

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

LATHI-CHARGE BY POLICE ON STUDENTS
AND POLICE RAID ON C.P.I. PARTY OFFICE
AT CHANDIGARH ON 26TH AUGUST, 1981.

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA (Bombay South): I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The Reported lathi-charge by police on students and reported police raid on C.P.I. Party Office at Chandigarh on 26th August, 1981."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, according to information received from Chandigarh Administration, members of All India Students Federation and the Punjab Naujawan Sabha who had given a call that they would gherao the Punjab Vidhan Sabha for three days in support of their already voiced demands gathered in the parade ground Sector-17 in Chandigarh on the morning of 26th August, 1981, and they were addressed by their leaders. At about 12.30 PM, a crowd 500 to 600 strong started marching towards the Vidhan Sabha building and violated the prohibitory orders under section 144 Cr. P.C. About 100 yards from the Uttar Marg, the two Executive Magistrates, present on the spot alongwith the police officers warned the crowd that they were violating the prohibitory orders. They were also requested to leave the prohibited zone. However, the crowd started throwing stones and hurling sticks at the police force. In these circumstances, the police resorted to a cane charge to stop the crowd from proceeding further towards the Vidhan Sabha. Some of them, however, managed to reach the barricade in front of the Vidhan Sabha building and

indulged in acts of violence causing injury to a police officer.

A number of demonstrators who had earlier been dispersed from near the Punjab Vidhan Sabha building had gathered near the bus terminus and were likely to damage the public property. The police force led by Senior Superintendent of Police and Additional Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh went there. On seeing the police party the demonstrators who were armed entered the C.P.I. office in Sector 21 and which is only about 150 yards from the bus terminus. The police had then to enter the building to effect the arrests to prevent the demonstrators who had taken refuge inside the building from indulging in acts of violence.

A magisterial enquiry has been ordered by the District Magistrate, Chandigarh.

12.42 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]
SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Statement of the Hon. Minister of State for Home is highly unsatisfactory and he has tried to defend what is indefensible. This ugly incident at Chandigarh raises certain fundamental questions. In pursuance to a call given by the All India Students Federation and SFI, about two thousand students met in Chandigarh and started proceeding to the Assembly House.

Now, what were their demands? They demanded employment allowance, cheap education, parity in tuition fees, democratic rights for all students to education and they protested against the CID circular asking the Educational institutions to refuse admission to leftist students. As the students started proceeding towards the Vidhan Sabha, a force of policemen cordoned them. Students insisted to proceed further. This took place at a distance of one kilometre

from the Assembly House. When students insisted and allegedly tried to break the cordon of the police, police resorted to brutal lathi charge. This is not the incident which happens usually, where police resorts to mild lathi charge. Several questions will have to be gone into. Lathi charge was a brutal lathi charge, uncalled for and unwarranted. Usually police is required to tackle the situation very tactfully and use minimum force and that too as a last resort. Here that was not done. Police acted in a manner as if it was a pre-meditated and pre-conceived thing in the mind of the police to brutally lathi charge students who came out with the demonstration.

Now, Sir, they not only resorted to brutal lathi charge, but they also chased the students up to a distance of three kilometres. Thereafter, eighty people were arrested and some more arrests were made thereafter.

Second part of the incident was the police chased them. Thereafter two hundred policemen went berserk. They went completely mad and lost their own control and the custodians of law and order took law into their own hands. They became lawless, and they attacked and raided the head-quarters of the CPI in Chandigarh. What was done in the CPI headquarters was a very serious matter. When the headquarters office of a recognized all-India party is raided, I would say that police committed criminal trespass in entering the headquarters of CPI.

Many students who were injured in the lathi charge were being given first aid. These students were assaulted again. They were mercilessly beaten. Womenfolk were insulted. Not only that, files were taken away and the entire furniture was in shambles. One room which was given for MLAs of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha

was completely in shambles. Typewriters were taken away. Almirahs were broken open. All these acts of the police were beyond their rights and beyond their orders—which they ought not to have resorted to. 26th of August was a very black day in the annals of public life of Chandigarh, and in its history. And that is why it has become a very serious matter.

