

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** I have not said anything against the Hon'ble Speaker. But the question is that I have given an adjournment motion to highlight something a very important matter something which is of very urgent nature that the Kapadias in a conspiracy with the two Reserve Bank Governors and the erstwhile Secretaries of the Banking Department had defrauded a leading nationalised Banks namely, the Central Bank to the tune of—here according to this—Rs. 36.0 crores. Is it a matter that can wait? I would like to know what you are going to do.

**MR. SPEAKER:** It is under my consideration.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** When there is an adjournment motion, it cannot remain under your consideration for 36 hours. The House has to adjourn to discuss this matter because this is a very serious allegation.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Yes, Papers laid on the Table.

12.24 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**RAILWAYS RED TARIFF (THIRD AMENDMENT) RULES, 1977**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Railways Red Tariff (Third Amendment) Rules, 1977 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1649 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd December, 1977, issued under the Indian Railways Act, 1890. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1336/77].

**REPORT OF ENQUIRY COMMITTEE ON DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA'S TREATMENT**

**THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the

Report of Enquiry Committee on Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia's treatment. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1337/77].

#### NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, 1962

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATISH AGRAWAL):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of Notification Nos. 253-Customs, 254-Customs and 255-Customs (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th December, 1977 under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1338/77].

12.25 hrs.

#### CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

**REPORTED RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY IAS OFFICER'S ASSOCIATION re. ACTION TAKEN AGAINST SHRI VOHRA**

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil):** I call the attention of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"Reported resolution adopted by the IAS Officers Association expressing concern at the arbitrary nature of the action taken against Shri Vohra and its decision to launch a fund to fight the case and have the suspension terminated."

**THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH):** On the same day on which the Press Report had appeared in the Statesman dated 9th December, 1977, the acting President of the Central Indian Civil and Administrative Service Association took the initiative to write to the Cabinet Secretary denying the accuracy of the Press report which he has stated was "misleading and distorted".

[Shri Charan Singh]

No resolutions of the kind mentioned in the Press report were adopted, the only ones adopted being those relating to the election of the office bearers and other procedural matters concerning the functioning of the Association.

The functioning of certain members of the Service during the period of Emergency was noted with regret as their conduct had not only adversely affected the credibility and prestige of the Service but had also lowered its image in the eyes of the general public.

Although some members had made reference to the case of Shri B. B. Vohra, the President of the Association made it clear that the Association could not be used as a form for discussing any individual case or its merits and demerits. There was general support for the views expressed by the President of the Association.

The President of the Association has also emphasised that there was not even the remotest suggestion of "getting set for confrontation with the Centre".

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): It is all wrong reporting.

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: I have referred to the letter received by me.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: On a point of order. What I observe is that there was a letter based on which the hon. Minister made his statement. What was the original notice? Was there not an item in the agenda to be discussed in the meeting. I am told that there was an item on the agenda: to discuss the matter connected with Mr. Bohra's suspension and arrest.

MR. SPEAKER: Your name is not there.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: The matter is not an isolated one. The statement made by the hon. Minister

has cleared certain things which aroused suspicion in the minds of many Members here. The statement of the President of the Association also appeared in the newspaper. Heads of administration cannot function as non-gazetted officers, NGOs; they have an entirely different function; they have to work under political authority and they have to carry on the day to day administration also. Naturally when government deals with them they cannot deal with them as they deal with the NGOs.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Wonderful.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: If he thinks so, why cannot they also say or pass a resolution saying that they want to protest and they want to go on strike... (*Interruptions*) I do not want to quarrel with him; if he feels so he can share his views with Shri Jyoti Bosu who is the State Chief Minister. If he is so allergic to what I say he can go and advise Shri Jyoti Bosu on this matter....

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore): Why is he dragging in the Chief Minister of a State who is not here?. When he said that Congress Mosquitoes have been bled white, they took such stong exception; now they do not refrain from making a reference to a person who is not here.

MR. SPEAKER: Both Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu's intervention and Mr. Vayalar Ravi's reference were uncalled for. Please avoid this. Mr. Ravi, you can proceed now.

PROF. DILIP CHAKRAVARTY (Calcutta South): Nobody has a right to refer to a State Government.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: If you want, I will repeat it. If Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu is so allergic to IAS Officers, he can very well advise his State Chief Minister. It is very pertinent and I repeat it. If Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu intervenes, I will give him back. Let him keep quiet.

