

# COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

(FIFTH LOK SABHA)

## NINTH REPORT

(Presented on the 3rd May, 1974)



समृद्धि मन्त्रालय

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

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**PERSONNEL OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES**

**(1973-74)**

**Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman***

**MEMBERS**

2. **Shri Frank Anthony**
3. **Shri H. K. L. Bhagat**
4. **Shri Somnath Chatterjee**
5. **Shri Darbara Singh**
6. **Shri H. R. Gokhale**
7. **Shri Nihar Laskar**
8. **Shri B. P. Maurya**
9. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee**
10. **Shri K. Raghuramaiah**
11. **Shri Vasant Sathe**
12. **Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma**
13. **Shri Maddi Sudarsanam**
14. **Shri R. P. Ulaganambi**
15. **Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee**

**SECRETARIAT**

**Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.***

**Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.***

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**NINTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES  
(FIFTH LOK SABHA)**

**I. Introduction and procedure**

1. The Chairman of the Committee of Privileges, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this their Ninth Report to the House on the question of privilege referred to the Committee by the Speaker on the 16th May, 1973, regarding alleged maltreatment and obstruction caused to Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., by some Railway officials and others at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, when he was coming to Delhi to attend the Session of Lok Sabha.

2. The Committee held eight sittings. The relevant minutes of these sittings form part of the Report and are appended thereto.

3. At the first and second sittings held on the 20th June and 9th August, 1973, the Committee decided to hear Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., in person, in the first instance.

4. At the third sitting held on the 29th August, 1973, the Committee examined Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. in person.

The Committee also decided to examine in person the concerned Chief Ticket Inspector, Ajmer Railway Station.

5. At the fourth sitting held on the 13th September, 1973, the Committee examined in person Shri S. G. Sopariwalla, Chief Ticket Inspector, Ajmer.

The Committee also decided to examine in person the Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer and Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer.

6. At the fifth sitting held on the 30th October, 1973, the Committee examined in person Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer.

7. At the sixth sitting held on the 31st October, 1973, the Committee examined in person Shri Kalyan Singh, Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer.

8. At the seventh sitting held on the 25th March, 1974, the Committee deliberated on the matter and arrived at their conclusions.

9. At the eighth sitting held on the 30th April, 1974, the Committee considered their draft Report and adopted it.

## II. Facts of the Case

10. On the 2nd April, 1973, Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. gave notice<sup>2</sup> of a question of privilege against certain railway officials and railway police for the alleged maltreatment and obstruction caused to him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, when he was coming to Delhi to attend the Session of Lok Sabha. The notice read *inter alia* as follows—

“On March 23, 1973, while I was coming from my Udaipur Constituency to Delhi to attend the Lok Sabha Session and when I was preparing to leave Khandwa-Ajmer train for the required train-change, some persons in plain clothes surrounded me and asked me to show the ticket. I told them that they did not appear to be Railway staff and that I would prefer to show my Identity-card to the proper authority.

At this they got infuriated, snatched-off my suitcase, manhandled me and demanded Rs. 201 for letting me go free. I pleaded that I was a Member of Parliament and that I had the requisite Identity-card but they dragged me into the T.T.E. room there, and called in a police man in uniform. They all again threatened and insulted me.

When they could not extract money from me, the police man opened my suitcase for search. Having found there my Identity-card, he whispered something into their ears and gradually each of them slipped away.”

11. On the 3rd April, 1973, when Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee sought to raise<sup>3</sup> the matter in the House, the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Mohd. Shafi Qureshi) stated *inter alia* as follows:—

“I am very sorry that such an incident took place at Ajmer Station. I will certainly look into it and get all the details. If it is found that the Railway employees, knowing fully well that he is a Member of Parliament and he has the Identity card with him, did not treat him with proper respect, serious action would be taken.”

Thereupon, the Speaker observed<sup>4</sup> as follows:—

“Two things should be made clear. What was the capacity of these people who were not in uniform? How could they check tickets? Why should such things happen? Secondly, when

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<sup>1</sup>See Appendix—I.

<sup>2</sup>L.S. Deb., 3-4-1973, cc 202-03.

<sup>4</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup>*Ibid.*

he told the Railway officials that he was a Member of Parliament why did they search his baggage, instead of asking him to show his identity card? This is the fourth or fifth time that such things are happening. I think they take a pleasure in doing such things. Incidents of this nature should be avoided."

12. The Ministry of Railways, to whom the matter was referred for factual comments, in a note dated the 3rd April, 1973, stated<sup>6</sup> *inter alia* as follows:—

"On 23rd March, 1973, a special check was organised at Ajmer by the Railway with the help of student-volunteers. One of the student volunteers requested Shri Lalji Bhai who had arrived from Udaipur by 70 Down *en route* to Delhi to show his ticket. Shri Lalji Bhai refused to show his ticket. He did not disclose his identity either.....A Railway Magistrate was available at Ajmer and hence a charge-sheet was prepared against him for prosecution whereupon Shri Lalji Bhai disclosed his identity and said that he must leave for Delhi by 2 Down train. When his identity was disclosed, Shri Lalji Bhai was personally escorted by the Chief Ticket Inspector to the train and the charge-sheet was cancelled.

It is not true that anyone snatched off his suitcase or manhandled him or demanded Rs. 201 for letting him go. No insult was offered to him nor was his suitcase opened by a police man or anyone else. The identity card was produced by Shri Lalji Bhai himself and not found by anyone else by searching his suitcase, as alleged."

13. A copy of the aforesaid factual note, received from the Ministry of Railways, was given to Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. Shri Lalji Bhai, however, in his letter<sup>7</sup> dated the 7th May, 1973, addressed to the Speaker, stated *inter alia* as follows:—

"The Ministry of Railways letter is contradictory to facts of which I am myself an eye witness and which I have suffered myself. I will not be able to express my agony in words. The referred letter does not mention whether any officers were sent from the Centre for enquiry and how and at which level the enquiry was conducted.

Is it not a fact that there was no uniformed Railway staff member with the so called students?

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<sup>6</sup>See Appendix—II.

<sup>7</sup>See Appendix—III.

Mr. Speaker, will you concede that an M.P. will like to be forcibly taken from the Railway bogie to the Inspector's room and be insulted but would not disclose that he was a member of Parliament?

This is a fit case to be enquired into by the Privileges Committee for ascertaining the facts and taking action."

14. On the 16th May, 1973, the Speaker, while referring the matter to the Committee of Privileges under rule 227, observed<sup>a</sup> as follows:—

"Shri Lalji Bhai has raised a question of privilege. We had sent his complaint to the Railway authorities, and he is not satisfied with the report. He says that he was maltreated, there was some misbehaviour. He is not satisfied with the explanation given by the Railway authorities. I send it to the Privileges Committee."

### III. Finding of the Committee

15. Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., has alleged that when he got down from the Khandwa-Ajmer train at Ajmer Railway Station for taking another train for Delhi to attend the Lok Sabha Session, some persons in plain clothes surrounded him and asked him to show his ticket. Thereupon, he told them that they did not appear to be Railway Staff that he was a Member of Parliament and that he would show his Identity-cum-Railway pass to the proper authority. Those persons in plain clothes, who were unaccompanied by any Railway Official in uniform insulted and mal-treated him, took him to the Head Ticket Collector's Office where a crowd collected and he was threatened with prosecution unless he paid some Rs. 200 or so. He also stated that his attache case was searched.

16. The Assistant Security Officer, Ajmer, in his enquiry report<sup>b</sup> has *inter alia* stated that the student volunteers who were in plain cloths were wearing arm badges bearing the words "Student Vol. Ticket Checker". It has also been stated in that report that when Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., declined to show his identity-card, the student volunteers took him to the Head Ticket Collector's Office, where Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., asked Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer, who was sitting there and was in plain clothes and the student volunteers, to show their authority for checking the tickets. On this, Shri M. L. Chaurasia showed his Buckle number and the student volunteers displayed their badges.

17. Shri S. G. Sopariwalla, Chief Ticket Inspector, Ajmer, in his oral evidence before the Committee has stated—that when checking was orga-

<sup>a</sup>L.S. Deb., 16-5-1973, c. 17.

<sup>b</sup>See Appendix—IV.

nised with the help of students, the practice was that the Railway staff accompanied them in plain clothes and the students wore arm-bands and that on the 23rd March, 1973, when the incident involving Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., took place, the students had their arm bands. Shri Sopariwalla also stated that he could not say whether any Railway official was accompanying the student volunteers when they checked Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer, also stated in his evidence before the Committee that he himself too was in plain clothes in the office and that Shri Lalji Bhai had complained to him as to who were the persons who had asked for his ticket and under what authority they were checking the tickets. Shri Sopariwalla also stated in his oral evidence before the Committee that he too was in plain clothes while on duty on that day and that he and some other Railway checking staff were authorised to be in plain clothes for purposes of surprise checks. Shri S. G. Sopariwalla has added in his oral evidence before the Committee that when he came to his office room from platform No. 3, a group of nearly 30-40 persons was there in the room. He enquired from Shri Lalji Bhai his identity, to which the latter replied "you have just come. You do not know how much they have ill-treated me". Shri Sopariwalla further stated that on his pleadings, Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., took out the purse from his pocket and showed the Identity-cum-Railway Pass to him outside his office room on the platform; he neither ordered for search nor was Shri Lalji Bhai's baggage searched in his presence. Since he himself was not present at the spot, the people whom he asked denied having done anything to harass Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. Shri S. G. Sopariwalla also stated:

"I felt that students might have committed some wrong.... You know the manner in which the students behave these days. I also enquired from the students inside the room.... I apologised to Shri Lalji Bhai not only on behalf of the students but I apologised on behalf of the staff also.

I am sorry, Sir.... I apologise on behalf of the students as well as the checking staff for the happening that had occurred on that day.... And on my own behalf."

18. Shri M. L. Chaurasia Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer in his oral evidence before the Committee, stated that when Shri Lalji Bhai was brought to the Office of the Chief Ticket Inspector, he enquired from Shri Lalji Bhai his ticket twice or thrice. When the passenger refused to disclose his identity, he started filling in the charge-sheet, and after he had filled in half the charge-sheet the passenger disclosed that he was an M.P. Then he stopped filling in the charge-sheet. In the meantime, Shri S. G. Sopariwalla, Chief Ticket Inspector, came and he directed him to complete the charge-sheet after seeking the permission of the Railway Magistrate. Thereafter, when Shri Lalji Bhai showed his Identity-cum-Railway Pass to Shri S. G.



Sopariwalla outside his office, the partly filled in charge-sheet was cancelled. Shri M. L. Chaurasia also apologised before the Committee and said:

“I want to make this submission. If I have made some mistake, I apologise for that... I have done a serious mistake.”

19. The Committee observe that according to the normal rules and practice, as stated by Shri S. G. Sopariwalla, when a special checking of the tickets of the Railway passengers is arranged with the help of the student volunteers, not only should they be properly briefed in advance about their duties, functions and conduct, but they should also be accompanied by the Railway ticket checking staff in an adequate number to guide and control them, so that no harassment is caused to the passengers. In addition, the student volunteers should also wear suitable arm bands displaying them prominently to indicate that they are *bona fide* student volunteers duly authorised to check the tickets of the Railway passengers. In the present case, however, all these precautions and requirements do not appear to have been observed by the concerned authorities who organised the special checking at the Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973.

20. On the basis of the evidence before the Committee, the Committee feel that the incident involving Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, which did cause harassment to him, would not have occurred if the student volunteers had been properly trained and briefed in the duties they were expected to perform and were duly accompanied by the regular Railway Checking Staff. In fact, the Committee would like the Ministry of Railways to re-examine their system of organising surprise checks with the aid of groups of students. Even if such a system is to continue, the persons detailed for this kind of duty should be thoroughly trained and properly briefed in advance so that there is no harassment of passengers.

21. However, in view of the apology tendered before the Committee by Sarvashri S. G. Sopariwalla, Chief Ticket Inspector, and M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, the Committee are of the opinion that no further action need be taken by the House in the matter and it may be closed.

#### IV. Recommendation of the Committee

22. The Committee recommend that no further action to be taken by the House in the matter and it may be dropped.

NEW DELHI;  
The 30th April, 1974.

HENRY AUSTIN,  
Chairman,  
Committee of Privileges.

# MINUTES

## I

### First Sitting

*New Delhi, Wednesday, the 20th June, 1973*

The Committee sat from 10.00 to 13.45 hours.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman.*

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri Darbara Singh
5. Shri Nihar Laskar
6. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
7. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
8. Shri R. P. Ulaganambi
9. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.*

10. The Committee then took up consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., against some railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend Lok Sabha Session.

The Committee decided that Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., might be asked to appear before the Committee for oral evidence, in the first instance, at a sitting to be fixed later.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*\*\*Paras 2—9 relate to other cases and have accordingly been omitted.

## II

### Second Sitting

New Delhi, Thursday, the 9th August, 1973

The Committee sat from 16.00 to 17.10 hours.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*.

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
3. Shri B. P. Maurya
4. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
5. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
6. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary*.

| Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary*.

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5. The Committee then took up further consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., against some railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend Lok Sabha Session. The Committee decided to hear Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., in person on the 29th August, 1973.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*\*\*Paras 2—4 and 6 and 7 relate to other cases and have accordingly been omitted.

### III

#### Third Sitting

New Delhi, Wednesday, the 29th August, 1973.

The Committee sat from 16.00 to 17.30 hours.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*.

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri Nihar Laskar
3. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
4. Shri K. Raghuramaiah
5. Shri Vasant Sathe
6. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
7. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
8. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary*.

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary*.

#### WITNESS

Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P.

2. The Committee took up further consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., against some railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend Lok Sabha Session.

3. Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., was called in and examined by the Committee (*verbatim record was kept*).

*The witness then withdrew.*

4. The Committee decided that the Chief Ticket Inspector, who was present in his office at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, at the time of checking the identity-cum-railway card of Shri Lalji Bhai,

M.P., be asked to appear before the Committee for oral examination on the 13th September, 1973.

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8. The Committee decided to hold their next sittings on the 12th and 13th September, 1973, to consider the items pending before them.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

## IV

### Fourth Sitting

New Delhi, Thursday, the 13th September, 1973.

The Committee sat from 11.00 to 12.50 hours.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*.

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri Darbara Singh
5. Shri Nihar Laskar
6. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
7. Shri Vasant Sathe
8. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary*.

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary*.

#### WITNESS

Shri Sohrabji Godrej Sopariwalla—*Chief Ticket Inspector, Ajmer*

2. The Committee took up further consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., against some railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend Lok Sabha Session.

3. Shri Sohrabji Godrej Sopariwalla, Chief Ticket Inspector, Ajmer, was called in and examined by the Committee on oath (*verbatim record was kept*.)

(*The witness then withdrew.*)

4. The Committee decided that the Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer, who had conducted an enquiry in this case be called to appear before the Committee for oral examination and also to furnish to the Committee a copy of his enquiry report as well as attested copies

of the statements made by the witnesses during his enquiry. The Committee also decided that Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer, who had prepared the charge-sheet against Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., in connection with this incident on the 23rd March, 1973, be called to appear before the Committee for oral examination.

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6. The Committee decided to hold their next sittings to consider the matters pending before them on the 30th and 31st October, 1973.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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**V**

**Fifth Sitting**

*New Delhi, Tuesday, the 30th October, 1973.*

The Committee sat from 15.00 to 17.10 hours.

**PRESENT**

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman.*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri Darbara Singh
5. Shri Nihar Laskar
6. Shri B. P. Maurya
7. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
8. Shri K. Raghuramaiah
9. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
10. Shri Maddi Sudersanam
11. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

**SECRETARIAT**

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*

**WITNESS**

Shri M. L. Chaurasia—*Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer.*

2. The Committee took up further consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., against some Railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23th March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi, to attend Lok Sabha Session.

3. Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer, was called in and examined by the Committee on oath (*verbatim record was kept*).

*(The witness then withdrew)*

4. The Committee desired that a photostat copy of the charge-sheet prepared by Shri M. L. Chaurasia against Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., on the 23rd March, 1973, might be obtained from the Railway Board.



The Committee decided to take oral evidence of Shri Kalyan Singh, Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer, in the matter at their sitting to be held on the 31st October, 1973.

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7. The Committee then adjourned to meet again on 31st October, 1973, at 11.00 hours.

## VI

### Sixth Sitting

New Delhi, Wednesday, the 31st October, 1973.

The Committee sat from 11.00 to 13.30 hours.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*.

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri H. R. Gokhale
5. Shri B. P. Maurya
6. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
7. Shri K. Raghuramaiah
8. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
9. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
10. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary*.

#### WITNESS

Shri Kalyan Singh, *Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer.*

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4. The Committee then took up consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. against some Railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend Lok Sabha Session.

5. Shri Kalyan Singh, Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer, was called in and examined by the Committee on oath (*verbatim record was kept*).

*(The witness then withdrew)*

The Committee directed that the verbatim record of evidence before the Committee in this case be circulated to the Committee.

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9. The Committee then adjourned to meet again at 15.30 hours on the 31st October, 1973.

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\*\*\*Paras 2 and 3 and 6—8 relate to other cases and have accordingly been omitted.

## VII

### Seventh Sitting

New Delhi, Monday, the 25th March, 1974.