It is a very serious matter because in this country we are wedded to the rule of law. There is democracy in our country. There are certain fundamental rights. In the dark British days, when the Britishers were trying to trample under foot all the civil liberties of the people, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru stated that that was a police raj where there was 'no *vakil*, no appeal and no *dalil*.' That is how Nehru Ji described those days. I am now asking: "Are we under Police Raj?" This Government, it appears, wants 'no argument, no demand and no demonstration' as against 'no *vakil*, no appeal and no *dalil* of those days.

It is the fundamental right of every citizen to come out with demands; and the students were not attacking the police. It was the fundamental right of students to come out with their demands. In response to this, the police went berserk and they tried to trample all the civil liberties under foot. All the decency was given a go-by by the police. They resorted to this brutality and vandalism.

Having said this, I would ask: can not a recognized political party function in this country? This is a fundamental question. What right has the police to intrude, encroach upon and to criminally trespass into the headquarters of CPI? To-day it is the CPI. Tomorrow it may be against any other political party. They may enter the office of any trade union. In this way, the police are setting wrong precedents. This creates a

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serious situation for the citizens. No citizen worth his salt and no citizen who believes in civil liberties will tolerate this sort of 'zulum' on the part of the police.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude with a question.

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: Today it is CPI; tomorrow it may be Janata Party, or the Bharatiya Janata Party, or DMK or Anna DMK also.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Pollachi): DMK's office was not raided by the police. DMK's office at Coimbatore was raided by CPI and CPI (M).

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR (Trivandrum): What happened during Emergency?

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: This raises a very fundamental question. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether it is not true that such attacks on peaceful demonstrations constitute an assault on the right of free association which is a fundamental right guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution? Secondly, the Minister has also declared in his statement that a Magisterial enquiry is going on. That is adding an insult to the injury because the case of the police is completely indefensible and the enquiry is merely an eye wash. There must be a judicial enquiry. What are the reasons for non-cooperation by the CPI in the enquiry of the Government? The members of the CPI are all victims. They said, we are not going to cooperate in this enquiry. They have no trust in this enquiry. Will the Minister give us reasons why they have declared their non-cooperation? Will the Government also assure that in future no headquarters or any office of any political party would be attacked, or would be raided by the police?

Every day we see that demonstrations are being staged in front of

the Parliament House and sometimes occasionally a mild lathi-charge take place. But this was an unprecedented brutal lathi-charge by the police and the police had taken the law into their own hands. Action should be taken against those who are responsible for this.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I would like to deny all the charges made by the hon. member against the Chandigarh police. The police did make a cane charge when the crowd became unruly.

SHRI RATANSINH RAJDA: But here are the photographs where the police was chasing the students in that area. The hon. Minister must have seen it.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Police had to chase them because they became unruly and started throwing stones at the police; they were hurling stones at the police and were abusing the police. The police had to run behind them. Whatever the hon. member had said regarding taking away of files, typewriters, etc. from CPI office is also factually incorrect.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): The typewriters were not taken away; they were broken; they were smashed by the police. You are right.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The allegation made by the CPI hon. member regarding breaking of typewriters is also not correct. The police entered the city office. The police wanted to arrest those who were indulging in the act of violence. When anybody commits a criminal offence, when it is a cognisable offence, it is not necessary even to take warrants to enter the premises to arrest them. So, this is not a criminal trespass, as the hon. member had described it. He had put only two questions. One is about the judicial enquiry. I have already said in my statement that a

Magisterial enquiry has been ordered in this case; and after the enquiry if there is any excess on the part of the police, if they had committed any mistake, necessary action will be taken against those who are responsible for it. His second question was that there was an assault on the free association. There is no ban on free association and making even demonstrations, if they are peaceful. We never prohibit any peaceful demonstration. In Chandigarh, on an average, every day, there are 5-6 demonstrations, and the Chandigarh police has a record for this. I would like to point out to the hon. member that on the previous week, there was an Harijan agitation in which nearly 28 police men were injured. Six of them were officers—3 Sub-Inspectors, 2 Dy. SPs and 1 SPs. Two were severely injured. One DSP is in the hospital and he is in a serious condition. One Inspector was also seriously injured. The Chandigarh Police has always tactfully handled the situation and they had not attacked the demonstrators. But here when they became violent and started throwing stones and using their lathis which they were carrying, there was no other go for the police but to resort to cane charge.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Ram Vilas Paswan—Absent. Shri Chitta Basu.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I have heard the statement of the hon. Minister and also the reply he has furnished. The statement and the reply he has now given are nothing but a callous evasion of truth. And so far as the statement is concerned, it is merely a reproduction and reiteration of certain information which has been given by the Chandigarh Police staff. And it is not expected—and it is not the duty of the Minister in charge of Home Affairs—to reproduce what has been given by the Police in Chandigarh. Instead of applying his mind, instead of having an enquiry into the matter he just

