

tion that the ship and air fares should be reduced to make the travel cheaper. I would like to mention here that both the Shipping Corporation of India and the Indian Airlines, who are operating the shipping service and the air service, are incurring losses on these routes and the Government is reimbursing the losses up to 80 per cent in the case of Shipping Corporation of India and Rs. 3 lakhs to the Indian Airlines. Even now, there is a demand to increase the air and sea fares. There is already a proposal under consideration to increase these fares. This being the state of affairs, I am afraid that we cannot think of reducing the fares to go to Andamans and Nicobar Islands by ship or by air.

A demand was also made that the trips of Indian youths and students should be arranged to visit the cellular jail just to see the jail and also to get inspiration from the martyrs who have spent their valuable lives in those cellular jails. Instead of the Government sponsoring these tours, it is better if private agencies like schools and colleges take up these tour programmes.

Dr. Mathew Kurian has made some allegations about the Congressmen creating rift between the inlanders and the mainlanders. It is not correct. Sir, it is not the Congress people who are doing it. It is the other way round. It is the CPM people who are creating all kinds of rifts and agitations and unrest in the minds of the people. As the people are aware, it is these elements which are creating even the law and order problems. So netimes we have to deal with them very firmly. So, I stoutly deny the allegations.

In this connection, he also named some people. Shri Nischal Singh is a Member of the Home Minister's Advisory Committee. He should not have made the allegations against him because he cannot refute them.

Some other points have been made by Dr. Mathew Kurian and Mr. Schamnad. Mr. Sultan Singh also made a point about the Mopla rebellion. Though it was started as an anti-British movement, later on it developed into an anti-Hindu agitation. Therefore, they were not considered as freedom fighters for the purpose of pension.

SHRI HAMID ALI SCHAMNAD : The Congress Government in Kerala has not recognised them.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : It is not the Congress Government. It is the Coalition Government. I can only say that the matter is under review.

5 P.M.

I can only say that the matter is being reviewed. And, Sir, many other points which have been made by other hon. Members are not quite relevant to the Bill. Sir, I am sorry I cannot accept the Bill as proposed by Mr. Sen Gupta.

SHRI DWUENDRALALSEN GUPTA : I know that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Yes, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

**HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION ON  
POINTS ARISING OUT OF ANSWER TO  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 658 GIVEN  
ON THE 22ND AUGUST, 1974  
REGARDING CRITICISM BY I.A.S.  
OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION OF THE  
SPEECH OF A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA ( West Bengal): Sir, this half-an-hour discussion relates to the conduct of the Chief Secretary Ramakrishnayya who was once here a Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. I understand, today this gentleman is being relieved from the Orissa Government service and he is on the panel of the Government of India to be appointed as a Secretary of the Government of India. Sir, here, I briefly point out to you that this matter was brought to the notice of the Central Government by way of a question on the 22nd August, 1974 and the question was, I quote—

"Whether it is a fact that in August, 1973, the I.A.S. Officers' Association of Orissa passed a resolution criticising the speech of a Member of Parliament on the floor of the Rajya Sabha for his critical remarks against the Chief Secretary to the Government of Orissa; whether the Central Government have made any enquiry in the matter; and if so, what are the details thereof; and what action Government have taken thereon?" And the reply was, I quote—

"The Government of Orissa from whom the facts were ascertained has informed us that the President of the IAS Officers' Association has stated that no Member of the Rajya Sabha

[ Shri Bhupesh Gupta ] has been criticised at any meeting of the Association. At a meeting of the Executive committee of the Association, held on 11-8-1973, a Resolution was passed expressing its distress over some derogatory remarks made on the floor of the House against a member of the Service and felt that criticism of individual officers who were in no position to defend themselves was a sad development which should be brought to the notice of the authorities and that a deputation should wait on the Governor to request him to take the matter up with the Central Government. As the matter pertained to the State Government, a letter received in this regard was forwarded to the Government of Orissa for such action as may be necessary."

Sir, I wrote the letter to the Prime Minister, I believe, and to the Home Minister, stating the facts of what has happened. It does not concern me. It concerns the House and the manner in which the top bureaucrats function. I collected from Orissa, the accounts of the said meeting of the Executive Committee of the I. A.S. Officers' Association, which was held in Bhubaneswar. Just I give the account of the meeting. I quote —

"An emergent meeting of the Executive Committee of the I.A.S. Officers' Association of Orissa was held at Bhubaneswar within a week after Shri Bhupesh Gupta, M.P. reportedly criticised the conduct of the Chief Secretary of Orissa in Parliament. Shri K. Rama Murty, I.A.S., sought to move a Resolution at the meeting criticising Shri Bhupesh Gupta for his criticism of the Chief Secretary in the Parliament. The Resolution was on the following lines : "Very senior officers of the State—Chief Secretary and the ex-Chief Secretary, have recently been criticised by Shri Bhupesh Gupta, M.P., on the floor of the Parliament. Criticism of officers who are unable to defend themselves in the House is against all established democratic and parliamentary practices. It is strange that even though such senior officers of the State were criticised, none from the Treasury Benches rose up to protest against such criticism. It is still unfortunate that the Chair did not pull up the" Member..."

(*Interruption*)

Sir, at that time Orissa was under the Central rule. Please, don't disturb me. It further says,

"The Executive Committee hereby resolves to express its deep concern in the matter and disapproves of the conduct of Shri Bhupesh Gupta, M.P. in criticising the present Chief Secretary and ex-Chief Secretary of Orissa."

