

HOCKEY AUSTRALIA — CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

**711. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Minister for Sport and Recreation:**

I have a supplementary question. The minister was saying that he had conducted these negotiations in good faith. The report in *The West* said that the Curtin University spokesperson confirmed majority acceptance of the state government's proposal. Why is the government conducting negotiations through *The West Australian*?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please.

**Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:**

We are not. How the matter is reported and comments made by Curtin University are comments made by them. Quite frankly, we have bargained in very good faith, but we are focused on making sure we get the best outcome for the taxpayers of Western Australia. Ultimately, we will not be held to ransom when the land is owned by the people of Western Australia. We will not agree to pay a highly exorbitant amount of money for land that we already own. We have increased the amount of money that we are prepared to pay for the lease by, I think, 4 000 per cent or something. It is a huge amount. All along this process the government has bargained in good faith. We now simply say to Curtin that it is the end of the matter. The university has had numerous opportunities to accept the terms and conditions, and it continues not to do that, so we will entertain excising the land if it ensures that we get a high-quality high-performance entity in the hockey centre and the best deal for the taxpayers of Western Australia, as is my responsibility.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, that concludes question time.