

Accreditation accorded to Correspondents for Asiad

*223. SHRIMATI KISHORI
SINHA :

SHRI SATYENDRA
NARAIN SINHA :

Will the Minister of SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether special accreditation for the purpose of covering the Asian Games was accorded to some of the already Accredited Correspondents and denied to a large number amongst them ;

(b) whether non-accredited correspondents were also given accreditation for covering the Asian Games ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) the reasons for refusing accreditation to already accredited correspondents by the Committee ; and

(e) whether the particulars of those who have been given accreditation for covering Asian Games (Indian List) will be laid on the Table ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS (SHRI BUTA SINGH) :

(a) to (d). Accreditation of Indian media for Asiad, 1982 is being done by the Indian Olympic Association. Asian Games is an international sports event and specific accreditation of the Press for this occasion has no connection with the normal accreditation granted by the Government of India or the State Governments. The broad criterion followed for accreditation for Asiad' 82 is that the concerned Press should have been exclusively or extensively devoted to sports, as evidenced by

regular sports page or coverage. Some newspapers having wide circulation and also regularly covering sports have also been given accreditation.

(e) A statement showing Indian news-media organisations approved so far for grant of accreditation for Asiad'82 by the Indian Olympic Association is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5519/82]

Export of Rice to USSR

*224. SHRI K.T. KOSALRAM :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India is not able to procure the required quantity of rice for fulfilling the export contract for rice with U. S. S. R. as Andhra Pradesh's farmers are not coming forward to sell rice at the present price ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to procure rice for fulfilling the export contract with U.S.S.R.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R.V. SWAMINATHAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. As against a quantity of about 3.46 lakh tonnes of non-basmati rice committed for export to the U.S.S.R. during 1982-83, the Food Corporation of India has already shipped 2.96 lakh tonnes of rice. The balance quantity of about 50,000 tonnes of rice will also be supplied within the contracted delivery period, partly from the existing stocks and partly from the new paddy crop.