Some members including Shri Ramakanta Rath and Shri Sitakanta Mahapatra opposed the Resolution on the following grounds. That is the report I got.

In the past many I.A.S. officers were criticised by the Members on the floor of the State Assembly and the Association had not passed any such resolution disapproving the conduct of the Members who indulged in the criticism of the officer. The conduct of an M.P. in the Houses of Parliament cannot be questioned by the Association, much less the conduct of the Members of the Treasury Benches as to why they did not defend the officers and why the Chair did not pull up Shri Bhupesh Gupta, M.P. It is also a matter which the Association could not question as that would also mean an aspersion on the Chair and the House as such. Then, on the suggestion of Shri B. B. Anantakrishnan, President of the Association, it was resolved the matter should be brought to the notice of the Governor. Thereafter, the President and some members of the Association called on the Governor, who is now our Chairman, and drew his attention to the reported baseless and uncharitable remarks of Shri Gupta. However, before the deputation of I.A.S. Association met the Governor, the present Chief Secretary, Mr. M. Ramakrishnayya sent a report by the Governor to the Government of India eulogising the work and conduct of Shri Ramakrishnayya. At that time, you know, there was no Ministry in Orissa. It was under the President's rule. He was the Chief Secretary. He got a report sent. Now, Sir, this answer is suppressing all facts.

I should like to know whether there was an inquiry by the Central Government from the I.A.S. officers association in order to find out whether this is true. I gave a full account to the Home Minister and, I believe, to the Prime Minister also. But, nothing seems to have been done except to write to the State Government and get an account of reply from them. Why a proper inquiry was not made about this criticism by the I.A.S. people, who belong to the Central cadre, I should like to know. From this account it is clear that aspersions were cast on

the Chair and on the House and certain principles and norms had to be laid down which would, of course, make it possible for the Parliament to function. And, this happened when Orissa was under the Central rule. Please remember it that there was no State Assembly at that time. We are entitled to criticise the Orissa Government and its officers, which we did and for that a meeting was called and the Chief Secretary, Mr. Rarnakrishnayya, put up this gentleman, Mr. Rama Murthi who is a crony of him, Mr. Rarnakrishnayya. Everybody knows in Orissa. Was it found out and why the Central Government did not hold an inquiry ?

Yesterday, you heard that a man, who incurred the displeasure of an officer of the Government about Mohan Meakin Breweries, had been hunted and persecuted; how an I.C.S. man, who was the Secretary of the Industrial Development Ministry, wrote the confidential report after his retirement as Cabinet Secretary here. When Mohan Meakin Breweries were offended, Government is up in arms. But when our House is insulted, a Member brings it to the notice of the House and writes to the Government, all that the Government does is to pass it over and then gives a reply. I enquired from Shrimati Nandini Satpathy. She said that Mr. Ramakrishnayya had been relieved now. He is going to Delhi. And, I enquired and found that he is going to become the Secretary of one of the Departments of one of the Ministries of the Government of India.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI (West Bengal) : That shows who is running the Government.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT (Haryana) : Is he coming here as Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : His name is on the panel. He is coming here. Today he will be relieved. I enquired from the Chief Minister of Orissa. She said that she has now nothing to do with him. He is being relieved with effect from today. I have found out and his name is on the panel of people who are to be appointed as Secretary to the Government. Surely, he will be rewarded. He has insulted a Member, he has insulted you, he has insulted the Chair, he has agitated the I.A.S. Association against the Parliament and he wanted to get a resolution passed, which was, of course, stopped as a result of the intervention by other I.A.S. officials.

They did not allow this Resolution to be passed; I have read it out to you. Now I should like to ask the Government of India : is this the way ? I ask the Prime Minister of the country; when I write a letter to the Government of India, when I put a question to her, is this the way to answer such a question ? It would seem that the Prime Minister does not care for the leading members of the Opposition. It is not at all a question of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta being insulted; we have been all our life insulted by the officials we know. It is a question of insult to the House. The Chair has been remarked upon; even the Treasury Benches have been taken to task by the IAS Chief Secretary and his crony, Mr. Ramamurti. Surely the matter should have been seriously gone into. You put the CBI to find out as to whether an M.P. has signed the memorandum or not instead of telephoning him to find out whether he has signed the memorandum or not as was revealed the other day. When such reports are brought to your notice what happens to your CBI, I should like to know.

I have got another point. I might inform the House that I had occasion to criticise Mr. Rarnakrishnayya before when he was in the Government of India as Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. He was brought here really by Mr. Asoka Mehta when he was the Minister in charge virtually from Sarabhai and when he was the Joint Secretary a lot of things came in for criticism. He was in charge of the Chemicals Division as Joint Secretary. At that time he was the man responsible for devising the 5 per cent formula with regard to oil as a result of which we suffered.

SHRI N.R. CHOUDHURY (Assam) : What was the suffering ?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : As a result of that the drug prices rose and the drug firms got 100 per cent profits.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : This Rarnakrishnayya pleaded at that time for the purchase of dental anaesthesia from Sarabhai at a price which was 100 per cent higher than that of an identical product of Gujarat Chemicals. He also pleaded that Sarabhai be permitted to expand production of dental anaesthesia. The Drug Controller rejected the plea for expansion. He was of the opinion that if increased production was to be sanctioned then Gujarat Chemicals should be asked to do it whose price saw much less than

I Shri Bhupesh Gupta ] that of Sarabhai. Mr. Ramakrishnayya overruled the Drug Controller but in turn was luckily overruled by Dr. Triguna Sen who was the Minister in charge then.

