

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

11

फाइल सं.  
File No. C/551/5/72-JP

मंत्रालय External Affairs  
Ministry of

खण्ड  
Volume Part II

East Asia Division विभाग  
कार्यालय

टिप्पणियां/पत्राचार

NOTES/CORRESPONDENCE

Department of Office

अनुभाग  
SECTION

विषय  
Subject

को सूचीकृत की गई  
Indexed on

आवधर  
Initials

Matters Relating to Netaji Inquiring  
Commission:-

अभिलेख क/ख  
Record A/B

अभिलेख ग में नष्ट की जाए  
Record C. Destroy in

अनुभागीय नोट बुक में नोट किया जाए  
नोट न किया जाए

To be noted In Sectional Note Book  
Not to be noted

अनु. अ०/अधीक्षक के आवधर  
Initials of S. O./Supdt.

लिपिक के आवधर  
Initials of Clerk

Notes — P-1-10  
Cortegandua P-1-127

Ct. B.

Pl. return to 1995

9-4-1995

पिछले हवाले  
Previous References

Vol. I 4 C/551/5/72-JP.

Dedgedist

बादे के हवाले  
Later References

1. C/551/5/72-JP - Part III

More than 30 yrs  
keep @ Sachy  
16/12/15

(गौतम गुप्ता)  
(GAUTAM GUPTA)

उप सचिव (ए एंड एम. एम.)  
Secretary (A&RM)

मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली  
Ministry of External Affairs

एच० ९७ (अतिरिक्त) / ओ० एण्ड० एम० ५४  
S. 97 (U. reached) O. & M-58.

प्रशासनिक ०५-१९ जनरल/७३-७४-भासमूटेक-(सी-९६)-१२-२-७६-५०,००,०००.  
MGIPTC-123-19 General/73-74-GIPTC-(C-96)-12-2-76-50,00,000

RECEIVED  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
OF INDIA



~~S.No (48)~~

①

Ministry of External Affairs

Subject: Netaji Enquiry Commission's visit to Taipei.

s.(48)

A copy of a letter from Shri Samar Guha to P.M. may please be seen. I had submitted a draft reply to this letter and F.M. had approved it before his departure for Ottawa. He had suggested, however, that the draft reply be shown informally to Mr. Justice Khosla. Thereafter, the Minister of State may like to submit the draft reply to P.M. for direction whether it should issue under his signature or whether P.M. would like to reply herself. If P.M. herself wishes to reply to Shri Samar Guha, the draft may be the basis of her letter.

2. The draft has been shown to Mr. Justice Khosla and he has no comments to offer.

3. Since then, Shri Samar Guha has given Advance Notice of a Question on this subject in the Lok Sabha and the Lok Sabha have asked us for facts. These have been supplied to the Lok Sabha Secretariat

Secretariat

V.C. Trivedi  
(V.C. Trivedi)  
Secretary (East)  
4-8-1973

~~Minister of State~~  
Secretary to P.M.

Secretary P.M. may please see.

6/8/73

It will be better if the reply goes from F.M. or in his absence, from M.O.S.

P.M. may  
10/8

Secy (East)

F.M. may not like to write to Shri Samar Guha as in the DFA. I have consulted M.O.S.

V.C. Trivedi  
13/8

Action taken

5554-Div (EA)/73  
25/8

By No. 4450 Secy (East)/73  
Dated 25/8/73

No. 1236  
Date 2/8

477-5548/73  
16/8

5629  
6/8

6753/73

10/8

17/7/73  
13/8  
95501

F.M. 12  
13/8

1/8

May issue. S.No (48) issue

Sauje

13/8 P.M. send a copy of the FR and reply (John Vasudevan)



S. no. (52) Receipt

S. no. (53) Issue

S. nos. (54) + (55) Receipts

Previous papers please.

ed/ P. K. Goyal  
18. X. 73

Submitted.