*(Interruptions)*

The point is the treatment you are giving to the senior civil servants. It is not an isolated incident or an isolated matter. What is the treatment you have given to these two Officers? That is the reason why, the Speaker, in his wisdom, has admitted this Calling Attention. This matter is being discussed in this House many a time and there are many relevant points being raised. The main point is, what is the reason to arrest these people merely on FIR. No charge-sheet has been issued even after two months.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: (Begusarai): How can you go into that?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Are you allowing him to go into the merits of the case?

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrakpore): Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu cannot arrogate to himself the right of the Speaker.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu is a member of this House and he has every right.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: He has no right. From the beginning you have been disturbing.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: He has got the right to point out.

MR. SPEAKER: Every Member has a right to act as a Member but not as Speaker.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What made you think that I occupied the Chair? I would not like it. Rest assured about it.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I am not going into the investigation part of the case. But I am talking about the

procedural aspect of it. You have to justify your action in this House. The Janata Party has no right to take away the collective responsibility of the Cabinet. When you are taking a decision to arrest two Senior Civil Servants—Mr. Home Minister, please listen, I am not provoking you, I am only putting the facts to you—have you got the consent of the Cabinet or not?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): You have no business to ask about that.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I can. Mr. George Fernandes, one of your colleagues has sent a letter to the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister has said on the floor of the House that he has received representations from these people and he is looking into them. You are abusing the former Prime Minister for the imposition of Emergency without the matter being discussed in the Cabinet. It may be right or wrong. You seemed to be more concerned about the collective responsibility of the Cabinet. But here, you have taken a decision to arrest certain senior Officers, humiliate them and put them behind the bars, without even a charge-sheet. Your own cabinet colleagues are taking objection to it. You do not have the courtesy to consult the Prime Minister. How is the Government functioning? Am I to understand that every Minister is functioning as if it is his own empire? This has created frustration among the senior IAS officers. Another report has appeared in the press that you have asked the civil servants belonging to the different State cadres to go back if they want. This is a very serious point. Every State Government has got its own adjustment so far as promotion of officers is concerned. In para 3 of the statement you have said:

“The functioning of certain members of the service during the period of emergency was noted with regret”.

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

I do not want to read the whole paragraph. This shows the attitude of the government towards the civil servants. You look with suspicion on every civil servant who happened to be in Delhi in those days of the emergency. That is why it has been reported that the Prime Minister told them, "If you do not want to be here, you can go back." If this is the attitude of the government what will happen to the morale of the civil servants. By arresting them and putting them behind the bars without giving them chance to explain their position, you are intimidating and threatening them...

MR. SPEAKER: Introduction is enough. Come to the point.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: If you want to stick to para 3 of your statement, I would like to say that even before the emergency, the government servants behaved badly. The IAS officers, who are the elite of the ruling class, always have been a stumbling block in the way of the progress of the nation either at the Centre or in the States. Therefore, I am not advocating their cause. But if you are sincere about this paragraph, Mr. Raj Narain, who is sitting here, made a public enquiry into the death of Dr. Lohia. Where is that report today? You want to save the doctors who are the culprits. That is why you do not want that report to be discussed.

MR. SPEAKER: You are travelling far outside. What is your question?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: To avoid frustration among the senior civil servants, have the Government evolved any policy that hereafter such action...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: On a point of order, Sir. The calling attention motion if I may show some lack of humility in pointing out to the Chair, relates only to the resolution which is supposed to have been

passed by an association. Now the Chair, after remarking that the hon. member had already travelled very far, is permitting him to point up a defence on behalf of a person who is now an accused. We cannot use the instrumentality of a calling attention to put in a defence on behalf of an accused here, particularly on behalf of a person who stands trial and whose conduct has been investigated with regard to a matter in which he is supposed to have committed corruption.