DR. R.K. CHAKRABARTI : That was why Dr. Triguna Sen lost his job.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Your interventions are very useful. It is on Mr. Ramakrishnayya's advice that Dr. Sen accepted the dubious proposal to issue a request letter. But then the next day the Ministry said that it would take 10 days to decide. They wanted some days to work pressure to get the order nullified. Mr. Ramakrishnayya who once again found himself on the wrong side of the fence wanted 10 days' .... grace to be given but Mr. B. Mukerjee, Secretary of the Ministry opposed it. Dr. Sen agreed with Mr. Mukerjee and so the freeze order was issued.

Then there are other allegations against him. This is not the first time that Mr. Ramakrishnayya had played his game to scuttle good proposals. It has been his forte. In 1966 the U.S. Federal Court imposed a fine of \$120 million on five giant drug companies for price tiggling and it ordered the distribution of the fine money to hospitals and consumers as compensation. Thereupon India's Ambassador at Washington suggested to New Delhi that it should demand a share of the compensation for at least three of the U.S. firms, Pfizer, Squibb and Cynamid had sold their drugs to India at exorbitant rates. The Health Minister jumped at the idea but Shri Asoka Mehta unfortunately okayed Mr. Ramakrishnayya's rejection of this proposal from our Ambassador in Washington. Thus India did not get any compensation.

Now, this is the gentleman. See past proceedings of those days, as the Joint Secretary of the Petroleum Ministry how many times he has been criticised as a man of big business, a man of the Americans, utterly reactionary by all standards and when he went to Orissa he proved his mettle by taking very wrong stands on everything. Of course, he has been very much against us, persecuting our party, attacking our people, carrying on a campaign against some Congressmen who do not like him. He is a great friend of Mr. Mahatab and others, as everybody knows it. (*Time bell rings*). I am not going into it.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Why should you not go into it ?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am not going into it because there is no end to the story. Finally, I should only like to ask the Government what has happened to him. Will you make him the Vice-President some day ? It seems, if officers abuse us, abuse the Chair, behave in this manner and indulge in corruption of this type, they are selected for promotion. They are tipped for becoming the Secretary of the Government of India. How many times has an IAS officer to commit contempt of Parliament, insult Members of Parliament, agitate in the IAS Officers' Association in such a manner that some of the IAS members themselves could not tolerate this kind of thing, as it happened in the IAS Officers' Association meeting in Bhubaneswar, I should like to know. Are these qualifications to become the Secretary of the Government of India ? I demand this gentleman must not be made the Secretary of the Government of India, because this is the type of man. I demand the Prime Minister should hold an enquiry. There are officers—I have got it from the source there when I was at Bhubaneswar—and I believe them to be correct. There are some IAS Officers who attended the meeting. They could have been met by the CBI. They could have met the Chief Secretary. The Chief Minister should be asked to get an explanation from them. They could talk to the officers who attended the meeting and find out what had happened. If that had been done, if the Chief Minister of Orissa had been ordered to find out from those who attended the meeting as to what happened at the meeting, this account would have come to the Chief Minister and it would have perhaps come to the Government of India. It is the matter of shame that Members of Parliament are not believed. It is a matter of shame that we have to bring it to the notice of the Government of India and the Prime Minister who sleeps over it and treats it as if it is a routine matter. Well, we find that many of you feel strongly whenever we criticise the Prime Minister, as if we have no prestige and you have no prestige. This is not the way to run the Government. This is not the way for the Government to function. This is not the way to run the IAS cadre. In the IAS cadre there are some people who are absolutely corrupt, absolutely bureaucratic, absolutely reactionary, absolutely contemptuous of Parliament. They deride Parliament all the time. Among them, of course, is a man like Mr. B.B. Lai and others, as everybody knows. The Government should give an explanation. I demand a proper enquiry.

What I have sent to the Government of India should be the basis of the inquiry. We are prepared to give other names also. They can go and talk to the newspapermen in Bhubaneswar as to what happened at that meeting. Many of them know it. I have met the newspapermen in Bhubaneswar and they told me, some of them at any rate emphatically told me, that this account is correct. They also heard about it. This is all that I have to say. The reply is most unsatisfactory and is an attempt to cover up the crime, the impudence and the insolence of the Chief Secretary, who is now earmarked to become the Secretary of the Government of India, because he had, well, done so many bad things and lately he has done the kind of thing that I have just brought to your notice.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F.H. MOHSIN) : Sir, the matter first arose during the discussion in Rajya Sabha on the Orissa Appropriation Bill for the year 1973-74, when the hon. Member, Shri Bhupesh Gupta, made certain allegations against Shri M. Ramakrishnayya, Chief Secretary to the Government of Orissa. He had also criticised the Chief Secretary in a press conference addressed by him, which was reported in the Hindustan Standard, Calcutta, dated the 31st July, 1973 and dated the 1st August, 1973.

