

immediate requirement has not yet arrived?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think that is not a very fair assessment.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is it a fact that the delay at Rourkela is due to the lack of co-ordination between the German directorate and the contractors because of the keenness of the German directorate to import as many people as possible from Germany for the work here?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is very difficult to give a summary answer. But it is a fact that on account of the large number of suppliers at Rourkela, it is somewhat difficult to bring about complete co-ordination.

Shri Thimmaiah: The Minister has stated that the delay in the progress is due to the contractors. May I know the number of contractors who have been blacklisted particularly in connection with Rourkela?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would like to have that information from the hon. Member. At any rate, I do not know of anyone having been black-listed.

Shri Morarka: May I know whether it is a fact that each day's delay in each of these steel plants costs the exchequer Rs. 15 lakhs?

An Hon. Member: Only?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Delay is always wasteful. But I have not calculated it.

Shri Damani: May I know what is the revised capital outlay for these plants, and what steps have been taken to see that the cost does not increase beyond the revised estimates?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There has been a slight increase in the estimates for a variety of reasons, about which I have made elaborate statements from time to time.

India's Performance in International Sports

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*1017. { **Shri Supakar:**
Shri M. C. Jain:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Kunhan:
Shri N. R. Munisamy:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Rami Reddy:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee to investigate the reasons for the poor performances of Indian teams and athletes in international sports under the Chairmanship of H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) No, not yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri Supakar: So far as the performance is concerned, there is a serious complaint that the defective choice of our candidates for sports events is responsible for our poor performance in these international sports. May I know whether Government have any machinery for the choice of candidates and whether they are going to improve it in the near future? May I also know whether the Defence Services have any co-ordination with the Education Ministry in the selection of candidates for these sports events in the international sphere?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Selection of teams is made by the Indian Olympic Association which is the supreme body as far as selection of teams is concerned. Government do not interfere in the selection of teams. In fact, that is in the constitution of the International Olympic Association. With regard to the second question as to how the procedures can be improved and what

we can do to improve our sports and what other methods and means we could adopt, Government have appointed this Committee. I hope to be able to tell the House more definitely about the measures we adopt after the Report of the Committee has been submitted. I am expecting the Report by the end of this month.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if the Minister has noticed a Press statement allegedly made by the *chef de mission* of our team to the Asian Games in Tokyo that our athletes were not particularly welcome in that country? If that is so, may I know if Government has any idea about the unwelcome conditions in certain places which partly reflected on the performance of our athletes?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: There may be petty rivalries here and there, but I think as a general rule, our countrymen and our athletes are welcomed wherever they go, to whichever country they go.

Shri Tangamani: In the recent Asian Games held in Tokyo, the Indian team lost the Gold Medal in Hockey. May I know whether Government have seen reports to the effect that this was largely due to bad refereeing? If so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Government can do nothing about this matter because these Asian Games are run by the Olympics authorities. All that we want is that our sportsmen should play a fair game and our referees should set up a high standard. That is all that we can do. I think through this alone we can help in this matter.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I be permitted to supplement the Minister's reply? Throughout the country a very wrong idea has spread that we have lost the Gold Medal in Hockey. We have lost nothing of the sort. We are still the Gold Medalists in the Olympic Games. All we have lost is the Asian Games leadership.

Mr. Speaker: We have lost something.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Quite apart from what the Patiala Committee might or might not say, may I know if Government has any scheme here and now to provide facilities for our young people in the countryside to have at least the elementary tackle and play grounds and also facilities for stadia and gymnasia in towns?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This committee which has been appointed by Government is going into this question. And, as I said, after the report has been submitted and examined by Government, I would be able to say what steps they propose to take in this matter.

Shri Thanu Pillai: The hon. Minister said that Government will not interfere in the selection of the players for these teams. Am I to understand that even if there be a charge of discrimination in the selection of the teams Government will not interfere and will leave it to the committee to select their own interested people?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: There are some matters in which Government have to depend on the people; and here is an all-India organisation which represents all the national organisations and we have to trust our people in this matter.

Shri Supakar: I want to know what is the co-ordination between the Education and Defence Ministries in the training of students from the schools and colleges and also members of the Defence Forces for these competitions; and what steps are being taken by the Ministries of Education and Defence to push these young men and women for selection by Olympic teams.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The Defence Ministry and the Education Ministry have their different fields. But, in the field of N.C.C. they come together and they have been co-operating both for N.C.C. and A.C.C.