

made in the case of mills of growers' cooperatives.

- (iv) Mills are being required to submit to the Textile Commissioner a special stock return immediately and those having stocks in excess of the limits now prescribed will not be allowed to make further purchases of Indian cotton unless their stocks come down below to the reduced limits now prescribed. Genuine cases involving replacement will be considered by the Textile Commissioner on merits. Mills defaulting in the submission of the return will be severely dealt with. Similarly the traders will also submit special stock returns to the Textile Commissioner. State Governments are being requested to take similar action in respect of cooperative marketing societies and traders under their control.
- (v) The credit facilities in operation in respect of the mills, the trade and cooperatives are being reviewed with a view to reducing credit limits.
- (vi) State Governments have been requested to take all possible steps to ensure speedy movement of cotton from the grower to the mills.
- (vii) It is expected that the ICMF will evolve a voluntary scheme for mutual help to needy mills to ensure availability of cotton either by way of loans or otherwise.
- (viii) The original import programme prepared in June 1970 was for 8.25 lakh bales. When the position was reviewed recently, it was found that the gap between supply and demand might be somewhat longer. Additional imports were, therefore, immediately considered and free foreign exchange has been obtained for import immediately of 1 lakh bales of cotton from USA. Import of 1.5 lakh bales of staple fibre on an immediate basis has also been arranged. Against the original import programme, 4.53 lakh bales

has already been released. Special measures are being taken to secure the expeditious release of the balance. The mills which had been allotted the quotas have been asked to arrange import of 75% of the Sudan cotton already allotted, by 31st December and 50% of the UAR cotton already allotted, by 31st January, 1971 and the P. L. 480 cotton already allotted, immediately. The Cotton Corporation of India has also been asked to import with the assistance of the trade, further quantities of cotton available from areas other than Sudan and UAR as part of the original import programme. Efforts are also continuing to be made to arrange more imports of cotton and man-made fibres.

- (ix) In order to make available the type of cotton which is in short supply, for the weaker and exporting mills, the staple length limit for imports against current releases is being reduced from the usual 1-1/16 to 1.

4. The position is being continuously watched and further steps that may be necessary will be promptly taken. It is hoped that with the steps now being taken, it will be possible to maintain uninterrupted production, without prejudicing the legitimate interests of growers.

18.01 hrs.

DISCUSSION ON SPORTS POLICY

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, Dr. Karni Singh will raise a discussion on the sports policy of the Government of India.

Before the discussion starts, I would request every hon. Member to keep to his time, because I shall adjourn the House precisely at 7 p. m. So, if there is no reply, hon. Members should not blame me.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : At 7.5 p. m.

DR. KARNI SINGH (Bikaner) : I welcome this opportunity in this House to have a discussion on the sports policy of our country. What is so fortunate is that from our Speaker downwards, almost everybody in this House has been a sportsman in his time, and I am quite sure that the views that will be expressed will be those of people who know something about sports.

MR. Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee came to India only ten days ago, and his one main observation was that India with its 550 million people still unfortunately had such a low standard in sports. That does not reflect very well on a vast country like ours where sports is part and parcel of our every-day living. I feel that the reason why sports standards in our country have not reached as high as they should is because of the policy of the Government not being positive.

The emphasis on sports is essential today more so because of the feeling of disgruntlement in the youth of the country. It is essential that we should channelise the interests of our young men and women towards healthy sports activities, because otherwise we find that the time in the evenings and afternoons is wasted by them, and they spend it in unhealthy activities. You know that in many countries, not only in the democratic countries but in the Iron Curtain countries, there is a great deal of emphasis on sports. I think India can well emulate that. I do not want to say this purely as a sportsman myself, but as an Indian, I feel pride in the showings of Indian sportsmen in national and international fields.

In hockey, India has repeatedly won the gold medals. We have lost our Hockey crown recently, I feel, because of the policy of the Government not being firm enough. Take the question of racing in the 400 meters race, in which Milkha Singh made a name. India has the fourth position in the world. In Billiard, Wilson Jones is a gold medalist. In Badminton we have the third position in the world. In shooting, we have the second position in the world. In wrestling, if I remember correctly, we picked up the sixth position in the world. In tennis, men like Premjit Lal, Mukherjea and Krishnan have been famous throughout the entire world.

18.04 hrs.

[SHRI VASUDEVAN NAIR in the Chair]

In polo, India has been in the past on the top. In volley-ball, we have won the seventh position in the world. For a poor country like ours, with a government which is not seriously interested in sports and in promoting sports, this is not at all a poor showing. If our Ministry were to exert themselves a little more powerfully and the sports federations were to cooperate a little more with the Government and more funds were available for our sportsmen, I have no doubt that in the next year or two, or two or three years, we shall be able to win many more gold medals for our country.

The Mexico Olympics were over only two years ago. We had a probe into it. What I want to say is that probes yield no results. You will have another probe after the Munich Olympics. What I fear—and I would like to voice my concern on the floor of the House—is that unless the Government of India do everything possible to see that our sportsmen get everything to train them now for the Munich Olympics, you are going to lose the Hockey crown once again. I can tell you one thing that today sports is becoming completely professionalised. I participated in three Olympics myself and I know. No country is today going to sit back and let India win the Hockey crown. We have been at the top in hockey. But countries like even Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Italy, many of them have made a great advance in this sport. And if we are going to be complacent and just rely on our probes, like the very thorough Sarin inquiry for that matter, I am afraid we are going to lose hockey, and if we lose hockey, I can tell you that India at the present moment has no possibility of winning a gold medal in any sport.

I was very happy on the occasion of the Arjun Awards the other day when the hon. Minister, Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao, made a very fine speech. I think some of the points he mentioned were excellent because they showed a certain amount of positive thinking on the part of Government. The scheme of sports talent search scholarships that he

[Dr. Karni Singh]

suggested is, I think, a really first-class one; the all-India competition for non-student youths, I thought, was also a very good plan, because this will bring out talent from our villages where if we look for it, we can find it. You have only to look at Chandgi Ram, a man from the villages, who has become very famous. Government should utilise their experts to try and pick out talented young men and women.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH : Chandgi Ram was not sent to Mexico.

DR. KARNI SINGH : I remember that; there was a great deal of discussion on that.

What is perhaps most irritating is that our sportsmen have to march behind the Indian flag taking teams which are not properly prepared. Foreign exchange, of course, is the usual difficulty pleaded in the past. People are not well fed, the nutrition is inadequate, and when we see our sportsmen beaten and trounced year after year by some of the western countries, it begins to hurt. I know that is not because India does not have the talent; we have. We have some of the finest sportsmen in the world, only we do not have the desire and determination to exploit this talent and red-tape comes in the way of any advancement.

We know that whenever a team is sanctioned to go abroad, right up to the last moment, the Federation and the Education Ministry keep on throwing the baby towards each other, and the net result is that a team is finally either announced or withdrawn a week before departure. You must realise that in a competition like world championships or the Olympics, it is virtually a competition of professionals, although they may be called amateurs. The greatest talent in the world from countries like the sputnik countries is matched against that of a poor country like ours. And here you give our people seven days notice to prepare and go. I do not think this is fair to our boys. It is not only humiliating but frustrating to our youth. I feel unless Government make up their mind at least three or four months ahead of time, it will never be possible for our young men and women to be able to reach those very high standards. In fact, I go a step further and say that in international

sports today, the competition is between freaks. It is not the average man who can compete in this field. America, Russia and other countries always treat it as a matter of prestige that they should win. I know what happened in the world shooting championships. America's aim is to win; so far as the Soviet Union is concerned, it is their principle to see that American is beaten. In between poor countries like us are trying to edge our way in. If our people do not have the equipment, equal and comparable opportunities to train, adequate finance, proper training and proper coaching, what is going to happen? The Minister can very easily turn back and ask: why send a team? It is a good question. I can easily turn round and say: why send Parliamentary delegations? You must realise that sports teams going out of India today carry a message of good will. They are the biggest ambassadors of the country. I can tell you with much pride that I have walked behind my country's flag ten times, and every time we gather in a big stadium, millions of people get up and applaud and you feel proud because India is a great country, but likewise we would like to see that as our great contingent marches in, our performances are equally good, and it is upto the Federations and the Government to see that we are given adequate training and equal opportunities with the Sputnik countries to do our best. Otherwise, our boys and girls are not getting a fair deal.

I would like to say something about the hockey match in Mexico. I saw India play some matches and as a sportsman I am quite prepared to say that Pakistan had a better team than ours. I saw the two countries play in separate matches the same day and I feel ashamed to say that, when we have some of the finest men in India on our hockey fields, due to lack of nutrition or lack of training or proper leadership, our teams are not able to perform well and a small country like Pakistan has beaten us. I sincerely hope that the training for the Munich Olympics will start from now on and that the training of the major teams will be taken up under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Education. If that is not done, I am afraid We will lose the battle altogether.