It was reported that Shri Bhupesh Gupta during a press conference and debate in the Rajya Sabha accused the State bureaucracy in general and the Chief Secretary in particular for alleged changes in the land reform proposals to suit the interests of the propertied class. He was also reported to have described the Chief Secretary as the villain of the piece and had made the allegation that he was in league with Dr. Hare Krishna Mahatab and was sabotaging everything. It was also alleged by Shri Bhupesh Gupta that the Chief Secretary was an arch reactionary and an anti-people officer, and directly in link and collusion with Dr. Mahatab and others who go with Dr. Mahatab. Shri K.C. Pant who was replying to the debate had repudiated the allegation—that was made on 13th August, 1973—made by the hon. Shri Bhupesh Gupta against the State administration. On 27th June, 1974, Shri Bhupesh Gupta wrote a letter to the Prime Minister in which he took exception to the efforts made by some officers to move a resolution at the meeting of the Executive Commi-

tee of the Orissa Branch of the IAS Officers Association condemning Mr. Bhupesh Gupta for his criticism of the Chief Secretary. He had also sent to the Prime Minister his own version of the proceedings of the meeting of the IAS Officers' Association held on 11-8-73. (Interruptions) We have got a different account of the proceedings. You have also got a copy.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He was criticising the Chairman of the House also.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : What is your account ? Place it before the House.

SHRI F.H. MOHSIN : He has also quoted it.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Yes, he has done that.

SHRI F.H. MOHSIN : I will just read out....

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI R. K. MISRA (Rajasthan) Sir, on a point of order. I am raising this point of order that this information which the Minister is going to read in defence of the most unjustifiable and condemnable conduct of the Chief Secretary there, should not be laid before the House. It should not be placed on the record of the House. An honourable senior Member of this House has made certain allegations. Unless an inquiry is made and unless the facts are found out, why should the Government come forward with a statement with the version of that impeached officer, one who is being accused of contempt of this House, contempt of the Chair, contempt of the Members of the Treasury Banches, contempt of the entire House ? Why should it be read and put on record ?

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : I do not agree with Mr. Misra. I think he should read it. Let us know what the Orissa Association has said. And I do not know whether the Minister will swear by the resolution or not. After both the versions are heard, the Minister's version and Mr. Bhupesh Gupta's version, let us see what to do about it.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY : Sir, on a point of order. My point is whether, when a dispute arises between the version of an hon. Member.....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : His version is before the House.

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY : Listen to me first, Sir.

... and that of a member of the bureaucracy, is it fair to make a statement which has been prepared by some IAS officers again, without any personal inquiry by the Minister? Is it fair ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Let us hear what he says.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala) : What he is going to present here is the version prepared by another bureaucrat.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Let us hear his version. Then let us criticise.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I urge upon the Government to go into it.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Shri Bhupesh Gupta had alleged that the Executive Committee had not only criticised him but also the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. It was also alleged that the action on the part of the IAS Officers to condemn him was at the instance of the Chief Secretary who wanted to take revenge on him because he had criticised him on the floor of the Rajya Sabha. He had further complained that the Chief Secretary was taking revenge on the supporters of his party. He had also further stated that the facts furnished by him as proceedings of the meeting are not recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

The source or the basis of the version of the proceedings of the meeting of the Executive Committee as given by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, is not clear even today, in as much as the minutes of the meeting do not reflected the substance of what Mr. Bhupesh Gupta has stated. Sir, since the officers against whom allegations were made by Shri Bhupesh Gupta are working in connection with the affairs of the State Government, his letter to the Prime Minister was forwarded by the Prime Minister's Secretariat

to the Government of Orissa for such action as may be necessary.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : To whom?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : To the Government of Orissa.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sent it to the Chief Secretary ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : The Chief Minister also would be there. The Government is not run by the Chief Secretary. The Chief Minister and the Ministry are there.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You do not address the letter to the Government of Orissa. You must say, so and so of the Government of Orissa.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : That is the usual procedure.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Did the letter go to the Chief Minister or the Chief Secretary ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : I am sorry, those details are not with me now.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : So, it went to the same Chief Secretary. You are not denying that position.

*(Interruption)*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : To whom was the letter addressed ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : I am unable to say. Those details are not with me now.

*(Interruption)*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : On a point of order. The hon. Minister said the letter was written to the Government of Orissa. I want to know to whom the letter was exactly addressed and who had replied to that letter—the name of that person and his designation.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : My information now is that the letter was sent to the Chief Minister.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : And the reply was sent by the Chief Minister ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : I will come to that. Please wait. On July 3, 1974 Shri Bhupesh Gupta also wrote to the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha complaining about the conduct of the IAS officers borne on the State cadre of Orissa. The Secretary-General of the Rajya Sabha

sent a copy of Shri Bhupesh Gupta's letters addressed to the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha to our Minister of State in the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms, requesting for the facts of the case for the information of the Chairman. Then a letter was addressed to the Secretary-General of the Rajya Sabha by our Department.

Sir, the Government of Orissa, who were also requested to furnish facts of the case, have stated that according to the report made by the President of the Orissa Branch of the IAS Officers' Association, in no meeting of the Association either the Chairman or any Member of the Rajya Sabha was ever criticised. However, in the meeting of the Executive Committee, held on 11-8-1973 the Association in a resolution only expressed its distress over some derogatory remarks made on the floor of the House against a member of the service and the Association felt that such criticism of individual officers who were not in a position to defend themselves was a sad development. The Chief Secretary was not present at the meeting. The Chief Secretary is also not a member of the Executive Committee. Therefore, the question of the Chief Secretary criticising the Chairman or a member of the Rajya Sabha does not arise. He was neither a member of the Executive Committee nor was he present at the meeting. Some members of the Association conveyed to the Governor the feelings of the Association and requested him to take up the matter with the Central Government. The reply of the State Government was also sent with the approval of the Chief Minister of Orissa. Sir, a copy of that resolution was also sent by the Government of Orissa which I would like to read out for the information of the House.