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The Committee sat from 16.00 to 17.05 hours.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*.

#### MEMBERS

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Darbara Singh
4. Shri H. N. Mukherjee
5. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
6. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
7. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary*.

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3. The Committee then took up further consideration of the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., regarding alleged maltreatment and obstruction caused to him by some railway staff and others at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend the Lok Sabha Session.

The Committee were of the opinion that there was some harassment caused to Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973. The Committee felt that the system of checking tickets by students was faulty. The students on ticket checking duty should have been properly briefed beforehand and they should also have been accompanied by the concerned Railway ticket checking staff when they were entrusted with the work of checking the tickets of passengers so that there was no unnecessary harassment of passengers. However, in view of the apology tendered by the concerned Railway Officials, who had appeared before the Committee for oral examination, the Committee decided to recommend that no further action be taken by the House in the matter and it may be dropped.

In order to avoid such incidents in future, the Committee were of the view that Members of Parliament should promptly show their identity-cum-Railway Passes to the ticket checking staff while travelling by a railway train. The Committee also felt that a suitable type of badge might be devised for display by Members of Parliament on their dress prominently, so that there would be no confusion about the identity of Members of Parliament.

The Committee decided that a draft Report on this case might be prepared and circulated to them for consideration at their next sitting.

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*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\* \*Paras 2 and 4—6 relate to other cases and have accordingly been omitted.

## VIII

### **Eighth sitting**

*New Delhi, Tuesday, the 30th April, 1974.*

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The Committee sat from 15.00 to 15.50 hours.

#### **PRESENT**

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman.*

#### **MEMBERS**

2. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
3. Shri Darbara Singh
4. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
5. Shri Vasant Sathe
6. Shri R. P. Ulaganambi
7. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

#### **SECRETARIAT**

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.*

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3. The Committee then considered their draft Ninth Report on the question of privilege raised by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P., against some railway officials and others for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend the Lok Sabha Session. The Committee adopted the draft Report with the deletion of the word "fully" in paragraph 19 of the Report.

4. The Committee authorised the Chairman and, in his absence, Shri H. N. Mukerjee, to present the Report to the House on the 3rd May, 1974.

5. The Committee decided to hold their next sittings on Thursday, the 16th and Friday, the 17th May, 1974, to consider the matters pending before them.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

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\*\*\*Para 2 relates to another case and has accordingly been omitted.

**MINUTES OF EVIDENCE\* TAKEN BEFORE THE COMMITTEE  
OF PRIVILEGES**

*Wednesday, the 29th August, 1973*

**PRESENT**

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Nihar Laskar
3. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
4. Shri K. Raghuramaiah
5. Shri Vasant Sathe
6. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
7. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
8. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

**SECRETARIAT**

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.*

**WITNESS**

Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P.

*(The Committee met at 16.00 hours).*

**EVIDENCE OF SHRI LALJI BHAI, M.P.,**

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Shri Lalji Bhai is present. Hon. Members may ask him questions. Shri Lalji Bhai you have given a written statement. Would you like to add something more?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I have nothing to add to what I have already given in writing.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You might have seen the reply given by the Ministry of Railways. According to them, on that day the students were on checking duty and one of them requested you to show your ticket. The Ministry has stated that you refused to show your ticket. Nor did you disclose that you are an M.P. How far is it correct?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** It happened on March 23 when I was coming to Delhi by Khandwa Express to attend the Session. The passengers have to change the train at Ajmer Station. The time was 7.00 or 8.00

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\*Portions of evidence which were originally in Hindi have been translated into English.

P.M. When the train halted, some boys came to me and one of them asked me to show the ticket. I told him that as he was in civil dress I would not show him the ticket and added that he was not authorised to check my ticket. He then insisted on my showing him the ticket and said that if I did not show him the ticket it would be construed that I did not possess the ticket. Thereafter, he started speaking in harsh voice. I told him that I could show him the ticket through some proper authority. The boy then asked me to accompany him. By that time three or four more boys, one of whom was a Sikh boy, also collected there. We all went to the platform across the bridge. There in an office room, two persons were sitting who appeared to be railway officers. Later on, on enquiry I came to know that of the two, one was called as Mr. Supariwala. As regards the other gentleman, I do not know his name but I can recognise him by face. Those boys told them that I did not seem to possess a ticket. But I told them that I was prepared to produce the ticket but as they were in civil dress I told them that I would show the ticket to some proper authority. Thereafter, I began to open my attache case.

MR. CHAIRMAN: To be more helpful to the Committee could you mention the names of those persons?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: Both of them got up and took the attache case from my hand saying that I did not seem to possess the ticket. Then I told them, "I am a Member of Parliament and my identity card is in my attache case". On this they said, "you do not seem to be an M.P. Instead, you look like a smuggler. Pay Rs. 201/-, otherwise a challan will be issued in your name". I told them, that my ticket was in the attache case and my name is like this and that I was going to Delhi. But they did not restore my attache case to me. My identity card was in the attache case, how could I show them my identity card without getting my attache case back. Even after that I repeatedly told them my name, but they would not listen to me and insisted that I must pay Rs. 201/-. I told them that I had no money and that I was a Member of Parliament and my name was Lalji Bhai. I repeated that my identity card was in the attache case and which was in their possession. To this, they replied that they would get the attache case searched by police and would not hand it over to me. I told them that I could show my identity card only when I get back the attache case. Getting infuriated at this, they ordered for the issue of challan. After asking my name, they entered in the register "Lalji Bhai, M.P." going from here to Delhi. Then they got the attache case searched by a policeman. They took out every thing from the attache case and searched. The door of the room was not closed and as such many people gathered there and were witnessing the incident. The policeman searched the attache case and when my identity card was found in it, they relieved the attache case and left that place. After a little while, the train came. They told me that there is reservation also in my name. Then I boarded the train.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** According to the Ministry of Railways, a checking staff personnel was also accompanying the students who were checking the tickets.

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Nobody was with them at that time. Only the students were there and they too were in civil dress. That is why I did not show them my identity card. I told them that I could show them my identity card only when there was some railway official with them. After crossing the bridge, we came to the other platform where two officers were present. One of them took the attache case from me and the second one started interrogating me. Then they refused to give my attache case back and asked for Rs. 201/-. I told them that if they did not believe me and did not return my attache case, how could I show my identity card to them. To this they said that they would not return the attache case and again asked for Rs. 201/-. I said, "what for should I give the money? I have a ticket with me, I am a Member of Parliament and my identity card is there in the attache case which you are not returning." But they did not pay any heed to it and got the challan prepared; entered my name and address in the register and sent for the police and then got my attache case searched. On finding the identity card in my attache case, they allowed me to leave.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** When those boys took you to the T.T.E's room where railway officers were sitting, did you tell them that you were an M.P.?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I told them that these boys were asking me to show the ticket, that I had my ticket with me any that I was an M.P. and was going to attend the Parliament Session. On this, they said that I was not looking like an M.P. One of them took attache from me and Mr. Supariwala told me that I would be allowed to go only when I deposited Rs. 201/-. He said I looked like a smuggler. Mr. Supariwala is a T.T.E. I do not know the name of the second gentleman. I can recognise him by face. Both of them were railway officers.

**SHRI VASANT SATHI:** Did they ask for Rs. 201/- as First Class fare?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** That I do not know. They only said that if I wanted to go, I should deposit Rs. 201/-.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** What for did they demand Rs. 201/-. Did they want bribe or was it for the fare?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** That I do not know what for they demanded Rs. 201/-.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** Did they say that you will have to pay the penalty for the ticket? Or was it as a bribe? Was that money being demanded for ticketless travel or as a bribe?



**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** They simply said that they would let me go only when I had paid Rs. 201/-. The students did not say anything. They simply said that either I should show the identity card and/or the ticket, or else I would have to pay the penalty. I told them that I would show it in the presence of some railway official. Then we crossed the bridge and went to that room.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Who demanded Rs. 201/-, the boys or the railway officials?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Mr. Supariwala demanded Rs. 201/-.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You have written two letters—dt. 2nd April and 7th May to the Speaker. In your letter of 2nd April you said: "I told them that they do not appear to be the Railway Staff and that I would prefer to show my identity card to the proper authority".

In your letter of 7th May in para 3(c) you said: "In spite of my telling them repeatedly that I was a Member of Parliament, neither they accepted my plea nor allowed me an opportunity to open my attache to get my identity card out."

I want to know what is the correct position and truth?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** They did not give back the attache case to me. But I had told them by name.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** That attache was not given to him and identity card was lying in the attache.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** At first he said I would prefer to show my identity card to the proper authority.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** That he told to the students.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** In para 1 of your letter dated the 2nd April to the Speaker you have mentioned that some persons in plain clothes surrounded you and you told them that you would not disclose your identity to them and that you would disclose it only if some one from the railway staff came there. Were they asking for your identity card?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** They had asked for it but as they were in civil dress, I refused to show them the card.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Did they resort to application of force there?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** No.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** You have written that on your not showing the identity card, they got infuriated and the persons who had surrounded you snatched your suit case with application of force and asked for Rs. 201/-; and they also told you that they would let you go free only

when you had paid them Rs. 201/-. But just now you have said that when they took you to the T.T.E's room, Mr. Supariwala, T.T.E. demanded Rs. 201/- In your letter you have stated that the boys demanded the money but now you are saying that the T.T.E., Mr. Supariwala asked for the money. Would you please clarify what the real position is?

MR. LALJI BHAI: The position was like this. The boys first surrounded me, then asked for the ticket and then they demanded money also. The boys did everything. They went to the room, got the challan prepared and also threatened me. They also made allegations on me. Mr. Supriwala also did so. On reaching there, the students handed over me to the persons sitting there and asked me to sit down. They did everything but did not snatch my attache.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Did the boys not snatch the attache case from you?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: No, please.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In your letter you have stated that they snatched your suitcase but here you are denying this. May be, you had committed a mistake in your earlier statement in a hurry. However, you mean to say that it is not correct that the boys snatched your suitcase; and that your present statement is that after going in the T.T.E's room, the T.T.E. snatched it is correct.

SHRI LALJI BHAI: Yes, please.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The second point is as to who demanded Rs. 201/-, the boys or the T.T.E.?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: The dispute arose only when the students demanded Rs. 201/-. It was the students who demanded the amount.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: How much money did the boys demand?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: They had demanded Rs. 201/- but after reaching the T.T.E's office, they did not make such a demand.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Did they tell the T.T.E. that they had been asking for Rs. 201/- and that you were not paying the same?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: They alongwith the boys were saying that I should be got arrested. They misbehaved with me.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We are sorry for that but we want to know the actual position. After all we will have to hold someone guilty.

SHRI LALJI BHAI: But I can tell you only what has happened with me.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Since the boys had asked for Rs. 201/-, was it that they told the T.T.E. that they had been demanding Rs. 201/- from

you, because the T.T.E. also asked for the same amount? Is it so that because the boys had asked for Rs. 201/- that is why the T.T.E. also said that you pay Rs. 201/- and get your attache back?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** The boys, the T.T.Es. and the officers were all present there.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did the boys tell the T.T.E. in your presence that they had asked for Rs. 201/- but you were not paying the same? Did you hear this or not?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** In the beginning I had heard Mr. Supariwalla saying that the amount must be paid otherwise challan would have to be issued.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Who got the challan prepared?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Mr. Supariwalla said that since I was not paying the money, I should be challaned.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Was there any Railway Magistrate in whose presence the challan was being prepared?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Two Officers, a few students were there in the office and some other people were standing outside. Mr. Supariwalla told that as I was prepared either to pay the amount, nor to show the ticket, the challan would have to be issued.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** The Ministry of Railways have intimated that one Railway Magistrate was present there. Are you aware of the presence of any Magistrate there?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Mr. Supariwalla had asked other person present there to issue the challan.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Who was he?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** He was a policeman who was to issue the challan. Mr. Supariwalla got the challan prepared.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Are you aware of it as to whether he was a Railway Magistrate or not. If you are not aware of it then tell so.

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Only two persons were there.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Was there any Railway Magistrate in your knowledge.

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** None else was there.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** May be that you were not aware of his identity?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I can recognise the man by face who was making entries into the register.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Was Mr. Supariwalla making entries?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: I do not know the name of the man who was writing in the register.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Please now tell us when the charge-sheet was being prepared, who opened your suit case? In your letter you have stated that one policeman opened your attache but now you say that the man who was making entries opened your attache. A short while ago, when I asked you whether he was a policeman, you had replied in the negative.

SHRI LALJI BHAI: The attache was with the policeman.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Who opened the attache? Was it opened by the person who was making entries?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: The policeman opened it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: When?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: After preparing the challan they searched the attache. They got the identity card in the attache.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Is it so that when they opened your suit case found the identity card, they cancelled the challan and released you also.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: Had they been asking for Rs. 201/- from the very beginning?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: They had been demanding Rs. 201/-. The boys also had demanded this money.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Did they enter the amount of Rs. 201/- in the memo they prepared?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: I do not know about this. They did not read it out to me.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When he was preparing the memo, did you tell him that you are an M.P.?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: That I had been repeatedly telling them that I was an M.P.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: Did the preparation of memo and search of the attache were done simultaneously?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: First they prepared the memo and thereafter they asked the policeman to open the attache.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: Did the person who was preparing the memo not open the attache?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: It was Mr. Supariwala who snatched the attache from my hand.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: And who opened it?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: It was opened by the policeman.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: Did not the policeman take the attache in the beginning?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: The man whose name I have indicated had taken it.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Had the boys snatched the attache earlier?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: They did not snatch it. They pushed me and took me inside.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Railway authorities say that you produced the identity card by yourself and that it was not found by anybody else while searching the suitcase. Have you to say something?

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: After the suitcase had been opened, was it so that you took out the identity card and showed it to them or they themselves took it out from the attache?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Did you open the attache and show the identity card and the ticket at the instance of the Railway authorities?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: They took the attache from me and got it opened by the policeman.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: Did you tell them that you had the identity card?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: They got it after the search. They called the policeman and got the attache searched. The identity card was found after they had taken out the clothes etc. from the attache.

DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA: Did they recognise that it was your identity card?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: Yes, they did.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: You yourself never showed them the identity card. Is not it?

SHRI LALJI BHAI: It was in the attache. It was not in my possession. This was what I told them but they did not believe me, I would have shown it to the students but they were in civil dress and they would have harassed me.

**SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE:** Did you tell them about your identity card?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I told them about my identity card. I told them my name also. Then they went inside. There Mr. Supariwalla was sitting. He asked me either to pay Rs. 201/- failing which challan would have to be prepared.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Have you the names and addresses of some persons other than those you have already mentioned, so that we can find out something from them also, if we can?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** How could I tell anybody's name, there was nobody else there. Only two persons were sitting there. On enquiry, I was informed that the name of one of those two persons was Mr. Supariwala.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Are you sure that he was Supariwala and not 'Panwala'?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I asked about the name just after I came out of the room.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Was he Supariwala by name or was it just a nickname, as give such names to some people?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** The man whom I had asked his name, told me that he is called Supariwala. I do not know the name of the other person but I can recognise him by face.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** Is there any one else who could be called for evidence?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** The room was open and the people were standing outside.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** Was there nobody known to you?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** Many of the people must be knowing him but none of them was known to me.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** In your earlier statement you had reported that they asked for Rs. 200/- but in your statement you gave the amount as Rs. 201/-.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** There is a small discrepancy here. In one letter you said they demand Rs. 200 /- and in the second letter you said they demanded Rs. 201/-. Would you like to clarify that? In the letter dated 2nd April you said they demanded Rs. 201|- "for letting me go free" and in the letter dated 7th May you said "they asked me to pay Rs. 200 as bribe to let me off".

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I had asked to write Rs. 201/- but perhaps he has written Rs. 200/-.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** He says the letter was not drafted by him but was drafted by some other gentleman. He says that is as Rs. 201, but perhaps it has been typed as Rs. 200.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** Who asked whom to write the letter?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** He says that one Mr. Rajinder Shah drafted the letter.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** As a Member of Parliament you might have been knowing that the students were collaborating with the Railway authorities on that day. You could have talked to the students in a friendly way. Can you remember at least who was the student leader who was participating so that we can question him?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You could have talked to the boys who were harassing you. You could have convinced them that you were a Member of Parliament. Do you recognise any one of them so that we could take some help from him in this matter.

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I cannot recognise any one but one of them was a sikh boy.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It would be helpful to the Committee if you suggest someone in the Railway from whom we can find out the fact or we could write to him and ask if he could help us in the matter.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** You had written in your second letter that they were asking for a bribe but just now you have stated that you do not know what for they were demanding the money?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** They were saying that I may pay Rs. 201/- and they would let me go.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** You have written that they were asking for a bribe. On what grounds you have stated this?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I had told that they were demanding Rs. 201/-.

**DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA:** Did you ask Mr. Rajendra Sharma to write about the bribe or he wrote about it of his own?

**SHRI LALJI BHAI:** I did not ask him to write so.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Lalji Bhai, for your coming here to give evidence.

*(The Witness then withdrew.)*

Thursday, the 13th September, 1973

PRESENT

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri H.K.L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri Darbara Singh
5. Shri Nihar Laskar
6. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
7. Shri Vasant Sathe
8. Dr. Shankar Dyal Sharma.