Chand  
20/10/73

S. no. (56) Issue

US J,



Ministry of External Affairs  
Part I Registry

D-7758-P2 173

PR 51(57)

East Asia Division are having  
papers on Nelay. Sulehas  
Chauder Bost. FR may be  
therefore, be passed on to  
them

D. 10817/EA/73  
5/11

M.S.  
10.X.73

J. Mahasenan  
11/11

MCC, East Asia Division

USCP

Dir EA may kindly see the F.R.  
and the flagged paper. So far no  
reply seems to be sent on the subject ①  
of the FR. Subject ② does not concern  
this Ministry, but the Mpi of Ex 502

Shri  
5.11.73

D. 6366 - JS (EA) 1/11  
Dir EA

7412 AMED/73  
10/11 7268 AMED/73  
2285 - Dir (EA)/73  
5/11

JS may like to see the FR. Shri Suman  
Gobin point at ① is the same as made  
in his letter to P.M. of the 25th July (Dr. no. 48),  
a copy of which was sent to MATA, as it  
concerns them.

PSA JS (EA) desired to  
see this file again  
7/11

An n.a.  
M. K. Gupta  
USCP  
12/11

JS (EA) The letter only  
be found a to MATA  
11/11



SECRET

No. C/551/5/72-JA

Vol - II

Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

Subject: - Matters relating to Netaji Inquiry Commission.

D. 4143/EAD/73

S. no. (1) Receipt

S. no. (2) Issue

D. 564-USJ, 1/73

S. no. (3) Receipt

On file please.

Sd/- S.K. Uppal  
2.5.73

Put up as desired please.

Recd  
3.5.73

USJ

S. No. 3/5

S. No. (4) Issue

S. No. (5) Receipt

S. No. (6) Issue

D. 5038/EAD/73

S. no. (7) Receipt

S. no. (8) Issue

T-631/EAD/73

S. no. (9) Receipt

Please communicate this to Min. of Finance.

Sd/- K.K.S. Rana  
31.5.73

(Note)

N.A. Taken.

Sd/- G.S. Iyer  
2.6.73

S. no. (10) Issue



D. 5655/EAD/73

S.M. (11) Receipt

D. 5707/EAD/73

S.M. (12) Receipt

On file please.

sd/-S.K. Uppal  
19.6.73

Submitted. S.M. (4) is relevant.

Almond  
20/6/73

us J

Sumit  
21/6.

S. no. (13) Issue

D. 5709/EAD/73

S. no. (14) Receipt

S. no. (15) Issue

D. 5775/EAD/73

S. no. (16) Receipt

S. no. (17) Issue

D. 6031/EAD/73

S. no. (18) Receipt

On file please.

sd/-S.K. Uppal  
3.7.73

Submitted.

Almond  
5/7/73

us J

Issue enter below Sumit

S. no. (19) Issue

D. 6022/EAD/73

S. no. (20) Receipt

D. 6042/EAD/73

S. no. (21) Receipt

D. 6254-EAD-73

S. no. (22) Receipt



D. 6079/EAD/73

S. no. (23) Receipt

for information. Message conveyed to Shri  
Chopra on phone and copies sent to him and MHA.

~~JA (EA)~~

~~JA (EA)~~

Sd/- S. K. Uppal  
4.7.73

Sd/- K. K. S. Rana  
4.7.73

Sd/- V. V. Paranjpe  
5.7.73

S. no. (24) Issue

S. no. (25) Receipt



SECRET

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

S. No. (26) news item

Placed below is an item which appeared in the HINDU dated 12.7.73 on the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan. The item is by the HINDU correspondent normally based in Tokyo and makes the following points:-

- a) The Secretary of the Commission, Mr.S.L.Chopra, wrote a letter to the Government in Taiwan addressing it to the "Government of Formosa, Foreign Department".
- b) That visas for the members of the Commission were given on the intercession of the India-China-Burma Cultural Association of Taipei and the India-Free-China Friendship Society in Delhi;
- c) The work of the Netaji Inquiry Commission would require official cooperation and, according to Mr. Samar Guha, the (Taiwanese) Government is willing to cooperate with the Commission provided the latter formally approaches it for assistance;
- d) The item also states that Indian official agencies such as the STC and MMTC have considerable commercial relations with Taiwan and address their letters to the "Republic of China".

