

Mr. Speaker: I do not make that departure. We have no provision for any supplementary in so far as Calling Attention Notices are concerned. But, I allow one question to the sponsors. There is no other sponsor standing up. Next question Shri Bagri.

Some Hon. Members: Not in the House.

Shri H. P. Chatterjee: I may be permitted to ask one question

REPORTED STATEMENTS MADE AT
DJAKARTA BY SHRI G. D. SONDHI
AND THE REACTIONS OF THE
INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT

Shri Indrajit Gupta: (Calcutta South-West): Sir, under Rule 197, I call the attention of the Minister of Education to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

Reported statements made at Djakarta by Shri G. D. Sondhi, Vice-President of the Asian Games Federation and the reactions expressed thereto by the Indonesian Government.

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): Sir, I beg to make the following statement in regard to the Call Attention Notice tabled by Sarvashri Indrajit Gupta, S. M. Banerjee, Prabhat Kar and Daji on the alleged anti-Indonesian statements made by Shri G. D. Sondhi at Djakarta on 28th August, 1962.

The Government of India do not have the official text of the statements made by Shri G. D. Sondhi. However, the Government of India wish to make it clear that Shri G. D. Sondhi is not in Djakarta as India's official representative. Shri G. D. Sondhi in his personal capacity happens to be a member of the International Olympic Council, Senior Vice-President of the Asian Games Federation and one of the three representatives of the Indian Olympic

Association on the Asian Games Federation. All the expenses of Shri G. D. Sondhi's visit to Djakarta are being borne by the Organising Committee of the Fourth Asian Games and not by the Government of India nor even by the Indian Olympic Association. The views expressed by Shri G. D. Sondhi are his personal views.

It has all along been the declared policy of the Government of India not to interfere in the affairs of the National Sports Federations. Such Governmental interference would amount to violation of the Olympic Charter.

The Government and the people of India have all along had the friendliest of relations with Indonesia and it shall always be the endeavour of the Government of India to strengthen these relations.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: While the position stated by the hon. Minister is technically correct, may I know, in view of the very bitter feelings which unfortunately seems to have been aroused extending to the extent of demonstrations outside our embassy at Jakarta, whether the Government will make it clear that they are disowning not only their connection with the status of Mr. G. D. Sondhi but also the contents of the statement in advocating the cause of Taiwan?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: How can we disown Mr. Sondhi? Mr. G. D. Sondhi is an Indian national.

Shri Daji (Indore): We may not disown him, but have we made it clear to the Indonesian Government that the Government of India does not underwrite the views expressed by Shri Sondhi?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I had made it very clear in my statement that the Government of India have no responsibility for the views expressed by Mr. Sondhi. Mr. G. D. Sondhi is there in his individual capacity in

[Dr. K. L. Shrimali]

the Asian Games and in the Olympics. As I said, we do not interfere in this work of the Federation.

Shri Daji: My question has not been answered, Sir. My question was whether we have made it clear to the Indonesian Government that we dissociate with the views of Shri Sondhi.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This question has been answered. Our Ambassador in Indonesia has made it very clear, and the Government of India have also made it clear, and my statement also makes it very clear.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): May I take it from the statement of the hon. Minister that if any Indian goes abroad in connection with sports or any other thing, he has the right to say whatever he likes and he will not be pulled up for what he says?

Mr. Speaker: That is hypothetical.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The hon. Member certainly should know that this country enjoys freedom, and hon. Members on the opposite side should certainly know that we cannot just do anything about the statements which they make. Similarly, Shri G. D. Sondhi has made a statement. He has made it in his personal capacity.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, I raise a point of order. To my question, the hon. Minister says that hon. Members also make some statements. He has not cared to answer my question. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: It was made clear in his statement. Shri Hem Barua.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): In view of the fact that this incident has picked up a lot of misunderstanding, may I know whether the Government have the official version of Shri Sondhi's statement with them?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I have said in my statement that we have not received any official statement.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (बिजनौर) :
इस दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण विवाद से जो एक अनचाही स्थिति उत्पन्न हो गई है, उस सम्बन्ध में इंडोनेशिया के विदेश मंत्री का वक्तव्य क्या है और क्या श्री सोंधी ने अपना वक्तव्य वापिस ले लिया है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : इसके बारे में मुझे कोई इत्तिला नहीं है । लेकिन जहाँ तक मुझे मालूम है श्री सोंधी ने अपना वक्तव्य वापिस नहीं लिया है ।

श्री बड़े (खरगोन) : क्या गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से श्री सोंधी को कुछ लिखा गया है कि इस प्रकार का स्टेटमेंट उसने क्यों दिया और क्या उससे उस स्टेटमेंट को मांगा गया है जो उसने दिया है ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: How can the Government do anything like that? The gentleman goes there as a representative of the Olympics, and makes a statement in his individual capacity. How can the Government curb the freedom of an individual?

Mr. Speaker: We shall proceed to the next item.

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar)
rose—

Mr. Speaker: I looked at that side, but he did not stand.

Shri P. C. Borooah: I was waiting for the other question to end.

Mr. Speaker: Sorry.

STATEMENT RE: CHINESE
MILITARY POSTS IN LADAKH

Mr. Speaker: About the subject regarding the establishment of 30 new posts in Ladakh, I made enquiries, and I learnt that the Prime Minister was