SECRETARIAT

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*

Shri J. R. Kapur—*Under Secretary.*

WITNESS

Shri Sohrabji Godrej Sopariwalla, *Chief Ticket Inspector, Ajmer.*

*(The Committee met at 11.00 hours.)*

EVIDENCE OF SHRI SOHRABJI GODREJ SOPARIWALLA,  
CHIEF TICKET INSPECTOR, AJMER

*(The witness took the oath.)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Sopariwalla, you may take the oath, before you tender the evidence.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes Sir. (reads) "I, Sorabji Godrej, do swear in the name of God that the evidence which I give in this case shall be true, that I will conceal nothing and that no part of my evidence shall be false."

MR. CHAIRMAN: I suppose you are a railway official.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir. At Ajmer Station.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your designation?

SHRI S. G. SOPRIWALLA: Today I am working as a Chief Ticket Inspector attached to the Railway Magistrate's Squad.



MR. CHAIRMAN: On 23rd March, 1973 were you in Ajmer Railway Station? If so, in what capacity were you employed there?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Then I was acting as Chief Divisional Ticket Inspector.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: On 23rd March, 1973, Mr. Sopariwalla, did you appoint a special squad or was a special check organised with the help of some students in Ajmer Station?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir. It was organised by the students of the D.A.V. College.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: How many of the students were there?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Roundabout 12.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Along with the students did you post any regular ticket checking official or staff with them?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Normal course is that when we check with the students, it is a ruling or an understanding that the T.T.Es. should accompany the students.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is the normal rule. But on that particular day, were the students accompanied by any T.T.E. staff when 70 Down to Ajmer was inspected?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I cannot tell the exact number at that particular time who accompanied the students. I cannot go with each individual student or for that matter, I cannot go with each individual T.T.E. There are three platforms and at that time I was on platform Number 3.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Is it a fact that some students brought Shri Lalji Bhai to your office on that day?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Were the students accompanied by any T.T.E? What was his name?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir. There were many T.T.Es. at that time.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: My question is: were the students accompanied by a particular T.T.E.?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: At that time I was not present. I only came to the station at 8.30 P.M.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Who was there in the room when these boys brought Shri Lalji Bhai?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: When I went there was a group of nearly 30 to 40 persons in that room and practically all the T.T.Es., were there. Students and other public were also in that room.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: After how much time did you go to the room?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I went there somewhere about 8.30 P.M.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: At what time did you go there?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Within 15 to 20 minutes when I came to know that there was some quarrel going on, immediately rushed to that office and enquired as to what the matter was?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: How far away is your office from where you were?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I had come to my office right from platform number 3.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Did you enquire from the boys' the reason for their bringing Shri Lalji Bhai to your room?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir. They said that they suspected the person who was claiming himself to be a Member of Parliament who was not showing his identity card to them. I enquired from Shri Lalji Bhai—at that time I was in plain clothes—as to who the gentleman was. He said: You have just come. You do not know how much they have ill-treated me. I told him that they were just like children and so he should not indulge with them. At this, he said to me, "Uncle, you do not know how these people have ill-treated me." I begged his pardon for their misbehaviour. I requested him to show me his identity card. He refused to show his card and asked us to complete the incomplete charge sheet and deposit his cheque.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Who prepared the charge sheet?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It was prepared by Shri Mohan Lal Chaurasia. In the meantime, the Railway Magistrate arrived at the platform. He enquired about the matter. He was apprised of the matter. He called for me. I told the Magistrate that half of the charge sheet had been prepared before I came. He wanted to know why the M.P. was not showing his identity card. I told him that I fail to understand when Shri Lalji Bhai did not show his identity card. When the charge sheet was completed I requested Shri Lalji Bhai to let me know his identity card number to enable me to cancel the charge sheet. Then he agreed to show the identity card outside. He showed me the card and then I cancelled the charge sheet. The card pass was in his purse. He took out the purse from his pocket and showed me his identity card.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I suppose you can understand English.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: He went out with you.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir. It was on a condition that if I went with him he would show the ticket. I did not mind that because I shall have to cancel the charge-sheet.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Why was the charge-sheet prepared? He did not show the identity card either to you or to the students or to the T.T.Es. or to anybody.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: The public was highly agitated at that time, and they were saying whatever they liked. People were saying that an ordinary person would have been put behind the bars by now but no action was being taken against him as he was saying that he was a Member of Parliament. I told them that it was not correct.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You were insisting on his producing the identity card.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: That was just to cancel the charge-sheet.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The charge-sheet was prepared because he was not showing his identity card.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Were any of the T.T.Es. including you in uniform?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Nobody was in uniform. We have been given identity card passes.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: None of the T.T.Es. had uniform at the Station.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: At that time we were all in plain clothes.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Was it because of the special check?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It was a special check done by the students. Ordinarily, I do not remain in uniform. The Magistrates have been specially authorised not to put on uniform. Magistrate accompanies us whenever there is mobile checking. We can very easily be spotted if we are in uniform. So to facilitate checking we go in plain clothes. We are authorised to put on plain clothes, while conducting the checking.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is why you don't put on your uniform. You show your identity card.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: When demanded.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** My question is: Did Shri Lalji Bhai demand from you the identity card?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** He did demand it from me and I showed my identity card. I can produce that identity card.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** You showed your identity card.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Even after you showed your identity card, he did not show you his identity card.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I begged pardon of him for any misbehaviour in my absence. After 5 days of this incident, I went to his residence and begged pardon of him. Some people told me that he had already lodged report about this matter. Shri Lalji Bhai told me that he would reply after consulting Shri Vajpayeeji, who was about to visit Udaipur. I went to his residence for the third time but I could not meet him.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Did Lalji Bhai have any suit-case?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** He had one small bed roll and two attaches. I think that something was wrong with one of the attaches.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Is it a fact that one of his attaches was taken possession of by the students?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Not in my presence.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Earlier.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I cannot tell.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Did any police officer, constable or anybody come there?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** There was no police officer but some constables were there.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** What could have been the ticket fare with penalty from Ajmer to Delhi?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** The first-class fare may be around Rs. 40 to 50? The charge-sheet was filed from Ratlam. He never mentioned from what station he was coming. We take the last checking station.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** From Ratlam to Delhi what would be the first-class charge?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Round about Rs. 70 to Rs. 80. Some amount is demanded in shape of penalty.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Did anyone of you or in your presence the student or anyone else ask Mr Lalji Bhai to give Rs. 200| -?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: How could we demand Rs. 200| - when the fare does not work out so much. First class fare from Ratlam to Delhi can in no case be Rs. 200| -.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Not even with the amount of penalty?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Not even with the amount of penalty. Secondly, we did not demand first class fare. We demanded only third class fare.

The charge-sheet was filled for third-class fare because he was checked at the platform.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Did Lalji Bhai complain to you that these boys have been asking me for Rs. 200| -?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He uttered only these words "Today is yours, tomorrow will be mine". At this it appeared to me that he must be an M.P. After this I requested him that not to indulge with them. They were after all children and on their behalf I begged pardon of him. On this, he said to me, "you have just come. You don't know how they have ill-treated me. Why are you begging pardon?"

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That means you had asked him at that point itself to be excused.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Very certainly.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: And forgive the boys if they have misbehaved.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes. I could read by the way he was saying: "Today is yours and tomorrow will be mine."

SHRI VASANT SATHE: He disclosed his identity by showing you the identity card.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He showed me the Identity Card outside the office. Then I came back, made an entry in the charge-sheet and cancelled it. Thereafter I escorted him upto the compartment.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Was it mentioned in the charge-sheet that he (M.P.) refused to show the identity card?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Charge-sheet reads: He refused to show ticket.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Can you produce a copy of the charge-sheet.

(The witness showed the charge-sheet to Mr. Sathe).

SHRI VASANT SATHE: You said four days later you went to the residence of Shri Lalji Bhai and asked him to forgive the inconvenience caused to him. Even today you are willing to say that. What would you like to express?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I would express my sorrow if he thinks he has been harassed. On behalf of the checking staff, I apologise.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did you issue some passes to the students who were posted there for checking?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: They have got arm-band.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Is there any signature of the officer on that?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It has been issued by the Railway Administration and it has been kept by our office.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Is there any numbering?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: No, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Have you got record of those students who had the charge on that day and can you identify them?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: The names of the persons who were their on that day can be given but I cannot identify them since I come hardly in touch with them.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did the students bring M.P. from the train?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: No. He was on the platform. Nobody knew that he was a Member of Parliament.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: You say that he was not recognised as an M.P. therefore, they dragged him.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Why should they drag him. They must have requested him to come to the Head Ticket Collector.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did they not maltreat him?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: In my presence nothing was done. From 8.30 till the departure of the mail I was there.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Two minutes earlier, in reply to Mr. Sathe's question you said that you were not there and now you are emphatic that the students never dragged him or maltreated him.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Nothing took place in the office in my presence. I am telling about what happened in the office, where I was present.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: What happened in between the time you were not available there?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Since I was not present at the spot, the people whom I asked denied to having done anything.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Is all this verbal or did somebody give in writing as well?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It is in writing. I am narrating whatever happened in the room.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Who else was present in the room?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: There were outsiders i.e., other than Railway employees.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did they not say anything?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I have already stated that the people were talking all sorts of things. There was cat-calling in my presence. But the students did not say anything objectionable.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Shri Lalji Bhai has stated that his baggage was searched at your instance?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I neither ordered for search nor the baggage was searched in my presence.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: After all, did Lalji Bhai say anything to you?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He said, "Uncle, you don't know how they have ill-treated me."

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Is he related to you as he addressed you as uncle?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He is not related to me. Perhaps he might have addressed me as uncle keeping in view my age. But, I cannot say anything.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: What was your re-action when you knew that he was an M.P.?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I begged pardon of him at that very time for any inconvenience caused to him. At this he asked me as to why I was apologising.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: What was your re-action when he showed you his identity card?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I told him that I was apologising on behalf of the students and the checking staff as I was head of the checking staff and the checking was being conducted under my super-

vision. Because I am the head and it has been conducted under my supervision, naturally, I have to apologise if you take it that any wrong has been done by the students.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** According to you the identity card was shown to whom?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** It was shown to me and not to anybody else when I went with him on the platform. The cards or tickets when demanded are required to be shown.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The matter was referred to the Ministry of Railways. They have stated as under:

"Shri Lalji Bhai refused to show his ticket. He did not disclose his identity either.....A Railway Magistrate was available at Ajmer and hence a charge-sheet was prepared against him for prosecution whereupon Shri Lalji Bhai disclosed his identity card and said that he must leave for Delhi by 2 Down train."

Here it has been stated that the identity card was shown to the Railway Magistrate.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** No, Sir, except my talk with the Railway Magistrate Mr. Lalji Bhai never met him.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** So, according to you this report is not true.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** The identity card was shown to me. The Railway Magistrate was not present there. He occasionally came there. Shri S. C. Mital, Railway Magistrate, called me and asked me as to what was the matter. I told him that there was one gentleman—an M.P.—did not show his identity card to the students.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Railway Magistrate did not interfere.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** It was an occasional matter that he came to the station and enquired.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** If the Railway Ministry has sent the report to the Lok Sabha, could that be false?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I cannot say that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** When Shri Lalji Bhai showed his identity, did he complain to you that he was maltreated or embarrassed?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** He said nothing except that this day is yours, tomorrow will be my day and that hinted me that he must be an M.P.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** He did not make any complaint to you that he was ill-treated by the students.



**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Except that sentence he said nothing. Before showing his identity I apologised because that sentence was sufficient for me to judge that he was an M.P. I said why do you quarrel with these boys. You please show me your card pass so that the charge-sheet which has been filled in may be cancelled. Then, he repeated the same sentence, "Today is yours, tomorrow will be mine."

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Earlier you said you apologised.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** It is because checking was carried out under my supervision. Therefore, I begged pardon of him for any misbehaviour on part of the students. At this, he said uncle, you have come quite late, you do not know how much ill-treatment they have meted out to me.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The Railway Ministry report is as under:

"A Railway Magistrate was available at Ajmer and hence a charge-sheet was prepared against him for prosecution."

You have said that the Railway Magistrate has nothing to do with that and your second statement was that you apologised as soon as you knew that he was an M.P.

Railway Ministry Report shows that Lalji Bhai refused to show the ticket and the Railway Magistrate was available. Hence a charge-sheet was prepared against him for prosecution whereupon Shri Lalji Bhai disclosed his identity and said that he must leave for Delhi by 2 Down train. When his identity was disclosed, Shri Lalji Bhai was personally escorted by the Chief Ticket Inspector (i.e. you) to the train and the charge-sheet was cancelled.

There is no mention of it that you apologised or expressed your concern.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Mr. Lalji Bhai will be the correct person to tell you that. Shri Lalji Bhai can only tell you whether I have apologised or not. I have even apologised at his residence.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Lalji Bhai had already been examined and he also never said that you had ever apologised. What you have stated does not tally with the Railway Ministry's report. Shri Lalji Bhai has stated that he had been ill-treated. Did you make any effort even to find out from him whether there was any embarrassment at the hands of the students on duty or of the Railway. Have you made any efforts or not to find out the facts from Shri Lalji Bhai?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** He only repeated one sentence:

"Today is yours, tomorrow will be mine." I told him that the students had committed the wrong and I apologised for the same.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Here is the statement of Shri Lalji Bhai:

"On March 23, 1973, while I was coming from my Udaipur constituency to Delhi to attend the Lok Sabha session and when I was preparing to leave Khandwa-Ajmer train for the required train-change, some persons in plain clothes surrounded me and asked me to show the ticket. I told them that they did not appear to be Railway Staff and that I would prefer to show my identity-card to the proper authority.

At this they got infuriated, snatched off my suitcase, manhandled me and demanded Rs. 201 for letting me go free. I pleaded that I was a Member of Parliament and that I had the requisite Identity card but they dragged me into the TTE room there, and called in a police man in uniform. They all again threatened and insulted me.

When they could not extract money from me the police man opened my suitcase for search. Having found there my Identity-card, he whispered something into their ears and gradually each of them slipped away."

Further, he has written two letters to the Speaker. Obviously, there must have been, to say the least, some embarrassment to him, but you only say that he uttered these words. How could you reconcile this with your statement that he said only one sentence.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** The witness has already said that he was not aware of what happened before he came.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I have narrated only factual facts. There was no need for me to apologise. But I felt that students might have committed some wrong.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** The checking on that day was done by some students. Who selects those students to act as volunteers?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** A letter is written by the Divisional Commercial Superintendent to the concerned colleges and they send the boys.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Is there any record of the boys?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Yes, Sir, because they are paid.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Is there any officer also with them?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Railway Inspectors are there. Chief Ticket Inspector is also there.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** All in uniforms?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Not necessarily.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That means, when the students carry out the checking, an inspector may or may not be there in uniform.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It is possible.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Where were you at the time of the incident, when the students checked the ticket etc.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I was at platform No. 3.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did you try to find out who was there when the inspection was carried out?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I was there, but I was not there when the incident occurred.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is it necessary that the Railway Inspectors should be there with the students?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: TTE has to be there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Who was there on that day, please tell us correctly? Or was there nobody?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It is possible.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That means, the students can go on checking tickets and there would be nobody from Railways to supervise what they are doing.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Normally we are there.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We are all concerned with this particular incident. We want to know, who was the man on that day?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I can't say as to who was on duty there on that day?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Did you try to find out?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I did try to find out but no one says that he was present there.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It was your duty to know, which of your officer was with the boys.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I enquired but I could not find it out.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: All the TTEs said that none of them was there.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is there any training for the students?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: They are told to be polite, avoid unnecessary quarrels as far as possible. They should only check the tickets. This is a general instruction when they come for the first day.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But new people may be sent by the college.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: We give the same instructions to all those who come.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Can you give us any reason, why this Member of Parliament would not show his identity card?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I can't say any thing about this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Can you tell us, why did you prepare the charge-sheet?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I cancelled it; it was one Mr. Chaurasia, who prepared it. He said that he was not prepared to show his identity card.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was the other gentleman in uniform?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He was not, but he showed his identity card.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is that the rule? Are you not expected to be in uniform?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I have got the authority to remain in plain clothes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What about the other gentleman?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He was not in uniform, he has also got the authority. That is a written authority.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Have these students got badges and who supervises them?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: They have. I supervise them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How can you supervise them. You were not there at the time of this incident?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I keep on moving. That is why I was not present.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many platforms are there?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Three.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How can you be there on all the three platforms?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: There was another T.T.E. present there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have no idea, what the students did before you came.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did you ask Mr. Lalji Bhai, why he didn't show his identity card earlier to the students?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He did not not show his identity card to me. When charge-sheet was complete, he stated that he had to go to Delhi. I told him that he could leave only when charge-sheet was cancelled and requested him to show his identity card. He showed me the card outside the office.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When he showed you the identity card, did you ask him, why he did not do so earlier?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I enquired from him, but he said, "You do not know what happened with me earlier".