This House cannot be a party to this kind of thing and I would particularly request the Chair not to permit him to go into all these things. Otherwise the investigation would be vitiated and the good name and the reputation of the House would also be sullied if the House takes up the matter on behalf of an accused who has been alleged to be guilty of corruption.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: Sir, I raise a point of order. You have allowed Mr. Mishra to use a point of order to bring an unsubstantiated charge against somebody. Mr. Ravi has not questioned the inquiry that is going on. He has only questioned the modality of the inquiry and it must also be emphasised that it is a matter of urgent public importance since the IAS Association has already passed a resolution on it and the Home Minister has threatened the IAS officers telling them to go back to their States if they do not like the decision. So this is an important matter and Mr. Ravi has only questioned the modality. You have allowed Mr. Mishra to use a point of order to make unsubstantiated charges against people.

MR. SPEAKER: There is much in what Mr. Shyamnandan Mishra said. The Call Attention is confined to the facts that are mentioned there and supplemental and incidental matters. It is not like a question which you can elaborate. But travelling outside the question and debating other matters may not be proper. But in this

House Mr. Ravi is not the only man who has done it, others have also done it. So far the practice seems to have developed that the Call Attention has become more or less a debate. But I would request all of them to confine themselves to the question so that a definite answer may be given. Now Mr. Ravi will proceed.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** This House cannot be a party to the arbitrary action of a man, Mr. Charan Singh the Home Minister, to take the rule of law into his hands, and this House cannot be and will not be a party to it.

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Ravi, please come back to the question.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, paragraph 3 is irrelevant. That is the point I am making. That paragraph provoked me to ask questions. My question is, in future when dealing with the senior civil servants, to avoid such so-called confrontation...

(Interruptions)

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:** Law should be equal for all.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur):** Why he is shouting like that. Why he is preventing him from talking?

(Interruptions)

Sir, I rise on a point of order. He is legally entitled under the Rules of Procedure to put forward his point of view and it is for you to give a judgment or it is for you to take a decision as to whether under the Rules any Member of the House can prevent another Member from expressing his views.

**MR. SPEAKER:** No one can interfere and should be interfered with. But I would also tell Mr. Lakkappa, "Physician, heal thyself".

श्री रामजी लाल सुमन : (फिरोजाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरी आपसे

प्रार्थना यह है कि माननीय सदस्य जिस विषय पर बोलने के लिए कहे जाते हैं उस विषय पर बोलते समय तारतम्य होना चाहिए। जहां तक मिस्टर रवि का सवाल है, जब जम्मू कश्मीर के ऊपर चर्चा हुई थी .....

**MR. SPEAKER:** I have given my ruling on that.

श्री रामजी लाल सुमन : मेरा कहना अध्यक्ष महोदय यहीं है कि किसी विषय पर बोलते समय हॉल तालमेल बिठाना चाहिए। इसमें कोई टुक नहीं है कि बात आसमान को होती है और माननीय सदस्य पहुंच जाते हैं पहाड़ पर। जिस विषय पर यहां चर्चा हो रही, माननीय सदस्य उसी तक अपने को सीमित रखें।

**MR. SPEAKER:** Mr. Suman, I have given my ruling.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** Do the Government propose to evolve a policy hereafter to avoid such a kind of feeling among the senior civil servants? What is the procedure to be adopted? In this case, because of the position that has arisen, does the Government propose to frame charges as early as possible, and bring an end to all this? You have been having it for some time now. Will you complete the investigation and give the charge-sheet? The Minister can tell the House. The Minister has to convince the people. How long will he take to do this? (Interruptions).

**SHRI CHARAN SINGH:** The Motion called the attention of the House, or of the Government, only to the reported resolution adopted by the IAS Officers' Association expressing concern at the arbitrary nature of the action taken against Shri Vohra. That was the limited purpose of the Motion. I have in the statement that I just made to the House, said that the president of the Association wrote a letter to the Cabinet Secretary saying that no such

[Shri Charan Singh]

resolution was passed. (*Interruptions*). On the contrary, the Association expressed concern at the conduct of certain officers during the Emergency, which had led to a decline in their credibility. (*Interruptions*) The letter went on to mention that some reference was made to Mr. Vohra's case also by some members of the Association; but the chairman ruled it out on the ground that matters of individual officers cannot be discussed in the meeting of the Association, nor their merits and de-merits.

After saying what I have said and after referring to the letter as it stands, I really find no reason for the fighting speech which Mr. Ravi has made. If he wants to make a fighting speech, he is free to make it, but he will receive the reply in the same coin—which I want to avoid.