I will repeat my request made sometime

ago for a Ministry of Sports. When I say that, I do not for a moment mean that the hon. Minister is not capable of handling sports, he is, but what I would like to say is that there should be a Ministry for sports only and the job of that Ministry should be to see that sportsmen are trained in the country with the sole objective of raising the physical standards of the people in our country and to win prestige and glory for our nation in the international field. If there is a separate sports Ministry with a Minister who is himself a sportsman, I have no doubt that within a very short period of time India will be among the top ranking countries in the world in sports.

I would also like to repeat my statement made sometime ago about the sports Federation in the country. I have seen from my personal experience that politics is coming in the way of these sports Federations giving our sportsman a proper chance to come up. All sorts of things come in the way,—politics, communalism, casteism, regionalism and God knows how many other things—of Indian sportsmen making their mark. I feel that wherever the Government of India finds that a Sports Federation has not measured up to expectations, that Federation for the time being should be taken over by the Government of India.

I would like to come to a very controversial point, and that is about India's participation in any international event in which South Africa participates. As you know, at the eleventh hour two teams were cancelled. The first was the golf team and the second was the shooting team and I believe that this is going to be the fate of many more, including the women's hockey team. As far as the Federations are concerned, the best that they can do is to try and use their influence on the international bodies to keep South Africa out, but it is not within their powers, with the small vote that they have got, to exert their influence to the extent of throwing out South Africa. I feel very strongly about apartheid and I know perfectly well how my countrymen are feeling, but I do realise that unless we are effective in throwing out South Africa, it is completely nonsensical for India to keep out of international sports. If we do that, it is not India which is gaining a march, but it is South

Africa which is winning. To give one example, there will be a world shooting championship next year in Japan. Suppose India trains ten shooters to participate, all that South Africa has to do is to send one tiny little boy to participate and our entire team will be withdrawn. Who is the loser? India, not South Africa. Therefore, I feel that sports and politics should be kept separate. I know perfectly that this is a matter for decision at the highest level not only for India but probably for the Asian and African countries as well. I appeal to the Afro-Asian countries to do some re-thinking on this. The Soviet Union has been the strongest supporter of the Afro-Asian countries in their fight against apartheid. In spite of that U. S. S. R. is participating in many of these competitions where South Africa participates. Only recently India withdrew its team from world shooting championship for this reason. But Soviet Union participated. So when countries like the Soviet Union who feel strongly on this subject are prepared to keep sport and politics separate, why cannot India?

I should like to make a few observations as I have collected information from various sports federations. The gymnastic federation, for instance, feel that the grants they receive from the Government are not adequate. They do not have enough facilities for getting the right type of equipment for their exercise and the equipment that is manufactured in the country is sub-standard. I feel that the hon. Minister might like to consider this matter, that industries that produce sports goods should produce goods of high quality that are equal to the best in the world.

Take the question of women's hockey. They feel that the foreign exchange problem is coming in their way; that is the story with almost all other sports organisations. They feel that their main hurdle is lack of international competition and national competition within the country; this prevents the standard of women's hockey coming up to its full stature. Girls like Avinash Sidhu, Prema Saini and Anne Lumsden have made great names for the country. India won in 1962 the competition in Ceylon and got third place in 1968 in the first Asian Women's Hockey Championship. These are not mean achievements for a country like ours.

[Dr. Karni Singh]

Take volley ball. Even they feel that they need far more stadiums. For volley ball you do not need too much land; it should be possible for the Government to provide adequate facilities for volley ball stadiums. They also feel that the funds that the Government give to the volley ball federation are not adequate. In the Asian volley ball championship India got a gold medal in 1956. This is not a mean achievement. It got 7th position in the world. That is a good thing for the volley ball.

In badminton also people feel the same thing; scarcity of courts, scarcity of shuttle-cocks—those made in India are not satisfactory—and scarcity of bats. There are too many restrictions and duties on the import of sports equipment. Unofficially India ranks second in badminton in the world. The ladies team won the Asian Zone Uber cup in 1956-57 and 1959-60.

Now I shall refer to shooting sports: I have been very intimately connected with it. Since shooting forms the second line of defence in the country, with Pakistan and China at our borders, I very respectfully request the hon. Minister to make an enquiry into the State Trading Corporation cartridges that are given to the National Rifle Association of India. First and foremost, I should say that the motivation behind the grant of these cartridges by the Government of India was excellent. The idea was that sports should be promoted. But as politics is in our sports today, these cartridges are being utilised, not so much for sport but for enrolling more members. Every person who becomes a member of NRAI is given 150 or 200 cartridges which ultimately find their way into black market. The sportsmen who require them for their training starve. By enrolling more members certain groups of persons who do not know the tail-end of the gun stay in power and run the organisation. Therefore, my respectful submission is that the STC cartridges should not be given to the NRAI except when they are earmarked specifically for sports. The memorandum and articles of association of the NRAI lay down that it is for sport and not for shikar for killing partridges and deer and animals.

If you give these cartridges and particularly the buckshot I would like you to make a note of this the buckshot has also been imported,—this is the position. The cartridge sells for may be a rupee or two. But it sells in the black market for Rs. 14, and everybody knows that the buckshot is used only for destroying deer. Therefore, I feel that the function of the National Rifles Association is to impart training in the shooting sport, not in killing, not in shikar; and the function of selling cartridges to the shikaris is not that of the National Rifle Association, but that of the gun-shops. I think the gun-shops should be given cartridges for that purpose. The National Rifle Association should be given cartridges for just the shooting sport.

Concluding my remarks, I would only like to say this much: that we can achieve a great deal if we are dogged and determined in our training programme. I would like to see that the hon. Minister sees six months ahead of the olympics, decides as to who are the contestants who are going to represent the country. Then, feed them well, and clothe them well and give them the best training under the best coaches in the world, with one determined desire that the Indian flag should fly first and then the gold medals will pour into India. I have no doubt that that kind of talent is available. It needs a little bit of co-ordination and a little bit of clearer thinking. I do feel that if we continually keep on dipping, it is humiliating for the country and it is humiliating and frustrating for the youth of this country. I would request the hon. Minister to pay more attention to this.

With these words, I conclude my remarks, and I would request the Minister and the hon. House to throw some light on this sports policy.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North-East): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful for the courtesy of the Chair in letting me speak before my turn. I feel that as a member of the All India Council of Sports, I owe it to this house as well as to myself to participate in this debate. I am very glad that our friend Dr. Karni Singh has raised this discussion, and though I differ from him in regard to the

matter of South Africa and Apartheid, I would not enter into an argument, and I would leave it to the Minister to answer him. But otherwise, I am in general agreement with the points that he has brought forward.

I need not stress how athletics in general are important for our life. *Nayamatma Balahinena Labhyaha*. The soul is not to be achieved by the weak. *Nayamatma Pravachenena Labhyaha*. It cannot also be achieved by mere formulations, and a few speeches in Parliament are not going to do the trick. Even so, it is very necessary to remember that encouragement to Indian sport which was largely offered by princes and other privileged people in earlier days is now no longer there. The state has hardly been able to enter into the picture and to fill the breach. As I have found out, things still go on in a ding-dong and official way. There is no acceleration in the country either about the sports programme or about its implementation.

There is the All India Council of Sports ostensibly advising the Ministry of Education. There are State Councils of Sports which have a certain area of jurisdiction. But there is hardly any co-ordinated plan regarding playgrounds for our pupils to be an essential part of all our schools and colleges. There is no co-ordinated plan, but only some accidental grant of money for the construction of utility stadia and that sort of thing. The All India Council of Sports has held at least two sports congresses, and there it was insisted that there should be a national sports policy with priorities properly fixed, and there was an idea stressed by many of us that mass games like football should have much more encouragement than the more exclusive games which get just as much assistance for the Government as football happens to get.

There are also our own games, indigenous inexpensive games like *kabaddi*, *kho-kho*, which do not seem to be given the kind of encouragement which we ought to give them. We find also that sports bosses in the different federations cling to office and the position has deteriorated so much that I do not hesitate to say that the Indian Hockey Federation has become more a police set-up than a national body. The result is, there is no attempt at

finding out talent. Dr. Karni Singh was absolutely correct. There is no search for talent in different parts of our country. Where games are popular, there is no attempt to keep it up at the proper level. Today for example, there is a report that Eden Gardens in Calcutta, which has the loveliest cricket pitch in our country and is the pride of our sportsmen is falling to pieces and nothing very much is being done about it. This position will not be rectified till there is a very serious effort to evolve and implement a sports policy.