MR. CHAIRMAN: He was probably referring to the embarrassment.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: He did not tell me more than that.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, through you, whether they have got an authority to do checking without the uniform?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you got any document to show that you need not be in uniform always at the time of checking?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

(At this stage, the witness showed the identity card, and the authority whereby he can do checking without uniform)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I believe you told us earlier that you apologised to the hon. Member for any misbehaviour on the part of the students.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, you believe that there had been some misbehaviour.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: You know the manner in which the students behave these days. I also enquired from the students inside the room.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Were there such students on that day who could have behaved rudely?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It is just possible, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** What do you know about the present day students?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Rowdyism prevails among them at times.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Therefore, you say that because of the general nature of the present day students, you apologised.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I apologised not only on behalf of the students but I apologised on behalf of the staff also.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You knew that they misbehaved and you knew that there was a legitimate complaint from the hon. Member and you apologised on behalf of the students without ascertaining from the students whether they had misbehaved or not. Now, leaving apart the rowdyism and other things, right from the platform to your office what is the distance?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** In order to come to my room, one has to cross a bridge.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** From platform No. 3 to platform No. 1 you have to cross the bridge to reach your office. So, all that is possible is that there might have been some misbehaviour by the students. Then in your office the charge-sheet was prepared. Was the charge-sheet prepared by the Inspector at your instance?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** So, he on his own prepared the charge-sheet and this was prepared for submission to the Magistrate for scrutiny. And you want us to believe that even then the hon. Member did not show his identity to Mr. Chaurasia who showed his own identity card to him. Even when the charge-sheet was prepared by him against the hon. Member, he did not show his identity card. It may be because he suffered this sort of humiliation and a threatened prosecution and detention. And only when you said that he could not go unless he showed the identity card, he took out his identity card from his pocket and showed it to you. All the while he was having his identity card in his pocket but he did not show it to you. That means after being bullied by the students and others, he did not show his identity card and that is what you want us to believe.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Yes,\* Sir.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Thank you very much.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Have you come to know that Shri Lalji Bhai has raised the question of privilege?

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\*When the transcript of his evidence was sent to the witness for confirmation, he has added: "The students or the staff did not misbehave with Shri Lalji Bhai in my presence. Shri Lalji Bhai showed his card pass only to me' outside the office on the platform."

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir, It was in the newspaper.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, an enquiry was made by the Station Master. Did he contact any one of you in this regard?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: The enquiry was conducted by the Assistant Security Officer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And you were also called to explain the position.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Were you examined there?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did you tell that officer that you had apologised?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said, you first prepared the charge-sheet, can you tell at what time it was prepared?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It was prepared sometime between 8.00 and 8.30 p.m.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said you had cancelled the charge-sheet, can you tell at what time it was cancelled?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It was about 9 O'clock when we cancelled the charge-sheet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What were you doing during these 40 minutes or so?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I was asking the gentleman the same thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am asking what were you doing from 8.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: The charge-sheet was cancelled at 9.00 O'clock and the departure of the train was 9.10 p.m.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said that the identity card was showed to you immediately.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: No. Sir. He did not show it immediately.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did you show your identity card to him?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: First I did not show my identity card to him. But when there were some allegations from the public that if that man (MP) was a public man, I would have taken him to task by that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, there was some agitation going on.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Because the room was full with public men and the students.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When did he show his identity card?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: When I told him that since you wanted to go to Delhi, you please show me your identity card.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time it took?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It must have taken 15—20 minutes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Even in your presence, those volunteers were insisting that some action should be taken against him.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Not by the students. It was the general public.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So far the public was not in the picture. Now, you are bringing the general public in the picture.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When such a shouting was going on inside the room, did you notice closely who were those who were shouting? Whether they were those volunteers? At that time, did you try to find out who were making those demands?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: They were quiet at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you say that this general public got agitated at that time, how could you allow the general public to come inside the room?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: There was not much time left.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't you think that it was a dereliction of duty on your part?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: Because these persons were those who were on the platform.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Why did you not ask those persons to get out of the room?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I was more anxious that this dispute should be settled.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: You should invite more people. Did you want to collect the people in order to solve the dispute?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I was not concerned with the dispute. I wanted to settle it. There were other travellers on the platform. They gathered around. They were the only publicmen.



**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Instead of the general public, you should have told us the travelling public. You should have put it in that way. Now, having gone through all these things, what is your reaction?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Right from the beginning, I had apologised. I went to his (M.P.) house and apologised with two prominent persons from Udaipur. One was Mr. Phool Chand Gupta. He was our ex-Divisional Superintendent Commissioner. There was one contractor besides one M.P. If you want, I can produce those persons.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Who was that M.P.?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** He is from Udaipur.

**SHRI VASANT SATHE:** You went with this M.P. to Mr. Lalji Bhai's house.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** But you cannot remember his name.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I can tell you the name after making enquiries. If you name the M.P. from Udaipur I may be able to tell you.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Who approached this M.P. to go with you?

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I think it was Mr. Gupta.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Who approached this M.P. to go.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Because he was my ex-officer.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You had to go to his house because the situation was very bad.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I did not know this at that time.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You had gone to other officers including M.P.s so that they could settle this dispute on your behalf.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** I was taken by Mr. Gupta because I knew him only.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Why should he take you to that MP's house?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** He was a retired officer. You should have requested him. Why did you go to him straightway?

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** He says, "Gupta asked him to go."

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Your earlier statement was different.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** Because he was the resident of Udaipur. Therefore, he could take me there.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Then you should say that you requested Shri Gupta to take you to M.P.'s house.

**SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA:** It was so.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't you think it is a strange thing that you do not know the names of the MPs who had come to help you? Then there is another problem. We have examined Mr. Lalji Bhai. But he has never said that one MP approached him. When we asked him whether he had got anything further to say, he could have said that. Now we can ask him about this. Prof. Mukerjee, don't you think so? We will discuss it afterwards. Have you got anything further to say?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I am also prepared to apologise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not prepared to.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I am sorry, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Nobody here would press you to apologise.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I am prepared to apologise.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: What language you are using?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: I apologise on behalf of the students as well as the checking staff for the happening that had occurred on that day.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: And on your own behalf.

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: And on my own behalf.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You kindly send the name and address of the MP who accompanied you to Shri Lalji Bhai.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Have you found out the name?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: It was round about the end of March.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You find out the date and day on which you went and who were with you?

SHRI S. G. SOPARIWALLA: This took place when Vajpayeeji came to Udaipur. At that time, Shri Lalji Bhai told me that he would say something after meeting Vajpayee Ji.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is alright. Let us know\* the name of the MP who accompanied you and the date on which you went to Shri Lalji Bhai.

*(The witness withdrew)*

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\*Subsequently, the witness intimated in his letters dated the 21st September, and 2nd October, 1973 that he had gone to the residence of Shri Lalji Bhai, M. P., on 29-9-1973 and 31-3-1973, amongst other, with Shri Sampatilal Bohara, Advocate, Bapu Bazar, Udaipur, who was an ex.-M.L.A. of Rajasthan and not an M. P. as stated by him during his evidence before the Committee. The witness also offered his apologise for this mistake.

**Tuesday, the 30th October, 1973**

**PRESENT**

**Dr. Henry Austin—Chairman.**

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri Darbara Singh
5. Shri Nihar Laskar
6. Shri B. P. Maurya
7. Shri H. N. Mukherjee
8. Shri K. Raghuramaiah
9. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
10. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
11. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

**SECRETARIAT**

**Shri B. K. Mukherjee—Deputy Secretary.**

**WITNESS**

**Shri M. L. Chaurasia, Travelling Ticket Examiner, Ajmer.**

*(The Committee met at 15.00 hours).*

**EVIDENCE OF SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA, TRAVELLING TICKET  
EXAMINER, AJMER**

*(The witness took the oath).*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You can speak either in English or in Hindi, whichever language you prefer. Mr. Chaurasia, you are the Travelling Ticket Examiner at Ajmer Railway Station?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You were on duty on 23rd March, 1973 at Ajmer Railway Station?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Do you remember of an incident at Ajmer Railway Station on the 23rd March, 1973?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did you have anything to do with that?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I can tell you about that. Students checking was going on at Platform No. 2 from 6.30 to 9.00 P.M. Students brought one passenger from there to Platform No. 1. He had not shown his ticket. So he was brought to T.C. Office at Platform No. 1. I showed him my Identity Card and asked him to produce the ticket but he did not produce it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Where did you meet this passenger? At what place?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: On platform No. 1.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He was brought there by whom?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: By the students.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many persons were there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: The entire checking staff consisted of twelve members.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was he surrounded?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Apart from the checking staff, there were also students volunteers?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many students were there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: 8—10.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many regular railway staff were there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't recollect the No. of staff.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was there any railway employee at that time?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Our checking staff was there and some passengers had also gathered there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You cannot remember as to whether there was any railway employee when you reached the spot?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Our checking staff was there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They are all regular employees?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Were they taking part in the checking of the tickets?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: They had also asked to produce the ticket before I asked.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What did you do after you reached there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I asked him to produce the ticket but he declined to do so.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He said he would not show the ticket. How many times did you ask him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I inquired about the ticket twice or thrice. When he asked my identity I showed him my Identity Card.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Where was he? Was he standing on the platform? For how long was this going on?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: 15 minutes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What happened? Do you remember?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Thereafter he was provided a seat in T. C. Office.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: He then went into the TC's Office?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What about the checking staff and the volunteers?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: The entire checking staff was there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They all accompanied him to the TC's Office?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many were inside the TC's office.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Almost entire staff was there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Twenty persons, may be, 20—30?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes. 20—22.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: All persons were very keen that they all went inside the TC's Office?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: They wanted to know as to why the crowd had gathered there?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: 20—22 persons were so eager that they all went inside the TC's Office? What did you do?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: When he did not produce the ticket I started filling up the charge-sheet.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You prepared the charge-sheet on your own?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Then what happened?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I had filled up half of the charge-sheet. When he told that he was an M.P., I had filled up half the charge-sheet. Then I stopped. In the meantime our In-charge Mr. Sopariwalla came. I told him that the passenger was M.P. that he had refused to produce the ticket.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What did you report to Mr. Sopariwalla?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I told him that he had told me that he was M.P. and had declined to produce the ticket.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, the gentleman said that he was a Member of Parliament?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He disclosed this fact after I had filled up half of the charge-sheet.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Your evidence is that although he said he was a Member of Parliament, he was not showing his identity card even after the charge-sheet was prepared?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: After some entires were made, he said he was a Member of Parliament but did not show his card?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Lalji Bhai did not show his card. You had asked for it. Where was Mr. Sopariwalla at that time?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He (Mr. Sopariwalla) came to T. C. Office from Platform No. 3. I told him that the gentleman told that he was M.P. but had declined to show his ticket.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When Mr. Sopariwalla came, was the charge-sheet completed?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No please, I had filled up only the half of it.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Was it ever completed?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** After his orders, it was completed.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did he ask you to complete it?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Why did you stop short of completing it, earlier?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** When he told that he was M.P. I thought it better to verify this fact so that the question of filling up the charge-sheet for M.P. did not arise.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Thereafter, Mr. Sopariwalla came and he directed you to complete it.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir, after asking for the permission from the Railway Magistrate.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You then completed it?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Thereafter, what happened?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Mr. Sopariwalla requested once or twice to show the identity card after filling up the charge-sheet. He showed his identity card outside. Then I requested him to cancel the charge-sheet with his own hands.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You mean, only that one sentence?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** He was saying us to have our way that day and that he would settle his accounts later.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did he never say that he was an MP?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** He said afterwards of when I had filled up half of the charge-sheet.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** He was repeating throughout only the sentence which you tell us now. Nothing else.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you find out whether this gentleman had told anybody else that he was an MP, before you had half filled in the charge-sheet?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Do you know that the student volunteers had been told by this gentleman that he was an MP?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you know any student by the name of Tirath Singh?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I saw him only that day.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you know anybody by the name of Vinod Kumar?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I can identify him if he is produced before me.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Were these students there only on one day?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That was the only day when there was checking by the student volunteers—was it?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you know whether any training is given to the student volunteers?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you mean to say that the only instruction that is given to the volunteers is to be polite; and nothing else?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Has it got nothing to do with the manner in which checking is to be done, what is to be looked into etc. and what are the rights of checking staff?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Officer in-charge advises to be polite.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was any Railway official there to accompany these volunteers?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: As such, the student volunteers who had gone there only for that day, had been given charge of checking without any supervisor being present, and without there being any supervision by responsible Railway staff.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Supervision is always there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was there anybody on platform No. 2, when Mr. Lalji Bhai was asked to show his ticket?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I think, there was none.



SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, there was no supervisor and no railway officer. Do you know that there is a report by Mr. Kalyan Singh, Assistant Security Officer in this matter?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Do you know that in that report, it has been said that two student volunteers, by name Tirath Singh and Vinod Kumar approached him and requested him to show the ticket, but the passenger did not show them the ticket, but declared that he was an MP?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He did not say that before me.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Nor did you ever try to ascertain from the students as to whether he had made any statement about his position?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: The students told that this passenger had refused to show the ticket.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did they not report to you that he had already said that he was an MP?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Nor did you try to find out anything else.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Had he stated in the beginning that he was M. P., there was no point in filling up the charge-sheet.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: After Mr. Lalji Bhai had shown his Card, did you do anything?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I told that I had committed the mistake.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Why did you tender your apology?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I had filled up the charge-sheet of M.P. I had committed a mistake. Had I known it earlier I would not have done it.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many persons were there, Were shoutings going on inside the room of the T.C.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: In all there were about forty members.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They were shouting and they were making noises.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Can you tell us why the public were allowed access inside the TC's room?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Bonafide passengers had come there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Can any passenger get inside the room of the Ticket-Checker? Is that the practice at the Ajmer railway station?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Many efforts were made to drive out the people.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Or, were the people made to assemble there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Was any effort made to stop people from getting in?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Many efforts were made.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Then what happened—i.e. after, according to you, you had tendered an apology?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Thereafter, Mr. Sopariwalla, our in-charge escorted him outside.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You did not go with them.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I had tendered my apology there itself.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Now, Mr. Chaurasia, did you say in your statement that you had tendered an apology?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Where is it? You made a statement on the 4th April, 1973. Do you remember?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I had made the statement.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did you say therein that you had tendered an apology?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't remember.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You can look at your statement, which has been sent to the Lok Sabha Secretariat. (To the Lok Sabha staff).

*(The witness is shown the statement)*

Before you go through it, please tell me: when did Mr. Lalji Bhai say that he was an MP? Was it before Mr. Sopariwalla came, or after he came?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: After he came, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, why did you stop writing out the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: When he told that he was M.P.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did he say that he was an MP., before Mr. Sopariwalla came?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I had filled up half of the charge-sheet when he told that he was M.P. Soon after I stopped writing charge-sheet. In the meantime, Mr. Sopariwalla came. I told him that this gentleman calls himself M.P. and did not produce the ticket.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You started filling up the charge-sheet and you had filled in half of it. Then, according to you, you realized that he was an MP and you stopped. Then Mr. Sopariwalla came; and did he ask you to fill it up completely?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Then you filled it up completely. Thereafter, Mr. Lalji Bhai showed his card. This is what happened, according to you. Why did you then tender your apology? Have you recorded that you tendered your apology?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: This is not written here.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Can you give any explanation as to why Mr. Lalji Bhai, if he had an Identity Card with him throughout, would not show the Card to you and be all the time gheraoed by so many persons who were shouting against him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It is his sweet will that he did not produce the ticket.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Student volunteers were checking the tickets. Where has this system started?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: For quite a long time.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Is it still in vogue?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It has not been finalised as yet after that days incident.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: For how long was this procedure in vogue earlier to this happening?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Perhaps for the last two years.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Which Railway officer had ordered and under what orders the students would carry out the checking? Was any order issued in this regard?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Orders on this behalf are issued by the Deputy Commercial Superintendent.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Are there any written orders or he just issues general instructions? From where the students are selected for the purpose?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Colleges are intimated for this purpose.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Do they wear any uniform?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Do you give them any special mark?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** One badge of volunteer-checker is issued to them.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** How many students were there on that day?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** About 10 or 12.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Who informed you that a passenger is not showing the ticket?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** When the crowd was moving, I was on Platform No. 1.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Did you reach there of your own accord?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, I reached there of my own accord.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have stated in your statement that the student volunteers came to you and informed that one passenger was not showing the ticket. But here you are saying that you reached platform No. 1 on your own. Which of the statement is correct?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** When I reached before the T. C. Office.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** I am asking a simple thing. You have just now made a statement—You were just now looking your statement in which you have stated that the student volunteers and the checking staff informed you. Then you went to the spot and you have just now stated that you reached the spot on your own. Which of these statements is true?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I reached there on my own. The students who were standing there informed me that this passenger has refused to show the ticket.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Do you know the name of the students who interrogated the M.P.?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, please.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Don't you know?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, please.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** First the students asked him to show the ticket. Then you and the other members of the staff arrived. Then that mob entered the office. You prepared half of the charge-sheet. How long did it take?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** About half-an-hour.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You detained the M.P. for half-an-hour?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Was he to get down at that station?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Later on it transpired that he had to go to Delhi.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Was he not to get down at this station?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Had he any luggage with him?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** He himself got down at the platform because that was the terminus of the train.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Had he any luggage with him?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, he had.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have said in your statement that he asked you to show the badge which you showed to him.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Do you normally show your badge or show it only when asked to do so?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** We show our badge when called upon to do so. He asked for the authority and so it was my duty to show my badge.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You showed your badge out of fear or nervousness or being impressed by his appearance or clothes?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I showed him my badge in normal course.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** At which site did you see the M.P. for the first time?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** In front of T.C. Office.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Not on platform No. 1.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** T.C. Office is at Platform No. 1.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Were you not aware that he was M.P. when you first prepared the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Were you not told so by any body? Not even by the students?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Please see your statement in which you have stated that you did not know till the time of writing charge-sheet that he was an M.P. After filling up half of the charge-sheet you came to know that he was an M.P.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, please.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: How much service you have put in?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I have fourteen years service at my credit.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Is there no adverse entry in your fourteen years service?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir. Perhaps this is the first charge-sheet in my career.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: But you might be charging the ticket money?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Have you never filled up charge-sheet in 14 years service?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Perhaps this is the second or third charge-sheet that I have filled up.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You have stated just now that you have never filled up the charge-sheet? Speak after fully considering over the matter.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I have filled up two or three chargesheets.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You stopped writing the charge-sheet then and there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did you see the identity card?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Then why did you fill it up?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: When he said that he was an M.P. then I stopped. Then Mr. Sopariwalla came.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** But you did not ask him before Mr. Sopariwalla came?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Railway Magistrate was standing there. Thereafter.....

