

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They have misconceived my question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: By talking longer you might complicate matters.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Talking in a particular manner, I am making it more intelligible to them. What I submit to you is that they have appointed their S.P.E. to investigate as a result of which this action has been taken. Do I understand from them that the S.P.E. is also investigating into the allegations in regard to the other concerns and whether any such action is in contemplation? This is what I should like to know.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) ; As the hon. Member has himself said, at least it appears that he recognizes and appreciates that the S.P.E. has done its duty and is doing it. I do not think I am called upon to give an assurance that it will go on doing its duty. Naturally it will.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You do not think it is necessary? What about the other concerns?

**RE CERTAIN REFERENCES TO THE
PERSONAL SAFETY OF SHRI
JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN**

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I am not concerned with it. You remember yesterday an hon. Member raised the question of a threat to the life of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan and we requested you to ask the Home Ministry to let us know what arrangements they have made for his protection. Now the hon. Home Minister is here, the Minister of State in the Home Ministry is also here and they might make some statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should have left the initiative to the Minister and not repeated it because you have not

informed me that you would be raising this point today.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): It was raised yesterday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: *it* the Minister is to make a statement, he will make it today or tomorrow or not make it. He will let me know but you cannot raise it everyday.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA): I would not like to keep the hon. Member in suspense and if it is your desire, I shall say whatever I have to say. There is nothing very much to be said. I will elucidate a point of doubt which might arise, in consequence of what the hon. Member, Shri Chandra Shekhar, said yesterday in the course of his observations. I find in the report of his speech that he referred to the Home Minister, to me, and he ascribes to me a certain statement. He says that the Home Minister expressed himself a day before that Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan was preaching a dangerous thing in the country. This is not at all true. I said nothing of the kind. Therefore this is wrong entirely.

Then there is also a further reference to the question of Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan being threatened by expressing his views and it is further said that Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan has made it clear that the Home Minister is aware of all these facts. I have checked up with some friends, who were present—for instance, my colleague was present there at the time when Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan spoke. And I am informed that Shri Jayaprakash Narayan himself did not say any such thing. He did not refer to any threat. What he said was that some friends told him that it was their feeling that in view of the statements that he had been making he should take care of himself—it was that kind of thing. Now this is different from saying that he has received threats and that the Home Ministry knows

about this. Neither of these things is true. And if anything requires to be done . . .

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE (Uttar Pradesh) : May I know whether any efforts have been made to ascertain from Shri Jayaprakash Narayan whether those friends who have advised him to be careful about his safety . . .

SHRI GULZARIDAL NANDA: And if anything requires to be done. Sir, I hope, Shri Jayaprakash Narayan and his friends, his friends particularly, will know what should be done about it. But as far as I am concerned, I know Shri Jayaprakash Narayan's value to the nation. He is a highly esteemed friend of ours and certainly we would not tolerate anything in the nature of a threat to him. Some may be entirely exaggerating something when he himself does not feel that there is a threat to him. He only said that some friends told him so. If he himself feels that there is any kind of threat to him, it will certainly become our duty to do whatever we should, but we also hope he will also cooperate; in such matters co-operation is required.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh): I want one clarification.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want a clarification and someone else wants a clarification, I cannot go on allowing it indefinitely. Then I would be very strict.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Sir, have I not the right to explain my own position? Because the hon. Minister said that whatever I said was untrue, have I not the right of personal clarification? I may be allowed to make personal clarifications.

SHRI N. PATRA (Orissa): This hon. Member was making an exaggerated statement without ascertaining facts when Shri Jayaprakash Narayan himself does not feel insecure about his life. He should not be allowed to do so in future.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I shall give a reply to that also. 236 RS—4

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you can be brief, you would oblige me.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: I shall be very brief, Sir. The reported statement by Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, to which I referred, has been reported in all the papers of India, and the statement is that, while expressing his opinion on the communal situation in the country, Mr. Nanda said that Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan was giving a highly exaggerated view of the situation and it was very dangerous. Another thing. At the *Anuvrat* meeting Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan said that many friends had warned him that there was danger to his personal safety, to his life. And Mr. Jaisukhlal Hathi was present there. The question I raised was whether the Home Ministry was convinced that there was no danger to the personal safety of Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan. Instead of replying to this question and taking into consideration this aspect of the situation, the Home Minister was satisfied by making certain remarks here and there, by hitting below the belt and saying that all allegations and observations were wrong. So I want one clarification, a categorical assurance from the Home Minister whether he is in a position to say to this House and to the country that there is absolutely no danger to the personal safety of Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan, and if there is any danger he will nip it in the bud. (Interruptions.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please listen. I shall not ask for that assurance because that sort of assurance cannot be given to anybody, neither to you nor to me; it cannot be given to anybody. It is futile to ask for it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR: Will Government take care of the safety of Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan? I want to know that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have said they will do everything to protect him, which they cannot say about anybody and everybody.