"The Executive Committee of the IAS Association, Orissa Branch, expressed its deep distress over some derogatory remarks made on the floor of Parliament against member of the service and felt criticism of individual officers who are in no position to defend themselves is a very sad development which should be brought to the notice of the authorities."

It was resolved that a deputation from the executive committee should wait on the Governor, convey to him the feeling of the association and request him to take up the matter with the Union Government.....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : On a point of order. This executive committee resolution has been given as a Government answer. I could have understood if the answer is, We invite your attention to the executive committee, and so on. But in answer to a question addressed to the Prime Minister, executive committee's resolution verbatim has been repeated. Is that the way to answer question ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Anyway, I have not completed the resolution. It was further resolved that the Central IC and AS association may be requested to take such steps as they deem proper to ensure that due protection was given to members of public services in future.

Thus, according to the information furnished by the Government of Orissa, the executive committee of the IAS officers' association did not pass any resolution criticising the speech of a Member of Parliament on the floor of Rajya Sabha for his critical remarks against the Chief Secretary. As regards Shri Gupta's allegation against the Chief Secretary that he has made some changes in the land reforms, I need not go into it because it does not concern the issue before us and I do not think I should take the time of the House on that —

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : May I ask the Minister whether, when Government employees' association....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : First let him finish.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He is insulting the House. He has been reading out the executive committee's resolution, a resolution of the IAS officers' association, as if it is the gospel truth. But do you, gentleman, accept when the Government employees' trade union executive and other trade union executives pass resolutions 'I' No, you reject it. You never adopt it as your own. When it comes from the IAS officers' association and when their president brings it to your notice, you say it is ours .....

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : The Deputy Minister is almost a servant of the IAS.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Surely, I am a servant of the people.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : No, you are a servant of the IAS.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : No, no, it cannot *hi*.

Then, Sir, if the Members are interested I would even go into the other thing. The Orissa Legislative Assembly had completed consideration of all clauses, 21 clauses, of the Land Reforms Bill 1973... (*Interruption*) But, Sir, it is strictly not relevant to the present thing...

SHRI R. K. MISHRA : I want to know whether the Government...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR): No, you have not given your name. Please sit down. Now I call Mr. Niren Ghosh.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : One minute. For your information most of the facts I narrated and the allegation I made against the Chief Secretary, I confirmed most of the things from your Congress leader also. Now they may say different things. What I said on the floor of the House, most of the facts were supplied to me, apart from my party people, by your own party people....

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : That only goes to show you do not believe in the Orissa Government.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Even if they sign, they disown their signatures.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN ( SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Now Mr. Niren Ghosh.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I say this is the most dangerous development and the attitude of the Government itself portends danger to the future functioning of parliamentary democracy as it exists now or whatever is left of it. This IAS cadre is the continuation of the British Steel Frame. I may tell the Minister, if any day the workers and peasants should come to power, they will disband this staff; their first duty would be to disband the entire IAS gallery...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR): Please ask your questions.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I am coming to them. I say that these people are a gang of gangsters; they are an enemy of India.

I say it with full responsibility, with my entire experience. Barring a few, all of them are such anti-people, pro-monopoly, pro-landlord and it is they who rule the roost. Who is this Deputy Minister ? He cannot make a brief of his own...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : You ask him your question.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : He reads out the brief prepared by them and still he is the Minister of the Government of India...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You know how the Ministers protect them. Yesterday I accused, one senior officer had signed and written confidential note after two years of his retirement. Shri Subramaniam answered: "I do not know." I may tell you that officer, Shri Swaminathan, who was the Secretary of the Industry Ministry, after two years of his retirement wrote a confidential note against an officer who opposed the expansion of Mohan Meakin Breweries. Shri Swaminathan helped Goldwater and sanctioned licence to them. Not only that, after two years when the entry became due, he wrote that after his retirement which is not permissible by the rules. The Minister here, yesterday, said: "I do not know". Ask Mr. Subramaniam to find out whether Mr. T. Swaminathan did write the note in the confidential report after his retirement as the Cabinet Secretary.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : You do not know that Shri C. Subramaniam is in collusion with all the fishy IAS people and the monopolists and the American blue boys. Who does not know that because of that virtue he is gracing the Cabinet of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Who does not know that?

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : I fully agree with the hon. Member that either we should abolish this House completely or abolish the IAS...

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : This particular public servant... (*Interruptions*).

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN (Kerala): At least sack the Minister... (*Interruption*)

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : This particular man who was made Secretary or Joint Secretary of the Petroleum and Chemicals Division tried to trap Dr. Triguna Sen because Dr.



Triguna Sen resisted him. He made a proposal to the Cabinet that the entire oil refineries—not 74 per cent, but 100 per cent—should be taken over and nationalised. That is why he was edged out of the Cabinet and he was edged out of Parliament also. This man is responsible for that...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : All this has been said by Shri Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I am adding a new dimension to it. The dimension is that because Dr. Triguna Sen recommended 100 per cent take-over—not merely 74 per cent take-over—of the oil refineries, to the Cabinet, he was sent out. The Cabinet cold-shouldered it and put it in cold storage in collusion with this IAS gang who are very much fattened by the monopolists, both Indian and foreign. For this reason, Dr. Triguna Sen was edged out of the Cabinet. I have made this state ment several times and never it has been repudiated. They do not have the courage, because I have told the truth.