Mass participation in sports is still a dream. As I said, not even a talent search has taken place. There is, of course, the basic problem of the poverty of our people. Shortage of protein in our food leads to blindness as far as our children are concerned. How are we going to get children who would be 'athletically strong enough? We may get some exceptionally few individuals like Chandgi Ram. They are exceptional people who have to fight the extraordinarily difficult conditions of life in our country. They are naturally very few and most of them are not necessarily for no fault of their own top-class sportsmen either. Therefore, it is very important that a sports policy discussion necessitates, involves, implies essentially a discussion of basic economic policies. I remember in 1959 when I had raised a discussion on sports, Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, who was in the Chair, said, how can we have good sportsmen because our people do not have enough food to eat? How are we going to substitute for lack of food by merely a lot of training? And, we do not give them a lot of training either. We do not try to do the best we can in our present day circumstances. We shall not be able to achieve world standards which a country like ours should achieve, unless we tackle first things first, like ensuring a better life for our people and a sense of belonging, so that when our teams go abroad, they have a mission of their own to accomplish. They are ambassadors of India in foreign lands. That sense of belonging does not happen to be with our people. That sense of belonging to one great country with a mission to fulfil is not there. That is a why we have to do something.

We need not bother much about 'interna-

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

tional competition. A country like the Soviet Union, which today enjoys a near monopoly of gold medals and competes with the United States, which is top in the world, that country for many long years was in hybernation. It was trying to collect its strength. And, when it came out, it came out in all glory and with all majesty. We need not bother to much about too many of international competitions. We need not spend our precious foreign exchange by participating in every footling little thing anywhere in the world. Let us concentrate on certain things. Let us make sure of mass participation in sports. Let us make sure that our children in schools and colleges get opportunities for athletic excellence. Let us make sure that in our towns and cities utility stadia and bigger stadia are there. Let us make sure, if at all we can with the kind of Government we have, that the people of our country have a better deal, better food and better living conditions, that they do not suffer from malnutrition, that we do not hear of the kind of thing which takes place in our country—poverty and the rest of it. That is the basic answer to the problem. Without that, everything would be *pravachan*.

नायमात्मा प्रवचनेन लभ्यः

You cannot merely by formulating certain remedies secure the achievement of the soul.

SHRI KAMALNAYAN BAJAJ (Wardha):

Sir, I do not think this is a subject where there can be any difference of opinion. It is well known that the sports field in our country is not as much encouraged as it should be. Even the sportsmen are not assisted as much as they should be. It is an open secret which everybody knows. As Dr. Karni Singh said, there is too much of politics in our sports. I would like to add that there is too little of sportsmanship in our politics and both are harming us.

18.30 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARI in the Chair]

If there is a little more of sportsmanship in our politics, our country will be much better. I would suggest that every school and college should encourage sports. Now the entire subject is left to the principal or some commi-

tee of the school or college. Unless they take real interest sports cannot be encouraged.

While giving grants from the Centre or even from the States, some condition should be stipulated that so much of the grant will go for academic education and specific grants will be reserved for sports. Arrangements should also be made for feeding them properly. Unless they are not fed properly they cannot do exercises and take part in sports. Very often we find that they do not get proper nourishing food.

I am sure that you must have heard of our wrestlers who went to Scotland and came first in the competition. They have publicly complained that they were not given fullpocket money. Whatever might have been the money sanctioned by the government, they say that they were not properly looked after and they were not properly fed. We do not know whether any inquiry has been made into the matter. Whenever sports teams go abroad there are similar complaints from the participants, and they voice them when we meet them outside. I would suggest that in future whenever teams are going abroad the pocket money in foreign exchange should be given to the individual participants instead of entrusting it to the managers. Collective expenses allowed for the team may be entrusted to the Manager.

In the 1936 Olympiad in Berlin the Olympiad Committee had invited all the nations to participate in an exhibition of rural games of their countries. It was not a competitive item but an exhibition of rural games. The Indian team demonstrated Atya-Patia, Kho-kho and Hu-tu-tu. I was a humble member of that team. We exhibited these Indian rural games in Berlin and we stood second among the 35 or 40 nations which participated at that time. The Olympiad at that time was looking forward for rural games from other countries which could be internationalised which would be less expensive, which would take less space. It is my grievance that the Indian Government and our Ambassadors abroad have not taken it up seriously so that our rural games can be

internationalised. I do not bother the European or American countries adopt them but so far as Asia and Africa are concerned, there are many games which we can adopt from them and there are many of our games which will be popular with them.

I endorse the suggestion of Dr Karni Singh that there should be a separate Ministry for Sports. If there is a Ministry solely looking after this work, it will take more interest in the subject and sports will be encouraged and so the health of the people will improve. It will also create a sense of fellow-feeling and amiability among the people. Today there is so much of animosity and, if anything, politics has made it worse. So, we should do something to take our people out of this and that work could be done better if there is a separate Ministry of Sports to which sufficient funds should be allotted.

Those who go abroad should be kept in discipline. Very often they go out and return very late in the night even though they have to practise and participate in the competition matches the next day morning. That should not be tolerated. Indiscipline and that kind of behaviour, whether inside the game or outside, should be severely dealt with. If all these things are done, I am sure sports will be a great success in our country and it will contribute to the welfare of the youth of our country.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : Mr. Chairman, I am really thankful to Dr. Karni Singhji for having brought up this very important subject although I would like to start on a different note from his approach.

Although the spirit of the Olympics is not how many medals you win or whether you stand first or not but how you play the game and conduct yourself, never the less it still remains a fact that the medal position is a definite criterion and reflection of the standard of sports as compared to other countries. Keeping this in view we will have to come to the sad conclusion that although we have a population of 537 million, we have stood first from the bottom of the medal list compared to many of the tiny countries which have a fraction of our population.

For that we must ponder over where the shoe pinches and what is the malady. Is it because of the faults of our sportsmen or is it because there is something wrong with our sports policy? Have we given enough facilities and inputs so that we will expect international standards among our sportsmen? Have we given them the proper coaching and training? Have we looked after their nutrition?

For all these you will get the answers in the debates, discussions and the various committees which had been formed and which had submitted their reports, starting from the discussion in Parliament on 8th December, 1960, by Shri Hiren Mukerjee after our defeat in the Rome Olympics when we lost the gold medal in hockey.

Dr. Karni Singhji tried for two years and today he has been successful to raise the discussion again, again after losing the gold medal in Mexico in hockey. So, we see that history has a way of repeating itself and we are waking up only after we have lost the gold medal in hockey which was our monopoly. I do not know whether the dislike of the monopoly, which we so wax eloquent upon in this House, finds a reflection in the sports field also.

The Sarin Committee which had four famous captains and hockey internationals—Major Dhyan Chand, Balbir Singh, K. D. Singh and Charanjit Singh—have strongly indicated and given the same reasons which had been given for the 1960 Olympics. This just goes to show and prove that we do not want nor do we have the sense to learn from our mistakes which we did a decade back.

We see in the press and also in the present Asian Games squad to Bangkok the interference of politics in sports. Professor Hiren Mukerjee had pointed out in 1960 the case of Bal Kishen Singh Grewal, who was left at the airport, and someone else was substituted. Now I do not know whether it was the pressure of a Cabinet Minister or somebody else but there is a particular gentleman, Shri Jarnail Singh, who did not qualify but who has now found for himself a seat in Bangkok. I do not think that he is even going to compete because he does not come up to the

[Shri K. P. Singh Deo]

required standard. I hope, the hon. Minister will enlighten me on this subject about Shri Jarnail Singh. God knows for which event he has been admitted or whether he is going to take part at all.

Then, we have had the various All India Sports Congresses which met and gave valuable suggestions. Then, there was an *ad hoc* committee in 1959 which had also given very useful suggestions. I would like to know to what extent the Government has been able to implement or take note of those suggestions. If they have taken steps, why is it that in spite of taking those steps as suggested, our sports are still in the doldrums as compared to the international standard?

A few days back in the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry of Education, the hon. Minister was gracious enough to give me an answer in regard to the sports policy. Sir, It is not just enough to enunciate and formulate a policy and just to hand over lakhs of rupees to the Sports' Federations and to the State Sports' Councils which are at the moment not run by sportsmen but are run by decadent doddering old fossils who have never seen a football field or a cricket field except at the time when they go to inaugurate a match. These are the people who handle sports in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member may try to conclude now.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: There are some very important points that I want to make. This is a very rare occasion. I do not think we will get another opportunity. It concerns my generation.

In this background, I would like to urge that the Government can play their role effectively and can act as a catalytic agent by introducing physical education in the curricula. It is by doing this and by formulating a uniform sports policy and ensuring that sports' bodies must be run by those who are devoted to sports, who are actual sportsmen, who are professionally qualified to be in those bodies, that you can run the sports well *vis-a-vis* the training, the planning, the promotion and development of sports.

Regarding physical education, this is nothing

new in the world of sports, all the major sporting countries of the world have physical education right from the school stage. It is at this impressionable stage and age that you can really make an impact. That is why I urge upon the hon. Minister to take the help of the NCERT and also the Institute of Applied Manpower Research to see that physical education can be included in the curricula and to tap the vast resources that we have in our rural youth and to see that our school, college and university students get a chance to don the colours of the country in international and national sports.