श्री गौरी शंकर राय : (गाजीपुर) : मान्यवर, यह प्रश्न अपने सीमित क्षेत्र से, सीमाओं से बाहर चला गया है। मैं अपने मित्र श्री रवि के बारे में इतना ही कह सकता हूँ कि

He has proved himself to be more loyal than the King.

मान्यवर 9 तारीख के स्टेटसमैन में यह खबर निकली थी। उसके दूसरे दिन एसोसिएशन की सभा में जो अध्यक्षता करने वाले थे मि० नायक उन्होंने उसकी सफाई दी। दोनों को मिला कर पढ़ने से ऐसा लगता है कि उन्होंने सिर्फ एक बात का कंट्रेडिक्शन किया है और यह कहा है कि कोई प्रस्ताव पास नहीं हुआ। प्रस्ताव पास तो नहीं हुआ लेकिन निर्णय हुआ फंड इकट्ठा करने का और एक समिति बनी जो प्रयास करेगी कि उनके ससपेंसन को हटाने का प्रयास किया जाए। खबर में में यह भी लिखा है कि

ज्वायंट सैक्रेटरी के लैबल के अफसरों ने इस बात पर चिन्ता प्रकट की है और कहा है कि राजनीतिक कारणों से यह हुआ है। मुझे मालूम नहीं कि कौन से राजनीतिक कारण उनके मन में थे। पुराने जमाने में जो सरकारी अधिकारी थे उनके खिलाफ भी इस तरह की कोई चीज हुई है या नहीं यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया है। प्रस्ताव में यह भी कहा गया है कि उन्होंने प्रधान मंत्री और गृह मंत्रों के व्यान पर रोष प्रकट किया है उनमें से कुछ ने यह भी कहा कि अब वे इस बात पर भी जिद्द करेंगे कि जो दस्तखत करने हों वह मंत्री करे या कैबिनेट लैबल पर डिमिशन हों, ऐसा डिमिस्टेंस वे किया करेंगे खबरों में यह भी आया है जिसका प्रतिवाद नहीं हुआ है सोलह सैक्रेटरी उस में थे और दो सौ बड़े अफसर थे। मीनियर सैक्रेटरीज में से एक ने यह भी कहा कि यह मामला हमने लाइटली नहीं लिया है औरह उन्होंने अपना विरोध केबिनेट सैक्रेटरी के जरिये प्रधान मंत्री को भंज दिया है। मेरी याददाश्त जहां तक काम करती है आई ए एस तथा दूसरे वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने ट्रेड यूनियनिज्म का परिचय देते हुए इस हद तक जा कर प्रस्ताव पास किया है। मुझे प्रसन्नता है कि 19 महीने तक अन्याय का एपेरेटस बनने के बाद एक बार तो उनकी कांग्रेस ने उनको प्रिक किया है।

मैं कुछ सवाल गृह मंत्री जी से करना चाहता हूँ। क्या आई ए एस अफसर करप्शन के मामलों में कुछ विशेष प्रिवलेज चाहते हैं? या सरकार की यह नीति है कि अगर मंत्री, प्रधान मंत्री पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर और बड़ा सरकारी अधिकारी अष्टाचरण का शिकार होता है तो उसके साथ जो व्यवहार किया जाएगा एक आर्डिनरी पिकपीकट से दूसरी तरह का व्यवहार

किया जाएगा, ऐसी कोई नीति सरकार की है? इस पर मैं गृह मंत्री का स्पष्ट उत्तर चाहता हूँ।

1. एक बात और मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, गृह मंत्री जी बतावें कि यह अधिकारी 'क्वचुअली क्या चाहते हैं?

What are those established norms?

अगर कोई आदमी क्रिमिनल केस में फंसता है तो क्या आई०सी०एस०, आई०ए०एस० अधिकारी को गिरफ्तार नहीं किया जा सकता है, ऐसे हमारे मित्र चिन्तित मालूम होते हैं। हमारे मित्र समझते हैं कि भ्रष्टाचार में अगर बड़ा आदमी हो, मान्यवर, प्रधान मंत्री, मंत्री पार्लियामेंट का मेम्बर बड़ा अधिकारी हो

and blue-eyed-boys of the previous Government should not be arrested. What privilege do they want exactly? I would like to know that. I would also like to know from the Home Minister, whether such bullying, black-mailing methods of pressurising the Government would not amount to confrontation.