Sir, I would like a Parliamentary probe to be instituted into the assets of all the IAS officers. Their pay ranges between Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 3,000 or something like that. You will know then how they live in palatial buildings... (*Interruptions*)...

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : With this salary they cannot build houses in Vasant Vihar and other such areas.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : You will know then how they live in such palatial buildings and have benami accounts for lakhs and lakhs and lakhs. I say, 'lakhs and lakhs.' So, if a parliamentary probe is conducted into the affairs of each and every IAS officer, it will be found how corrupt they are. Sir, our Secretary General, with a salary of something like three thousand to four thousand rupees....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He does not get that much.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Mr. Banerjee, how much are you getting ? What amount do you get ? More than three thousand rupees ?... Sir, with that amount, with more than three thousand rupees, he cannot maintain a car...

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : With salary of about three thousand rupees after payment of all the taxes, you cannot expect to build houses in Vasant Vihar.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, he cannot maintain a car. But these fellows sitting there are having benami accounts, black money accounts, for lakhs and lakhs of rupees and they own palatial buildings in their names, in the names of others and in the names of various other categories.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Your question is over.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I say, Sir, that the reply of the Government, and the Deputy Minister, is an insult to this Parliament. The attitude of the Government is an insult to the Parliament. I not only demand a parliamentary probe into the whole affair, but also I demand that this particular officer must be suspended immediately and till this probe is finished, he should be given no assignment whatsoever. Either this House or this Government stands by the bureaucrats because it is the bureaucracy which is ruling the roast. Who does not know the role of the Research and Analysis Wing and the role of the Cabinet Secretariat and all that? We all know something of these things and we know something of their role and we know the role they play is only sinister and sly and it is necessary that there should be a probe. It is not only Mr. Bhupesh Gupta and all of us who have been insulted. But the whole House has been insulted and the Government is a party to that and this Government should be kicked out. Either the Parliament exists or this Government exists, either of the two. Either of the two— that is what I say.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : The Minister should also be suspended till the inquiry is over because he has made this statement.

SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA (West Bengal) : Sir, I charge the Government with having made this type of cadre, which has been ruling us since the days of the British. Sir, still they are sending this officer cadre for higher training in administration to London. Sir, I want to know whether the Government will give an assurance here in the I House that they would probe into this matter I and give us a correct picture regarding the

[Shri Sanat Kumar Raha]

scandalous affairs, regarding the activities of these people and also will make clear the functions of the MPs, their functioning in this august House vis-a-vis the role of the IAS officers. Sir, I think both sides of the House are unanimous in this demand and would be agreeable to have this probe into the whole matter. Will the Government give us an assurance that they would probe into this matter, fully and give us the true picture, give us the details as to what happened in the meeting of the IAS Officers' Association and what steps the Government will take if the charges made by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta are proved to be correct. This is my first question.

The second point that I would like to make is that the atmosphere in the administrative field is day by day degenerating. At every level, starting from the junior officer up to the senior most officer, there is degeneration. I want to ask whether, if the Ministers are not able to have a grip over them, they will tell us in this House that they are not competent enough to tackle the bureaucracy, because, if they cannot, the House will settle what the future course should be.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the Resolution, as read out by the hon. Deputy Minister, is a dilution in words of what Mr. Bhupesh Givpia had read out. I would like to know, when they sent the copy of the letter which Mr. Bhupesh Gupta had sent, did they just get a routine reply even from the Chief Minister that the Resolution had been passed? Here, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta has given a verbatim record of the proceedings of the IAS Officers' Association. May I know from the hon. Deputy Minister whether they have verified that there is nothing wrong with these proceedings? Finally, they might have passed the Resolution. But was such a Resolution, as referred to by Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, moved in the meeting at all or not by one Mr. K. Ramamurty, IAS? That is one thing. This document itself says that the Resolution was moved and some officers opposed the Resolution, that it should not be passed in this language I would like to know this from him. If he says that he does not know, that will reflect on the efficiency of the Ministry and the relationship between the Central Government and the State Government.

Either the State Government is evading the issue or the Central Government is not trying to get the correct information...

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : They are shielding...

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : That only shows... *(Interruption)*. Let us know this, and we can have our own opinion on this. Here, Sir, the names of Mr. Bhupesh Gupta and others have been mentioned. Were these things discussed? Was such a Resolution sought to be moved there, which may not ultimately have been passed?

The second thing is that when there is a representative Government, you can criticize. But, Sir, when there is President's rule, you cannot criticize the Governor. What is the way for Members of Parliament and other people to criticize? That is relevant. These IAS Officers have the audacity to say that they are untouchable; they cannot be touched by anybody. They are super humans. What does this mean? What does this mean when they have a feeling that 'the King does no wrong' they are the 'kings' of India. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what is the view of the Government in this respect? Can they be criticised or not in regard to a particular policy? In the particular situation when Mr. Bhupesh Gupta criticized, in President's rule, what is the position of the Government of India in this respect? I would like to know.