gives out something which is farthest away from the truth. It is nothing but a green signal for the Police. Whether there is a democratic right of the people of our country to go to the Vidhan Sabha and ventilate their grievance is the question. Students and youths of Chandigarh have got that right, as I said Parliament will uphold that right, not only of the people of Chandigarh but of the people all over the country based as it is on certain democratic demands. You will understand nature of the demand. They wanted that there should be employment, or in case of unemployment, they should be given unemployment allowance. The students and youth demanded that education should be made cheap. They also demanded that there should be parity between the tuition fees charged by the Government colleges and the fees charged by the private educational institutions.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has already read it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: But you must also know it. There are 148 private colleges and 36 Government colleges in Chandigarh. The private colleges are charging four times the fees charged by the Government colleges. It is quite natural that the students should say that the tuition fees should be reduced or atleast made equal to the fee charged by the Government colleges.

A most dangerous precedent has been created by the Police there. They have prepared a list of students, and they have sent a circular to the heads of the educational institutions requesting them—or ordering them not to accord admission to any of the students listed in it. What is the future of those students whose names have been listed by the CID? They are all free citizens of our country and as students and youths of the country, they have got a right to be members of the union of their choice. They can be members of a union of their choice

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and the Police has got nothing to do with it and the Punjab Police CID has issued a circular that the students whose names are listed and which list has been sent to the heads of institutions that they should not be admitted in the schools, colleges and universities there. Is it not an infringement upon their Fundamental Right? Is it not a case of denying the students or youth of Punjab the Fundamental Right of association and attending a union of their choice. This is the way how the Chandigarh police are acting. Even today I have got a list with me. Seventy students have not been given admission. Why? How can the Punjab Police interfere with their Fundamental Right to join the union of their choice? And this Minister tells us that the lathi charge had to be resorted to. Lathi charge was done in a spirit of vengeance, in a spirit of brutality. If you allow me, you look at this picture. It is not from the *New Age* or the *Patriot*, it is from the Times of India. Look at this picture. The picture will show that with a sense of vengeance, a sense of revenge, a savage attack was made on the peaceful students. I want to lay it on the Table of the House. Even you will be astonished to learn—here is a picture of a student who has been arrested, brutally injured and taken to hospital and he has been kept chained in the hospital bed. (*Interruptions*). Is this a civilised Government or are we in a jungle?

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY: That is Mrs. Indira Gandhi's democracy!

SHRI CHITTA BASU: A student who has been brutally injured in the lathi charge, is taken to the hospital and is kept chained to the hospital bed. Is he a criminal? Has he not got the right to demonstrate, the right to demand education, the right to demand employment or employment al-

lowance? If he goes to the Vidhan Sabha, a lathi charge awaits him and he gets injured, taken to the hospital and is kept chained to the hospital bed. This is most savage behaviour and it shows how the police acted.

He has given some examples of police excesses. I also want to give some excesses. About 200 police armed to the teeth entered the CPI office at Chandigarh which is 5 KM away—it has to be taken note of—from the scene of the demonstration and which is about 1 KM away from the so-called bus terminus. The police entered into the office of the CPI. What did they do? They were not there simply to arrest some people. They ran amok. They displayed unusual frenzy and abused womenfolk, beat up whomsoever came their way, forced open and broke the doors, windows, almirahs and cupboards, took away some party files and records, typewriters and wooden furniture. The whole office has been left in a shambles.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please put your question.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: About 54 party functionaries and party leaders were there, including the State General Secretary of the CPI. They did not take part in the demonstration; they were engaged in their usual routine work in the office. They were arrested from the premises of the party office without showing any reason, without producing any warrant, nothing of the sort. Even women members of the party were—I have a temptation to use very strong language, but I will say it very mildly—women party members were abused and intimidated. Mrs. Jogendra Malhotra and Mrs. Mohinder Virk were abused. (*Interruptions*). Would the hon. Minister go and ask them whether the women members of the CPI were abused and intimidated? As I have already placed before you,

three students have been kept chained to the hospital bed. One picture I have just now shown you.