इस तरह की बातों की अगर इजाजत दी गई तो मान्यवर, इस देश के प्रशासन का क्या होगा? इसलिये मैं गृह मंत्री जी से इस सफाई के बावजूद, मान्यवर, इस प्रश्न की सफाई में जो दूसरे दिन बयान आया उसने साफ कर दिया कि वह सारी बातें वहाँ हुई थीं। जो अध्यक्ष थे उन्होंने अपने को सारे मामले से डिसऐसोशियेट कर लिया, यह तो समझ में आता है। लेकिन यह सारी घटनायें हुई। मान्यवर, एक बड़ी गम्भीर घटना है कि प्रदेश और देश के सारे उच्च अधिकारी एक जगह मिल कर सरकार का जो नौर्मल प्रोसीजर आफ फंक्शनिंग है उस फंक्शनिंग के बारे में श्रिएट करते हैं कि आज से हम दस्तखत नहीं करेंगे। मान्यवर, यह बड़ी गम्भीर घटना है, क्या सरकार इनका इलाज कर रही है? और क्या सरकार ने इसको सीरिसली लिया है कि नहीं?

और एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ कि

What exactly they have conveyed to the Prime Minister.

उन्होंने कहा है कि हमने अपना रिसेंटमेंट कर दिया है। और उसमें उनको राजनीति की गंध कहाँ से आती है? क्या ऐसा कहने का मतलब यह है कि कुछ ऐसे अधिकारी हैं जो पिछली सरकार में अन्याय और अत्याचार के यंत्र, संयंत्र थे उनके खिलाफ यह कार्यवाही की जा रही है। मान्यवर, सरकार ने तो अपना मंशा साफ कर दिया कि ऐसी कोई बात नहीं है। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकारी अधिकारी जो देश के उच्च स्तर पर बैठे हुए, भ्रष्टचरण में जाने के बाद भी उनके साथ, प्रधान मंत्री, मंत्री और मुख्य मंत्री के साथ माननीय गृह मंत्री जी कोई नये तरीके का व्यवहार, नया प्रोसीजर और कोई नई परम्परा अख्तियार करने का विचार रखते हैं?

हमारे विरोध पक्ष के सदस्य अपेक्षा करते हैं, आप जरा बोलिये मत, मैं इनसे इस बात की अपेक्षा नहीं करता था कि भ्रष्ट चरण के मामले, किसी व्यक्ति के मामले को लेकर जिस तरह असोसियेशन में चर्चा हुई, हमारे मित्र करप्शन के मामले में अपने मंत्री, प्रधान मंत्री को तो डिफेंड करें, लेकिन सब मामलों में डिफेंड करेंगे ऐसी मेरी उनसे अपेक्षा नहीं थी। इन्होंने सदन की मर्यादा को कुंठित किया है यह कह कर कि करप्शन के मामले में उनकी वकालत करना चाहते हैं। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, रिपीट करना चाहता हूँ :

Whether such bullying and black-mailing method of pressurising the Government which amounts to confrontation should be allowed and would be allowed by the Government for the officers to behave in this fashion.

SHRI CHARAN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there can possibly be no intention on the part of the Government to tolerate or to encourage any bullying etc. by any section of the people much less any class of Government servants.

[Shri Charan Singh]

There is no question of that. My point is that in fact, there was no bullying at all. There was no resolution passed as reported in the *Statesman* of that day. If you allow me, Sir I will read out the letter that the President of the Association wrote to the Cabinet Secretary, and it will make the position clear. My statement is also clear enough; it does not conceal anything. Shri R. P. Naik Acting President of the Association wrote to the Cabinet Secretary on 9th December, 1977 and I will read out that letter:

"My dear Nirmal,

You would have seen the front page report in this morning's *Statesman* about a meeting of the Indian Civil and Administrative Service Association which took place last evening. Those of us who participated in the meeting were surprised that this misleading and distorted version of the meeting should have appeared in a newspaper of the standing of the *Statesman* more especially when neither the session was open to the Press nor anyone had been authorised to brief the Press. Indeed, it has been our established practice not to go to the Press about matters that are discussed publicly is ever given to its cussed in the Association and no such publicity is even given to its deliberations....

"However, since the news item has appeared I thought it appropriate to send you this letter stating the facts.

