for all that I know, one woman athlete came from Orissa. She was called to this coaching camp but after staying there for a month or more she was told by somebody in the National Institute of Sports that he does not know as to who is financing this. Sir, for all that I know, when a coaching camp at the National Institute of Sports is sponsored by the Ministry of Education in consultation with the federations concerned, all the necessary expenditure is borne by the National Institute of Sports. In this case, it has not been done and the woman athlete who was called to this coaching camp had to go back to Orissa.

Then, Sir, there is the All India Council of Sports. As per the newspaper reports, they have recommended to the Government of India five athletes for going to the Dusseldorf World Cup Athletic Meet. Whom did they consult, the former Federation which was headed by Mr. Buta Singh or the new Federation which is headed by Mr. S. K. Sharma? Sir, these are exactly the ticklish questions which are to be tackled by the Government of India not only in this Federation but in some other Federations. There are three or four important Federations, the big ones. For that matter, Sir, there is the Indian Olympic Association and there is this Indian Hockey Federation. Sir, we were shocked, the nation was shocked when we lost the supremacy at the Montreal Olympics. When was this rot started? Is it three or four years back? No. It started some 12 years

[Shri M. R. Krishna] back. The Government of India should have taken note of this. Would you believe, Sir, that one member of the Indian Police Service, while he was holding the office of the DIG of the Border Security Force was also combining in himself the office of the Secretary of the Indian Olympic Association as also the Presidentship of the Indian Hockey Federation? Now, Sir, which post carries no work, the DIG of the Border Security Force or the President of the Indian Hockey Federation or the Secretary of the Indian Olympic Association? I bring this to the notice of the hon. Minister. ..

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please ask something pointedly so that the hon. Minister could reply, instead of just saying things in this broad manner.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: Sir, this thing is continuing. There is a letter from the Ministry of Education to various Federations that the officers of the IAS and IPS \_\_\_\_\_

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever you might like to say, please be' brief and to the point so that we could have a meaningful discussion.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: Sir, coming again to the question of selection of these athletes, these quarrels . . .

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI (Uttar Pradesh): The sports policy may be discussed at a later stage.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: When?

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: In the beginning I pleaded with the Education Minister and the Deputy Chairman to allow this House to discuss this question of Indian games and sports for a full day.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): The whole country is concerned with the young people. So, there

should be a lengthier discussion on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister is prepared for that. He would welcome a discussion. Only the House should find time for this and we will take it up at the Business Advisory Committee meeting.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: This has clearly affected, as you might see, the strength of the Indian Athletic Contingent to the Dusseldorf meet in the sense that we are having only five athletes for that meet. Now, you will remember, **Sir**, that of all the Asian countries at the Montreal Games, the showing of the Indian athletes was the best. Had we had a representative *on* the selection committee which selected this contingent to the Dusseldorf Meet, I think persons like Mr. Hari" Chand, Mr. Shivnath, Mr. Lembher Singh and Miss Usha Rani Misra could have been selected.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA: Whom do you blame for that. Do you blame the I.O.A. or the A.A.F.I.?

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: I blame the I.O.A.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please finish quickly, we are short of time.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: Then I close, Sir.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: Sir, I will only make a brief reply. The hon. Member is known for his connections with sports. He *was* also originally connected with the management of several sports bodies. He is quite aware of the limited scope of the power of the Union Government in these matters. Another hon. Member has also raised these points and certainly the sports policy can be discussed but to what *end*. if we are to enforce this sports policy, we should have the executive power. Sir, I am drawing your attention to the State List in the Seventh Schedule,

item 33 which clearly states that sports fall within the competence of State Governments. Then, again, I draw your attention to article 73 of the Constitution which deals with the extent of the executive power of the Union and it clearly points out that the Union has executive power only in respect of matters over which it can make laws. Therefore, even if we decide upon a certain policy, the utmost that we can do is only to have some persuasive effect and nothing-beyond that. We cannot impose it.

Then, Sir, with regard to sports, I would like to draw your attention to the limitations that we have under the provisions of Olympic Rules, 1976. Under rule 25 we find that the Inter, national Olympic Committee and the National Olympic Committees must be completely independent and autonomous and must resist all political, re-ligious and commercial pressure. Then, Sir, rule 24H of the rules points out that the Government cannot nominate members of the National Olympic Committees. In one of its publications the International Olympic Committee has stipulated as under: "Complete independent control of competitive sports in both its national and international phases must be left over to the national federations and the national Olympic Committees". There, fore, the power of the Government is very much limited, both under our Constitution as well as under the rules of the Olympic Committees.