2. The decision to allow the Netaji Inquiry Commission to go to Taiwan to collect evidence was taken after Shri Samar Guha, MP, in a letter to the Prime Minister had suggested that the visit to Taiwan by the Netaji Inquiry Commission could be arranged through unofficial channels without involving the Government of India directly in requesting the Government of Taiwan for such a visit. The visit was ultimately cleared on the specific condition that all political involvement would be avoided.

3. In reply to a communication from MHA on the subject, JS(EA) had specifically suggested, vide letter dated 9th Feb.1973, the following :-

- a) If the Commission decides to go to Taiwan, interviews should be arranged through unofficial channels;
- b) It would not be advisable to use the good offices of any friendly associations (like the Taiwan-India-Friendship Association or any civic association);
- c) Interviews with members of the Taiwan Foreign Office or Taiwanese personalities were to be avoided and anything which was likely to be construed as political involvement with Taiwan steered clear of.

dat. 23.12.72

Tag B

Tag A

4653-2260/133  
13/2



4. We may bring the above news item to the attention of MHA requesting information they might have on the letter allegedly written by the Secretary of the Commission to the "Government of Formosa" and also on the statement made by Shri Samar Guha that the Government (of Taiwan) would provide assistance on being approached formally. It is quite likely that this question will be raised during the next session of Parliament.

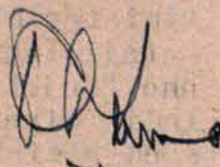
Nambiar

(V. K. Nambiar)  
US(FE) 13.7.73

Director(EA)

As proposed, pl. write an "Amendments" letter to MHA.

Regarding point (d) of para 1 pl. write to STC and MMTC for an urgent clarification.

  
17/7

6653  
1039-US(FE)/73  
17/7/73

US(FE) has seen. done by 17/7

S. nos. (27) to (29) issue

D. 6566/EAD/73

S. no. (30) receipt-

S. no. (31) issue

D. 6972/EAD/73

S. no. (32) receipt-

S. no. (33) issue

D. 7501/EAD/73

S. no. (34) receipt-

S. no. (35) issue.



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

S. No. (36)

In the press clipping placed below at flag 'X', it has been reported in "The Patriot" of 23rd July, 1973, that Shri Sumar Guha, MP, stated in Calcutta that "the East Asia Department of the External Affairs Ministry deliberately attempted to sabotage the work of the Netaji Inquiry Commission by issuing secret directives." It has also been stated that this Department "scuttled" the Commission's freedom and prohibited it "from addressing any letter to any department of the Government of Taiwan or any non-official association seeking their cooperation." This circumscribed the independent juridical authority of the Commission and frustrated its work in Taiwan.

2. The question of the Netaji Inquiry Commission's visit to Taiwan has been extensively examined in the Ministry and it was in deference to the strong feelings of the Commission that we finally agreed that the Taiwan visit could take place. In a letter issued with the approval of FM and FS, JS(EA) informed the Ministry of Home Affairs (flag 'A') that it was desirable for the Commission not to depend on any inter-mediate organization for their examination of witnesses. It was also necessary to caution the Commission that they should not do anything which would allow their visit to be interpreted as an official one. Therefore, it would be advisable to avoid official contact with Taiwanese officials, particularly the Foreign Ministry.

3. Our suggestions were incorporated in a letter which the Ministry of Home Affairs addressed to the Commission. A draft of this letter, which was shown to us by MHA before issue, may be seen at flag 'B'. Paragraphs 4 and 5 of this draft are relevant to the charges made by Shri Sumar Guha.

4. For perusal.

(K. K. Rana)  
Director (E.A.)  
23. 7. 1973

Secretary (East).

Dir (EA)

v.e. ur  
23/7

Flag A & B may pl. be seen.

FM

4432  
23/7  
4852-77(EA)13  
23/7  
S. No. (83-A)  
Vol-I

\* p. 146/col  
Vol-I

Handwritten signature and date 28/7



D. 7287/EAD/73

S. no. (37) Receipt

Papers please.

sd/- P. K. Goyal  
3.8.73

Dir (EA) has the papers.

sd/- P. K. Goyal  
4.8.73

sd/- K. K. S. Rana  
4.8.73

Papers have come back from Dir (EA). US J, may please see FR. with S. no. (6) flagged. Note at p. 6/ante and S. nos. (34) onward may also be seen for information.