The Central Indian Civil & Administrative Service Association is a body which has been in existence for many decades. It had not met for over two years and this particular meeting had been called at the initiative of some members of the Service to reactivate it. The main business intended and actually transacted at the meeting was to set in motion the process of electing new office bearers. The members assembled did me the honour of asking me to assume

temporary Presidentship and elected a General Secretary and Treasurer with authority to me to choose an Executive Committee pending formal election of office bearers in accordance with the rules.

Let me state at the very outset that it is entirely incorrect to say that there was any criticism made of the Prime Minister or the Home Minister, nor was there even the remotest suggestion of "getting set for a confrontation with the Centre". Such an attitude is clearly inconceivable on our part.

As I have already stated the main purpose of the meeting was to revive the Association which had been dormant for over two years..... As to why for these two years it had been dormant it is for the hon. Members and the hon. Member Mr. Vavalur Ravi to draw the conclusion. It further says:

"The meeting discussed generally the manner in which the Association would conduct its activities in future, including matters of professional, social and general interest to the Service as a whole.

Reference was made in the discussions to the developments that had taken place during the last two years or so. The functioning of certain members of the Service during the period of the Emergency was noted with regret as it was felt their conduct had not only adversely affected the credibility and prestige of the Service but also lowered its image in the eyes of the general public. There was agreement on the need for introspection and collective thinking on this score.

Reference was also made during the discussions by more than one Member of the recent case of Shri B. B. Vohra. In my capacity as Chairman, I took pains to emphasise—and there was general support for my view—that the meeting of the Association was not the proper forum for discussing any individual case or its merits or demerits; I made it clear



that the Association would be concerned with general issues only.

As for the mention in the news report of the meeting which some officers had with the Cabinet Secretary, you will recall that the fact is that a number of senior officers belonging to different services—and not the ICS/IAS alone—had met you informally quite some time back to share with you the misgivings entertained by the Services in regard to some recent developments and their likely impact.

No resolution of the kind mentioned in the Press report were adopted; the only one related to the election of office bearers and other procedural matters relating to the functioning of the Association.

My colleagues and I sincerely hope that the above statement of facts will help set the record straight and dispel any misleading impression that may have been created as a result of the news report in question.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely."

This is the letter which has been addressed by Mr. R. P. Nair, ISC, Chairman of the Central Indian Civil & Administrative Service Association to the Cabinet Secretary.

As regards any special powers that may be enjoyed by senior officers, this is entirely wrong. The Government Servants Conduct Rules apply equally to all officers, subordinate ranks, medium ranks and superior ranks. The law of discipline or disciplinary control is equally applicable to all. Similarly the law of the land is also equally applicable to all, from the Prime Minister down to Shri B. B. Vohra and down to a subordinate officer. In suspending this officer, no law has been contravened no rule has been contravened. If anything has been contravened, the officer is free to agitate this in a law court or before the superior officers, before the Cabinet Secretary and then ultimately, before the Minis-

ter or the Ministers in accordance with the rules.

13 hrs.

As regards another question which my hon. friend Mr. Ravi, raised, namely it was a matter of Cabinet responsibility, I would say, 'No; it was not'. This lay solely within the jurisdiction of the Minister concerned. This matter lay only within the discretion of the investigating authority. They had the right to arrest the officer. In doing so they had not contravened or committed any breach of any law or rule whatsoever. When the matter goes to court, it will go with the sanction of the Government. There he will be free to agitate his case, defend his case if he is at all chaffed after the investigations are completed. According to the state of investigations on that day, there was a *prima facie* case that he had not acted well he acted improperly. I will not go into the details of the investigation here. I have absolutely no grudge against any officer whatsoever. At the same time I feel, the Janata Party feels that there have been omissions of rules and commission of irregularities not to say of other serious things, not only on the part of the political leadership represented by the friends sitting opposite but also on the part of the various officers not only at the level of the Centre but even in the States. The Janata Party wants to clean the stables. If any mistake has been committed in doing this, I will express regret. But at the same time I hope, I will receive full support not only from my friends sitting here on this side but also from friends sitting on the other side if an attempt is made by the Home Ministry or the Prime Minister or the Cabinet as a whole to set standards, to renew the old standards and to restore the good name, this country once enjoyed, to this country once again. That is all. (Interruptions).