Now, coming to the present question, Sir, we find that the selection was made by the Asian Amateur Atheletic Federation. Originally, the idea, as I have already stated, was to have some Asian Atheletic Meet, which was to be held in Seoul in June 1977, but it did not happen. Therefore, the selection wars limited on the basis of past records and the Asian Amateur Atheletic Association select, ed these five members. So, we do not know whether that has affected the opinion of the selectors at the Asian Amateur Atheletic Federation

in respect of the selection of these five people. Now, these five people, who have been selected, were given training at this Patiala Institute. Beyond that, I do not know. If the hon. Members desire that some discussion should take place, certainly I .shall be very interested in doing that. In fact,. I have mentioned that I am proposing to have dialogues with the people con. cerned with sports, representative of federations and, in fact, I have already started the dialogues. Hon. Mr. Mahanti was absolutely right. It is not only in the case of this Federation but many other Federations, like Swimming Federation, Wrestling Federation have internal disputes and I appeal to hon. Shri Mahanti to suggest to me how we can bring in control over them or have something to say in the matter of management of these Federations. I am at a loss to know. Even he can show us some way and I shall be most thankful to him.

SHRI M. R. KRISHNA; Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I think you will be able to educate the Minister as well as the House about sports. The Minister has taken a very very wrong and dangerous attitude in arguing about the sports. Central Govern, ment can exercise a control. I would only beg the Minister not to just go by what his Department tells him. Let his Department correctly advise him as to what has happened in the past. On how many occasions, did the Government of India interfere in the sports organisations? Recent thing is about Hockey. Did not the Government interfere? Did not your Under Secretary conduct the elections of the Hockey Federation? How did the Government of India interfere in that when you say that it is an autonomous body? You pay the money; you pay both for the national com. petitions as well as for the interna-tionai competitions. If you think that you have no right to speak on sports and you are helpless to suggest any remedial measures, why are you main. taining NIS Patiala of a crore and seventy lakhs of rupees which is itself a meagre budget for the development of sports in this great country?

[Shri M. R. Krishna]

Nearly a crore of rupees is spent in NIS Patiala. Even for the election of the Olympic Association you said that the Olympic Association can deal with the Sports Federation. That is the cardinal principle of the International Olympic Charter. Now, what is this Olympic Association? I do not like to go into the personalities. How was the President elected? Mr. Mahanti is the Vice-President of the Indian Olympic Association. He himself has become dumb when the election of the President of the Indian Olympic Association takes place. What happened there? The representatives of the State Olympic Association and the representatives of the National Federations were alone eligible to hold any office in the Olympic Association. Sir, I do not want to misguide anybody. The whole country wanted Mr. Mirdha to be the President of the Indian Olympic Association but he declined it at that time. When the Assembly was there to elect, somebody comes whispers into the ears of the Presiding Officer that some Secretary from the former Prime Minister's House wanted a person to be elected as the President of the Indian Olympic Association. I went and asked the then Prime Minister. She definitely denied that there was anybody who was being sponsored by her or by her office, but her Secretary definitely sent word through the person whom Mr. Mahanti was not prepared to name, but he said that he was connected with the Border Security Force.

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : आप प्राइवेट कम्युनिकेशन हाउस में क्यों बोल रहे हैं ?

श्री एम० आर० कृष्ण : यह प्राइवेट कम्युनिकेशन नहीं है, मैं तो इण्डियन ओलम्पिक एसोसिएशन की मीटिंग का जिक्र कर रहा हूँ...

So, somebody whispers the name of a retired Air Chief Marshal that he could be made the President. Now

he was not holding any office in any of the Federations. Even the Defence was represented by three people. Defence was entitled, to have three members in the Indian Olympic Association but he was not representing the Defence.