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** That's to say that the M.P. did not show his identity card at any stage?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes Sir. He did not show his identity card before 5-7 minutes of the departure of Delhi Mail. That too he showed his identity card to Shri Sopariwalla outside the T.C. Office.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** During this incident you left over the half finished charge-sheet which you wrote when the M.P. had not showed his identity card?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes Sir.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** How long did you talk to Shri Lalji Bhai before Shri Sopariwalla came?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** For about 15 or 20 minutes.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** During these 15-20 minutes you asked him to produce the ticket. He asked you to show your identity card. You showed your identity card. You say that he did not show you his ticket or identity card. Did you ask him why he does not show his identity card?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** He said that the students had misbehaved with him. He also lodged a complaint as to who these checkers were and under what authority they were conducting the checking?

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Did you ask him as to how they have misbehaved?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Why did you not ask him? When one passenger complains that these people have misbehaved with him, then is it not your duty to ask how they misbehaved with him?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I did not enquire this.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Should you have asked or not?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I should have asked.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Shri Sopariwalla also did not ask as to how the students had misbehaved with him?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** But he (M.P.) also did not say anything.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Did he (Shri Sopariwalla) ask and then did he (M.P.) not say anything or did Shri Sopariwalla not ask anything regarding the misbehaviour of the students?

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Were you not in uniform when you had a talk or discussion with Mr. Lalji Bhai.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I was not in the uniform.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Is it the practice for the checking staff to do checking on the platform without uniform?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I have been authorised to wear the plain clothes. Railway Magistrate gang and the T.C. gang comprising about 14 persons are authorised to wear plain clothes.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You may have an authority to be in plain clothes. Is it the practice that you will ordinarily be in plain clothes?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You are not required to be in plain clothes. You may as well be in uniform.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It is not necessary to wear the uniform.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Before whom did you give the statement dated 4th April, a copy of which has just been shown to you?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Before Asstt. Security Officer, Shri Kalyan Singh.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Who inquires into such matters as took place that day or when some passenger is found travelling without ticket or when some passenger complains that he has been ill-treated. Does the Asstt. Security Officer enquire every such matter?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir. Orders were received from Headquarters. So he conducted the enquiry.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Generally, who enquires into such matters?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Divisional Commercial Superintendent conducts the enquiry.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You might have seen your statement—There is a question—

“Do you remember if the passenger was any time misbehaved or manhandled by any of the staff deputed for the joint check with the student voluntary ticket checkers on 23rd March, 1973.”



To this you have replied in negative. But just now you have stated that Shri Lalji Bhai complained that the students had ill-treated him. Why did you not say this in your statement that day?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Regarding the students?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Yes regarding the students. You were asked whether somebody ill-treated the M.P.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He was not ill-treated in my presence, so how could I say that?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You were on platform No. 1 and Shri Lalji Bhai got down on Platform No. 2.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Then how can you say that the students did not ill-treat him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I cannot even say that he was ill-treated. It appears from the statement of Shri Lalji Bhai that he was ill-treated.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This fact you have not stated in your statement of that day that Shri Lalji Bhai complained that he was ill-treated by the students. Therefore, he did not show the ticket.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes Sir.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Why did you not say this thing that day which you are saying today? Have you brought that charge-sheet with you which was half prepared and was filled up later on?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Mr. Chairman, please have this charge-sheet. We will examine this.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What do you do if some M.P. says that he is an M.P. but does not show his card?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: We consider him as a M.P.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: But you did not consider Shri Lalji Bhai as an M.P.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He did not say so otherwise this incident would not have taken place.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: When he (MP) disclosed his identity you had filled up half of the charge-sheet. Then why did you fill it up?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: On the orders of Railway Magistrate and the T.C.I.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** This means that the Railway Magistrate and other senior officers were not ready to accept him as an M.P. Perhaps they had been under the impression that he was travelling without ticket.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did he ever say during this time that he was an M.P. from Udaipur?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did this fact not come to your notice at that time?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Asstt. Security Officer conducted the enquiry and took your statement. Were the statements taken one by one or collectively?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** One by one.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** He asked you only one question whether the M.P. was ill-treated or not?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Every one stated that he was not ill-treated?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** There was no official with the students at Platform No. 2. Then how did the Railway Official come to know that the students had not ill-treated the M.P.?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** How could this be ascertained?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** What happened when he got down from the compartment and the students checked him?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** None except the students know this.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Was this fact enquired from the students when the M.P. said that he was ill-treated?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, T.T.I. asked the students.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** What did the students say?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** They said that they had not ill-treated the M.P.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did Shri Lalji Bhai himself come to the room of T.C. or was he brought there?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I think he came by himself.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Not what you think. What did you see? When you came, was he at the Platform?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I had discussed with him at the Platform for 15-20 minutes. Charge-sheet was filled up in T.C. Office.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Who brought him to the T.C.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** The amount of Rs. 10/- represents penalty. Office.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I can not say who brought him there?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You might have taken him. He might have been told that the charge-sheet would be prepared against him.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** There was a great rush. How can it be said as to who took him there?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Do you understand what you are saying? You were standing there and talking to him. You filled up the charge-sheet inside, but you don't know as to who asked him to go inside the T.C. Office? Do you want that we should believe in what you say?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir. There were 10-12 students and 10-12 T.T.Es.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You have said just now that Shri Lalji Bhai came himself.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir. I think so.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Have you filled up this charge-sheet?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** From which station to which station you have filled up the charge-sheet?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Ratlam is the checking station. Therefore, it has been filled up from Ratlam.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did he not himself say as to where from he was travelling?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** 70 Down starts from there.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Therefore you have filled up the charge-sheet from Ratlam. How much amount have you charged?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Rs. 10.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** But you have filled up Rs. 20/-?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** The amount of Rs. 10/- represents penalty.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** But this is third class fare?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** As he was on the Platform so third class fare has been charged.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** But according to the statement of the students the passenger was coming out of the first class compartment?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** But this is not in my statement. When the passenger is caught on the platform he is charged third class fare.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Leave aside as to what happens. Your volunteers said that he came out of the first class compartment Did they tell you about that?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You have come to know this for the first time?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** When you filled up the amount of Rs. 20/- in the charge-sheet, did you ask him to pay the amount of Rs. 20/- or go to the jail?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** This charge-sheet was incomplete at that time.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Do you sign the incomplete charge-sheet or the complete charge-sheet?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** What, yes Sir.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It was completed afterwards when the Railway Magistrate and C.T.I. ordered to complete it.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have just stated that when this fact came to your notice that he is an M.P. You left the incomplete charge-sheet. Is your charge-sheet complete or incomplete?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I received further orders.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You filled up this charge-sheet after it came to your notice that he was an M.P.?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** When I received the orders to do so because he refused to show his identity card.....

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Look here, I will cross-examine you for a long time. Therefore, talk in a straight forward manner. You filled up this charge-sheet even after knowing that he was an M.P.?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It was left incomplete.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: But this is complete. Did you fill it up afterwards inspite of the fact that you were aware that he was an M.P.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Mr. Chairman, please record this—"I was aware that he was an M.P. and even then I filled up the charge-sheet afterwards."

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Under the orders of C.T.I.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Leave that aside. Who has written 'cancelled'?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I wrote it in my own hand.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did you cancel it in your own hand? Does it leave your signatures?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes Sir. I cancelled it under the orders of Shri Sopariwalla.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You were saying just now that according to the procedure in vogue you would have handed over him to the police.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: In case he had not shown his identity card?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You have stated in your statement that you did not see his identity card and he did not show it to you. You have already stated that when he said that he was an M.P. you did not hand him over to the police. Then why were you hackling and ill-treating an M.P. for such a long time?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I did not misbehave with him.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: It tantamounts to misbehaviour. What had happened that you allowed him to go after half-an-hour?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: C.T.I. had seen his identity-card.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You did not see it?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No Sir. I did not see.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: When he showed the identity card, did he get its number recorded. After that you cancelled the Charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I wrote what the C.T.I. ordered me to write.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Have you not seen the identity-card of the M.P. so far?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: You have stated that you met him after he got down at Platform No. 2. Do you not know how the students behaved with him? Is it a fact that the M.P. complained to you that the students

had misbehaved with him? Did you make an attempt to ask the students as to why they had misbehaved with him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Why did you not ask them?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Students said that he was not producing the ticket.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Why did you not take notice of the complaint of the M.P. that the students had misbehaved with him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I did not ask.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Why did you not ask?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: This is my fault.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: If someone misbehaves on the platform, raises hue and cry, mishandles some body, engaged in slogan mongering and abuses, should you not take notice thereof?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Notice should be taken.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Who should take notice.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I should take notice.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Do you take notice, have you ever taken?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did the students tell you that this gentleman says that he was an M.P. he was not producing his ticket or that he came out of the first class compartment?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Students did not tell me about the first class.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: What did the students say?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Students said that he was not producing his ticket and said that he was an M.P.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: It has been stated in the statement that he said that he was an M.P. He was asked to produce the ticket. Thereto he replied that he would not show his ticket to the students. When you heard that he was an M.P. and he was not showing his card to the students, then did you not ask him to produce the ticket? What did he reply thereto?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He said that he would not show his ticket.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did he ask you your identity?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I asked him about his ticket. He said that he had no ticket.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Does an M.P. possess a ticket?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He should have identity card.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: When he said that he had no ticket, then did you tell him that you charge ticket in case one travels without ticket, fine him and even he is put behind the bars. Did you request him to show whatever authority he had to travel?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: What did he say to that?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He said that he did not have any ticket etc. with him.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: When he said that he was an M.P.....

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He said when I had filled up half of the charge-sheet.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: I am not asking this. When he said that he was an M.P. what would have you asked him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I would have asked for identity card.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Suppose I don't have identity card. And if I say that I am an M.P. then what would you do in such circumstances?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He must have some authority. I will ask for that.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: What something?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Some authority for travelling.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: He could give the number of identity card. But for such a long time you did not ask him whether he was an M.P. or not or whether he had ticket with him or not. You did not ask him anything and straight away started writing the charge-sheet.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: As soon as I came to know that he is an M.P.....

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: But you say that you did not ask any question.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: How can we ask each and every ordinary member.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Were some more persons caught without ticket?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I am not aware of this.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Was any body caught on the platform where you were on duty?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** No one was aught because all the T.T.Es. had collected around you and they started seeing the show instead of attending to their jobs.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** The train had reached much earlier.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** There were forty persons in that room. How big is that room? How much bigger that room is than this one?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It is about one-fourth.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Were all the people standing inside?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** When he (M.P.) was not replying to your question did someone say in a frenzy to put him behind the bars?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Then what did you tell him?

*(The witness did not reply)*

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Thousands of people come to the platform after purchasing 25 paise ticket. Are all of them bonafide travellers?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Or, do many people come inside without ticket with your consent? Can they also enter inside like this? How did forty persons gather there?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** There were 10-12 students, 10-12 T.T.Es. and rest were the passengers.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** You say that you don't know whether what misbehaviour was done or that whether misbehaviour was done at all. When you started preparing the challan against the M.P. who had caught him to you?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I don't know.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** He reached in the T.T. Office. How did he reach? You were putting questions to him, how did he disappear in the meantime?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Other T.T.Es. were also standing there.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** "I don't know who was standing there." You were putting questions to him. When you asked him that he had no ticket, then what did he say?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** From whom?

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** From M.P. Sahib.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** He did not say anything.



SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Then how did you challan him?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He did not produce the ticket when called upon to do so then I started filling up the charge-sheet.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Charge-sheet for tickless travel?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: You asked his name.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Who asked him name? Did you ask him after sitting inside?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Then how did he go inside unless someone took him there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He was standing in front of T.C. Office.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did you ask him to come inside the office as he was to be challaned?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He entered inside.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: When he was talking to you did you not ask him to step inside the Office?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: In the meantime, he entered the T.C. Office.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Someone must have asked him to go inside.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He came in himself. How he came I do not know. I was standing nearby.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Do you not know how he came inside?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURAYA: How much time would have been lost in this incident?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: 15-20 minutes.

SHRI B. P. MAURAYA: At what time did the train reach Ajmer?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: At 8' clock.

SHRI B. P. MAURAYA: At what time did you cancel the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: At 9' clock.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: In this manner this incident lasted for one hour and ten minutes. You are saying only 20 minutes.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It takes 15 minutes to cross bridge between platform No. 2 and platform No. 1.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: This incident lasted for one hour and ten minutes. It means that you detained a Member of Parliament unlawfully for one hour and ten minutes i.e. time taken between the checking of student—volunteers and your cancellation of the charge-sheet.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Might be.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did nobody tell you that he got down from first class compartment?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did the students and the members of the staff, who brought him (MP) to you, not tell you that he got down from first class compartment?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No. They said that he was not showing the ticket.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: When you prepared the charge-sheet did you not ask him by which class had he travelled? When charge-sheet is prepared do you ask the passenger whether by which class first or third has he travelled?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Do the rules provide that the charge-sheet should be filled up in respect of travel by third class without asking anybody about the class by which he has travelled?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: What is the rule about this?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: The fare is demanded in respect of the class—first class, second class or third-class—from which compartment one is caught getting down.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: This is their case. They say, he got down from first class. This is Security Officer's report. It is said some Members of Parliament go down from First-class. At that stage two student volunteers asked for the ticket. That was their case. To my question he says, he never put the question. He prepared the charge-sheet for third class, on his own, *suo motu*. I asked about rule, he says, yes, such is that rule.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It happens that if we are standing near the first class compartment and if someone is caught travelling without

ticket we fill up the charge-sheet for first class. Similarly the charge-sheet for second and third class is filled up if we are standing near second and third class compartment and if somebody is found travelling without ticket.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who asked you to prepare the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I filled it up myself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You acted on instructions from your superiors?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you begin making charge-sheet it is normal that you consult the officers superior to you. Who asked you to prepare the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: At times Officers are not present at the moment.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He was not alone. So many officers were there. There was one person claiming himself to be an M.P. Many others were also there. Public interest must have been aroused. You should be presumed to have gone into details of the matter, before preparing the charge-sheet. You may have been told, this gentleman came down from first class. It cannot be held to be your presumption. This is connected to a chain of events.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You have stated that 20-30 persons had gathered there. Is often there such a crowd when some person is caught travelling without ticket? It was a special occasion when 20-30 persons had gathered. When often such crowd does not gather, then did nothing crouped up in your mind that something extraordinary had happened? Was it not an extraordinary occasion when 20-30 persons had gathered there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Are you aware as Shri Sopariwalla has said that somebody from the crowd said that same treatment should be meted out to the M.P. which is meted out to an ordinary person, in such circumstances. Who was he? Someone among the public or a T.T.Es.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I am not aware.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: How did he know that he was an M.P.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't know.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Even then you continued to fill up the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I had filled up half of the charge-sheet. I had not filled in the amount and not signed the charge-sheet. I asked his name, address, age and place of residence which he told me.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Did he tell you his right name.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did he tell accurately the name of his father and the place of residence? But did he not show his identity card?

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: Could you not guess from common sense that he was an M.P. when he told his address correctly? Even then you were filling up the charge-sheet? But when somebody said that why don't you treat an M.P. like an ordinary man then you came to know that he was an M.P.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I told Shri Sopariwalla that this gentleman calls himself a M.P. Somebody from the public said we are giving some concession to an M.P.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: What were you doing when Shri Sopariwalla came?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I was waiting for him.

SHRI DARBARA SINGH: You had filled up the charge-sheet. You had only to fill in the amount and sign the charge-sheet.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It was known that the passenger was M.P. when Shri Sopariwalla came. I told Shri Sopariwalla that the passenger calls himself an M.P.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When did you for the first time come to know that the name of this passenger was Shri Lalji Bhai?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: When I was filling up the charge-sheet.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: After you started filling up the charge-sheet? And without any hesitation he gave his name?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: In the end, he did not say that he was an M.P.?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You said earlier in the course of the evidence that you did not know the names of the students?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: They were asked.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But you have filled in their names?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I asked at that time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Therefore, you had come to know the names of the students?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Therefore, you had come to know their names? So, why did you say that you did not know the names?

