

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION — 2014–15 TEST SERIES

490. Mr P.B. WATSON to the Minister for Tourism:

I refer to the minister's answers yesterday spruiking upcoming major tourism events, in particular the Perth International golf tournament, which the minister claimed had a reach of 424 million homes, and the loss of the Australia versus India test at the Western Australian Cricket Association ground that would have reached over 1 billion in the target markets of the subcontinent and around the world.

- (1) Considering Western Australia was snubbed for any significant games of the ICC Cricket World Cup, what steps did the minister take to secure the Indian test match for Western Australia?
- (2) Was the minister aware yesterday that WA had lost the biggest televised sporting event for the 2014-15 summer?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

(1)–(2) I thank the member for Albany for his question. I am at the end of a cold, so members will have to listen carefully; my voice is going.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: It's too much time at the fashion festival.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Don't you like fashion?

Mrs M.H. Roberts: We know you like fashion and champagne, don't you?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I am unwilling to raise my voice in response to interjections.

This is a very disappointing decision made by Cricket Australia. Cricket Australia chose that it would limit itself to four matches in this cricket series. We missed out on one of those matches, which is a kick in the guts for Western Australian cricket fans. We are busy preparing for the Cricket World Cup in 2015. We have endeavoured to work with the WACA to ensure that our Perth cricket fans are given every opportunity to have additional content to offset this decision.

Ms R. Saffioti interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Swan, I call you to order for the first time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: This was an economic decision, as I understand it, of Cricket Australia. I have been advised that it has about \$45 million in the bank, and it decided, despite the fact that our time zone aligns perfectly for live coverage of this test to India and the east coast, that it would move this match to another destination. We are committed to securing and ensuring that the 2015 Cricket World Cup in Perth will provide opportunities for Western Australian cricket fans to enjoy their sport of choice. We are also working towards ensuring that we have a successful Ashes series this summer.