

कुछ अन्य व्यक्तियों पर मुकदमा चलाने के प्रश्न पर अभी विचार किया जा रहा है।

(ग) सवाल ही नहीं उठता।

12. 10 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

ALLEGED "STRATEGY OF SABOTAGE"
BY THE LEFT COMMUNIST PARTY

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :—

News-item published in the *Statesman* dated the 10th August, 1966, regarding the alleged "strategy of sabotage" finalised at the Tenali meeting of the Central Committee of the Left Communist Party.

The Minister of Home Affairs

(**Shri Nanda**) : Sir, I have seen the press report mentioned by hon. Members which is being attributed to Home Ministry sources. I am surprised that the report should claim to be based on information supplied by the Ministry of Home Affairs and I state categorically that no such information, as is mentioned in the report, has been given by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli) : Very good. Well said.

Shri S. M. Banerjee : This news item, though now according to the Home Minister no information was given by the Home Ministry, is a calculated attempt to create disaffection among the people against a particular political party repression against whom was unleashed during the last two years. If the report is not correct.....

An hon. Member : The report is correct.

Shri S. M. Banerjee : ... as far as it concerns the Home Ministry source, I want to know whether they have contradicted it or whether they have taken up the issue with the *Statesman* as to how this news has gone there because it clearly reveals that it is from the Home Ministry.

Shri Nanda : It is not a question of contradicting but of the fact, which I have stated here, that this report as it appeared in the paper has not emanated from the Home Ministry. That I have informed the *Statesman*.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barackpore) : It is in all the papers.

Shri S. M. Banerjee : Sir, I have a submission to make.

Mr. Speaker : He has put the question ; the answer has come.

Shri S. M. Banerjee : They say that official sources have not given it, but it has not only appeared in the *Statesman* but today the names of some other trade unions or political leaders have appeared in that. So, I want to know whether any inquiry will be held.

Mr. Speaker : He asked whether the Government has asked the *Statesman*. That has been answered. **Shri Gopalan**.

Shri A. K. Gopalan (Kasergod) : The Home Minister has denied that the Home Ministry has given out such a thing but there is reason to believe that someone in the Home Ministry might have given a hand-out because it is on the basis of a hand-out that another news-item has appeared in the papers today and some of the sentences in that are the same as were seen in the *Statesman's* report. May I ask the Minister what steps he is going to take to find out how this news has come out and also to dissociate himself and the Home Ministry from the report that it is said to have given because the name of the Home Ministry has been mentioned in the *Statesman* news-item and also in today's news-item ? What steps is the Home Ministry going to

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]
take to see that they are dissociated with this ?

Shri Nanda : What I have said is though several kinds of reports may be circulating. I have seen something which has appeared in the *Indian Express* also today. I was not present at that meeting—the hon. Member may have been there—and it is not for me to give an authoritative interpretation to what happened there.

Shri A. K. Gopalan : I was there in that meeting and I know that it is scandalous and malicious propaganda. That is why I gave the calling-attention notice. It was said when the answer was given—there were some saying that—that the report is correct. I do not know how.

Mr. Speaker : What can I say about others ?

Shri A. K. Gopalan : I only want to point out to you that those who say that the report is correct, they may be those who are responsible for carrying on such malicious propaganda.

Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai): Electoral alliances and adjustments are taking place between Opposition parties in various States as well as joint action on popular issues. May I know whether with a view to scare the Opposition parties from coming to this position against the Congress in the coming elections, some Home Ministry officials—I am asking whether it is a fact or not—has given out a hand-out and circulated to certain correspondents and that now he is backing out ?

Mr. Speaker : He has said it.

Shri Umanath : I am asking whether it is a fact that the Home Ministry official who gave out a hand-out like this is backing out now.

Shri Nanda : There may be many kinds of hand-outs.....(*Interruptions*)

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : सीधा जवाब दीजिये . .

Mr. Speaker : Order, Order.

Shri Nanda : I am not going to say which hand-out and what is it that they have got and what others have got. As far as I am concerned, there is no such thing.

Shri Nambiar : Today, in the *Indian Express*, it is stated :

“The Home Ministry does not seem to be aware of the existence of a sabotage plan by Left Communists as has been reported in a section of the Press.

We get this information from the news paper report....”

This is what a senior officer of the Home Ministry has said. He has denied all these things. I do not want to read out all the points.

Here it says :

“He admitted that according to the intelligence report, the Leftists had discussed a sabotage plan in their executive some time ago, Mr. Pramod Das Gupta and Mr. H. K. Konar advocated such a plan but it was turned down by the majority which described it as impracticable and detrimental to the growth of the party.”

A senior officer of the Home Ministry has said that. May I know whether the Home Minister will disown this as well, whether his statement already made includes disowning of this.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi) : What is the truth ? (*Interruption*).

Shri Nanda : I have to first own up that and disown this. These two are

contradictory statements. I have nothing to do with either. He has finished quoting at some point. I want to read it further. Further, it says :

“The Left leadership is of the opinion that such reports are placed by the Dange group in their publications.....

Shri Nambiar : We deny that.

