

Title: Need to clarify the news report that the services of the Armed forces are proposed to be utilised for breaking the strike of postal workers.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (MIDNAPORE): Mr. Chairman, I only want two minutes from you. I wanted to raise a matter which I consider to be very urgent. I would have been happy if -- of course, two or three Ministers are here -- the Home Minister, the Defence Minister and the Communications ministers had been here because maybe we would have got some response. I am referring to the news report which has appeared that the Government is contemplating to requisition the use of the Army. The services of the armed forces are proposed to be utilised for breaking the strike of the postal workers. I do not know if the report is correct or not. I want the Government to state here whether any such proposal is under consideration. I think, our Army is meant to defend the borders of our country, a job which they are doing with great courage. They are not to be used for breaking the strike of the workers. It will be something deplorable and something which will be condemned, I am sure, by everybody in this country. I would request the Government to see to it that the Army is not used in order to break the strike of the postmen. That is all I wanted to say.

">SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (BANKURA): This is a serious matter. We want a clarification and a statement from the Government. The Army is being deployed to break the postal strike...(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already said it. The Government has taken note of it.

... (Interruptions)

श्री सी.एच. विद्यासागर राव (करीमनगर) : सभापति महोदय, ज़ीरो आवर में जूनियर मेम्बरों को मौका नहीं दिया जा रहा है और ये सीनियर हैं। मैं तीन दिन से देख रहा हूँ कि ये विषय उठाना चाहते हैं लेकिन मौका नहीं मिल रहा है।

सभापति महोदय : ये तो सीनियर हैं, जूनियर नहीं हैं।