Since the time is very short, I would like to make only one or two points more. In the last three years, ever since I have come to Parliament, I have been taking up the cause of rowing. This is the only event from the 21 Olympic events which is not yet recognised in India in spite of the fact that we have some world-class oarsmen among whom Sam Nariman Medora even with a crippled leg after a rowing accident reigned supreme in the whole of South-East Asia from 1954 to 1965. He was not given any recognition nor even the Arjuna award or any such recognition for the only reason that rowing does not have an all-India body.

In the Report of the *ad hoc* Committee on Games and Sports of 1959, it has been mentioned that although boxing did not have an all-India federation, three boxers were sent to Helsinki Olympics and they got one silver and two bronze medals. It is by giving a chance to them to participate in olympics and other international competitions that they can show their full mettle. So, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to see that rowing is given due recognition because this is one sport in which we can really show our mettle. At the moment, the Lake Club of Calcutta have one crew, whose average age is 18 in the Amateur Rowing Association of the East Regatta. They have been the champions of South-East Asia for the last two consecutive years. At the moment, the Regatta is going on at Poona. I am perfectly sure they get a hat-trick.

Before concluding, I would like to say that when we are going to have the centenary cricket celebrations, the great Indian cricketeer Shri Ranjit Singhji.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry, the hon. Member should conclude now.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : I do not want to repeat things which have already been said by Dr. Karni Singh as far as politics in sports and our attitude to South Africa is concerned. I fully agree with what Dr. Karni Singh has said. As a member of the N. R. A. I. and as a member of the Indian Wild Life Board, I would like to say that the Indian Board of Wild Life in various suggestions and recommendations to the Government have always recommended that shots higher than No. 4 should be banned in India. Yet the N. R. A. I. are giving LGs, SGs and BBs and these find their way into the hands of poachers and other dubious elements. And they are having a rollicking time destroying our wild life. So, I will urge upon the Government that now that there is Governor's rule in Bengal and everything seems to be under their control, they will see that the Eden Gardens which is one of the best cricket fields in the whole of Asia and one of the best in the world is not turned into a free-for-all in which football, hockey, cricket and every game under the sun is being played. It should be maintained as a cricket field and especially since it bears the name of Ranjit Stadium after the name of that great cricketer whose centenary falls in 1972.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bal Raj Madhok.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Please give us chance to speak also, Sir. We are prepared to sit till 7-30.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are not going to sit. The whole difficulty is that the staff is put to inconvenience and people are put to inconvenience. They come early. At least you see that we finish within the time allotted. We should not take much time beyond that.

SHRI SHIVA CHANDIKA PRASAD (Jamshedpur) : Then why did you allow the House to continue after 6 ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sometimes we have to be a little considerate.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Only half an hour more, Sir. Nothing more. When we are discussing sports, I expect you to be most sporting.

श्री बलराज मधोक (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : सभापति महोदय, हम गवर्नमेंट से भी और आप से भी कहना चाहते हैं कि गवर्नमेंट इस सदन के साथ खिलवाड़ करती है। आखिर यह देश का सदन है। अगर देश के लिए महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर यहाँ विचार नहीं होगा, तो कहाँ होगा ? खेलों सम्बन्धी नीति पर चर्चा के लिए इतने सालों से प्रयत्न हो रहा है और आज उसके लिए केवल एक घण्टा दिया गया है। इसकी तुलना में जिन विषयों का महत्व नहीं था, उनके लिए यहाँ बहुत समय दे दिया गया है। यह आपका दोष नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : यह समय तो बिजिनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी ने निर्धारित किया है। माननीय सदस्य उससे तीन या चार घण्टे निश्चित करा सकते हैं।

श्री बलराज मधोक : अभी तक स्पोर्ट्स के बारे में जो कुछ कहा गया है, वह इंटरनेशनल काम्पीटीशन में हमारी स्थिति के बारे में कहा गया है। इंटरनेशनल काम्पीटीशन में हम जीतें, इसका महत्व है। हम हाकी में हारे, उससे इस देश का अपमान हुआ। परन्तु मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इंटरनेशनल काम्पीटीशन खेलों का केवल एक पहलू है। मुख्य रूप से खेलों पर विचार करना होगा देश के स्वास्थ्य की दृष्टि से और देश में स्पोर्ट्समैनशिप स्प्रिट पैदा करने के लिए। अगर देश में जनता का स्वास्थ्य अच्छा होगा, तो फिर हम स्पोर्ट्स में आगे निकलेंगे और इंटरनेशनल काम्पीटीशन में भी जीतेंगे।

आज स्थिति यह है कि इस देश में खेलों को प्रोत्साहन देने के नाम पर चन्द लोगों के अपने अड़डे चलते हैं और आम जनता के लिए कुछ नहीं किया जा रहा है। खेलों की शुरुआत होती है स्कूलों से। हम लाखों रुपये खर्च करके

[श्री बलराल मधोक]

स्कूल-कालेजों की बिल्डिंग बनाते हैं। लेकिन हम उनमें प्ले-ग्राउंड बनाने के लिए और उनको मेनटेन करने के लिए क्या खर्च करते हैं? गवर्नमेंट की नीति यह होनी चाहिए कि जो कोई स्कूल या कालेज बने, उसकी बिल्डिंग पर जितना खर्च होता है उसका पन्द्रह या बीस परसेंट प्ले-ग्राउंड को बनाने और उसको मेनटेन करने पर खर्च हो। वहाँ पर बच्चों को स्पोर्ट्स का सामान, हाकी, फुटबॉल या वालीबॉल आदि फ्री दिया जाए। साथ ही बच्चों को स्पोर्ट्स में भाग लेने के लिए इनसेन्टिव दिये जायें। जब हम पढ़ते थे, तो प्ले-ग्राउंड में जाना और गेम्ज में भाग लेना कम्पलसरी था। जो ऐसा नहीं करता था, उसको फाइन होता था। अगर स्कूलों में स्पोर्ट्स को एनकरेज नहीं किया जाएगा तो हम इस में आगे नहीं बढ़ सकेंगे।

दूसरे, हमारे खेलों के अन्दर आज प्रेस देख लीजिए, आल इंडिया रेडियो देख लीजिए, गवर्नमेंट का समयन देख लीजिए, केवल क्रिकेट ही क्रिकेट सब जगह मिलेगा। क्रिकेट बड़े लोगों का खेल है, लाड्स का खेल है, वह कामन मैन का खेल नहीं है। एक खेल चार दिन तक चलता है। कामन मैन का खेल है खोखो, कबड्डी, फुटबॉल, हाँकी। वास्तव में इस देश के लिए सबसे अच्छा खेल है हाँकी जो आदमी को मारना भी सिखाता है और मार खाना भी सिखाता है, आदमी के अन्दर ऐडवेंचर की स्पिरिट पैदा करता है और हाँकी के अन्दर हम जीतते भी थे। लेकिन हाँकी के ऊपर हमने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया। हाकी का मैच हो तो रेडियो पर आधा मिनट भी नहीं आता और क्रिकेट का मैच हो तो पूरी कमेंट्री चलती है। मेरी यह माँग है कि जो रेडियो पर क्रिकेट को यह अनड्यू इम्पॉर्टेन्स दी जाती है यह बन्द की जाय। क्रिकेट हमारे देश का खेल नहीं है। हमारा खेल हाकी है, हमारा खेल फुटबॉल है, हमारा खेल खोखो है, कुश्ती है। इन खेलों

को महत्व दिया जाय। जब तक गवर्नमेंट की ओर से केवल क्रिकेट को इम्पॉर्टेन्स दी जाती रहेगी तब तक ये खेल कभी पनप नहीं पायेंगे।

दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन खेलों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए जो आपने कौंसिल बनाई है, जैसा अभी कहा गया, उनके अन्दर ऐसे लोग इकट्ठा कर दिये जिनका पालिटिक्स में पुल है, जो कभी पालिटिक्स में कुछ थे। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो नेशनल कौंसिल है और स्टेट कौंसिल्स हैं इनको रीआर्गनाइज करिए। इनमें कुछ लोग वह हों जो अच्छे स्पोर्ट्समैन हों, कुछ लोग हों जो स्पोर्ट्स में रहे हैं, जिनका स्पोर्ट्स में इंटरेस्ट है, जो उनको कोई गाइडेंस दे सकते हैं ताकि यह स्पोर्ट्स कौंसिल एक पालिटिक्स का अड्डा न बन कर नेपोटिज्म का अड्डा न बन कर देश के अन्दर स्पोर्ट्स को बढ़ाने का साधन बने।

