

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Warrior: Is it not a fact that the Vice-Chairman of the International Finance Corporation while in India discussed this matter with industrial interests in India and he made a statement in the press to the effect that such and such proposals were made and the Finance Ministry are accepting those proposals?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: When the Vice-Chairman of International Finance Corporation was in India, he had a general discussion on the broad terms and conditions for the participation of foreign capital of IFC in India. The proposal which has been made in the question was not discussed.

Shri Warrior: The specific question is whether he has suggested any simplification of the procedure from that which is obtaining at present.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: I have already answered that.

Shri Warrior: What are the specific suggestions that he has made?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The discussion that took place was very informal. The suggestions were also very informal. No formal suggestion has been made by the Bank or the Association. Therefore, it will not be possible to say anything about those suggestions at this stage.

Shri Daji: Will the Minister inform us whether the Government is considering the relaxation of the existing rules for giving any concession to the foreign investors in our country as a result of these discussions?

Shri Morarji Desai: This does not arise as long as we do not receive any formal reference from the Association.

'Arjun Award' to Sportsmen

***208. Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to institute an 'Arjun Award' for outstanding sportsmen;

(b) if so, the details of the Award; and

(c) what criterion Government have adopted in giving away the award with details of personnel to advise Government on this matter?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The award, which is in the form of a scroll and a souvenir, is for honouring outstanding sportsmen who are considered "the Sportsmen of the Year" in their respective games.

(c) The criterion is outstanding contribution to enhance the glory of the game. Selections are made on the basis of recommendations obtained from the Sports Federations concerned. A Sub-Committee of the All-India Council of Sports tenders advice to Government from time to time in the matter.

Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh: May I know whether the awards were made this year in consultation with the different associations?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I have already stated that the selections were made by Sports Federations.

Shri Birendra Bahadur Singh: May I know whether the award for cricket was made in consultation with the Board of Cricket Control?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: All the selections were made by the Federations.

Shri Nath Pal: May I know whether awards have been given for meritorious and distinguished service in the field of sports in the past and who are the winners of them? May I also know whether the winner of the first gold medal in 1928 for leading the

hockey team successfully, who is an honourable and distinguished Member of this House, is the only member who has been excluded so far?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Why?

Shri Nath Pai: I did not say "why".

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I said "why".

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: As far as these awards are concerned, these have been instituted only this year and this is the first time that the awards have been made, and the selections have been made by the Sports Federation. And it is not always the technique in game but their contribution to the game that is taken into account.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member desires to know whether retrospective effect would be given to the award to an hon. Member of this House.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I am afraid, it is not possible to give retrospective effect to it.

Shri Barrow: May I know if the name of Shri Wilson Jones, the first Indian amateur billiard champion was considered or is being considered?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Which game did he represent?

Shri Barrow: Billiard.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Billiard was not considered as one of the games for award.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: In view of fact that this award is made also to outstanding women sportsmen, may I know what Government's reaction is to the idea of having another alternative award like Chitragada award?

Dr. K. L. Shrimati: This is for men and women both.

Shri Hem Barua: Why is this award particularly 'Arjuna Award' because Arjuna was not a sportsman; he was a warrior?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Arjuna was the greatest sportsman of the Mahabharata period.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit....

Mr. Speaker: Probably there is difference of opinion as to what a sportsman is. Therefore, we need not fight on that. Shri Tyagi.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The sports of Mahabharata period are famous and Arjuna was famous for them.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit....

Mr. Speaker: I have given him an opportunity. At least when there are questions about sports, hon. Members should show that spirit of sportsmanship.

Shri Tyagi: Have Government made out a list of sports and games which will be taken into consideration in qualifying for this award?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, Sir. For this award the list was: weight-lifting, women's hockey, swimming, athletics, table tennis, rifle shooting, squash, boxing, badminton, golf, football, hockey, lawn tennis, basketball, gymnastics, cricket, wrestling, volleyball, chess and polo.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, there is a supplementary arising out of the answer to my question. For women's hockey how will Arjuna be justified? It may be Draupadi.

Mr. Speaker: Now he is entering into an argument.

Shri Nath Pai: May I ask one question? It is far from me to be appearing to be advocating the cause of any hon. Member, but surely the hon. Minister is aware that Shri Jaipal Singh led the first team which won the gold medal in hockey. The claims

of all others, have been duly awarded in the fitness of things by way of encouraging sports. This is a right step. But why is Shri Jaipal Singh still not qualified for that honour?

Mr. Speaker: This is only a suggestion for action and that has been made.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What criterion was followed in selecting games which will be eligible for these awards?

Mr. Speaker: Should we go into these minor details?

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Sir, table tennis has been included in the list. Why has billiards not been included?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The criterion was overall performance on and off the field and the players should have made the largest contribution.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know why these games only have been selected and not others.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Most of the outdoor games have been selected and indoor games have been left out except one or two.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He said that outdoor games have been selected mostly.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, before you go to the next question, may I submit one thing because my name has been dragged in? I think I can enlighten this House about this whole question. These Arjuna awards have been started this year. Previous to this year there were other awards by other names and designations. As I am a member of the All-India Council of Sports, I would like to tell this House that I cannot very well award myself whatever award it is. But quite apart from that the All-India Council of Sports has still to complete the list of sports and games that should be recognised by it. My

hon. friend, Shri Barrow, raised the question of billiards. Other hon. Members seemed to be agitated as to why chess should be one of the games to be recognised. I would ask the hon. Members to look into the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* to find out why chess has to be included.

Mr. Speaker: That should be enough, I think.

Vijnan Mandirs

***209 Shri Basappa:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the results of the work of Vijnan Mandirs have been published; and

(b) how many new Vijnan Mandirs have been established in the rural areas?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) The results are not published. However, an Assessment Committee recently studied the working of the Vijnan Mandirs and submitted a report, a copy of which has been placed on the Table of the House.

(b) So far 41 Vijnan Mandirs have been established, out of which 3 were set up during 1961-62 in rural areas.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether the results of these Vijnan Mandirs have proved beneficial to the agriculturists in the rural parts and, if so, whether any assessment has been made as to whether agricultural production has increased on account of the implementation of the results of these Vijnan Mandirs?

Dr. M. M. Das: The Assessment Committee have said that statistics and so-called assessment are of no use in the case of these particular institutions. The Assessment Committee of Parliament that was set up in the year 1959 submitted their report 10 months ago.

Shri Basappa: What further efforts are made to assess them properly?