Another funny thing happened when everybody pointed out after the election the name of Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra. Mr. Mirdha was also the President of the Archery Association. Then, somehow or other, Mr. Vijay Kumar Malhotra became the President of the Archery Association and when he was in jail, thinking that Mr. Malhotra would not come out of jail, this gentleman becomes the President of the Archery Association and like that he continues to be the President of the Indian Olympic Association. Now, Mr. Mahanti, didn't you only talk about Athletic Federation? The Olympic Association which is supposed to control the National Federation is itself stinking and you want the whole Federation to be left to those wolves in the Indian Olympic Association. The Indian Olympic Association is controlled by one small, tiny, State. If it is controlled by Northern India, I would welcome it. If it is controlled by the State to which Mr. Mirdha belongs, I would welcome it. But the tiny little State of Punjab controls the whole Association. I do not mean any disrespect. Punjab has produced big stalwarts and experts. We are still grateful to the house of Patiala. They have rendered enormous service for the development of sports. But that is not the point which I am driving at. What I am saying is this. Today, when all the States are represented in the Indian Olympic Association, what is the coterie which is controlling the Indian Olympic Association? And you want all the national federations to be subjected to them. This is not the right thing. You have started on a wrong premise. I am only requesting you. I do not want you to reply because you will have to consult your office. I would only request you to answer certain points later on not now. Please take your own time. I

am not in a hurry because we are talking about the development of sports. All of us are genuinely interested in this. Therefore, please take your own time. First of all, please And out whether the President and the office-bearers of the Indian Olympic Association have been constitutionally elected, under the constitution framed by the Indian Olympic Association.

Then, Sir, we sent somebody, heads of the mission. These are all connected with the athletic association. Why did we not have more number? More number we did not have for two reasons. One is that, we did not attend the Seoul meeting where they have decided on the number of athletes to represent Asia. In Asia, India is topmost almost topmost, in athletics. Therefore, our number could have been easily up to ten. This is a national honour for which we are lighting. Since nobody went there, they gave you only five and you had to accept it. The Athletic Federation is in doldrums today like many other federations because it is again the creation of the Indian Olympic Association. Therefore, Sir, the question is whether the Indian Olympic Association could be put on a very sound basis. According to the norms which are decided by the Indian Olympic Association, elections have taken place. But I tell you this. Later on, the international bodies could be told that the Indian Olympic Association itself is not constitutionally elected. In that event, the contingent going from India will be disqualified. Therefore, you will have to take this special step.

Then Sir, about the federations which are national bodies directly linked to the international bodies. They have nothing to do with the Indian Olympic Association except in the matter of discipline and in connection with the three games, namely, the International Olympics, the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games. Leaving these three things, the Indian Olympic Association does not figure anywhere. It is the Government of

India plus the national federations. You have got the AICS. Why did it come into existence? When the Indian Olympic Association was there, why did the Government of India think it proper to have a body to advise them on sports matters? You have created it. You are financing it. Nearly half a crore is spent on the State Sports Councils and the Central Sports Council. Therefore, the AICS should be made more effective so that they can take up this thing including the Indian Olympic Association. Till that time, the Government of India has got every power to deal with the federations. Therefore, do not leave it to this defective body, the Indian Olympic Association.

The Janata Government have said that they will promote sports in a big way. What do we see? You have abolished the sports college in Punjab. This was also based on a recommendation. This was created with good intentions. The Government of India itself wanted to have this. There were three planning commissions in the AICS. The reports of these planning commissions are supposed to be implemented by the Government of India. You are holding meetings of the State Ministers every year. In the State Ministers' meeting, you decide on certain policies. These are the policies which you want the States to follow. Therefore, for God's sake, do not say that you are helpless and you have no jurisdiction over the States. I also request you to see the letter which was written by nearly 60 Indians in Canada after the Montreal Olympics debacle. That letter was sent to the then Prime Minister and also to you, Mr. Deputy Chairman. You were kind enough to send that letter to the Parliamentary Committee for examination. That letter was before the Parliamentary Committee and also the Ministry, but the Ministry simply slept over it. I would beg of the Minister to get hold of that letter and try to see what he could do.

As a large number of the Members of Parliaments had represented and

[Shri M. R. Krishna]

they wanted to raise a discussion in both the Houses, to avoid controversy the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, in consultation with the Vice-President, thought it wise to constitute a Committee of the Parliament Members. Members from all parties were taken on that Committee and that Committee has gone into various aspects, including inviting witnesses. The report of that Committee was to be placed before the Speaker. It has come to the final stage. I would request the hon. Minister to speak to the Deputy Chairman who is greatly interested in sports and also to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and see that the Committee is revived so that they can give their final report. Sir, the Parliament has spent a lot of money on this Committee. We should obtain its report.