Sir, I am not fully agreeable with Mr. Niren Ghosh and other that all IAS Officers and bureaucrats should be criticized. *..(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I have not said that. I have said : Barring a few...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Even among the IAS officers, there are two castes. Yesterday I brought the case of an IAS officer. We saw how that officer was persecuted, because he did not favour Mohan Meakin Breweries. His report was written by Mr. Swaminathan after his retirement as Cabinet Secretary, two years, after the report became due... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : I agree with Mr. Bhupesh Gupta in the sense that the only remark against him remains that he does not

have a team spirit, because he is not in team, with other Secretaries in favour of the monopolists. That is, his team spirit is not there and he is suffering even now.

There is another point. It is no use merely criticising the officers and Secretaries. If the political leadership of the country and if the Ministry is very clear and determined about his programme, no I.A.S. officer can stand in his way. The basic thing is the non-clarity and non-determination of the political leadership. I do not think that the political leadership of the country is very clear even about the land reforms. They are not being implemented because of their non-clarity and their weak determination. So, Sir, we should not put all the blame on the officers and the bureaucracy. I know that they are the permanent civil servants. If the political leadership is very clear in their minds, then the bureaucracy do not have the guts to stand in the way.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have to become a shareholder of Mohan Meakin Breweries in order to get an I.A.S. Officer prosecuted.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : My questions are only three. Firstly, have they got the details of the meeting that was held and were these things talked of there ? If these things were talked about and the resolution was passed, may I know what action do you proposed to take against them ? Whatever the State Government may say, the I.A.S. people are under the Home Ministry. Secondly, under the President's rule, have we got the right to criticise the officers or not ? And thirdly, does the political leadership feel that the bureaucracy has to be contained ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN) : Sir, at the outset, I must say that I am not happy at the words used by Mr. Niren Ghosh about the bureaucracy in general. There might be bad I.A.S. Officers. But there are good officers also.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I said, "Barring some".

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : You please continue.

SHRI F.H. MOHSIN : You called them all gangsters. It is very unfair. These unpleasant remarks could have been avoided,

It is a very rude expression. When Mr. Niren Ghosh's party was ruling in Kerala and West Bengal, did they root out all these I.A.S. officers ?

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : You have framed a Constitution in which you give protection to them. That is why we could not do it. Otherwise, radical changes would have been there.

*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I have never blamed all officers. Yesterday, we pointed out the case of Mr. Seth and how he has been prosecuted because Mr. Lai did not like him.

*(Interruptions)*

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : There are some good officers like Mr. N. K. Seth. But you are prosecuting them.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Hon. Members have made allegations. They should have the courtesy to listen to me.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN (Tamil Nadu) : On a point of order, Sir. Ours is a democracy. Has any citizen of India the right to criticise another citizen of India ? Leave the I.A.S. alone. Ours is a democracy and we have not changed the democratic system in this country. Therefore, has any citizen of India the right to criticise another citizen of India ? We are not following the bureaucratic system.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : This is no point of order. Please take your seat.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN : Whether any citizen of India can criticise another citizen of India...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Please take your seat.

SHRI G. LAKSHMANAN : I want a ruling, Sir. I want to know whether it is an IAS Officer or a politician, in our democracy, can he criticise another citizen of India.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Don't make general rules here. If you want, you can criticise anybody. Please take your seat.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, I am on a point of order. Shri Mohsin said that I said, "all, each and 100 per cent of IAS officers." And he just now says this. After having said that, he should have the courage to speak to you. I am again and again repudiating it. I say that there are some good officers. Barring them, the apparatus taken as a whole is a gangster apparatus. I say let the proceedings be dug out and let the Minister be chided by the Chair. Otherwise, you chide me...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Mr. Ghosh, we have already taken one hour. We will have to finish by 6 p.m. Let him continue.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Sir, another point he has made out is that the assets of the IAS and ICS officers should be enquired into, and that action should be taken. Sir, we cannot make any enquiry into such general allegation against all officers. If my hon. friend has got a definite allegation against any particular officer or a particular set of officers, we can certainly go into it....

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Sir, on a point of order...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : No please. Let him finish his point first. We cannot go on in this way at every step.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : Sir, he just now said that if any specific case is brought to his notice, he will look into it. We have made specific allegations in the past...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : You can ask a separate question about that.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : He will never look into them.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : There is the Vigilance Commission who would go into all these allegations of corruption and all that. There are so many agencies to look into the allegations of corruption. Sir, if the hon. Members have got any specific information about it and if they could convey it to us, we will certainly go into it. It is rather unfair to make a general observation that all IAS and ICS officers have made lots of money and got so many assets... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : ... You should see to it that some Minister replies. What is he doing ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Mr. Ghosh, I am replying. If I cannot satisfy you, I cannot help it. Whatever I say, I say on behalf of the Government and not as Mr. Mohsin. I know that nobody can satisfy Mr. Ghosh. Sir, he also said...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Now he is satisfied with this remark.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Sir, he also made a remark against the Ministers. Of course, I am a Deputy Minister and I am not a Cabinet Minister. I am a Deputy Minister. But it is unfair to say that the IAS officers are ruling, they make all the briefs and that we come and read them. The Government is not run like that. *(Interruptions)*. When my name is taken, I have got a right to say about that. I cannot tolerate it.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : You just read out some documents...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : Mr. Kurian, if you don't want a reply from the Government, I will adjourn the House. You are standing on every point.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Sir, they had also an occasion to rule in Kerala and West Bengal. Perhaps, they may be telling their own experiences ... *(Interruptions)* It is not definitely the practice with us.