*(No reply was given.)*

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You could have said that you would consult the charge-sheet and find out their names?

*(No reply was given.)*

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** I find that at two places, the names of the students have been written.

*(No reply was given.)*

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** What is the exact fare between Ratlam and Ajmer for third class?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Rs. 10/-.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Is that your assumption or guess?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Rs. 10/- from my point of view.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Can you show records to show that that is exactly Rs. 10/-?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You can show that from the railway fare chart? If so, will you please arrange to produce it before this Committee?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Not at this time.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Later on, you can send it. Something else was written where Rs. 10 has been written? Some figure was mentioned. What was that figure?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Rs. 10/-.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** There is an alteration over that?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** There is some mistake.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Rs. 20 also is changed. Something else was written. What was that?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Ten plus ten.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** What else was written before?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** This is written. There is overwriting.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Do you not find any overwriting?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What was there previously?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't know.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: It is your writing. So, try to help the Committee.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Ten plus ten is written on this.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That is quite obvious. But something else was written there. That is also obvious.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What was the original thing over which you have overwritten?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't remember the original.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: When you know the fare between Ratlam and Ajmer, what was the occasion for any mistake?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: There was some mistake regarding the fare.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did you not know the third class fare between Ratlam and Ajmer?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Some mistake happened while seeing the fares.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What did you write earlier?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't remember. Later on I wrote Rs. 10/-.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did somebody ask you to make changes there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: On your own you could fix the amount, or did you consult the railway magistrate?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: So, you did not consult him? There was the railway magistrate? Was he in the ticket collectors' room?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I did not consult.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did you not consult him before making the charge-sheet?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Did you ever talk to him about this matter?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You said that the CTI or the railway magistrate asked you to complete the charge-sheet and you completed it?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Therefore, you had a talk with the railway magistrate?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Shri Sopariwalla had talks.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** But you said earlier that you did not have talk?

*(No reply was given.)*

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You said there earlier that while you had completed half the charge-sheet you had come to know that he was an M.P. and then you stopped writing it; then Shri Sopariwalla came, and on his direction, you completed the charge-sheet?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Have you mentioned all this in your statement?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Why not? That was a very important aspect, as far as you were concerned. So, why did you not say that?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I did not consider it necessary.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** According to you, what you did at somebody else's direction was not important to be recorded before the inquiring officer who was specifically asked to inquire into the matter, and what you are now saying does not find any place in the written statement.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** When you and Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. were standing on the platform, did someone say that as he (Shri Lalji Bhai) was an M.P. no action was being taken against him? They were saying that action should be taken against him (M.P.) Your colleague has said this in a statement.

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** I came to know that he was an M.P. after filling up the charge-sheet.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** I will take up charge-sheet later. Did people not say that why you were not taking any action against an M.P.?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** They did not say so while I was filling up the charge-sheet. They said after I had filled up the charge-sheet.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Please pay attention to the question asked by Vajpayeeji. One of your officers has stated that he (M.P.) was sitting on the bench. He tried to ask M.P. but he refused to say anything. Thereafter, the M.P. was surrounded by the students and other passengers. M.P. stated that the students had misbehaved with him. At the same time someone standing against them said that why don't you give the same treatment to an M.P. which is given to an ordinary citizen. Did someone say this?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI DARBARA SINGH:** Then you asked Mr. Sopariwalla in privacy whether he (M.P.) had identity card to which Shri Sopariwalla said that he was an M.P. Is it correct?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Who keeps the charge-sheet?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It is kept in the office.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Is there no incharge of charge-sheets?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** No, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** In whose custody is it kept?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It is kept in the office in the ordinary way.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Is the charge-sheet of M.P. sahib kept in the same office where it was prepared?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Was it not in your possession when you met the M.P. at platform No. 2?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** It was not with me.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You have stated that Shri Lalji Bhai went outside with Shri Sopariwalla and there he showed his identity card to Shri Sopariwalla. Did he take out the identity card from his pocket or attache?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** Attache was lying on the bench. He showed the card from his pocket.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Do you remember correctly?

**SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA:** He was wearing jacket or Kurta. He took out the identity card from jacket or Kurta and showed it to Shri Sopariwalla.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Have you said after correctly recollecting the incident.



SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Did someone snatch his attache?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: How were the jawans of R.P.F. involved in this case?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: They were on the platform.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that the jawans of R.P.F. were accompanying Shri Lalji Bhai when he was coming from platform No. 2 with the students?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I think they accompanied him. I was at platform No. 1.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Who sent the students for checking at platform No. 2?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Students go themselves for checking when the train arrives.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Does no station official decide as to what platform and which train the student volunteers have to check? Did nobody send them to platform No. 2?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that those two students were without badge that day?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: They were with badges.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Did Shri Lalji Bhai not see the badge?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: He might have seen.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Item 5; this over-writing has been pointed out. Now, normally, when such over-writing takes place, you are supposed to initial it. There are also other over-writings and cancellation and erasing. Not only in item 5 but there are at least two more prominent erasings or obliterations of the original figures. Have you any explanation to give to these over-writings or erasings or obliterations without your proper initials? You are also a responsible railway official and you must know this elementary principle.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: What did you erase?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Checking Station is Ratlam. I had written Udaipur. I have carried out this correction.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Wherever you have made such overwritings, efforts have been made to erase them. Is it by rubber or what?—You have no explanation to give.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, did you ask Shri Lalji Bhai to pay any money towards the payment of fare,?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much money?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Rs. 20. Rs. 10 as fare and Rs. 10 as penalty.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is said, some officials asked for Rs. 200 or Rs. 201. May be you also.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It is impossible.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you asked?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I have not asked.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you heard anybody demanding, including the student volunteers, Rs. 200 as fare or penalty?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you been told that some student volunteers have asked?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: That, I do not know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you made any enquiry to this effect before the charge-sheet was framed?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: No.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This incident took place on 23rd March, 1973. From the records, it is seen that this privilege issue was raised in Parliament on the 2nd April. It is seen that it aroused public interest. On the 23rd, a situation was created wherein some railway officers and passengers got involved. Subsequently, Shri Lalji Bhai, the person concerned, himself revealed that he was an M.P. In this background, have you taken any interest in making an enquiry before this matter was raised in Lok Sabha. You had started the enquiry only on the 4th April. Did it occur to you that there should be some enquiry about these things since you filed the charge-sheet? Did you make any enquiry on this matter? Shri Lalji Bhai has complained to the railway officers that he was harassed and there was misbehaviour and all that. Did it occur to you, as one who has framed this charge-sheet, to make an enquiry? Subsequently, you knew that he was an M.P. Did it occur to you that there should be some enquiry on the spot? You have taken

some initiative only on the 4th, after the matter was raised in Parliament. Did it not occur to you that there should be an enquiry as to whether he was harassed or not?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: It did not.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: What is the first class fare from there?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I don't know.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You have put in 14 years service and you don't know first class fare?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: There are a number of stations. How can one remember fare of each station?

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: How much according to your estimate?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I have no idea.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: How much is third class fare?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Rs. 08.10.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Don't you know the ratio between third class and first class fare?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have heard your evidence. Now, have you got anything more to say, other than what you have tendered in evidence about this incident?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Do you want to add something more to what you have already said?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: I want to make this submission. If I have made some mistake I apologise for that.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Don't you feel that you have done a serious mistake.

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes Sir, I have done a serious mistake.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Do you feel that you have done a serious mistake and that you are ashamed for it?

SHRI M. L. CHAURASIA: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We shall meet tomorrow at 11 a.m.

*(The Committee then adjourned)*

..

Wednesday, the 31st October, 1973

**PRESENT**

Dr. Henry Austin—*Chairman.*

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri H. K. L. Bhagat
3. Shri Somnath Chatterjee
4. Shri H. R. Gokhale
5. Shri B. P. Maurya
6. Shri H. N. Mukerjee
7. Shri K. Raghuramaiah
8. Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma
9. Shri Maddi Sudarsanam
10. Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee

**SECRETARIAT**

Shri B. K. Mukherjee—*Deputy Secretary.*

**WITNESSES**

Shri Kalyan Singh, Assistant Security Officer, Western Railway, Ajmer.

*(The Committee met at 11.00 hours).*

**EVIDENCE OF SHRI KALYAN SINGH, ASSISTANT SECURITY OFFICER, WESTERN RAILWAY, AJMER**

*(The witness took the oath).*

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You were Assistant Security Officer of the Western Railway and you conducted this enquiry on the alleged misbehaviour of Shri Lalji Bhai on 23rd March, 1973.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You may tender your evidence either in English or in Hindi. Which ever language you like.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I would like to speak in Hindi.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Do you belong to Railway Protection Force?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I am on deputation to Railway Protection Force from the Rajasthan police.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** On 23rd May 1973, you were on deputation to the Railway Protection Force. What are your duties?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Security of the Railway property.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** On 23rd March were you in Ajmer Railway Station, when this incident occurred?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I was out of Headquarters in connection with inspection.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Who asked you to make this enquiry?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** C.S.O. Western Railway informed me on telephone on 3-4-1973 that some such untoward happening has taken place and he ordered me to conduct the enquiry and intimate the result thereof.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Was there no other order?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Next day a telegram was also received.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** What was the incident about which you were to make enquiry?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The treatment meted out to Shri Lalji Bhai at the Railway Station.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** What did you do?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I conducted the enquiry. I made enquiries from the persons concerned.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** On that day you held enquiry. Did you ask for anything in writing from anybody?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I started the enquiry on 3rd April, 1973.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you ask the witnesses to give anything in writing?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes Sir. I recorded the statement of witnesses. There was no complaint before me. I asked all the concerned persons—booking clerks, the members of the R.P.F., G.R.P.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** How many statements did you get?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Seven statements.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** One is Supariwala. Other is Chaurasia and Mr. H. C. Dutta. Then Mr. Om Prakash and Sitaram. That is all?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** They were left behind. The statements of Sarvashri Sardar Singh, Noor Mohammed, Gauri Shanker of C.R.P. were recorded on the second or third day.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Were any of these persons eye-witnesses to those incidents according to you?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** All those, who gave the statements, were present there. They were on duty on the spot itself or at nearby places.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did the name of any student come up during the course of the enquiry?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Two students.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you take statement from them?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Their statements were not taken.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Why not?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** It were they who brought Shri Lalji Bhai to the office. As such there was no hope of getting any useful information from them.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you come to know during the enquiry that the allegation was that the students had detected that Lalji Bhai was supposedly travelling without ticket and he had supposedly refused to show his identity card? Therefore the students were important witnesses. Were they not?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir. But as they themselves brought him to the office they would have not liked to give evidence.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Have you got a copy of your report?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir, it is with me.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You said two student volunteers named Tirath Singh and Vinod Kumar approached him and requested him to show the ticket but the passenger did not show them the ticket and replied that he was an M.P. Now who gave you this information?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** These people were saying that the students brought him in this way and told my subordinate. Om Prakash etc. all these things.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** From them you came to know that Lalji Bhai told the students that he was an M.P.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** When he got down from the train...

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** As soon as he got down from the train he was asked to show his ticket which he did not and at this they brought him (MP) to the office.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** According to information that you got Mr. Lalji Bhai had told the student volunteers that he was an M.P. That is your report...

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** That he told the student volunteers when he got down from the train...

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** But he did not show his ticket.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** He informed these people that he was a Member of Parliament. That is your report.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes Sir, that is correct.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You have accepted that statement? You had no reason to doubt that statement?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you come to know that the charge-sheet had been prepared?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The T.T.E. said this that he had filled up the charge-sheet as he (MP) did not show his ticket. He did not believe in his being MP and that's why he filled up the charge-sheet.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You have said that Shri Supariwala proceeded to fill up the charge-sheet. Who gave you this information?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Sarvashri Supariwala and Chaurasia told this.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Do you know that Shri Chaurasia had prepared the charge sheet and not Supariwala?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Shri Chaurasia prepared it.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Your report says that Shri Supariwala prepared the charge sheet.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Both are T.T.Es. He might have prepared after his departure.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you try to find out for how long was this incident there? For how long was Shri Lalji Bhai kept there?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The train arrives at 8.00 P.M. and the Mail leaves at 9.00 P.M.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Have you said anywhere in your report as to how long was he detained there?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The time in between the two timings.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You did not make an enquiry on that aspect as to for how long was he detained? Did you find out how many persons had assembled there?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Everything happened in one hour between the arrival of train and departure of the train.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** That would be one hour. Did you make any enquiry. I am trying to find out that.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The entire time was lost in the incident.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Do you not think, as a responsible police officer, that it was surprising that for one hour's time a Member of Parliament was kept there waiting or was detained there and that people assembled round him and charge sheet would be prepared against him? How could all these things happen?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** He got down at one platform and the office is at another platform. Some time was lost in coming to the office.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You did not apply your mind to these aspects as to why people assembled and why should all these complaints be made?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did everything which I could do in the short time at my disposal. I was asked to send the report quickly.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Because you were asked to submit your report quickly, therefore, you could not apply your mind or make a thorough enquiry.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** That would have taken a long time. I did everything, which I could possibly do, to ascertain the facts. I had to find out whether he was ill-treated. Nobody said this.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You did not try to meet Mr. Lalji Bhai to find out as to what had happened.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Shri Lalji Bhai was not present there. I was ordered to complete the enquiry at an early date.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you ever request him to make a statement?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not have sufficient time at my disposal. There is great urgency in regard to the Parliament questions and such like things.



**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You have said in your Report that you had made enquiries from all the persons concerned and you have given seven names. But you have not given the names of the students who were primarily concerned nor was their statement taken.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not consider it necessary to make an enquiry from the students. They would not have stated anything favourable to the enquiry.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** You had given a note that the Member of Parliament had complained about the behaviour of the students and the Railway Staff. Even then you did not think it necessary to make any investigation or enquiry so far as the students were concerned.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** There is no complaint regarding the checking staff. None of them said that the students had misbehaved. If the students would have themselves stated so then it could have been proved, but they would not have told so.....

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Did you ask anybody whether the students had misbehaved with the Member of Parliament or not?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Whomsoever I investigated he did not say that the students had done so. This much everyone said that they brought the passenger to the office.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Why did you put that question to the witnesses whether the students had misbehaved with the Member of Parliament or not?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I should have made inquiries from the students. But there was no time. There was none else to assist me.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Is it a fact that you asked all the Railway officers whose statements were recorded by you as to whether Shri Lalji Bhai was ill-treated?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir. I had asked all of them.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Why did you ask this question when there was no such complaint?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** It was published in the newspaper that he (MP) was brought (to the STC office). That's why I asked whether he has been ill-treated or not? This was the purpose of the enquiry.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You should have definitely asked those students who brought him (MP) from platform No. 2 to platform No. 1 as to whether they had ill-treated him. But you did not ask. You did not ask anything from Shri Lalji Bhai either.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Shri Lalji Bhai was not available. I don't know if he was in Delhi. Delay might have occurred in finding him out. I did not have that much time at my disposal. Had I a period of 10-15 days at my disposal I would have done the complete enquiry. I thought that it is a very important case. Some senior officer would investigate this matter. I thought that that was a preliminary enquiry and that my

job was only to find the facts and submit them. I thought that the question might have been taken up by the Railway Board and that is why I did it in hurry.

**SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:** Therefore, you felt and you still feel that this was a case which called for a closer enquiry.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** A detailed enquiry should have been conducted, but that would have taken time.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Did you join the service as a constable?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes Sir. For two years I was a constable and head constable for one and a half years. For twenty years I have been sub-inspector and incharge of the police station. I have done many investigations.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** What was the scope of your enquiry? What specific orders did you receive?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** To ascertain whether Shri Lalji Bhai was ill-treated.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** From whom did you enquire whether Shri Lalji Bhai had been ill-treated or not?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I took the statement of seven jawans.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Are you aware that Shri Lalji Bhai alleged that first of all the students misbehaved with him?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not have any statement of Shri Lalji Bhai. But I was told that the students brought to the (T.C.) office.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have written in your report that the allegation was that the students had misbehaved with Shri Lalji Bhai, MP. In this case the facts could be verified from two sources: one from those who had ill-treated and the other from him who had been ill-treated. You did not enquire anything from the students who ill-treated the MP?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Had they misbehaved, would they have admitted it?

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** But you did not enquire anything from them?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** No Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You did not make any enquiry from the M.P. also.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** He was not available. It would have taken more time.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Did you receive any order to complete the enquiry within a stipulated period?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** We always expedite anything relating to the Parliament, it may be a question, enquiry or any other matter.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have mentioned about the paucity of time many a time. Were you given any special orders to complete the enquiry within a given period when you were asked to go into this incident?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** There was no such order. But such enquiries are urgent. I received telephonic orders to give the report early. I received a telegram also.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Was it mentioned in the telegram that you should complete the enquiry within a given period?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Have you got the references that you have cited?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have written in the report:

"I made enquiries with all the persons concerned in this case."