Sir, everywhere in the world the Central Government takes interest in sports. Therefore, having promised in your manifesto, that too for the capital cities, please do not deny and do not say that you are not concerned with sports. Please, check up from your own Ministry's record that you are concerned and you are financing. You will have to see that the country's honour is saved in the international world and for that reason you will have to take more interest.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: The hon. Member was rather uncharitable towards me. I have never said that we are not concerned. In fact, I have said that I have already started a dialogue with the representatives of some Federations and persons interested in sports. I have also promised that I will continue this dialogue and place the points for deliberation here. He was also uncharitable when he said that I am always being influenced by the Officers of the Ministry. (Interruptions) Sir, the Officers in the Ministry are very able officers and I thank them because they have never misled me, but I have already referred to the constitutional and legal proposition not by a reference to what

notes they have provided, I have the latest edition of the constitution and I have read from that. I have the latest edition of the Olympic rules. From that I have read that we have no power to control. That does not mean that the Central Government will not promote sports.

I would request the hon. Member not to confuse between promotion and control. I said that at present we have no power of control. If this august House and the other House somehow can change the constitution and make rules and laws so that I may be invested with that power, certainly, I shall exercise that power.

SHRI SWAMI DINESH CHANDRA (Rajasthan): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I must be fair and truthful in admitting that things have not changed a bit in the world of sports. The notorious indifference, apathy and neglect regarding sports continues as usual.

Sir, it is really heart-rending to see the functioning of the sports federations in this country—regarding which many hon. Members of this august House are already aware. Petty indifference and neglect of matters regarding sports has become an all India malady because 'busy bodies' everywhere keep sports in their octopus like grips and would seldom let it grow in its natural form.

Almost everywhere sports are a neglected item in the business agenda of the States and the Central Government.

The one great need we have been experiencing all over the country is of formulating a clear cut, coherent and vigorous national policy regarding sports. We lack such a policy today Sports are left to the care of non-official bodies which are accorded Government patronage.

In Socialist countries, voluntary organisations take a different form, a more popular and massive form for

the one that gets built up in countries like ours, where small countries try to hold down what should have grown into massive organisations and associations.

If Federations and Associations in our country can claim bigness anywhere, they can do it in regard to big muddles in sports. I would urge upon you to consider this aspect of the problem more seriously.

I would suggest that the Government should take over sports and not sit as patrons only, for under the present scheme of things, we get the worst of both the governments and the voluntary organisations run by the busy bodies. That is why I will suggest we must have a committed Ministry of Sports, both at the Centre and in the States, exclusively devoted to promotion, encouragement and management of our national sports.

In German Democratic Republic, I am told, they have it in their Constitution that every citizen will have the right to participate in sports, games and athletics. Physical culture and sports are considered an integral part of Socialism and that is how they are able to take such a giant stride in the world of sports, through mass organisations and popular participation.

And, Sir, this reminds me of a great drawback in our sports organisations. India lives in villages. We parrot this idiom and yet in our planning, be it for sports or for other things, it is the village that is utterly neglected, wherefrom we except to get a continuous flow of talents and resources—human and material. This aspect of the problem has not been given the weight it deserves, and if we care to analyse our sports approach casually, our urban bias would be exposed. We must correct it speedily. If at all we have to have a bias, let it be a 'rural bias'.

I am anticipating a big question in this regard—the question about resources. We do not have resources

for such a massive build-up, we shall be told. I will suggest that we go in for 'selected excellence'. We should make hard and definite choices—which of the sports we shall cater to the full, give them national status. For instance, mass games like hockey, football, basketball, volleyball athletics etc. should be declared as national games and major resources be devoted to the promotion of these sports on a national scale.

After our dismal performance at Montreal, the then Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha had appointed a study committee on sports, consisting of Members of Parliament. I would request Hon'ble Dr. Chunder to kindly revive this committee so that a comprehensive report could be prepared regarding the affairs and functioning of the Sports Federations and Associations in this country.

Immediate steps should be taken to remedy the malady from which the sports organisations in this country are suffering; otherwise irreparable damage and loss will occur. Day in and day out they are flouting the directives, of the Education Ministry. I would call upon the Hon'ble Education Minister to clean the stinking Augean stables.

DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER: I don't think the speech of hon. Member calls for any answer from me except this that he has referred to some countries. They are very friendly countries. But as is known to every body, the Constitutions of these countries are quite different from our Constitution. As I have said—and I repeat it again—we are very much concerned with the improvement of sports, but we have to proceed within the framework and limitation of our rights.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA (Karnataka): Appoint a commission of inquiry to go into the whole thing.