

Shri Indrajit Gupta: I wanted to know whether our Olympic Association proposes to contact them and find out the reason. He said, he does not know.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member is aware that the Indian Olympic Association is an autonomous association and Government do not come into the picture over this matter. I can only assure the hon. Member . . .

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow there is a suggestion and it may be considered. We might ask them.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Has the Government ascertained from the Indian Airlines Corporation whether it is safe to carry a burning torch in the aircraft?

Mr. Speaker: Those who are responsible will certainly do that.

Central Provinces Manganese Ore Company

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*713. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
 { Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme under consideration to take over the British owned "Central Provinces Manganese Ore Company" and run it as a joint venture of the Central, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra Governments; and

(b) if so, what is the decision in this regard?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmatah): (a) and (b). As had been reported to the House on the 4th September, 1961 in reply to Unstarred Question No. 3216, this Company had filed writ petitions in the High Courts concerned, and obtained injunction on the 31st May, 1961, against the refusal of Government to grant them further renewal of their leases. Those writ petitions are still pending. But, recently, by mutual consent long adjournment of hearings

has been obtained. The reason is that, at the request of the Company, negotiations outside Court have been taken up to see if a solution can be found. Those negotiations are now at a final stage; if they are successfully concluded, the litigation will end and the mines will be operated by a new Rupee Company proposed to be formed in which the Central, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra Governments between them will hold majority shares and the Central Provinces Manganese Ore Company will have the minority share.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the mining lease of that company have been extended and if so for how many years and under what terms?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): They have not actually been extended; Unless there is an agreement to extend there can be no extension. The possession of the company is continued under the stay orders issued by the High Courts.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know if the Government have taken into consideration the production of manganese from these mines in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra and whether the quantum and share of these Governments will be decided on this basis or any other basis?

Shri Hajarnavis: Every factor will be taken into consideration and the Government will try to see that they secure the best possible terms.

Association of Engineers

*714. **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Association of Engineers which is the oldest engineering guild is not registered; and

(b) whether non-recognition has led to very few students sitting for