Now I am coming to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Chandigarh S.S.P., Chandigarh...**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please don't mention the name.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It has come in the papers.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can just say, "S.S.P., Chandigarh". We are not concerned about the name.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: S.S.P., Chandigarh was personally responsible for these reported excesses. He has reported to have taken out his service revolver and brandished it before Mrs. Malhotra, threatening her with dire consequences. There are 189 students and youths still under detention. Some of whom have been badly injured. 90 demonstrators have still been missing. They have not yet returned to their places. These excesses, to speak in the mildest form, were brutal and barbarous. These are the precursors of the days to come. This shows authoritarian trend and this trend is going to be irreversible. They want to stifle the voice of dissent and the right to protest. They want to launch attack on the people's demonstrations and people's right to protest.

In this context I may I know from the hon. Minister whether he is prepared to hold an inquiry himself in the incidence of excesses I have reported? Or is he prepared to institute a judicial inquiry? A magisterial inquiry is not going to bring out the truth. If the Government is interested in bringing out the truth it is necessary that it should order for a judicial inquiry. And in view of the fact that the aggrieved party, the CPI, and other democratic and left parties have decided to boycott the magisterial inquiry a judicial inquiry should be ordered for. What is the actual number of students who were arrested? How many of them

have so far been released? Why have rest of them not been released? Have the cases against them been withdrawn? If not, will the Government withdraw cases against them? Would the Government pay compensation to the injured and create an atmosphere of climate of confidence and restore of normalcy in Chandigarh? Would the Government dismiss the Senior Superintendent of Police...** and take action against all other police officers who are responsible for excesses? If this is not done, the truth will never come out. In the name of democracy I want that the Government should agree to institute a proper inquiry into the matter so that the truth is known to everyone.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The hon. Member has, more or less, repeated what the previous Member has said. As I have already said, a magisterial inquiry has already been ordered. Three aspects are to be inquired into by the magistrate. They are: cane charge by the police, arrest of certain persons and the entry of the police into the office of the Communist Party of India. I think in these three aspects all the points of the hon. Member are covered. This Inquiry will take evidence and meet individuals also who have got complaint against the Police. After the inquiry is over they will point out in the findings the role of the police. On the basis of the report, necessary action will definitely be taken against all those who are found guilty. So I cannot off-hand say whether we will dismiss a certain officer or not unless it is proved that he is guilty....

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Who will prove?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The Inquiry Officer. You can ask your colleagues to present their case and give facts to the Inquiry Officer so that everything comes to light.

He has put two or three questions. One is about the judicial inquiry. As

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I have already said, a magistral inquiry is ordered. So, it is not possible to go in for a judicial inquiry.

He wanted to know how many persons were released. Those who were arrested on the 27th and 28th were released. Those who were arrested on the 26th are yet to be released.

Another question was whether the cases will be withdrawn. In the case of demonstrations, where some violence is committed by the students or the demonstrators, cases are instituted. So, it depends upon the merits of the case. I cannot say anything at this stage.

Then he wanted to know whether compensation will be given to them. In the case of violent agitations, there is no precedent for giving compensation.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Violence was caused by the police.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The Chandigarh administration reported that there was violence by the demonstrators. Therefore, the question of compensation does not arise.

There is no ban on anybody becoming a member of any political party or association. There is no ban.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: In that case, you should request the Punjab CID to withdraw that circular.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Members of the Punjab Assembly can raise it.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: The difficulty is we cannot raise it.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I will look into what the hon. Member says about the circular.

श्री पीवूब तिरकी (अलीपुरद्वार) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय पुलिस का लाठीचार्ज आज देश में एक साधारण सी बात हो चुकी है। दिल्ली में अंग्रेजों पर लाठीचार्ज किया