Who were the parties concerned in this case?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Students and Shri Lalji Bhai.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** But you did not contact those very parties. Was it not an error on your part?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not contact Shri Lalji Bhai. As for students there was no likelihood of their giving such information.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have also stated in the report:

"But did not find anything to suggest mischief or insult to him at the hands of student volunteers, or the ticket checking staff. Had Shri Lalji Bhai shown his identity card and disclosed identity at the first instance, this whole incident would have been averted."

When, how and where did you come to know that the MP did not show his identity card?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The T.T.E. said so. Had he (MP) shown the identity card the T.T.E. would not have filled up the charge-sheet.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Shri Chaurasia has stated that when the MP got down from first class compartment he was not present on the spot. Then how did you reach at this conclusion that had the MP shown his identity card, this incident would not have taken place?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** It all happened on account of this. Had he shown the identity card nothing would have happened?

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** For how long did the students surround him?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** They brought him to the office soon after he got down from the train.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** The train arrived at 7.55 P.M. then the mail train left at 9.10 P.M. As such this incident with the MP took place for 1 hour and 15 minutes. During this period for how long did the students surrounded Shri Lalji Bhai?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Fifteen minutes.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Thereafter for how long did he remain with Shri Chaurasia and other members of staff?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Rest of the time he remained in the office. He was there for one hour.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** So far the incident which took place with the students you have stated that the incident would not have taken place had he (MP) shown his identity card. Wherefrom you got this information that he did not show the card?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The question of his bringing to the office would have not arisen had he shown his identity card.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Mr. Chairman, he is not replying to my question.

According to the statement of the witness, the entire incident took about one hour and fifteen minutes. Shri Lalji Bhai was with the students for 15 minutes and in the office of the staff for one hour. He has given this report, had the Member shown his identity card, the entire incident would have been averted.

My question is, how did he come to this conclusion, that the Member did not show his identity card that the students had asked for. He never enquired from the students.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Please tell us, how did you come to that conclusion.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The students brought him to the office only when he did not show his identity card to them. He did not first show his identity card in the office also. When he showed it, the charge sheet was cancelled. He showed his identity card a little before the completion of charge sheet and consequently the charge sheet was cancelled. Earlier to that he showed his card neither to the students nor to the T.T.Es. The whole matter was dropped when he showed his identity card.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Hearsay evidence is no evidence. How did you come to know that this Member of Parliament never showed his identity card to the students within the period of fifteen minutes? (I am limiting it to fifteen minutes first).

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** He did not show his card to the students during those fifteen minutes. The matter would have ended then and there had he shown his identity card.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You did not examine the students?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** No, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Nor you examined Shri Lalji Bhai?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Students took him to office only when he did not show his identity card otherwise they would not have brought him there. Only those passengers are brought to the office who do not show their tickets.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You presumed that he (MP) was brought to the T.T.E's office because he did not show his identity card?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Really it has happened.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You have stated in the report.

"The students were in plain clothes, but they were wearing their badges.....A sample of these is enclosed".

Wherefrom have you taken this sample?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** They wear it on their arms.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Is the badge which you have appended with the report the same which these two students were wearing?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** This is the badge which is supplied to the students.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Is the badge which you have appended with the report the same which was supplied to the students?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** That must be the same. It is supplied to them.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Wherefrom have you taken this badge?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** These badges are withdrawn from the students afterwards.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** How have you come to know that on that day those two students were wearing badges?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I was told that they wear badges.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Who told you?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Shri Chaurasia.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: In a way this complaint is against Shri Chaurasia.

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: I am not concerned with Shri Chaurasia.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Was it not necessary to enquire from the students as to whether they were wearing badges or not?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: I did not ask them. And would they have not stated correct position on my asking? Students are not under the control of even their parents now-a-days.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: You have stated that the charge sheet was prepared by Shri Sopariwalla.

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: The charge sheet was prepared by Shri Chaurasia. It was prepared in the presence of Shri Sopariwalla. Both were there when it was prepared.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You are not there at that time. You have stated that the charge sheet was prepared by Shri Sopariwalla. Yesterday Shri Chaurasia said that he was preparing the charge sheet. You did not see as to who prepared the charge sheet?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: One of them might have prepared.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: He (Chaurasia) said that he had written half of the charge sheet. Then Shri Sopariwalla came.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: After consulting whom did you write in the report as to who prepared the charge sheet?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: After consulting Sarvashri Sopariwalla and Chaurasia.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: After enquiring from whom did you write that the charge sheet was written by Shri Sopariwalla?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: They (Sopariwalla and Chaurasia) said it so.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did Sarvashri Sopariwalla and Chaurasia both tell you that both of them had prepared the charge sheet?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: They prepared it.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Was it prepared by Shri Chaurasia and signed by Shri Sopariwalla?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: The charge sheet is not with me so I cannot say anything.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Did you see the charge sheet?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** No, Sir. I was told that it was prepared and was later on cancelled.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Do you still feel after the full enquiry of the incident that it would have been averted had the MP shown his identity card?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The question cropped up that way.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** And then may be that it was made a prestige issue?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Do you even now feel that this incident would have been averted had the MP shown his identity card or there is some change in your conclusion now?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** The case started only when he (MP) did not show the identity card and was dropped as soon as he showed the identity card.

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** Hon'ble Members have put questions to you and you have replied to them. Do you still feel that this incident would have been averted had he (MP) shown his identity card?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** What can I say in this matter?

**SHRI B. P. MAURYA:** You did not make any enquiry from the students?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not investigate them.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** First of all, you started the inquiry on the basis of a telegram from the CSO, Western Railway. Have you gone through the terms of reference? You should have made detailed enquiries and submitted the reports—those were the terms of reference you were given. Do you think that you have discharged your duties in terms of the direction given to you by CESO because the detailed enquiry involves examining of persons who are directly concerned? I think you have not contacted Mr. Lalji Bhai or taken any statement from him, though he is one of the most important persons involved? Have you contacted the students? On 24th all these things had appeared in the newspaper. Now, can you tell why you had not made enquiries on this even though there were directions from your boss that you should make detailed enquiries?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I cannot say anything more than this.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** So you would admit that you had not carried out the instructions given to you by your boss. Now, do you admit that you had not discharged your duties properly?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Everything has been stated in the statement. There was no likelihood of getting any statement from the students which would have been contrary to their interests. . . .

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** The statements of Railway officials go against them. I feel that the statements of Railway officials have been given by them with a view to protect themselves. Do you also feel so?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I cannot say anything about the statements. The questions that were put to them and their replies are before you.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** When Railway officials had not said anything that goes against them then how could you expect the students to say anything that would have gone against them? However, you could have enquired from the students also as to whether they had misbehaved with the MP.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Would they admit that they have misbehaved?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Are you aware of the fact that Mr. Lalji Bhai himself had complained that the student volunteers—or may be others—had demanded Rs. 200|- or Rs. 201|- from the Hon. Member because it is stated that this was mentioned in the newspapers? Did you conduct any enquiry in that regard?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** This fact was not before me. I did not know anything regarding the money asked for.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** You received the telegram for conducting the detailed enquiry in respect of the news item published in the daily "Navjyoti". Did you read that news item?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes Sir, I read it.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Have you got that with you at the moment?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** It is not with me here. But all the news regarding the reported ill-treatment meted out to him was published in the newspaper.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** You have not brought with you the report of "Navjyoti". You say that you had no complaint, no basis and no first information report. When it was mentioned in the telegram that you conduct enquiry on the news item published in "Navjyoti" then that means that you have received the complaint. You did not conduct enquiry on the points mentioned in that news item.

Leave it. Have you sent anywhere the copy of the news item with your enquiry report?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I had not received the cutting of the news item.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Did you read that paper cutting before conducting the enquiry or not? Have you seen it till today or not?



**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I came to know about it but I have not seen it.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** According to your statement you were ordered to conduct the enquiry on the press report published in the newspaper but you have not done so. It is also mentioned in the report that you had telephonic conversation with the Chief Security Officer. What instructions did he give you? Is it recorded somewhere?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** It is not recorded.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** What were his instructions?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** He asked me to intimate the full facts at an early date relating to what happened with Shri Lalji Bhai at the Railway Station when he was asked to show the ticket.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Did you have no other talks, other than the telegram?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Telegram was received afterwards. He asked me only this that I should intimate the full facts about that news item.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** You have stated just now that there was no use of investigating others. You took the statements of Railway officials, put questions to them and heard their replies. Did you also cross examine them?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** There was only one question—that was of ill-treatment.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** In the news item there was a complaint regarding a few (2—4) Railway officials also. How did you come to the conclusion by hearing their *ex parte* statements that it would have been better if the Hon'ble M.P. would have lodged some complaint?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** There are the statements of others also who are not involved in this case—statements of Head Constable and Sub-Inspector etc. of the G.R.P. There are the statements of those persons also against whom complaint had been lodged.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Have you also recorded the statements of other persons also who were independent or not in any way involved in this case?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did make an attempt. Many persons had gathered there when the incident took place. But I could not succeed.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** You say this that you could not record their statements.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did try.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Whom did you enquire?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not come across anybody who might have knowledge of this incident.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Have you stated in your report that you tried to find out some independent persons, persons other than the officials of Railway police and Railway Department who had gathered there to witness the incident but you could not succeed?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I did not know the name of anybody.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** In other cases in the name of investigation you make enquiries at a number of places and produce witnesses but in this case you have not done anything. A number of vendors and coolies are always present at the Railway station. Why did you not ask them? How would you know if you do not ask anybody?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I tried to ask all the persons other than the members of the staff. The jawans of G.R.P. were also present there in addition to the jawans of the R.P.F.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** Have you ever investigated such a matter earlier also?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I have conducted a number of investigations.

**SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT:** In such matters?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I never came across such a case of an M.P.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did you come to know of this news from Railway officer or you read this news in a newspaper or came to know of this from others?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I came to have this information from them.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You did not know of it earlier. You have stated in your report that the passengers who got down from the train told the students that the said passenger (Shri Lalji Bhai) was an MP but he had refused to show his identity card. Did you try to find out whether there were any Railway officials with the students?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** At that time only the students were at the platform. T.T.Es. were in their room.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Were any of your constables there?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** There is no information of their being nearby the students.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** The train was coming at platform No. 2. That day there was special checking. No train arrived at platform No. 1. Your entire checking staff was at platform No. 1 and not at platform.

No. 2. Did you try to find out as to why it was so?

(He did not reply).

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** If any MP does not have MP pass, or if his pass has been lost or if he could not bring it with him, then what is to be done in such a matter?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** We should try to believe him that he is an MP. If he is really an MP then there is no harm if he does not show his pass. But as the MP (Shri Lalji Bhai) did not belong to that area so the staff did not believe in what he said.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** How was it known that he did not belong to that area?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** He was not from Ajmer, he was from Udaipur. We come in contact with MLAs but seldom with MPs.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** But people know MPs more than the MLAs. Do you feel that such an extraordinary event, which took place for one hour and ten minutes, does not ordinarily occur?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Such things should not happen. But perhaps that day Shri Lalji Bhai was in such a mood. God knows what happened to him that time.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** When you were recording statements did you not feel that all the persons were saying the same thing and the object of the statements of all of them was not to be involved in this case?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** I cannot give my personal opinion. Whatever statement they will make I will record the same.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Did you put only one question to each one of them—whether Shri Lalji Bhai was ill-treated?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** Yes, Sir.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** What was the aim of your asking this question? Did you expect that someone would say that he had misbehaved? Or your aim was just to record it to make it clear that they had not misbehaved and were not guilty?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** One has got to ask this question clearly. They might give whatever reply they like, affirmative or negative. We should expect that they will speak the truth.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** You please see this statement. It has been stated therein that before preparing the charge sheet some people were shouting at the platform as to why no action was being taken against the MP? Why is he not being brought to the book like other passengers?

When you heard this, did you not feel that when all the people came to know that he was an MP why he was detained for one hour and a charge sheet was prepared?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** People said that no action was being taken against him as he says that he is an MP. Had there been an ordinary person they would have put him behind the bars or would have taken legal action against him?

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** How did the people know that he was an MP?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** By the statement of Shri Lalji Bhai or by his dress made of Khadi.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** Once it was known that he was an MP., was it necessary to detain him for an hour?

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** After knowing this and accepting it that he was an MP., so much time would not have been taken. If he (MP) does not disclose his identity and if his mood is otherwise then it is a different matter.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** According to your report, as soon as he got down from the train, he told that he was an MP but he did not show his identity card.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** To the students.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:** After that you have mentioned that turmoil which took place for one hour and during the course of which thirty to forty persons had collected there.

**SHRI KALYAN SINGH:** In such incidents what happens is that the crowd gathers and sees that no favour is shown to him and that he should also show the ticket. In such circumstances the employees become helpless and they have no alternative but to see the identity card. Such an atmosphere is created that reluctantly they have to do so. This is the prevalent trend now-a-days.

**SHRI B. P MAURYA:** Did you enquire from the people as to in what manner he was brought from platform No. 2 to platform No. 1? An MP. has so much of self respect that he would not accompany such persons ordinarily. Did you collect the information as to how he was brought to the platform No. 1? The MP has complained that he was brought forcibly with the help of police and that he was dragged. There is a bridge in between. So he could not have been brought over without the use of force.

He has also complained that many people misbehaved with him; they manhandled him. So, the question arises as to how he was brought from platform No. 2 to platform No. 1. Have you investigated this matter?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: I do not know anything about his being dragged. He was asked to go and he did accordingly.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Would an MP who is not showing his identity card go to the T.T's office on being asked by the two students? That's why I am asking you in what manner he was brought from platform No. 2 to platform No. 1. Have you collected some information in this regard?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: I did not come to know that this thing happened with him. This is correct that he was brought to the office but I have no information as to in what manner he was brought there.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: Have you not collected any information in regard to the manner in which he was brought to the office? Did he go there willingly or he was brought by force, or was he dragged?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: Dragging is really very bad—but he was brought to the office.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA: He was forced to go to office. Students brought him to the office.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have you got to say anything more than what you have said just now?

SHRI KALYAN SINGH: No, Sir.

*(The witness then withdrew)*

## APPENDIX I

(See para 10 of the Report)

LALJI BHAI

Member of Parliament

86, SOUTH AVENUE,

NEW DELHI-11.

April 2, 1973.

Speaker

Lok Sabha

[Privilege Motion u/r 222]

Sir,

I seek your permission to raise the following matter under rule 222 in the House, regarding breach of privilege.

On March 23, 1973, while I was coming from my Udaipur Constituency to Delhi to attend the Lok Sabha Session and when I was preparing to leave Khandwa-Ajmer train for the required train change, some persons in plain-clothes surrounded me and asked me to show the ticket. I told them that they did not appear to be railway-staff and that I would prefer to show my Identity-card to the proper Authority.

At this they got infuriated, snatched off my suit-case, manhandled me and demanded Rs. 201/- for letting me go free. I pleaded that I was a Member of Parliament and that I had the requisite Identity-Card but they dragged me into the T.T.E. room there, and called in a policeman in uniform. They all again threatened and insulted me.

When they could not extract money from me, the policeman opened my suit-case for search. Having found there my Identity-card, he whispered something into their ears and gradually each of them slipped away.

Sir, it is obvious that with the connivance of the Railway-staff and Railway Police of Ajmer station, a gang of miscreants there manhandled and insulted me and tried to obstruct my coming to the Parliament. You can imagine, Sir, how these people must be harassing the general travelling public.

I, therefore, submit that the Railway Staff and Railway Police at Ajmer Station are guilty of breach of privilege and suitable action may be taken against them.

With deep regards,

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/- LALJI BHAI

423.

## APPENDIX II

(See para 12 of the Report)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS  
(RAILWAY BOARD)

*Most Immediate*

*Confidential*

**SUBJECT:**—*Notice of question of privilege given by Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. against some railway staff for allegedly misbehaving with him at Ajmer Railway Station on 23rd March, 1973, while he was coming to Delhi to attend Lok Sabha Session.*

**REFERENCE:**—*Lok Sabha Secretariat's U.O. No. 17|6|CI|73 dated 2nd April, 1973.*

The facts as ascertained from the Western Railway are as follows:

On 23rd March, 1973, a special check was organised at Ajmer by the Railway with the help of student-volunteers. One of the student volunteers requested Shri Lalji Bhai who had arrived from Udaipur by 70 Down *en route* to Delhi to show his ticket. Shri Lalji Bhai refused to show his ticket. He did not disclose his identity either. The student volunteer then escorted him to the office of the Chief Ticket Inspector. In this office other Travelling Ticket Examiners and members of the Railway Protection Force were also assembled as they had gathered for this special check. The Chief Ticket Inspector also requested Shri Lalji Bhai to show his ticket. Shri Lalji Bhai did not show his ticket nor did he disclose his identity. A Railway Magistrate was available at Ajmer and hence a chargesheet was prepared against him for prosecution whereupon Shri Lalji Bhai disclosed his identity and said that he must leave for Delhi by 2 Down train. When his identity was disclosed, Shri Lalji Bhai was personally escorted by the Chief Ticket Inspector to the train and the chargesheet was cancelled.

It is not true that anyone snatched off his suit-case or manhandled him or demanded Rs. 201|- for letting him go. No insult was offered to him nor was his suit-case opened by a policeman or anyone else. The Identity Card was produced by Shri Lalji Bhai himself and not found by anyone else by searching his suit-case, as alleged.

