

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Because none was offered there.

SHRIMATI PUSHPALATA DAS. Sir, is it not a fact that due to shortage of wagons, tea has to be transported by air, which is a very costly affair, and as a result, the prices of the commodities have gone up?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: There has been no shortage of wagons whatsoever. The hon Member will be interested to know that during the year 1956 we carried something like 18,000 tons of additional tea and about 1,20,000 tons of additional jute. So there has been no shortage at all.

SHRIMATI PUSHPALATA DAS: If there is no shortage of wagons, why are they sending it by air?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM. Sir, that is for the parties concerned to say why they are sending it by air. As far as these stations are concerned, we have been offering enough space.

SHRI B B SHARMA: Is it not due entirely to difficulties in the movement of trains that people send their tea otherwise than by trains?

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM We never aspire to compete with air services in speed.

*492 and *493 [*The questioner (Dr. Raghuvir Singh) was absent. For answers, vide cols 3584-3585 infra.*]

GRANTS GIVEN TO NATIONAL SPORTS CLUB OF INDIA

*494. **SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any grants to the National Sports Club of India; if so, what was the amount of the grants and when they were given; and

(b) whether Government take into account the financial position of the clubs while giving such grants; and if

so, what is the present financial position of the National Sports Club of India?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) (a) No grants have been given

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know if the hon Minister who has taken charge of the Health Ministry now knows that on page 73 of the Health Ministry's Report for the year 1954-55 it is mentioned that in order to encourage sports and to promote the cause of health of the country the Government of India granted to the National Sports Club of India a sum of Rs. 75,000 for expenditure during 1953-54 on coaching schemes in cricket, football, hockey, tennis, athletics and table-tennis?

DR R B GOUR: He was not the Minister then.

SHRI D P KARMARKAR: What is mentioned in that report must be correct, and I must explain my reply on a future occasion. This is the information given to me. Probably, the information that I have got pertains to this year and the last year. I shall try to find out, but what is contained in that report must, of course, be correct.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND May I know then whether no amount has been given in the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 to the National Sports Club of India under the Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme?

MR CHAIRMAN: You are combining the two questions.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR If my friend agrees that it is a different question, then it requires different notice

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know whether any amount is being given under the Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme to the National Sports Club or not?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That is possibly an explanation of what is contained in the report, because the money may not have been given to the National Sports Club by us but the Coaching Scheme may have given the amount. I should find that out.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: May I know whether both the Health Ministry and the Education Ministry are giving grants to different sports organisations and whether that has been responsible for creating dissensions between the various sports organisations in the country?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That is extremely unfortunate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't admit it?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You don't admit it, but if by any chance it is so, it is very unfortunate.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether Government has cared to find out what are the financial requirements for the promotion of sports and, if so, whether the Government has any scheme for the promotion of sports?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, Sir. So far as the Health Ministry is concerned, we are promoting sports. Through the Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme, we have arranged for coaches in various sports like cricket, tennis, athletics, etc.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Does the Government know that there has been criticism from the sporting world that Government, both at the State level and at the Centre, should take greater interest and make financial allocations for the promotion of our national sports?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, Sir. There is always a criticism of the Government both from the sporting

and the unsporting worlds. So far as these criticisms are concerned and in so far as they are helpful, we are always glad in taking suggestions and acting accordingly.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not know whether I am speaking for the unsporting world, but may I know whether the Government has cared to consult the various personalities in the sporting world, not their favourite ones only but various personalities in the sporting world, in order to find out exactly what are the steps that are needed for promoting sports on a national scale?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I cannot vouch that every sportsman in the country has been consulted, and our favourites are normally good sportsmen.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the hon. Minister enquire from the Education Ministry what money they are giving to the National Sports Club?

MR. CHAIRMAN: At present our sports are promoted both by the Education Ministry and the Health Ministry. He wants you to make kind enquiries as to how things are happening.

SECRETARY, RAJKUMARI SPORTS COACHING SCHEME

*495. **SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the qualifications and emoluments of the Secretary, Rajkumari Sports Coaching Scheme; and

(b) whether the Secretary of the Scheme had been to foreign countries during the period of his office as Secretary; and if so, how many places he visited, what was the amount of money spent on his visits and who bore the expenditure?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) The pay of