तीसरी चीज यह है कि देश के अन्दर बहुत से लोग जो गाँवों में रहते हैं उनको भी मोबिलाइज करिए खेलों की दृष्टि से और उसके लिए रूलर कैंप और रूलर एरियाज के अन्दर स्पोर्ट्स मीट होनी चाहिए। इस मामले में आज दिल्ली का एग्जाम्पल आपके सामने है। पिछले तीन सालों में जो दिल्ली के अन्दर स्पोर्ट्स को प्रोत्साहन दिया गया है, ब्लाक ब्लाक में कम्पीटीशन किये गए हैं और हर प्रकार के देशी खेलों का प्रोत्साहन दिया गया है उसका कितना अच्छा प्रभाव पड़ा है, और कितना अच्छा लोगों के अन्दर खेलों के लिए उत्साह पैदा हुआ है, यह आप देख सकते हैं। यह दिल्ली की मिसाल बाकी स्टेट भी फालो कर सकती हैं। इसमें अधिक खर्च नहीं होता, केवल एक बिल चाहिए, दृष्टिकोण चाहिए। यहाँ एक नौजवान चीफ मिनिस्टर है, वह काफी स्पोर्ट्समैन भी है, इसलिए उसने कुछ यह काम किया। लेकिन बाकी स्टेट्स में जिस प्रकार के चीफ मिनिस्टर्स आपने बना रखे हैं जिनको न स्पोर्ट आता

है न उनके अन्दर स्पोर्ट्समैनशिप की स्प्रिट है इसलिए वहाँ खेलों के संबंध में ऐसी हालत है। मेरा यह कहना है कि स्पोर्ट भी आना चाहिए और स्पोर्ट्समैनशिप भी होनी चाहिए तभी जाकर स्पोर्ट्स आगे बढ़ पायेंगे। इसके लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप देश भर के अन्दर भारत भीम, भारत कुमार, मिस्टर दिल्ली, मिस्टर इन्दौर इस प्रकार के कम्पटीशनज को एन्क्रेज करिए। हर शहर के अन्दर, हर प्रान्त के अन्दर इस प्रकार के भारत कुमार, भारत भीम का कम्पटीशन होगा तो आप देखिए कितना उत्साह इससे बढ़ता है। दिल्ली के अन्दर आप देखें दो साल के अन्दर सारे अखाड़े भरे हुए हैं, सब जिम्नेजियम भरे हुए हैं। नौजवान लड़के वहाँ जाते हैं। उन्हें लगता है कि हमें इनाम मिलेगा। तो जब तक कोई इस प्रकार का वातावरण नहीं पैदा किया जायेगा तब तक यह आगे नहीं बढ़ेंगे। मिस इंडिया का कम्पटीशन जो आपने शुरू कर दिया है यह मिस इंडिया का कम्पटीशन छोड़ कर भारत भीम और भारत कुमार का कम्पटीशन हर शहर में, हर स्टेट में और फिर भारत में कराइए और उसके लिए काफी उनको प्रोत्साहन दीजिए।

दूसरी चीज—दो खेल हैं जिनके ऊपर विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरत है। एक है माउन्टेन-निर्यारिग। माउन्टेन हिन्दुस्तान की उत्तरी सीमा भी है और माउन्टेनिर्यारिग एक अच्छा स्पोर्ट भी है। इसके और भी बहुत से लाभ हो सकते हैं। इसलिए इसके लिए विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए।

अभी स्पोर्ट्स पोलिसी के बारे में जो स्टेट-मेंट गवर्नमेंट ने दिया, मैंने उसको पढ़ा है। उसमें कहा है कि हमने इतना अनुदान दिया या इतना रुपया दिया, लेकिन यह सवाल अनुदान का नहीं है

The ultimate factor is not money. The ultimate factor is the man. What kind of people are you putting there ?

जब तक वह मन नहीं है, उसके मन में कोई भावना नहीं है, कोई उत्साह नहीं है, कोई प्रोत्साहन नहीं है तब तक कुछ होगा नहीं। जो हमारी हाकी की भारतीय टीमें जाती हैं उसमें हम हारते क्यों हैं ? सेलेक्शन बोर्ड में नेपोटिज्म है, वहाँ पालिटिक्स है। पिछली बार जो हाकी की टीम हारी क्या उसमें आपने जबलपुर की मिस नागरथ को सेलेक्ट किया था या नहीं ? किया था और अन्तिम समय में उनको छोड़ दिया क्यों कि पालिटिक्स चल गई, किसी की पहुँच चल गई। तो आप सेलेक्शन बोर्ड में केवल वह लोग रखें जिनको खेल का ज्ञान हो और वहाँ पर किसी प्रकार की पालिटिक्स, किसी प्रकार का फेवरिटिज्म, किसी प्रकार की नेपोटिज्म नहीं चलनी चाहिए। जो लोग अच्छा खेलते हैं और जो लोग भारत की प्रतिष्ठा को बढ़ा सकते हैं उन्हीं को चुनें और इसके लिए आवश्यक है कि देश के अन्दर राष्ट्रवाद का भाव हो। हीरेन्द्र मुखर्जी साहब ने आर्थिक बात कही कि बच्चों को खाना मिलना चाहिए। स्वास्थ्य अच्छा नहीं होगा तो वह क्या करेंगे ? यह आवश्यक है। मगर जो लोग खेलते हैं वह खा सकते हैं। खाने वाले ही खेलते हैं। जिनको खाना नहीं मिलता वह खेलेंगे क्या ? इंटर-नेशनल कम्पटीशनज में हम लोग इसलिए हारते हैं कि उन लोगों के अन्दर जो प्लेयर्स भी वहाँ जाते हैं, उनके अन्दर आपने राष्ट्रवाद की भावना पैदा नहीं की। वह भावना नहीं होने के कारण जो चीज उनके अन्दर होनी चाहिए कि यह हमारे देश की प्रतिष्ठा का सवाल है, वह चीज नहीं होती और जब तक देश के प्रति अपनत्व का भाव, मर मिटने का भाव नहीं होगा प्लेयर में हो चाहे स्टूडेंट में हो, तब तक वह देश आगे नहीं बढ़ेगा। इसलिए मेरी प्रार्थना है, इस दृष्टि से आप स्पोर्ट्स की नीति को परिवर्तित कीजिए, स्पोर्ट्स कौंसिल के अन्दर पुनर्गठन कीजिए, सेंटर की स्पोर्ट्स कौंसिल और स्टेट की स्पोर्ट्स कौंसिल में तालमेल पैदा कीजिए। इससे देश के अन्दर न केवल स्वास्थ्य की दृष्टि से लाभ होगा

[श्री बलराज मघोक]

बल्कि स्पोर्ट्समैनशिप की स्प्रिट पैदा होगी। आज देश के अन्दर लोकतंत्र है और लोकतंत्र स्वयं अपने में एक खेल है। इसके भी रूल हैं। जो स्पोर्ट खेलना नहीं जानता वह लोकतंत्र का खेल खेलना भी नहीं जानता और जो रोज आपस में झगड़ा चलता है उसका भी एक कारण यही है। इसलिए हमारे देश में लोकतंत्र सफल हो उसके लिए भी आवश्यक है कि देश के अन्दर स्पोर्ट्समैनशिप की स्प्रिट पैदा हो, देश में ऐसा एक वातावरण पैदा किया जाय और सरकार उसके लिए एक सुनियोजित नीति बनाए जिससे कि स्पोर्ट्स देश में पनप सके।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour) : If my hon. friends in this House, including Dr. Karni Singh to whom I am thankful for having raised this discussion, are expecting the Government to do anything, may I caution them by saying that they are building castles in the air? They have failed in every sphere of life.

SHRI KAMALNAYAN BAJAJ : But not in enlisting the support of my hon. friend's party.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : The youth of this country is most neglected, not to speak of the off springs of the peasants, workers and the slum-dwellers in big cities. Today, the youth is not only neglected, but he is the greatest suspect that Government have before them. Physical fitness in this country is very rare. I have known that to garland the late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's statue, they had to ask the Chief of Army Staff to climb and garland it, because there was no Congressman worth his name and worth his physical fitness who could climb the ladder with a strong nerve and garland it.

There is no food, no house, no education and no employment for the youth. I have known brilliant footballers getting tuberculosis due to malnutrition, because they do not get enough diet to compensate for the loss of the energy that football takes out of them.

Today, we hear in India that an average man consumes nothing more than 36 paise

worth of things per day as a result of 23 years of golden rule by the Congress. So, why are we talking about sports in this country?

By international standards, we are far below. If you go to a foreign country, they will take your weight and height and then they will ask you whether you are an Asian or a Westerner. This is because there are two standards. For everything, there are two standards. We are physically low, and we have made ourselves lower during the last 23 years. So, let us not talk about sports.

Sports schemes are a great need for the youth. They build character. But excepting for a few privileged people, it is inaccessible to millions and billions of our youth. In town and country planning in this country, the whole set up works only for the sharks of land speculators. In big cities, a young man does not know even a small place where he can stretch and play etc.

We are entertaining foreign tourists in this country, but our Indian explorers cannot get any privilege from this Government. I know that in numerous cases this has been so.