Clearance  
8/8/73

US J M. mine 10/8/73

S. no. (38) Issue

D. 7272/EAD/73

S. no. (39) Receipt

D. 7613/EAD/73

S. no. (40) Receipt

D. 8201/EAD/73

S. no. (41) Receipt

D. 8199/EAD/73

S. no. (42) Receipt

D. 8186/EAD/73

S. no. (43) Receipt

Papers please.

sd/- V. K. Namliar  
25/8/73

Submitted. May please be seen with S. nos. (37) + (38).

A reply from London is awaited.

Clearance  
29/8/73

M. mine so dictated

US (FR)

Memorandum

S. no. (44) Issue  
29/8

S. nos. (45) to (47)

S. no. 48 - 50

S. (51) Issue



~~S. no. 52~~

On file please. immediate.

~~Sd/- P.L. Joyal  
20/9/73.~~

~~Submitted.~~

~~7  
20/9~~

~~S. no. (53) done~~

~~S. nos. (54) and (55) Receipts~~

~~Previous papers please, immediate.~~

~~Submitted.~~

~~Sd/- P.L. Joyal  
18.10.73~~

~~Almond  
20/10/73~~

MS (J)





R. C. IYER,  
UNDER SECRETARY.

(1)

no. 24/6/71-Poll-II  
IMMEDIATE  
D.O. No. 1683-JS(E)/73  
भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
गृह मन्त्रालय  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

New Delhi-110001,  
April 28, 1973.

4143/EAD/73 P. 144/cor  
30/4/73 Vol-I

Dear Shri Uppal,

Please refer to the correspondence resting with your Ministry's d.o. letter No. 1683-JS (E) /73, dated 9th March, 1973 regarding the proposed visit of Khosla Commission to Taiwan. The Commission have now come forward with the proposal to visit that country on their own, taking into account the advice given by the Ministry of External Affairs.

2. The following will be the members of the party which is expected to visit Taiwan:

1. Chairman of the Commission
2. Secretary to the Commission
3. The Counsel to the Commission
4. Private Secretary to the Chairman
5. Personal Assistant to the Chairman.

A proposal for obtaining the clearance of the Screening Committee of Secretaries to the expenditure involved is being processed separately. Your Ministry have already expressed their views regarding the proposed visit. Formal clearance of your Ministry for the members of the deputation, if considered necessary, may kindly be sent to us by return as we have to mention in the note for the Screening Committee of Secretaries. The Commission

consider the visit of all the above persons to be *Formal essential.*

Yours sincerely,  
*R. C. Iyer*  
(R. C. Iyer)

Shri S. K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



SECRET

IMMEDIATE

BY SPL. MESSENGER

S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary (J).

(2)

N o.C/551/5/72-JP.

April 30, 1973.

Dear Shri Iyer,

S.M. (1)

Please refer to your letter No.24/6/71-Poll.II dated 28th April 1973, regarding the proposed visit of Khosla Commission to Taiwan and the Ministry of External Affairs views on the subject.

2. We have already conveyed our views to the Ministry of Home Affairs and would like to emphasise the following two points :-

- (i) We have agreed to the visit of the Commission very reluctantly; and
- (ii) We also feel that it would be desirable that as few people as possible should comprise the Commission's team visiting Taiwan.

Yours sincerely,

*S.K. Uppal*  
(S.K. Uppal)

Shri R.C. Iyer,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*Issued*  
*[Signature]*  
30/4/73





R.C. Iyer,  
Under Secretary.

D.O.No.24/27/71-PolI.II

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
गृह मन्त्रालय  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

564-1150/33  
2/33  
(3)

New Delhi-11001,

May 1, 1973.

Dear Shri Uppal,

s.No.(87) Vol-I

This is in continuation of my earlier letter of even number of the 13th April, 1973, on which, presumably you are pursuing the matter with our Mission in London.

s.(47) Vol-I

2. In your letter No.C/551/5/72-JP, dated 25th July, 1972 you had mentioned that our Mission in London had not been able to obtain a copy of "INTERPRESS". It appears that during the last session of the Commission, Prof. Samar Guha, M.P. had submitted a copy of the English translation of this Magazine. The Commission have now requested that the matter may be pursued with our Mission in London who may be requested to make further efforts to produce the original copy for the Commission. I am desired to request that you may take further action accordingly.

