

OLYMPIAD AT HELSINKI

*102. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) how many competitors from India participated in the XVth Olympiad held recently at Helsinki;

(b) the number of Indian competitors who won medals at that Olympic Meet;

(c) the amount granted by Government for participation of Indian teams and athletes in that Meet; and

(d) the approximate total amount spent by India on that Meet, including charges for travel, board etc.?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Eightyone.

(b) Twelve.

(c) Rs. 1,25,000.

(d) Rs. 3,09,000.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the number of the actual participants in the games and those people, non-officials, who accompanied the team otherwise?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware of the break-ups here. I require notice.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is it with the knowledge that standards of games in India is far behind that they sent the team?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That is the opinion of certain experts.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Did the Government lay down any rules as to the conduct of the officials abroad?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Is it a fact that some of our officials behaved in a very rude and reprehensible manner, off the track?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Only one question, Sir. Is it a fact that two medalists from India have had to borrow money for their trip?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not know.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; he wanted to put only one question. Next question.

STANDARDS OF GAMES

*103. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the general improvement of standard of athletics, gymnastics and games etc. in India;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, the steps taken so far; and

(c) whether any scheme for improving the standard of sports and games in the country will be incorporated in the Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). This subject is mainly the concern of State Governments, but the Government of India have been giving grants to all-India sports organisations.

(c) Yes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the amount provided for in the Five Year Plan has made provision for these and games?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Five-Year plan has made provision for these schemes. But, no decision has been taken so far about the exact amount.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is the channel through which this amount would be spent?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No decision has been taken.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Having regard to the tremendous success of the USSR in the Helsinki Olympiad, will the Government consider the taking of help from USSR for the development of physical standards?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That is a suggestion made by the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the recent achievements of the Indian team in certain branches of sports and also their colossal failure—does the Government propose to set up an All India Commission to enquire into the working of sports organisations?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What special steps do Government propose to take in order to improve the standards of our athletes and gymnasts?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This is mainly the concern of the State Governments.