Shri Nanda : I want to complete it :
“Recently, a foremost-Rightist weekly had also hinted at such a plan.

A prominent Leftist leader told ENS that Dange’s game was to get us arrested by spreading such false reports.”

Shri Nambiar : I want to contradict that statement.

Shri M. N. Swamy (Ongoly) : Some time ago, the Home Ministry had spread some cock and bull story. In 1964 itself, the Home Minister, Shri Nanda, concocted some stories.....

Mr. Speaker : He should ask about this.

Shri M. N. Swamy : We have definite information that a hand-out has been given by an officer of the Home Ministry. Is the Home Minister prepared to conduct an inquiry and find out who is that officer who has given out the hand-out ?

Mr. Speaker : He has denied that.

Shri M. N. Swamy : Let him make an inquiry.

Shri Vasudevan Nair : (Ambalapuzha) : Apart from this kind of malicious reports inspired by the Government being spread by newspapers....(Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker : Order, Order.

Shri Vasudevan Nair : Let them understand** . . . (Interruptions)

Shri Raghunath Singh) It is unparliamentary. It should be expunged.

Mr. Speaker : He should withdraw it.

Shri Vasudevan Nair : No, Sir. I will not withdraw it. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker : No, no; no reflections should be cast in this manner (Interruptions)

He could say anything about the Ministry, but he should not identify any person like that; he cannot about the Minister and I would not allow the Minister also to say any such thing against a Member. Therefore, I ask him to withdraw these words.

Shri Vasudevan Nair : I am not prepared to withdraw. I am sorry.

Mr. Speaker : Then he should withdraw himself. (Interruptions.)

(Shri Vasudevan Nair then left the House)

Shri Tyagi (Dehradun) : Those remarks should be expunged.

श्री मधु लिमये : **

Mr. Speaker : It might be expunged.

Shri Nambiar : The word** is parliamentary; it is not unparliamentary.

Shri-Tyagi :**

Mr. Speaker : It is always in the context that words are to be judged. Separately you cannot say whether a word is parliamentary or unparliamentary it might be said sometimes and might be allowed also. But in this context I have great objection to it and I have taken objection to it. I would not allow it to go on like that. (Interruptions).

Mr. Mukerjee.

Shri. H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central) : In the name of Parliamentary propriety, the emotions generated by the kind of reply which the Home Minister was giving have been sought to be diverted. I am sorry that Parliamentary propriety has been invoked in order to divert the interest in the subject which has come up and which is very important.

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]
is why I am asking this supplementary question.

Frivolity apart, apart from what has happened just now, is it the intention of the Government to go about talking, as it has done recently, about an all-India conspiracy which is rebutted and repudiated by everybody concerned on this side of the Opposition, and now to come forward in this kind of surreptitious manner to secure a widespread all-India publicity against political parties openly functioning in this country and now coming together in order to fight the Government? Is it the intention of the Government in Hitlerite fashion to repeat a lie over and over again before the people so that it comes to be believed, in the interest of their having to face the elections? Is Government going to repudiate any such intention and is the Government keen to take proper steps to see that this kind of propaganda itself, motivated, mischievous and, I may say, foolish, whatever the adjective might be stops on account of some steps which Government is going to adopt? As members of the Opposition in this House, we have a right to expect the political parties to function in this country.... (Interruptions).

Shri Nanda : The whole assumption is baseless. I have repudiated it and I have not done any propaganda of that kind. If the hon. Member had not read it, I would not have read that. What I read was the continuation of the same report.

Shri Daji (Indore) : I would like to invite the attention of the Home Minister to the fact that this report does not merely in a passing way, refer to the information given by the Ministry, but says :

"According to the Ministry the 'strategy of sabotage' was finalized..

"Official source allege that the recent acts of sabotage on the railways were the first fruits of the Tenali plan and that worse is sti

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to come. They allege that sabotage of defence establishments and perhaps burning of crops, are included in the plan.

"According to these sources, the Tenali meeting appointed Mr. Hare-Krishna Konar of West Bengal as the leader in charge of the party's programme on the agricultural front, and Mr. S.Y. Kolhatkar of Maharashtra as the party's principal functionary on the industrial front."

So it is not a mention just at one place. The report throughout is riddled with references to official sources, ministerial sources and information given by officials. In view of this, merely a letter to *The Statesman* is not sufficient. If really the Minister wants us to understand that the Ministry had nothing to do with the report, they should send a contradiction to all the papers that the Ministry . . .

Some hon. Members : No, no.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty : Why should they shout 'no, no' ?

Shri Umanath : If they say No, no, I shall say 'Yes, yes'. It is not their right alone to defy the Chair. They think they have got a right to defy the Chair. It is not their monopoly.

Shri Daji : Since the Prime Minister is here.... (Interruptions)

Shri Umanath : They are defying the Chair. If defiance of the Chair should not be there, then that should apply to all sides of the House. They think that it is their right to defy the Chair and say 'No, no'. What is this ?

