

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS**

Inquiry into Defeat of Indian Hockey Team

*365. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Hockey team has been routed in the Test Series between India and Pakistan played recently; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to institute an inquiry into the reasons for defeat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (SHRI DHANNA SINGH GULSHAN): (a) The result of the recent Hockey Test Series between India and Pakistan was 1 to 3 and therefore it is not correct to say the Indian Hockey Team was routed.

(b) No, Sir. The responsibility for the selection and preparation of the team rests entirely with the Indian Hockey Federation which is an autonomous and independent body.

Use of Small Power Tillers for Paddy cultivation

*366. SHRI G. S. REDDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage the use of small power tillers in paddy cultivation; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to popularise their use?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government have already taken the following steps:—

1. With a view to reducing their cost,

(i) the excise duty leviable on fully built power tillers has been abolished and the State Governments have been requested to exempt them from the State Sales Tax.

(ii) a number of components used in their production has been standardised and efforts are on to standardise additional components.

(iii) research efforts have been initiated to develop a less costly Power Tiller.

2. Medium term credit facility is available to members of primary agricultural credit societies for purchase of power tillers without having to mortgage their land.

3. Various governmental and other agencies are promoting their use through demonstrations/custom-hiring.

Text Books

*367. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH SAYIANWALA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has advised the State Governments on the matter of bringing out text-books taking into account the different socio-economic, cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the regions;

(b) if so, the reaction of the States in the matter; and

(c) whether any action in this regard has since been taken?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) In my inaugural address to the delegates of the Fifth

National Conference on School Text-books, organised by the National Council of Educational Research and Training in New Delhi from February 21—23, 1978, the need for taking into account the varied socio-economic cultural and linguistic backgrounds of the children in different regions, was emphasised while developing nationalised text books at the State level.

(b) and (c). Government have not yet received the recommendations of the Conference

News-item entitled 'Misuse of Russian Assistance at I.I.T., Kharagpur'

*368 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news-item published by *The Swadhin Patrika*, an English weekly published from Kharagpur, West Bengal, in its issue dated 2nd October, 1977, under the caption "Misuse of Russian Assistance at IIT, Kharagpur";

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof and

(c) the Government's reaction to the same?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur originally submitted a

proposal for the establishment of a Centre of Advanced Studies in Materials Science and Technology under the Soviet assistance. This Centre was to be developed in three different Divisions: (a) Division of Metals and Alloys; (b) Division of Plastics and Polymers; (c) Division of Ceramics and Cyramets. The proposal was later modified and it was agreed that the establishment of an Advance Centre of Materials Science and Technology can be done in stages, the first stage being the improvement of the Department of Metallurgy (Metals and Alloys).

In order to have an inter-disciplinary approach to research programmes, the Board of Governors, which is responsible for the management of the Institute, decided to establish a separate Materials Science Centre in September 1970, and the Senate was aware of this position. Though in the Indo-USSR Agreement of 1966, improvement of the Department of Metallurgy was envisaged, the equipment received under the Agreement is housed in the Material Science Centre. The equipment is available to all the Departments of the Institute including the Department of Metallurgy for use. The Materials Science Centre is, at present, adequately staffed and is working satisfactorily. About twenty research projects in Metals and Alloys have been completed and eleven others are in hand. It is the view of the Institute that the Centre should retain its separate entity in order to promote inter-disciplinary research programmes. It is learnt from the Institute that at no stage, the Russian experts left the Institute in anger, nor was the contract rescinded at any time.

To ensure proper linkage of all the Departments of the Institute with the Materials Science Centre, and to ensure maximum benefit, the Institute is being advised to appoint a Committee to look into this matter.