There was no connivance by the railway staff in any alleged foul play.  
This letter issues with the approval of the Deputy Minister, Railways.

Sd/- K. K. R. RAO,

*Joint Director, Traffic (General) Railway Board.*

The Lok Sabha Secretariat (Committee Branch-I)

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Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) U.O, No. 73/Tkt. Checking/1036/  
P/18 dated 3rd April, 1973.



**APPENDIX III**

30, Rajendra Pd. Rd.

(See para 13 of the Report)

**LALJI BHAI**

**30,**

**RAJENDRA PD. RD.**

*Member of Parliament*

**NEW DELHI-1**

To

7-5-73.

The Speaker,

Lok Sabha

New Delhi

REF: *Reply of Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) U.O. No. 73/Tkt. Checking/1036/P/18, April 3, 1973 to Lok Sabha's U.O. No. 17/6/CI/73 dated April 2, 1973.*

**[Issue of Privilege]**

Sir,

I have carefully gone through the above referred letter of the Hon'ble Dy. Rly. Minister and humbly submit before your Honour:

1. I am shocked that the Dy. Minister has approved the Jt. Director's letter which is contradictory to facts of which I am myself an eye-witness and which I have suffered myself. I will not be able to express my agony in words.

2. The referred letter does not mention whether any officers were sent from the Centre for enquiry and how and at which level the enquiry was conducted.

When the Dy. Minister found that Shri Rao's letter contradicted my facts, did he himself make some probing? If yes, how and what were the results? Is it not a fact that there was no uniformed Railway staff member with the so-called students.

Mr. Speaker: Will you concede that an M.P. will like to be forcibly taken from the Railway bogie to the Inspector's Room and be insulted, but would not disclose that he was a member of Parliament?

3. I repeat the facts (as a sufferer myself) that:

- (a) There was no Railway staff in uniform with the so-called students when they forced me down from 70 Dn. (by which I was travelling from my constituency to attend the Parliament Session in Delhi) and insulted me and forcibly took me to the Inspector's room.

- (b) They asked me to pay Rs. 200 as birbe to let me off.
- (c) In spite of my telling them repeatedly that I was a Member of Parliament, neither they accepted my pleas nor allowed me an opportunity to open my attachee to get my Identity-card out.
- (d) In the Tkt. Inspector's room, they alleged that I was a smuggler and threatened me to be charge-sheeted and handed over to the police. There also I told them repeatedly that I was a Member of Parliament and an opportunity be given to open my attachee to take out my I.C. but to no avail. When at last a policeman opened and searched my attachee and found the I.C. then alone these persons let me off.

4. Mr. Speaker, in the light of these facts, how sad it is that the Dy. Minister has approved Shri Rao's letter. I seek protection from you.

Sir, I ask you whether my version of facts will carry less weight before you because I belong to a Scheduled tribe, I am shy by nature and am less educated than the Hon. Dy. Minister, who has got the style and all means at his command for putting up a Railway Officer's version more forcefully?

I appeal you, Sir, from my innermost but injured feelings that this is a fit case to be enquired into by the Privileges Committee for ascertaining the facts and taking action.

I request you, Sir, to hand over this case to the Privileges Committee for necessary action.

With highest regards,

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/- LALJI BHAI.

APPENDIX IV

(See para 16 of the Report)

(Enquiry Report of the Assistant Security Officer, Ajmer)

Western Railway

OFFICE OF THE  
ASST. SECURITY OFFICER, AJMER.

No. AFC 4/3/1.

Ajmer, dated 4 April, 1973.

The Chief Security Officer,  
Bombay.

**SUBJECT:** *Alleged mis-behaviour with Shri Lalji Bhai, M.P. at Ajmer Station on 23-3-1973.*

**REFERENCE:** *Your XXR wire No. SFI|64|2| (73) of 3-4-1973.*

With reference to your above and the telephonic instructions of 3-4-1973, I made personal enquiries into this matter and found that:—

In pursuance of the directive from the CCS-CCG to the DCS-AII, the latter had organised a check against the Ticketless travellers at Ajmer Station on 23-3-1973 & 24-3-1973 with the assistance of Student Volunteers under the charge of Divisional Chief Ticket Checking Inspector Shri S. G. Supariwala of Ajmer.

On 23-3-73, on arrival of 70DN Khandwa-Ajmer Passenger train, one passenger got down from a I Class compartment at Ajmer Station at about 19.55 hours. Two Student Volunteers named Tirath Singh and Vinod Kumar approached him and requested him to show the ticket but the passenger did not show them ticket and replied that he was an M.P. The student Volunteers requested him to disclose his full identity and show his Identity Card-pass but the latter refused to do so. The Student Volunteers took him to the Head Ticket Collector's Office and reported to T.T.E. Shri Mohan Lal Chaurasia, who on his part requested the gentleman to disclose his identity and show the I.C.P. but to no avail. On the contrary, he asked Shri Mohanlal Chaurasia and the Student Volunteers to show their Authority for checking the tickets. On this, Shri Mohanlal showed his Buckle No. and the student volunteers displayed their Badges, but still that gentleman neither disclosed his full identity nor gave his I.C.P. In the meantime, DCTI Shri S. G. Supariwala came there and after hearing the details, requested the gentleman to disclose his identity and show I.C.P. but to no avail. Shri S. G. Supariwala contacted the Railway Magistrate, Ajmer who happened to be available at the Station platform and narrated the facts to him.

The Railway Magistrate is said to have suggested to Shri Supariwala to proceed under Rules & Law if that gentleman did not give his identity and show the I.C.P. Shri Supariwala returned to that gentleman and once again requested him to disclose his identity and show the I.C.P. but to no avail. Shri Supariwala then proceeded to fill-up the chargesheet and informed the gentleman of the consequences involved, when that gentleman disclosed his identity as Shri Lalji Bhai M.P. and showed his I.C.P. after taking him out of the H.T.C.'s office. Shri Supariwala then cancelled the Chargesheet, paid him respects and escorted him to the First Class coach of 2Dn. ADI-DLI Mail train, which had then arrived on the station platform and by which Shri Lalji Bhai was to proceed to Delhi.

I made enquiries with all the persons concerned\* in this case, but did not find anything to suggest mischief or insult to him at the hands of the student volunteers or the ticket checking staff. Had Shri Lalji Bhai shown his I.C.P. and disclosed identity at the first instance this whole incident would have been averted.

The Student Volunteers were in plain clothes but they were wearing Arm-Badges as 'Student Vol. Ticket Checker'. A sample of this badge is enclosed.\*\*

A copy of the report No. C 549/9 dt. 30-3-73 sent by the DCS—AII to the CCS-CCG in this matter is enclosed\* for favour of perusal.

Sd/-

Assistant Security Officer,  
Ajmer. 4-4-1973.

Encl/11 & one badge.

C/-The SOR-AII for favour of information.

Attested

Sd/-

ACS(TT), 26-9-73.  
Assistant Commercial Superintendent (TT)  
Western Railway  
Church Gate, Bombay.

\* See Annexure

\*\*Not received from the Ministry of Railways.

## ANNEXURE

[Statements made by the witnesses during enquiry by the Assistant Security Officer, Ajmer]

(i)

STATEMENT OF SHRI S. G. SUPARIWALA, C. T. I. MAGISTRATE SQUAD,  
AJMER

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On being asked I have to state that I am working as a Chief Ticket Inspector (Magistrate Squad) at Ajmer. On 23rd March, 1973 a student check was organised at Ajmer Railway Station as per instructions of the administration. At about 20|30 or 20|40 hrs. on 23rd March, 1973 I noticed a crowd gathered outside the HTC office Ajmer and on enquiry I was told that a person was unwilling to show his ticket on demand. I entered the HTC office and I saw a gentleman sitting on the bench and the staff was requesting him to show his ticket. I introduced myself to the said passenger and reveal to him of my identity and a student check was organised by the administration to eradicate ticketless travel. I then requested him to show his ticket to me. Here the students complained of his unmannerly behaviour meted out to them. I again asked for his ticket but he did not show his ticket to me for the reasons best known to him. Contrary he complained of the misbehaviour of the students and the checking staff and the high handedness of the GRP and RPF personnel which was repudiated by all concerned on his face. Meanwhile a public man got enraged on Shri Lalji Bhai's attitude and asked me what would have been the fate of an ordinary passenger and he committed the same offence of not showing the ticket and why such M.Ps. are not prosecuted. Here I was told by one of my staff that the Railway Magistrate is happened to be at platform and I immediately apprised of the facts to him. He too suggested that a man of M.Ps. status who is not showing his card pass should be chargesheeted. Here Shri Lalji Bhai disclosed that he had to go to Delhi and was a M.P. and he will show me his pass outside the HTC office. I immediately agreed to go out and he produced his ICP to me on the platform. Accordingly his chargesheet which was filled by Shri Mohan Lal Chaurasia T.T.E. was cancelled. He was then escorted by me and Shri Lal Chaurasia HTC Ajmer to ADI-Delhi First Class Slip coach. It would not be out of place to mention that he gave a threatening to all the staff and he will see that severe action is taken against them.

Q. Did you in any way misbehave with this passenger or any other staff?

A. No.

This is all what I have to state. The statement is read by me and is correct.

Sd/-  
S. G. SUPARIWALA,  
CTI/Magistrate Squad,  
Ajmer. 4-4-1973.

Attested

Sd/-  
ACS(TT), 26-9-73.  
Assistant Commercial Superintendent (TT)  
Western Railway  
Church Gate, Bombay.

(ii)

STATEMENT OF SHRI MOHAN LAL CHAURASIA, T. T. E. DS GANG AJMER

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On being asked I have to state that I am working as a TTE in DS Gang Ajmer for the last 3 years. I was on duty at Ajmer Railway Station from 18.30 to 21.30 hrs. on 23rd March, 1973 in connection with the joint check with student volunteer Ticket Checkers. At about 20.00 hrs. on 23rd March, 1973 I noted some people discussing with some passenger in front the HTC office and approached to find out the reason of such gathering. I was told by the checking staff and student volunteer Ticket Checkers that this passenger has been brought from platform No. 2 and has arrived by 70Dn passenger train. Since he declined to show his ticket to the student volunteers Ticket Checkers I appealed the said passenger to kindly show his ticket. On this he demanded my identity which was shown to him i.e. my identity card pass and badge. But even after that he did not show his ticket and maintained that he is not going to show his ticket to any body. In the meantime he was repeatedly requested to show the ticket by other checking staff who had approached. But no one's requested was heeded to. Seeing the increasing number of passengers and public he entered the HTC Office and took his seat. Here also he was requested by me and all our staff of DS Squad to kindly show his ticket but he was not agreeable at all. At 20.30 hrs. on 23rd March, 1973, Shri Supariwala CTI came to HTC Office and after enquiry showed his identity card to the passenger concerned and requested him to show his ticket but it was turned down and the passenger further asked the CTI to take legal action for the offence of not showing the ticket subsequently I filled up the chargesheet and the passenger was explained of the complications. He was unmoved and again asked to fill up this chargesheet and I will sign this check book. But simply asked the CTI to follow him to the platform. It was at this

stage that he told the CTI that he is an M.P. and possess ICP. The ICP was brought and the chargesheet was cancelled after entering its number in the chargesheet. On disclosure of his being M.P. VIP treatment was accorded to him and was escorted by CTI Shri Supariwala and HTC Ajmer to his reserve compartment.

Q. Do you remember if the passenger was any time misbehaved or man handled by any of the staff deputed for the joint check with the student volunteer Ticket Checkers on 23rd March, 1973 at Ajmer Station.

A. No.

This is all what I have to state. The statement is read by me and is correct.

Sd/-

M. L. CHAURASIA,

TTE/AII

4-4-73.

Attested

Sd/-

ACS (TT), 26-9-73.

*Assistant Commercial Superintendent (TT)*

*Western Railway*

*Church Gate, Bombay.*

(iii)

**STATEMENT OF SHRI H. C. DUTTA, SR. TTE. AJMER (DS GANG)**

On being questioned I have to state that I am working as a Sr. TTE in DS gang Ajmer for the last 4 years. On 23rd March, 1973 I was on duty at Ajmer Railway Station from 19.00 hrs. to 21.00 hrs. in connection with students Volunteers Ticket Checking alongwith other staff of DS gang. After the arrival of 70 Dn passenger train two students checker had brought one passenger from platform No. 2 who had arrived by 70Dn to Head Ticket Collectors office as the passenger refused to show his ticket. It was also heard from the students that they had been misbehaved as well as by the passenger. On seeing the gathering in front of HTC Office I also went to see as to what has happened. I personally heard the other checking staff requesting the said passenger to show his ticket but he was continuously refusing to show his ticket. I also requested him that when he has come by 70Dn there is no harm to show his ticket, but he flatly refused. In the meantime more people had gathered there and the said passenger had his way in the HTC office and sat down there. Again he was requested by everybody but of no avail. In the meantime Shri Supariwala CTI came into HTC office and after

enquiring the matter introduced himself to the passenger by showing his identity card and requested to show his ticket but even CTI's requested was not accepted to by him. On the contrary the passenger dictated the CTI to go for legal action for this offence not showing the ticket. Subsequently the chargesheet was filled by Shri Mohan Lal Chaurasia TTE and explained him that, unless he pays the dues demanded therein are paid the chargesheet cannot be cancelled. On this he told the CTI to come out of the HTC office with him where he will show his ticket. Then on the platform he disclosed to the CTI of his being an M.P. He also showed the ICP which was brought in the Head TC Office by CTI Shri Supariwala and the chargesheet was cancelled by entering the No. of ICP therein and he was escorted by CTI Shri Supariwala personally alongwith the HTC Ajmer to accommodate him in his reserved accommodation and all VIP treatment was accorded.

Q. Was there any man-handling by ticket checking staff, Volunteer students checker, RPF or GRP staff with this passenger in your presence?

A. No.

This is all what I have to state. The statement is read by me and is correct.

Sd/-

H. C. DUTTA,

Sr. TTE Ajmer (DS Gang)

4-4-73.

Attested

Sd/-

ACS(TT), 26-9-73.

Assistant Commercial Superintendent (TT)

Western Railway

Church Gate, Bombay.

(iv)

STATEMENT OF SHRI OM PRAKASH HRK (PC) MF/6917

On being questioned I have to state that I am working as a HRK (PC) in ASO office Ajmer. I was deployed on special duty, for Mass checking by students at Ajmer on 23rd March, 1973 and 24th March, 1973 by the IPF (HQ) Ajmer. At about 20.00 hrs. on 23rd March, 1973 when 70Dn passenger train from KNW had arrived and when the passengers started going from platform the student checking party checked the ticket of a passenger who was putting on a Dhoti-Kurta and Basket, but the passenger refused to show the ticket and in the meanwhile other checking staff also came and they also demanded ticket from this passenger. Since this passenger was not showing any ticket or pass he was brought to the



Head Ticket Collector's office on platform No. 1 and with great difficulties he showed his pass. I was told by the ticket checking staff that this passenger was a M.P., and I also learnt from this staff that a chargesheet was also made against the M.P. and when the M.P. showed his card pass his chargesheet was cancelled and he was allowed by the CTI to go to 2Dn Mail which was standing on platform No. 7. At this time there was a big crowd of students checking staff, Regular ticket checking staff, GRP staff on duty, RPF staff on duty and also a great number of passengers. Even I heard from the passengers that they were rather insisting this M.P. to show his ticket but he was much adamant in this.

Q. Was there any man-handling of this M.P. by the Students checking staff or by the GRP or by the RPF?

A. No. Every thing was in order.

Q. Was this M.P. abused by any staff on duty or by the students?

Q. No.

This is all what I have to state. The statement is explained to me in Hindi and is correct.

Sd/-

OM PRAKASH,

ME/6917

HRK (PC) AII.

Attested

Sd/-

ACS(TT), 26-9-73.

Assistant Commercial Superintendent (TT)

Western Railway

Church Gate, Bombay.

(v)

STATEMENT OF SHRI SITA RAM RK CARRIAGE AND WAGON SHOP, AJMER,  
ME/7080

On being asked I have to state that I was on special duty at Ajmer Railway station on 23rd March, 1973 in connection with the joint checking by student checking staff and the regular checking staff. At about 20.00 hrs. on 23rd March, 1973 I was on duty at platform No. 1 at Ajmer station and I saw that there was a crowd outside the office of the HTC and when I approached there I could see that the ticket checking staff was asking a ticket from a passenger and this passenger was refusing to show the ticket. This time GRP and RPF staff was there. Then this passenger and other checking staff went inside HTC Office and RPF and GRP staff remained outside the HTC Office and after some time I

learnt that this passenger was let off by the ticket checking staff when pass of M.P. was shown as he was a M.P.

Q. Do you know any thing that this passenger whose identity was disclosed later on as M.P. has misbehaved or manhandled by any ticket checking staff or RPF or GRP?

A. No.

This is all what I have to state. The statement is explained to me in Hindi and is correct.

Sd/-  
SITA RAM,  
RK.

Attested

Sd/-  
ACS (TT), 26-9-73.  
*Assistant Commercial Superintendent (TT)*  
*Western Railway*  
*Church Gate, Bombay.*