

(c) Railways had anticipated the needs of Bombay suburban services and an order for 239 DC EMU coaches was placed on M/s. Jessops & Co., Calcutta in the year 1978. The manufacture of new coaches has commenced and priority is being given to replace overaged coaches so as to improve reliability of services.

Suitability of Asiad Projects for Holding Olympics

1305. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what were the original estimates for Asiad-82 ;

(b) how much more of money is likely to be spent before the commencement of the games this year; and

(c) to what extent these facilities now created would be suitable for holding the Olympics ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) The overall estimate of expenditure to be borne by Government as approved by it in November, 1980 for the Asian Games, 1982 was placed at Rs. 54.83 crores.

(b) The present indications are that an additional sum of Rs. 7.21 crores is likely to be spent on the preparations for and the conduct of the Asian Games, 1982.

(c) Indian Olympic Association considers that with the existing infrastructure created for the Asian Games, it may be possible to hold the Olympic Games by limiting the games to the bare minimum per-

missible under the Olympic rules. However, they feel that it will be necessary to supplement these sports infrastructural facilities in order to be able to conduct the Olympic Games in a befitting manner.

Operation of Central Railway Suburban Section by 1950 Acquired Rakes

1306. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Railway suburban section (both main and harbour lines) are operated by rakes acquired in 1950 which had to be discarded long time back and replaced by new rakes ; and

(b) why no efforts were made by the Railway authorities to secure sufficient new rakes on a priority basis, to cope up with the ever increasing traffic ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No. Against the total holding of 661 DC EMU coaches on Central Railway, the number of old coaches acquired between 1951 and 1957 is only 132 which have become due for replacement on the basis of useful life of 25 years.

(b) Railways had anticipated the needs of Bombay suburban services and an order for 239 DC EMU coaches was placed on M/s. Jessops & Co., Calcutta. The manufacture of new coaches has commenced and due priority is being given to the supply of new rakes to Central Railway which will be utilised to first replace the old rakes.