

Chief Engineer, have been on strike for the last three months and not much progress due to that and other reasons is taking place.

**India's performance at Asian Games,
Seoul**

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***43. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :
DR. G. S. RAJHANS :**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have taken note of the overall disappointing performance of India at the Asian Games at Seoul except the performance of Miss P. T. Usha and a few others, gathering only five golds;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a poor performance;

(c) whether Government propose to constitute a high powered Committee to go into the causes of such a performance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the special steps proposed to be taken to improve India's performance at the next Asiad in 1990 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (e). A detailed report on various aspects of the participation of the Indian contingent in the X Asian Games is expected to be received from the Indian Olympic Association. On receipt of its report, measures required to be taken for the improvement of performance of Indian sports-persons in international tournaments in the future including Assian Games, 1990 will be considered in depth by Government in consultation with experts in the field.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Sir, the only answer given to all the five parts of my ques-

tion is that a report of the Indian Olympic Association is awaited. The team has returned about a month ago and nearly a month ago the Hon. Minister for Human Resource Development, Shri P. V. Narasimha Rao in his interview had said the same thing that the Government was awaiting the full report of the members of the contingent and officials who returned here from Seoul.

As far as these Asian Games are concerned, international sporting success is always a legitimate and very important source for nurturing nationalist feeling and pride. This year many have said that even the result is a matter of shame for India. Only five gold medals have been gathered by the country of eight hundred million people and it gathered fifth place whereas China and South Korea have got 94 and 93 gold medals. In these circumstances even the prospects of performance in 1990 also appears to be very bleak. In view of this will the Government take a very serious view of the matter and expedite taking prompt steps to improve our performance significantly in the next Asian games ?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I share the concern not only of the Member but also of everybody else who has expressed his opinion. We are not satisfied with what has been done and I can assure the Member that the Government is as much concerned and involved in finding an answer and seeing that our standards improve. I can only say this that IOA was responsible to submit a detailed analysis and report of each one of the events in which we participated. We have reminded them thrice and they have promised that within the next two weeks final report would be ready and only then I can say what the follow up should be immediately.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Some of the ills be setting Indian sports are very obvious viz., inadequate infrastructure at all levels, inadequate incentive to sports men and women and nepotism, if not corruption, among the administrators and selectors. If these are (*Interruptions*). These are obvious ills. Why should the Government wait for the report of the Sports Committee ? Why

should the Government not take immediate steps as far as these matters are concerned.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I must here say that there are various aspects to be gone into. To begin with, sports is still a State subject. We cannot legislate. I have no authority. *(Interruptions)*. We have no right to *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You should not shirk your responsibility. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Let me finish. We cannot, therefore, legislate at the central level or anywhere as far as control of the federations or anything is concerned. The federations are autonomous. They come under the direct control of the Indian Olympic Committee, not of the Government or of the Department of Sports. *(Interruptions)*. This question of various aspects of selection has been raised. The selections are not made by the Government. The selections are made by the federations concerned. The lists for clearance are sent to us with the confirmation of the IOA. We do not have process by which the Government can impose selection. We are only there to clear the team. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Are you a silent spectator ? *(Interruptions)*.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : That is the position at the moment. At the moment we are there to finance. I have no authority to legislate.

SHRI PRAG CHALIA : Is the Government helpless in this ?

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Let me be very clear. As far as the selection of athletes is concerned and the actual position in so far as the federations are concerned, the Government is helpless because the federations are autonomous and are responsible only to the IOA.

MR. SPEAKER : We are going to have discussion on this Dr. Rajhans,

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : I want to know from the Hon. Minister what does she mean by infrastructure ? *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : This is an important subject.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : We are laymen. We want to be educated on this point. Why was infrastructure not made available so far ?

MR. SPEAKER : We can have full time discussion on this.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : We want half-an-hour discussion.

(Interruptions)

SOME HON. MEMBERS : We want full discussion. Full discussion should be allowed.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. Why are you making a noise ? Let her deal with it and cover as much as possible. I shall see to it later on.

[English]

I can assure this House that I am myself interested in sports and I know that it means a lot for the Indian morale also and that we must do something. I will go by the consensus. We had a discussion regarding this in the BAC and it was decided that we are going to have a full time discussion on this subject. Is it not ? But let the Minister be prepared with the report also by that time. Then we shall thrash it out.

SHRI T. BASHEER : We are sure that the report will come only after a long time. So, the discussion should be in this Session.

(Interruptions).

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : I want to know what the Hon. Minister means by building infrastructure. We are laymen, we want to be educated about this and we also want to know why the infrastructure was not built so far.

SHRIMATI MARGARAT ALVA : Sir, the National Sports Policy was adopted in 1984. The outlay on sports was very meagre till this plan. It is for the first time in 1985 in this Plan that Rs. 200 crores have been allotted for sports. In the previous plan it was under Rs. 15 crores.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : You spent Rs. 2000 crores on ASIAD in Delhi.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : That is why Delhi has the infrastructure, but the same infrastructure is not available throughout the country, which is needed.

Sir, we have now launched a programme of giving increased funds to States, and all of you are aware of it, for the creation of infrastructure in the States. In fact, the grants have been enhanced and many States are now coming up with proposals for increasing it. First, synthetic tracks are not available anywhere in the country as yet, they are to be imported and they are in the process of giving them to the States. Even a State like Kerala as yet does not have a synthetic running track for its athletes to train. These are some of the problems which exist and I would be very grateful if there is a full-fledged discussion because all aspects of sports policy and its implementation need to be placed before Parliament so that we will get more support in changing things which exist.

MR. SPEAKER : I am very happy that in spite of the absence of synthetic track in Kerala, the Keralite girl did a wonderful job and what would have been the condition if we had provided them with that?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : That is why I say, even without the tracks they had done that much; with the tracks they could do better.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now if I allow one, then I will have to allow others also. Do you want that on this question I should take another half-an-hour which is what is remaining with us or do you want to have a discus-

sion? If you want a discussion, that I will allow. I will allow a full discussion later on. Now, next question—Mr. Janga Reddy.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will allow you a discussion. That is what I agreed.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Please allow me to put a Supplementary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever is a decision is a decision. Please sit down.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I have a different question connected with this.

MR. SPEAKER : Either you have a discussion or I will allow some more questions. Mr. Kurien, you are a lone person. Why are you wasting my time when I agreed for a discussion?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I am very grateful to you. I want a specific reply...

MR. SPEAKER : Sit down. This is not the time. This is not the way. Mr. Kurien, not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Kurien, can you take this House for a ride? Please take the seat. It does not behave you. When I agreed for a discussion, why should you rise up again?

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I am grateful to you if you allow my Supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER : How can you do two things? You are unnecessarily wasting the time of the House. When we are going to discuss fully, then why are you trying to do it now? If I allow you I have to allow all of them. Now, Mr. Janga Reddy.

Hijacking of PAN AM Jet Airliner

*44. **SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :**
SHRI BHARAT KUMAR

ODEDRA :

**Not recorded.