There is too much politics in sports. Can you imagine that for the Indian Football Association, they have chosen Shri Atulya Ghosh as the Chairman, a man who is hardly mobile? The reason is that they could not do anything else; for, if they did not take Shri Atulya Ghosh as the Chairman, then they would be obstructed at every step, and so, they had to take him. Today, in games and sports, there are more non-playing masters than playing ones. They manage everything, because otherwise, they would not be able to move.

About the conduct of the Government with regard to the National Fitness Corps, may I say that this Ministry has messed up the whole thing with regard to the people who have rendered such good service, because they have damaged their morale and they are in an awful mess? The same is the case with the NCC. There, their effort can be compared

to a drop in the ocean. So, what sports do you expect this government to encourage and organise? They are nothing but a bundle of failures. The Government must reveal their mind, confess their lapses and failures and tell us in this House today what they have in mind for the future, especially for the non-privileged variety of youth which surrounds all of us today.

19 hrs.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN (Badagara) : I am not a sportsman. So I have the advantage of looking at sports from a layman's point of view. Dr. Karni Singh is a very eminent sportsman. He catalogued the achievements of India here.

When you consider the population of India and the resources we can mobilise, if there is sense with the Government at the Centre for the development of sports, our achievements are far below the standard and we have to travel by leaps and bounds to touch world standards.

As far as I can see, Indian sports and games have four basic defects. One is the exclusive character of our sports and games. Secondly, we have not developed the rural genius in sports; we have not gone to the heart of the people to develop sports which have come down to us through the corridors of centuries, which have been handed down to us by generations of people who have gone before us. The third defect is the paucity of finance and the fourth is favouritism, politics and regionalism which are seeping down into the bottom of sports. These four defects have to be fought. The exclusive character of sports has to go. The Report of the Committee on Physical Education says :

"The proportion of students taking part in games varies from 5 to 20 in universities and 3 to 15 in colleges."

That shows how lamentable backward we are in the development of sports. Our Indian sports and games should acquire a mass character. Sportmen from all categories of people, particularly from the villages and rural areas, should be encouraged to partici-

pate in competitive events at various levels.

As for paucity of finance, I do not think this Government attaches any importance to the encouragement of sports and games.

We are standing at the cross-roads of history. There is a conflict of generations on. The old generation is going to be pushed out of the sphere of politics and other spheres and the new generation is going to take over. How to train them and equip them to fit them into the new scheme of things is a problem that must concern all.

Finally, I come to the question of regionalism. Regionalism in sports has come to such an extent that merit is not recognised in sports. To cite an instance, a volley-ball tournament was held in Kurukshetra University in December 19 last year—an inter-university meet. There was a team of women from Kerala who were the winners the previous year. They had come to participate in it. What was their experience? Here is a *Times of India* report which I will quote :

"Crackers and stones were reported to have been thrown at the girls after they had refused to play. As a result one girl was injured."

When the girls went back to Kerala, they gave an interview to the local press in which they said : 'Thank God our lives are saved and at last we have returned'. The Punjab University team also had to withdraw. The Haryana team had also to withdraw because they were not allowed to participate.

Instances like this strike at the very root of sportsmanship; they completely negate the development of sports in this country.

I would request the hon. Minister to inquire into these incidents. Those who throw crackers and stones at girls who had come from as far away as Kerala to take part in certain sports and games deserve to be publicly whipped. Unless an example is set in this matter, unless people behave properly, there can be no congenial atmosphere conducive to the development of

[Shri A. Sreedharan]

sports and games. Our sports and games need a new orientation, a new look. I hope Government will rise to the occasion at this late hour at least.

श्री रणधीर सिंह (रोहतक) : चेयरमैन महोदय, मैं डा० कर्णो सिंह जी का बड़ा मशकूर हूँ, उन्होंने इस डिस्कशन को यहाँ लाकर न सिर्फ देश की बल्कि स्पोर्ट्स की बड़ी खिदमत की है। मैं हाऊस का ज्यादा वक्त खराब नहीं करना चाहता, सिर्फ एक-दो बातें अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे स्पोर्ट्स की परम्परा आज की नहीं है, पुराने जमाने से चली आती है। इतने बड़े-बड़े योद्धा हमारे देश में हुए हैं—महाराज रामचन्द्र जी भी इतने बड़े योद्धा थे कि उन्होंने घनुष तोड़ा, भीम जहाँ गोड़े लगा देता था, पानी रुक जाता था। हमारे पंचायती सिस्टम में आप जानते हैं—आप खुद गाँव से आते हैं, बड़े-बड़े मेले लगते हैं आए साल फागुन के महोने में, तोजों के महोनों में, इन मेलों में स्पोर्ट्स होते हैं, मर्दों की स्पोर्ट होती है, औरतों की स्पोर्ट होती है, कुश्तियाँ होती हैं, कबड्डी के मुकाबले होते हैं। मैं पिछले दिनों धुलेश्वर मीना जी के हल्के में गया था, वहाँ लाठी से गेंद खेलते हैं, मीलों तक खेलते चले जाते हैं, रात के तीन-तीन बजे तक खेलते हैं। पंचायतों में टूर्नामेंट्स होते हैं जिनमें हजारों लोग आते हैं। अगर गवर्नमेंट इनको प्रोत्साहित करे, फाइनेन्स दे तो इनकी बहुत ज्यादा तरक्की हो सकती है।

मधोक जी ने ठीक कहा है—यहाँ कुश्तियों के लिए दिल्ली एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन ने जो चीज की है, उससे बहुत उत्साह बढ़ा है। यहाँ बिरला स्कूल में मुझे जाने का मौका मिला है, छोटे-छोटे बच्चे कुश्तियाँ लड़ते हैं। बिरला स्कूल के 12-14 साल के बच्चे हनुमान ने गोल्ड-मेडल लिया, मैं इस मौके पर खाम तोर से उसका नाम लेना चाहता हूँ। इसमें क्या पोलिटिक्स आयेगा। मैं कहे बगैर नहीं रह सकता कि कहीं गवर्नमेंट ने कोई ऐसा काम नहीं किया जिससे

उनको एन्करेजमेंट मिले। हमें उनको रिकग-नाइज करना चाहिए।

जैसा दिल्ली में किया गया है, वैसा बाहर भी है। मेरी अपनी स्टेट हरियाणा में भी है, वहाँ हमारे स्पोर्ट्स के मिनिस्टर हैं, वे खुद भी बहुत अच्छे स्पोर्ट्समैन हैं। पंजाब में भी हैं, लेकिन जो चीज बननी चाहिए, वह नहीं बन रही है। इसलिए जरूरत इस बात की है कि सरकार इस तरफ ध्यान दे। हमें बड़ी शर्म आती है जब हमारे स्पोर्ट्समैन बाहर जाते हैं और उनके साथ ठीक बर्ताव नहीं होता है। मैंने इसके बारे में स्टेटमेंट भी दिया था, मालूम नहीं आपने उसके बारे में एन्क्वायरी की या नहीं की। जब हम बाहर अपनी टीम भेजते हैं तो उसके मैनेजर उनके भत्ते खा जाते हैं। इंग्लैंड में जब टीम गई तो उसका मैनेजर स्पोर्ट्समैनो के भत्ते खा गया। उनको जब वहाँ ले जाते हैं तो जल्दी वापस भेजने की कोशिश की जाती है ताकि फोरेन एक्सचेंज बच जाय, खुद वहाँ आराम करते हैं। गेट्र बंध कर वापस भेज देते हैं, यह दुकानदारी नहीं तो क्या हो रहा है। उनके पास किट खरीदने तक के लिए पैसा नहीं था, वहाँ के लोगों से कलेक्शन करके किट खरीदनी पड़ी—इस तरह की बातें होती हैं। हमारे देश में टेलेंट्स की कमी नहीं है, बेहतरीन टेलेंट्स हैं। चंदगी राम का नाम लिया जाता है, हमारे यहाँ चंदगी राम जैसे एक नहीं हजारों आदमी हैं, दस-दस, पन्द्रह-पन्द्रह गाँव मिल कर उनके लिए घाँ इकट्ठा करते हैं, जैसे बुल्ज के लिए इकट्ठा किया जाता है, इसमें हमारी शान है क्योंकि हमारा पहलवान मुकाबले पर जाता है, वे लोग घी खाते हैं और कसरत करते हैं। लेकिन मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि इसमें सरकार को ज्यादा से ज्यादा इन्टरेस्ट लेना चाहिए। मैं इस बात से तो इतफाक करता हूँ कि जहाँ तक इस में पोलिटिक्स आ गई है, वह बुरी चीज है। मैंने एक चिट्ठी भी लिख कर भेजी थी, एक मैनेजर थे—प्रतापचन्द्र या न जाने

क्या नाम था, मिनिस्टर साहब ने उसकी इन्व्वायरी भी की थी, उसने अपने सारे बेटों को बिलायत भेज दिया, बेहतरीन पहलवान तो यहीं रह गये और जो बेकार के लोग थे, वे भेज दिये गये। यह चीज ठीक नहीं है।