On file H.  
sent  
2/5

Yours sincerely,

(R.C. Iyer)

Shri S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary,  
M.E.Affairs, New Delhi.



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary(J)

D.O. No. C/551/5/72-JP-Vol. II

Dated the 3rd May 1973

SUBJECT:- Collection of material concerning Netaji for presentation before Netaji Enquiry Commission.

Dear Smt. Mathai,

Please refer to the Mission's letter No. Pol. 69.97 dated 10th July 1972 concerning the availability in London of Interpress which is known as a magazine issued by one of the occupying powers in 1945. The Mission note about Interpress and Weekly Intelligence Review:

"We have checked with the Imperial War Museum, the Ministry of Defence, the (new) National Army Museum, the British Museum and the bookshop "Francis Edwards" which specializes in books on military subjects but none of them know anything about these publications."

2. Ministry of Home Affairs have now written to us as follows: "It appears that during the last session of the Commission, Professor Samar Guha, M.P. had submitted a copy of the English translation of this magazine (Interpress). The Commission have now requested that the matter may be pursued with our Mission in London who may be requested to make further efforts to produce the original copy for the Commission".

3. We do not know how many times the magazine was published in 1945. But some issues of it obviously have references to Netaji. You are kindly requested to look for the magazine in London once again.

Regards

Yours sincerely,

(S.K. Uppal)  
Under Secretary(J)

Smt. Helen J. Mathai,  
First Secretary,  
High Commission of India,  
London.

S.No. (3)

Copy to Shri R.C. Iyer, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi, with reference to his D.O. No. 24/27/71-Poll. II dated 1.5.73.

Under Secretary(J)

James  
4/5





Mrs Helen J; Mathai  
First Secretary(Pol)

No. Pol/69/9/7

577-4567/73 IMMEDIATE

INDIA HOUSE,  
ALDWYCH,  
LONDON, W.C.2.

(5)

May 3, 1973

S. (88) - Vol - I

Dear Shri Uppal,

With reference to your letter No.C/551/5/73-JP, dated the 16th April, 1973, I enclose a copy of the reply, we have received from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the enclosures of copies of documents they have been able to find which might be of interest to the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(Helen J. Mathai)

Shri S.K. Uppal  
Under Secretary(J)  
Ministry of E.A.  
New Delhi.

Enc: As above.



FSE 10/7

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to the High Commission of India and has the honour to refer to the High Commission's Note dated 9 January concerning the Netaji Enquiry Commission.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office regrets that it is unable to trace the reports believed by the High Commission to have been submitted to the War Office in 1945-6 but the documents described below may be of use to the High Commission in this connection.

I. Diaries of the Supreme Allied Commander,  
South East Asia in WO Class No.1972

A summary of records in this class relating to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose which are in the Public Record Office is attached. These papers are filed in date order and may be viewed in the Public Record Office on presentation of an authoritising letter which may be obtained from Miss Fortescue, South Asian Department, FCO.

II. Military HQ Papers Far East, WO Class No.203

In piece No.4498 (Collaborators-policy) in this class, enclosure 286A is a memorandum by the Director of Intelligence which deals with the alleged statement by Mr. Gandhi that he believed that Chandra Bose was still alive and supports the evidence given by his "personal Chief of Staff and Military Adviser" Habib-ur-Rahman that he died after an aircraft accident on 18 August 1945.

III.



IMMEDIATE

S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary (J).

(6)

No.C/551/5/72-JP.II

May 8, 1973.

Dear Shri Iyer,

..... Please refer to your letter No.24/27/71-Poll.II dated 13th April 1973 regarding the availability in U.K. of documents which can throw light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945. I am enclosing with this the documents (in original) received from our High Commission in London along with ~~its~~ copy of letter No. POL/69/9/7 dated May 3, 1973, which may be of use to you.