Shri Daji : The Prime Minister is here, and I would like to know from her how many Home Ministers she has appointed. I think only one Home Minister has been appointed by her. But if so, many Members take over charge of the Home Ministry and this portfolio is held by several Members, then this is the result.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad (Bhagalpur) : I hope Shri Daji knows that it is a parliamentary method to say 'No, no'. It is known in parliamentary practice that sometimes, it is left to the Members to say 'No'. I think he knows this simple parliamentary method.

Shri Daji : In view of the fact that the statement has repeatedly mentioned official sources and that this seems to be a very serious aspersion on the morality and conduct of a political party which is legal, and in view of the fact that certain norms have to be followed in regard to the Opposition, will Government send an official contradiction that this report is false, in order to establish their *bona fides* ?

Shri Nanda : Too much is being asked of me. Whatever I have said was enough for me, and I have done that. As regards all references to the Home Ministry, I have said, 'No'.

Shri Daji : They are false ?

Shri Nanda : I am not going into the merits of the thing at all. It is for the hon. Members opposite. Somebody says something, and I am being called upon to contradict it. How is it possible ? This is not my responsibility. My responsibility. . . .

Shri Daji : He should be specific, and he should say whether all the references to the Home Ministry are false.

Shri Nanda : As regards the references to the Home Ministry, I have said 'No'. . . .

Shri Daji : What is the answer ? All the references to the Home Ministry are false ?

Mr. Speaker : Yes. Now, Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : If all the references are false, I would ask the Minister whether he is going to institute an inquiry not only into the conduct of the officers.

stitute an inquiry not only into the conduct of the officers.

Some hon. Members : No, no.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : Let them not say 'No, no'. Let them listen to my question first.

I want to know whether an inquiry will be instituted not only into the conduct of the officers but also into the conduct of others who are belonging to the Home Ministry—I hope the Minister understands it, and I hope that he understands also that we know who that person is. This is a very important question for inquiry, because this is an attempt on the part of certain people in the Ministry—it may not be officers, but persons even more highly placed—who let out this propaganda to let loose more repression on the Left Opposition parties as well as to create further dissension and misunderstanding between the parties of the Left. This is what has been done in the past also. And we have seen this kind of thing before. He says that there is a Left Communist leader who has given this impression. We say : there is somebody there in the Ministry who has given it out. So the whole thing must be inquired into. I would like to know whether the Home Minister is prepared to have an inquiry into this matter or not.

Shri Nanda : Do you want me, Sir, to say anything by way of reply ?

Mr. Speaker : She wants to know whether there is a proposal to have an inquiry or not.

Shri Nanda : If I have to assume that responsibility, then I shall have to inquire into all their records, all their proceedings etc. How can I do that ?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty : He has not answered my question. The question is not about an inquiry into our records, but the question is about an inquiry into his own colle-

[Shrimati Renu Chakravarty]

ague's records. Is he prepared to do that ? Is he prepared to have an inquiry into his own colleague's records ? We know certainly who has given this hand-out. Why is he then trying to put it on somebody else, *The Statesman* or the other newspapers ?

Shri Nambiar : On a point of order. When a call-attention notice has been given and the reply to that is given by the hon. Minister, is it proper on his part to mislead the House by confusing the issue in this way ? The question was about the hand-out given from his Ministry. We want to know whether there will be an inquiry into that. The inquiry was not about the Tenali conference and the decisions taken there. Why should he confuse it and give a confusing answer ?

Mr. Speaker : There is no question of any confusion of one with the other. No one would be confused. Questions are being put and answers being given.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur) : One gentleman who belongs to my profession... (*Interruptions*) my old profession, Prof. Dandavate, who is a member of the PSP National Executive has made a statement at a news conference as follows:

"Steps contemplated include sabotage in villages, including burning of crops, government offices, sabotage of railway lines, post offices and police stations. They also include sabotage of vital production potential ports, defence production, consumers' goods etc."

The report continues :

"While detailing these plans, Prof. Dandavate threw a challenge to these communists to go to a court of law and establish that the in-

formation revealed by him was baseless".

May I know what the Home Minister has got to say about this ?

Shri Nanda : This is not a challenge to the Home Minister, this is a challenge to themselves. I have nothing to do with it.

12'31 hrs.

RE: MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT
AND CALLING ATTENTION
NOTICES

(*Queries*)

Mr. Speaker : I have received several notices of adjournment motion as well as calling-attention notices on the firing in Shillong on 10th August. I will call upon Shri Swell just to explain to me how I can take it up as an adjournment motion.

Shri Tyagi (Dehradun) : Why not in the Chamber ? It is better to have it discussed with him in the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker : No. I can mention it here whenever I think it proper. He might explain to me.

Shri Swell (Assam—Autonomous Districts) : After this hilarity...

Shri D. C. Sharma : The hon. Member is misrepresenting the proceedings. There is no hilarity here. We have been discussing a very serious affair.

Shri Swell : When a senior Professor speaks, the junior Professor must yield to him. I should have expected to learn better from the senior Professor.

I would say that in the unfortunate things that happened in Shillong yesterday, there has been a definite failure on the part of the Central Government. There has been a definite involvement on the part of the Central Government in all the things that happened.

In the first place, it was the Border Security Force, which is an organisation of the Union Home Ministry, that has