हमारे देश में अच्छे पहलवानों की कमी नहीं है, अच्छे क्रिकेट के खिलाड़ियों की, कबड्डी खेलने वालों की, शूटिंग वालों की कमी नहीं है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसमें ज्यादा इन्टरेस्ट लिया जाय, इसके लिए ज्यादा से ज्यादा फण्ड एलोकेट किये जायें, स्टेड्स को डायरेक्शन दी जाय कि वे स्कूल के बच्चों को इस तरफ पूरी तरह से रागिब करें, ज्यादा से ज्यादा बच्चे खेलें में हिस्सा लें।

सभापति महोदय, जब कोई आदमी स्पोर्ट्स में हिस्सा लेने जाता है तो जिस तरह लोग दुनिया फतह करने निकलते थे और उनका नाम इतिहास में कायम रहता था, शान से उनका नाम लिया जाता है, उसी तरह से जब हमारा कोई पहलवान जीत कर आता है तो इससे उस का ही नाम नहीं होता, बल्कि दुनिया में मुल्क का नाम हो जाता है, दुनिया में मुल्क की शान बढ़ जाती है, इज्जत से उसका नाम लिया जाता है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि हम अपनी पुरानी परम्परा को फिर से रिवाइव करें, इसके लिए न सिर्फ फण्ड दिये जायें बल्कि एक मिनिस्ट्री कायम की जाय और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि अगर अच्छे लेबल पर, वेल्-निट आर्गेनिजेशन से इस काम को आगे बढ़ायें तो बहुत ऊँचे दर्जे के स्पोर्ट्स-मैन हमारे मुल्क में मिल सकते हैं जो एक दिन रूस और अमरीका को भी पीछे डाल सकते हैं—लेकिन इसके लिए पैसा होना चाहिए और गवर्नमेंट का इन्टरेस्ट होना चाहिए।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I rise to support the sentiments expressed by Dr. Karni Singh. I must congratulate him for pursuing this matter thus and bring a discussion on the floor of the House. We require proper training. India is rich in talents. My

hon. friend Mr. Balraj Madhok may be allergic....

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : I am not allergic.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : India has produced Md. Nissar, C. K. Naidu and Amar Singh some of the best players in the cricket world. We beat the Jardine Eleven in the thirties with 111 runs. Nissar took six wickets for 69 runs. We had some of the best winners in the cricket world. At that time we could never imagine that our cricket standard would go down. I am hopeful on seeing people like Bedhi and Joshua Patel and others that India will come up again. What has happened? There is no proper training. Australia which was far behind in hockey came up to world class. Who trained them to attain that status? Tapsell and Galibaldi who were our national players in Olympic games. Unfortunately we could not retain them in our country for training purposes. They had to go to Australia. There should be proper coaching and training arrangements. The talents of adivasis should be used in hockey. I represented Chota-Nagpur twice in Hockey. Those people are under-fed and under-nourished. Still they have so much breath. Unfortunately our footballers could not keep their breath for ninety minutes. When the time was only 60 minutes, it was all right. When it was increased to ninety minutes, it has become horrible for them. The Taj Club of Teheran played for ninety minutes recently and still they were happy. But some of our players were gasping for breath. We want more vigour. Our people should be given good food and properly trained. There should be tenacity. I asked the world table tennis champion Jhonny Leech when he came to India for how many hours they practised. Last year when the Japanese came, they were the world champions. I asked them also : how many hours did you practise? They said : eight hours. Do we do so? We have to specialise in things. We do not specialise even in politics. If the Government are sincere they can improve things. Political hat trick should not be there. I fully support that there should be a sports Minister. I hope that India's name will again go up. Let us free sports

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

from politics; if at all there is politics, let it be sportsmanlike politics.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (मधुबनी) : सभापति जी, स्वामी विवेकानन्द ने खेलों पर काफी जोर दिया था। आप उनकी रचनाओं को देखेंगे तो आपको मालूम होगा कि जब नौजवानों के बारे में वे बोलते थे तो कहा करते थे कि जाकर फुटबाल खेलो। चाहे पढ़ना थोड़ा कम कर दो लेकिन फुटबॉल ज्यादा खेलो। चाहे उसका असर हो या किसी और बात का असर हो लेकिन मुझे भी फुटबाल से दिलचस्पी रही है। मैं पाँच साल हाई स्कूल में और चार साल पटना कालेज में फुटबाल का शौकीन रहा। चाहे बारिश हो या तूफान आए लेकिन मैं खेलने के लिए जरूर पहुँचता था। छोटे पैमाने पर रिवाइंड मिलने का भी मुझे गर्व है। लेकिन आजादी के आन्दोलन का जब बड़ी जोर से फाटक खुला, सन् 45 और 46 से तो इस तरफ मेरी दिलचस्पी कुछ कम हो गई। मैं समझता था कि आजादी के बाद इन खेलों की तरक्की होगी लेकिन जैसे कि हमारे जीवन के अन्य पहलुओं में ह्रास नजर आ रहा है उसी तरह से खेल की बातों में भी ह्रास नजर आ रहा है। आजादी के बाद कोशिश होनी चाहिए थी कि खेलों को और विशेष कर हमारे देसी इंडि-जिनस खेलों को, जिनके बारे में जिक्र किया गया, उनको प्रोत्साहन मिलता लेकिन वह बात नहीं हुई। आप जानते हैं कि यूरोप में फुटबाल खेलते थे लेकिन अमरीका ने फुटबाल का नाम तो जरूर रखा लेकिन उनका वह फुटबाल दूसरा है। आप देखेंगे तो हंसी आयेगी। दो-दो, चार-चार एक दूसरे के ऊपर गिरते हैं, पूरा भेड़िया घसान होता है। उसी तरह से यूरोप में क्रिकेट होता था लेकिन उन्होंने बेसबाल बनाया। उसको भी देखकर आप हैरान होंगे। इसी तरह से अमरीका में, खासकर साउथ अमरीका में एक स्पोर्ट रोडियो है, उसको देखकर भी आपको हंसी आयेगी लेकिन फिर भी उन्होंने एक मौलिक चीज ईजाद की। उसी प्रकार से हमारे

यहाँ भी आजादी के बाद कोशिश होनी चाहिए थी लेकिन वह बात तो दूर रही, अंग्रेजी जमाने के भी जो खेल यहाँ पर थे उनको भी कोई प्रोत्साहन नहीं दिया गया। अब वह समय नहीं रहा कि हम कहें कि हाकी, फुटबाल और क्रिकेट हमारे गेम नहीं हैं। वे अब हमारे जीवन का एक अंग बन गए हैं। लेकिन इनके मुताल्लिक हमें जो एक नीति अस्तित्व करनी चाहिए थी वह नहीं अस्तित्व की गई। हमारी कोई एक साफ नीति नहीं है। हमारे देश के दो ही राष्ट्रीय और इंडीजिनस गेम रहे हैं जिन पर हमारे देश का दीपक टिमटिमाता रहा है—एक है कुश्ती और दूसरा है स्वीमिंग। कुश्ती में गामा ने हिन्दुस्तान का नाम रोशन किया था। तब हमारा पुराना हिन्दुस्तान था। इसी प्रकार से हमारे मिहिर सेन ने इंग्लिश चैनल पार करके हिन्दुस्तान का नाम रोशन किया। लेकिन सरकार ने खेलों में इस देश की प्रतिष्ठा बढ़ाने में कोई भी योगदान नहीं किया।... (व्यवधान)... तो इसके लिए जरूरी हो जाता है कि सरकार एक्सपर्ट्स की कमेटी बनाये जिसमें एम० पी० भी रहें। ... (व्यवधान)... डा० कर्ण सिंह तो उसमें जा सकते हैं। ... (व्यवधान)... और उसमें यह तय किया जाए कि हाकी, फुटबाल, क्रिकेट वगैरह के मुताल्लिक हमारी क्या नीति होनी चाहिए ताकि इन खेलों के बारे में भी हमारा देश आगे बढ़ सके।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND YOUTH SERVICES (SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am deeply thankful to all the Honourable Members of this House, who have participated in this discussion, and I am more than satisfied that the level of the discussion has been very high. We have greatly benefited by it.

I am especially indebted to Dr. Karni Singh who initiated this discussion this evening. He is a renowned sportsman of our country; and I may be permitted to pay my personal tribute to him in these words : he is a sportsman among the princes and he is a prince among the sportsmen.

Sir, a number of issues have been raised, and many useful suggestions have been made. I could have fully explained the position, if the time at my disposal was quite enough, but the paucity of time stands in my way; and I would, therefore, try to deal with a few major points that have been raised today. I assure all the hon. Members that all the points that they have made today will be looked into immediately, personally by me, and the necessary information will be supplied to the Members concerned. Further, I will also try to send all these useful suggestions both to the Indian Olympic Association and the concerned National federations of the various sports organisations.