Yours sincerely,

*Skudhal*

(S.K. Uppal)

Shri R.C. Iyer,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Encl. as above

o/c  
Done by RB-14  
2/5/73

S.(87) Vol-2

S.(5)

(7)



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

PC (8)

HINDUSTAN STANDARD STANDARD - Calcutta

Dated: 26.4.53

**Netaji inquiry  
body's term  
extended**

NEW DELHI, APRIL 25.—  
The Union Minister of State  
for Home Affairs, Mr. K. C.  
Pant, told the Lok Sabha to-  
day that the term of the  
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose  
Inquiry Commission had been  
extended up to October 31 and  
it was hoped that it would be  
able to finish its work before  
then, PTI reports.

Replying to Mr. Mukhtiar  
Singh Malik and Mr. R. V.  
Swaminathan the Minister  
said it was for the commission  
to decide whether to visit Tai-  
wan said to be the place  
where the plane carrying  
Netaji crashed. The request of  
some M.Ps. in this regard had  
been conveyed to the Com-  
mission.

The Commission had so far  
visited several places includ-  
ing Japan, Bangkok, Saigon,  
Rangoon and Malaysia and  
examined 87 witnesses abroad  
and 196 in India

Mr. Pant said an expendi-  
ture of Rs. 430 lakhs has been  
incurred on the commission  
till April 15.

Mr. Samar Guha asked  
whether it was true that  
Japan, U.S.A. and the U.K.  
had not made available cer-  
tain documents in their  
possession, whether fresh  
attempt would be made to  
persuade the Government of  
these countries and also, whe-  
ther Pakistan would be re-  
quested to allow Col Habibur  
Rahman to appear before the  
inquiry.

Mr. Pant said since it in-  
volved foreign Governments  
the matter would have to be  
looked into. However, if these  
countries were not prepared  
to make the documents avail-  
able it was very difficult to  
pressurise them.

Netaji file







663-u 567/73 Most immediate  
 SECRET 28/5  
 (7) 3670-AS(EA)73  
 28/5  
 D.O.No.24/6/71-Poll.II  
 भारत सरकार  
 GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
 गृह मन्त्रालय  
 MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

R. C. IYER,  
 UNDER SECRETARY.

New Delhi-110001,

5938-EAD/73

28/5  
 25 MAY 1973 May 23, 1973.

Dear Shri Rana,

S.No. (2)

Please refer to the correspondence resting with Shri Uppal's D.O.No.C/551/5/72-JP, dated the 30th April, 1973 regarding the proposed visit of the Netaji Commission of Inquiry to Taiwan. I had discussed this matter with you over the telephone yesterday.

2. The Screening Committee of Secretaries, to whom the proposal for the deputation of the five individuals referred in my earlier communication of even number dated 28th April, 1973 to Shri Uppal was referred, have sanctioned the proposed visit subject to the condition that only either the P.A. or the P.S. to the Chairman may accompany the delegation besides the other three members. However, since stenographic assistance etc. would not be available through other official sources at Taiwan, the Chairman of the Commission has again reiterated that he would like to have both his P.A. and P.S. to accompany him. In this connection, we would like to know whether it may not be more economical if arrangements could be made by the Commission to hire a Stenographer locally at Taiwan itself or Hong Kong through the good offices of our Mission there, who would also proceed with them to Taiwan. You had already indicated that it would not be possible for our Mission in Hong Kong to make available any such assistance. In case a Stenographer is to be hired privately, payment would have to be made to him for his services in foreign exchange. I shall be grateful if you could ascertain immediately from our Mission in Hong Kong as to what would be the charges involved in such stenographic assistance, according to the rates prevailing in Hong Kong/Taiwan. Such assistance may be required for a period of approximately six days. In case it would be possible for the Mission in Hong Kong to arrange for a local Stenographer who would accompany the Commission from Hong Kong to Taiwan, it would be necessary to take into account the cost of passage

A.No. (1)

I have sent a letter to H.K.

File.

Handwritten signature

28/5

US (57)

Signature

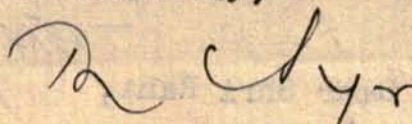
28/5

Handwritten signature



involved from Hong Kong to Taiwan and back.  
I shall be grateful for a very early reply.