गया, वहीं कमजोर वर्गों और श्रमिकों पर लाठीचार्ज होता है, वहीं मजदूरों के डिमाण्डेशन पर लाठीचार्ज होता है। रोख ही नहीं न कहीं से लाठीचार्ज की खबरें आ रही हैं लेकिन पंजाब में पुलिस ने जो लाठीचार्ज हमारे बच्चों पर किया है वह बहुत ही दर्दनाक है। उससे सारे देश के स्टूडेंट्स को बड़ा क्षोभ हुआ है। पुलिस तो वहाँ पर बच्चों को सम्हालने गई थी लेकिन न तो वह उनको सम्हाल सकी और न उनको समझा सकी, उसने उनको लाठी से पीटा— यह इस देश की पुलिस के लिए बड़ी दुर्भाग्य की बात है। इस सदन के सारे सदस्य मां-बाप हैं, उनके बच्चे स्कूलों में हैं, वे अगर अपने बच्चों को अच्छी तरह से न सम्हाल सकने के कारण, कोई गड़बड़ी होने पर, घर में उन पर लाठी से व्यवहार करें तो क्या इस तरह से यह देश चल सकेगा? वहाँ पर इतनी बड़ी संख्या में पुलिस के रहते हुए भी थोड़े से बच्चों को बजाए समझाने-बुझाने के उन पर लाठी चार्ज किया गया— यह पुलिस का बहुत ही दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण और नाजअख्त काम था। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने स्टेटमेंट में कहा है :

"The police resorted to cane charge to disturb the crowd from proceeding further towards the Vidhan Sabha."

मैं जानना चाहूँगा कि केन क्या चीज है और लाठी क्या चीज है? यह मेरे पास न तो केन है और न लाठी है। मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि केन और लाठी में क्या अन्तर है? मैं यहाँ दिखाने के लिए इसको सभा पटल पर रखना चाहूँगा। (उपस्थान)।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: "lathi" is a Hindi word, while "cane" is an English word.

श्री पीवूब तिरकी : मास्टर लोग स्कूलों में जो व्यवहार में लाते हैं वह केन होता है।

In the statement, he has stated: "On seeing the police party, the demonstrators who were armed entered the CPI office in sector No. 21"

So, may I know from the hon. Minister from what he has stated the particulars of the arms and the seizure made thereof?

उन्होंने कहा है कि वहाँ पर सी० पी० आई० आफिस में आर्म्स स्ट्रॉन्ग्स् चुन गए थे, इसलिए उनको पकड़ने गये थे। मैं आपके द्वारा पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो आर्म उनको बीच में पाए गए उसकी लिस्ट आपके पास है, कृपया आप वह बतलायें ?

May I ask the hon. Minister whether the lathi charge of Chandigarh police on students demonstrating for employment or unemployment allowance, cheap education, for parity in tuition fees, right of education for all students was justified by the Government, whether it is a fact that a CID circular was issued asking the educational institutions to refuse admission to those students who are activists of left unions, and whether the Government is of the view to send a parliamentary committee to inquire into these incidents?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the charges are again repeated by the hon. Member. So, I do not go into them. I would like to reply only to the questions which he has put.

First is about the particulars of arms seized. Sir, I said that because they were armed with lathis and they were throwing stones—these were the instruments with them—no arms were seized from the CPI office. It is only because they entered there the police wanted to arrest them and therefore they entered into the CPI office; otherwise they have no reason to enter into the CPI office.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY: In the statement it has been stated that the students were armed, but they were not armed.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I said that they were armed with lathis.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They were armed with lathis and the police people were having canes. That is the only difference. The police had only canes and the boys had lathis. You are not here just to reproduce whatever the police told you, like a parrot. Why don't you go there and look for yourself and make an inquiry on the spot?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The Calling Attention was admitted only on 28th August, and there is no time to go and inquire. Every Minister has to go by the reports received from the State or from the Administration.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Do not be a prisoner of the Administration.

(Interruptions)

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: So, I have to definitely rely on the reports which I received from the Chandigarh Administration.

(Interruptions)

Sir, so far as the CID circular is concerned, I have already said that I will look into it. (Interruptions).

So far as the appointment of a parliamentary committee to go into this is concerned, the question does not arise because there is a magisterial inquiry already.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Pansura): Sir, the statement placed before the House in reply to the Call Attention by the Minister is so blank that I believe that the late lamented Michael O'Dwyer would have been green with envy to read such a statement, he could not have done better. I am sure.

The hon. Minister just now said that only one day before he has received the Calling Attention notice, he could not get all the information.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:
No, no. I got the information, but there is no time to go.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
So, he could not go. So, much before this, a Call Attention has come to Rajya Sabha. Moreover was it not a serious enough matter that the headquarters of a political party in a State was ransacked.

All Opposition Parties were demanding that a judicial enquiry should be held and they had also refused magisterial enquiry. We were not these question serious enough for him to go? If he could not go, he should have apologised here. But he could not go. But he could very well swallow this shameless police version of the incidents. I do not know whether he has read it properly or not.