6 p. M.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Sir, we as Ministers are all responsible for any act done by us irrespective of the fact whoever may prevent us or whosoever may help us. It is the responsibility of the Ministers as a whole and we take full responsibility for all these things.

DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN : You take the brief of Under Secretaries.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Your Government also must have done the same thing, if you know how the Government runs.

Sir, Mr. Krishan Kant has raised a question whether we have tried to secure the proceedings

From the Association. Sir, as I have already stated we had asked the Government of Orissa to furnish us with these proceedings and the facts of the case. According to the report made by the President of the Orissa Branch of the I.A.S. Officers' Association, they have stated that in no meeting of the Association, either the Chairman or any Member of the Rajya Sabha was ever criticised. However, in a meeting of the Executive Committee held on 11-8-1973, the Association in a Resolution only expressed its distress over some derogatory remarks made on the floor of the House made against a Member of that service and the Association felt that such criticism of individual officers who were not in a position to defend themselves was a sad development.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : What have you read out ? At least Rajya Sabha figured in the discussion. You have admitted. Did you find out as to who that person was whose remarks were criticised ?

Sir I have told you, they have not given the name after the difficulty. I know that they are trying to hush it up. That is why I asked you to inquire. Why did you not inquire from the other I.A.S. officers who attended that meeting ? Why are you again and again talking about the President and some other people who are actually the cronies of the Chief Secretary. There were others also.

SHRI F. H. MOHSTN : Very simple, when they make a reference to a Member of Parliament on the floor of Parliament, against a member of the service, it must have reference to Mr. Bhupesh Gupta. We can infer it.

Sir, I am sorry, I do not have the full proceedings of the Association held on that day, as asked for by Mr. Krishan Kant. If the House desires, we will make a request to the Orissa Government for the same. We will ask for full particulars of the proceedings, if the House so wants it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : May I have an assurance that till this matter is not cleared, this gentleman will not be made Secretary to the Government of India ?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Yes. Yes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Do I have an assurance ? Are you prepared to hold the investigation ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : How can I ?

Sir, a point was also made as to why the C.B.I. inquiry or any other inquiry should not be made from the Centre here. Sir, the complaint was in connection with the affairs of the State Government and when Mr. Bhupesh Gupta wrote to the Prime Minister it contained matters pertaining to the State Government and naturally we had to ask the State Government only. We cannot make any direct inquiries because it may cause so many other complications and embarrassing situations and it would thus be very unwise on our part to make inquiries when there is a State and when there is a State Government functioning there, it would be very unwise for us to make any inquiries from here.

**श्री श्री सिंह शेखावत (मध्य प्रदेश) :** मेरा वादन्त थाफ आइर है ।

**उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री जगदीश प्रसाद साधु) :** थाफ कवशचन नहीं कर सकते हैं ।

**श्री श्री सिंह शेखावत :** मेरा वादन्त थाफ आइर है । मैं चेयर में पुर रहा हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय ने जो चीजें कहा कि आई० ए० एस० आफिसरों ने एक रैजलैक्शन पास किया है जिसमें कहा गया है कि पालियामेंट में राज्य सभा हो या लोकसभा हो उसमें आफिसरों के खिलाफ "डिरेक्टरी" बर्तें पत्र किये जाते हैं तो क्या इस प्रकार से रैजलैक्शन पास करना पालियामेंट की अक्तिंग पर रिस्पेक्शन नहीं है ? इस संबंध में मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्रस्ताव उन्होंने पास किया है उस पर सरकार का रिस्पेक्शन क्या है ? क्या सरकार यह मानकर चलती है कि पालियामेंट में आई० ए० एस० आफिसरों के प्रति डिरेक्टरी बर्तें पत्र किये जाते हैं, लेकिन वे अपने आपकी डिपेंडेंस नहीं कर पाते हैं ? सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कहती है, उस बारे में मैं जानकारी चाहता हूँ ।

SHRI F.H. MOHSIN : I do agree that Members of Parliament have got the right to criticise the functioning of officers.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Have you understood the feeling and sentiments of the House ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : Otherwise Parliament cannot be called supreme. We have got the supreme power to criticise the acts of the Government which may consist of the Ministers and also the officers of the Government. We have got the right of criticism.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Have you understood the feeling and sentiments of the House ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : . Surely. I have understood the feelings of the House and we will convey the feelings of the House.

श्री भूपेश गुप्ता : उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, इससे यह परिणाम निकलता है कि जो रिजोल्यूशन पास किया गया है, सरकार उसको उचित नहीं समझती है। क्या माननीय मन्त्री महोदय यह कह सकते हैं कि आई० ए० एस० आफिसरों ने जो प्रस्ताव पास किया है, केन्द्रीय सरकार उसको उचित नहीं समझती है ?

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN : I can only say that they could have avoided this kind of embarrassing position.

\*^ MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

**The Indian Iron and Steel Company  
(Taking Over of Management) Amendment  
Bill, 1974**

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir. I to report to the House the following message

received from the Lok Sabha signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha :

"In accordance with the provisions of Rule I 20 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to inform that Lok Sabha, at its sitting held on the 30th August 1974 agreed without any amendment to the Indian Iron and Steel Company (Taking Over of Management) Amendment Bill, 1974, which was passed by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th August, 1974.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR) : The House stands adjourned till 11.00 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at seven minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Saturday, the 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1974.