Sir, before I proceed further, let me dispose of two important points which have been raised by Dr. Karni Singhji. One was about the creation of a Ministry of Sports. As he is aware, this is the function and the privilege and prerogative of the Prime Minister, and I cannot express any opinion about it. But he will agree with me that recently the designation of this Ministry has already been changed from the Ministry of Education to the Ministry of Education and Youth Services. And youth services must naturally include sports. Without sports, there cannot be any youth service at all. So, his aim and his object has been served to some extent; but if he still wants to take it up, let him take it up with the Prime Minister, who is the final arbiter in this matter.

Sir, about his plea for our participation even in those sports events in which South Africa has been participating, I am very sorry that I cannot agree, because this is one of the basic tenets of our foreign policy. We have always stood steadfast to our ideals and opposed the principle of apartheid not only in the UN but in all walks of life. Dr. Karni Singhji—surely knows that when an all-white cricket team was to be sent to England, we raised our voice of protest, which was joined by several other countries and we succeeded in making at least the Commonwealth Games a success. Otherwise, they could not have been held at all. I would, therefore, beg of him not to press it. Let him carry the Government and the people with

him. It is not impossible that at some future date, if better sense prevails and South Africa reverses its policy of apartheid, there may be no question of our dissociating from them at all.

Sir, at the very outset, let me make the position of the Ministry clear in a few words as possible. We are only promoters of sports, not controllers of sports. Our policy is one of non-interference in the internal matters of all sports organisations. We want to leave them free as far as possible. But we come into the picture, if the country's honour is involved. And when gross blunders or bungleings are reported, naturally we have to step in. Otherwise, we leave them free.

I admit that considering the size and the population of our country, we are not spending sufficient money on sports, but I will give some figures to show that our allocations have been increasing gradually. While in the first Plan, there was practically no allocation at all under the head 'sports' in the central sector, in the Second Plan, Rs. 1.75 crores were allotted for this purpose. In the Third Plan, it was raised to Rs. 2.16 crores, and in the current Fourth Plan, Rs. 4.75 crores have been allotted. We are ourselves not satisfied with this allocation, but hon. members will agree with me that we have been succeeding to some extent, though not fully, in our attempt. Hon. members will realise that this is the allocation under the Central Sector only. For the States, there are separate provisions, but I have not got those figures with me just now.

I will just give the break-up as to how we propose to spend the money at our disposal in the Fourth Plan. Rs. 48 lakhs are reserved for grants to the National Sports Federations. Rs. 55 lakhs are reserved for helping the State Sports Councils for building utility stadia, coaching camps, rural sports centres, swimming pools, flood-lighting of grounds and indoor stadia. Rs. 35 lakhs are reserved for the National Institute of Sports at Patiala and the National Coaching Scheme. I am happy that the National Institute of Sports at Patiala is doing quite a good job. Shri Madhok referred to the Indian Mountaineering Foundation. We have provided Rs. 6.5 lakhs for it. For

the sports complex of the capital, the original provision was Rs. 75 lakhs. But after discussions with the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry, it has now been raised to Rs. 164.29 lakhs.

Coming to the Sports Talent Scholarship Scheme, I am glad that Dr. Karni Singhji himself has praised this new scheme. I am glad to say that Rs. 16.80 lakhs have been provided for this new scheme. We will give 400 scholarships of the value of Rs. 25 per month each to school students, who show efficiency in state level competitions. Similarly, 200 scholarships annually have been provided of Rs. 50 per month each to school students for efficiency in national level competitions. Since they have been introduced only this year, their results will be known only after sometime.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : This is the sum total of your contribution to the aspiring youths ?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : This year we have provided Rs. 150 lakhs to the National Sports Organisation of universities and colleges. There are four important divisions of this scheme—appointment of coaches with 75 per cent assistance, development of physical facilities like sports pavilions etc., organisation of coaching camps and awards of 'Sports Talent' Scholarships.

I will specially invite the attention of the Hon'ble Members to three schemes. One is the grants to State Sports Councils, specially for Rural Sports Centres. Many hon. Members have stressed the importance of finding out young men and women from rural areas. We have ear-marked some amount for it and we are working out a scheme. I hope that some good results will follow out of it.

AN. HON. MEMBER : What about tribal areas ?

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : All rural areas, including tribal and adivasi areas and the hill areas, from which I come, will be included in this scheme. I hope that this scheme will contribute something in bringing forth fresh talent.

I agree with Shri K. P. Singh Deo and some other hon. Members that our State Sports Councils are not functioning satisfactorily. Except in Rajasthan, Delhi and one or two other States, they are almost sleeping in other States. They are not availing of the facilities that are being offered to them inspite of the fact that we have publicised our schemes. We have also convened zonal meetings in the East and the West and shortly we are going to have a meeting of the Southern and Northern zones also. However, even though we are requesting them to avail of these facilities, they are not doing it.

The second important scheme is the Sports Talent Scholarship Scheme. Dr. Karni Singhji has also praised it. As the phrase goes—"catch them young", we are finalising a concrete scheme and we hope that some good results will follow from this scheme.

The third is the National Sports Organisation for universities and colleges. Sportsmen also get aged after sometime. So, we have to get young men and women from the colleges and universities. This scheme is being worked out through the UGC and the Inter-University Board. But I am sorry to inform the House that we are ourselves not satisfied with the results so far, as it has not made much headway. We therefore, are calling a meeting of the Advisory Committee. We are also proposing to hold an all-India Seminar, in which all the universities would be represented and a new push would be given to the movement in the universities.

Sir, I agree with all the friends, who took part in the discussion that our performance in international events has not been up to the mark. According to me, the main reason has been lack of stamina and physical fitness. Even in the case of hockey, which is our prize and coveted game our players have failed at the last crucial moments. I think that it is stamina and physical fitness that counts in the long run. Therefore, there is urgent necessity for looking into this matter. I am happy that Shri K. P. Singh Deo referred to this. We will examine this aspect. There was an Advisory Board for Physical

Education for some years, but it was allowed to lapse.

Then there has been in existence an All India Council of Sports for some years. It has done commendable work under its distinguished Presidents, to whom I would like to pay my tribute on this occasion. We have almost invariably followed their advice and implemented it. One of the distinguished members of the now defunct All India Council of Sports was Shri Hiren Mukerjee who used to take a good deal of interest in it.

After much consideration, we have decided to set up a new organisation, called "the National Council of Sports and Physical Education"; and I hope that this will meet with the desires of the hon. Members of this House to a great extent. While the Union Education Minister will be its Chairman, all the Education Ministers or the Ministers-in-charge of sports and physical education in the States will be its members. We are inviting them to become members of this Council. The Indian Olympic Association and some important national sports federations will be represented on it. We are taking six members of the Parliament—four from the Lok Sabha and two from the Rajya Sabha, five experts in sports, five experts in physical education and ten promoters of sports and physical education. This will be the set-up of the new National Council which will meet normally in a year and have a general exchange of ideas.

Under this Council, there will be two National Standing Committees, one for sports and another for physical education. Under these National Standing Committees, there will be Expert Advisory Committees, where we will keep only experts—no politics will be involved there—like the hockey wizard, Dhyan Chand. We are inviting them for this committee, so that their views will be available to us. This new set-up is going to be announced today or tomorrow and then hon. Members will come to know of some more details about it.

Our main idea is to integrate both types of programmes for sports and for physical education, to prepare a national forum for exchange of ideas regarding them and to get

the cooperation of the State Governments in a greater measure than before. That has been our grievance; as they have not been coming forward.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : That you can do in the Plan formulations.

SHRI BHAKT DARSHAN : Thus, we may be able to launch a nationwide supreme national effort to raise the standard of sports, games and physical fitness in the country.

Lastly, hon. Members will be glad to know that we have allowed the largest contingent for the Asian Games this time. The only condition that we imposed on them was that no strictures should have been passed against them, like in the case of Dewan Pratap Chand, to which my hon. friend Shri Randhir Singh had referred. There were some other cases also, where we did not allow them to go abroad, but we allowed those, who were found fit. I am grateful to the Finance Ministry that they also agreed readily. This is the largest contingent that has represented the country in the Asian Games and in the Olympic Games.

Some hon. friends said to me that we were 'rather liberal', but our claim is that we were 'only fair and just'. Our attitude has been that unless we take part in these events and get the experience of even being defeated, we cannot learn new techniques and styles and cannot improve our standards.

Sir, the Sixth Asian Games are starting tomorrow and I take this opportunity to send them on behalf of myself and the Hon'ble Members present in the House, our greetings and good wishes. We will be watching their performance. As Dr. Karni Singhji and other friends put it, they are our ambassadors abroad and I hope that they will be spreading the message of India, of goodwill and international understanding. In the words of Pandit Nehruji, we hope that they will play the game in the spirit of the game.

19.34 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 9, 1970 (Agrahayana 18, 1892 (Saka)).