I will read out for your benefit the answer given to that part which deals with the CBI.

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR
(Gorakhpur): Sir, the Minister is laughing.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please listen. Mr. Nadar and Mr. Harikesh are spoiling the show.

SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Is it a matter to laugh? It is a question which has to be properly answered.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
Has he properly read it? Then I take it that he has read and swallowed the whole version. What is it? I am not going to see it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is in the form of a question.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
Before putting my question, I will read a statement to draw your attention. What is this? The first part of it is that "the students were lathi-charged and the students near the Vidhan Sabha" etc. They said:

"A number of demonstrators had earlier been dispersed from near

the Punjab Vidhan Sabha building and had gathered near the bus terminus and were likely to damage the public property. The Police force led by Senior Superintendent of Police and Additional Superintendent of Police at Chandigarh went there."

It seems to me a clear one. These students were likely to damage public property. Where were they? Can you tell me off-hand how far that bus terminus was from Punjab Vidhan Sabha? And how far is CPI office from Punjab Vidhan Sabha? The statement says that the bus terminus is 150 yards from the CPI office. But it does not say how far that bus terminus was from the Vidhan Sabha itself and how far the CPI Office. I am not particular. Let him say "No". Let him say 'No', there are 5 Kms. from Vidhan Sabha and a clear 'No' to 'that they are likely to damage public property'. So, I do not know that likeliness was particularly enquired into. But they were supposed to be unarmed. And he said 'No, no. They were armed with brickbats and canes'.

It is stated in this very statement why they were arrested and that the Police were made to enter the building to effect the arrest, to prevent the demonstrators who had taken a refuge inside the Building from indulging in acts of violence. So, the Police were doing what? They were preventing the students from indulging in acts of violence. Students who were supposed to be armed inside Office, 5 Kms. away from Vidhan Sabha, with lathis—that also he does not know—he does not claim more than that. But Government claims to know that. To prevent them 'violence' was used. Everybody was arrested at pistol point. So, is it not a greater violence? Sir, to prevent them from acting in a violent manner, they had to intimate our women Congress, wives of the State Secretaries, Comrades Mrs. Joginder Malhotra and Mrs. Mohinder Gill, a Member of the State Council of the C.P.M.,

Punjab. Were they trying to act violently with brickbats and lathis? Very strange. As a result of that, the police had to use the pistol inside the C.P.I.M. office. So, I would like to know in view of the serious nature of the crime committed by the police there and, above that, I would also like to tell him that the Chief Minister Mr. Darbara Singh even had to say this, how is it that, the Union Territory which is better known as Chandigarh Administration which is under the direct charge of Mr. Makwana and Mr. Zail Singh, when it is under the direct charge of the Centre, this is one of the incidents in the recent years, that being the situation, all the Opposition Parties in Chandigarh refused to cooperate with the judicial enquiry? That is because of the callous attitude. Would he not even now act, not like the petty fogging police official but as a Minister to withdraw the old order of holding a magisterial enquiry and order for a judicial enquiry or not? Maybe, they want to cover it up by the blind statement which is full of absolute untruths. They want to cover that up and that is why they now want to hold a magisterial enquiry.

There was a circular about the students, leftist students, who would not be permitted inside. That was the reason for the agitation. In the Vidhan Sabha, the Minister earlier said that this circular would not be executed. But, it was being executed what is the situation. Education being very much a concurrent subject and this being a very serious situation in the political life of our country, in the democracy of the country, will he here itself say that such things will be immediately banned and no further attempt of that kind will be made in future?

SHRI HARIKESH BAHADUR
rouse....**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: This will not go on record. This is not a correct way. Don't record. You are spoiling every serious discussion. Please sit down. She has put a very very serious question. You are spoiling it.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, if the hon. lady Member had seen my statement properly, she would find that I had not given a clean chit to the police. I have already said that a magisterial enquiry has been ordered. If anybody is found responsible for any misuse of power or if, they had acted beyond their jurisdiction, then necessary action would be taken. I have already said that (*Interruptions*) I have not given a clean chit to the police. About the judicial enquiry, I have already replied. About the circular also, I said that I would look into it.

13.28 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1981-82

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways). The Railway Minister.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI KEDAR PANDEY): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1981-82.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the House stands adjourned to meet at 14.29 hours.

13.29 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till thirty minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.