Yours sincerely,



(R. C. IYER)

Shri K.K.S. Rana,  
Deputy Secretary (East Asia),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.



**RESTRICTED**  
**MOST IMMEDIATE**

(8)

K. K. S. Rana,  
Deputy Secretary (EA)

No. 4551/572-IV -II

25th May, 1973

As you may be aware there have been plans for the Netaji Inquiry Commission to visit Taiwan. Recently the Government has taken a decision to permit this visit provided the Commission makes its own arrangements and the visit takes on as much of a "non-official" status as possible.

2. The Commission has run into a problem over secretarial assistance. The Ministry of Finance turned down their proposal to take a P.A. from India to cover the open sessions of the Commission. We have suggested to the Ministry of Finance that one alternative might be for the Commission to hire stenographic assistance in Taiwan, since the work would not in any case be of a confidential nature. Before ~~the~~ Finance can agree to this, they want to have some idea of the approximate cost involved in hiring stenographic assistance for a six-day period. I would imagine that stenographers can be hired in Taiwan although it may be difficult for you from Hong Kong to give accurate information. Any indication which you may be able to give on this would be helpful.

3. In this context the Finance Ministry has also considered the possibility of hiring a stenographer in Hong Kong and taking him to Taiwan. (Of course this would become necessary only if stenographic assistance in Taiwan were not available.)

4. Since the Finance Ministry has to take an urgent decision, may I request that you may bend us a brief telex on the situation and on the information you may be able to give us.

Yours sincerely,

(K. K. S. Rana)

Shri L. N. Rangarajan,  
Commissioner of India,  
HONG KONG.

*Forwarded by L. N. Rangarajan  
25/5/73*



(P)

(9)

T. 1803-US(6)/73  
1/6

(11)

C.T.C.

Telegram

RESTRICTED

CCB No. 06235

From: Comind Hong Kong.  
To: Foreign New Delhi.

T. 268/AS(EM)/73  
31/5

DTG: MAY 301240  
DTR: MAY 310810  
Year 1973.

MOST IMMEDIATE

T. 639/EAD/73  
2/6/73

No. 39.

RANA from RANGARAJAN.

S. 10. (8)

Your letter of 25th May regarding stenographic assistance for Netaji Inquiry Commission. Cost of having stenographer on daily basis would be approximately 50 to 60 Hong Kong dollars or. Rupees 65 to 80 per day.

\* by ch.

2. Mrs. BAIG was permitted entry to China some hours after\* the\* main body of delegation. Have written detailed\* letter by bag 29th May.

*Pl. communicate this to Min. of Finance.*

PRIME MINISTER: SECY TO FM: FI: NCS: FS: SECY E: SECY W: AS ED: AS ASW: JS AD: JS XP: JS EA: DIR COORD: DIR PP: DIR HD: DS EST: DS EA: US NGO: CAD SECY: SECY R&AWING(2): CHAIRMAN JIC.

*[Signature]*  
"MEHTA A.S." 24cs.  
31-5-73

*[Signature]*  
SUPERINTENDENT (CCB)

RESTRICTED

31/5

*us/eg*

*On a taken*

*h2  
2/6*

*M. PC  
2/6  
[Signature]*

*[Signature]*



(10)

G. S. Iyer,  
Under Secretary (C)

D.O.No. e/551/5/72-A


June 2, 1973

Dear Shri Iyer,

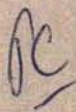
We had checked on the cost of stenographic assistance in Hong Kong in connection with the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan, as desired by you.

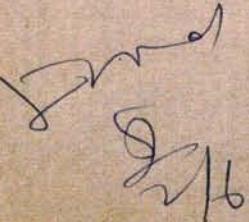
2. The cost of a stenographer on daily basis would be approximately 50 to 60 HKdollars, which would be about Rs.65-80 per day.

Yours sincerely,

  
(G. S. IYER)

Shri R.C. Iyer,  
Under Secretary (Pol.II),  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.







D 5655/EAD/73

NO.F.24/6/71-Poll.II <sup>8/6</sup> IMMEDIATE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA/ BHARAT SARKAR.  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/GRIH MANTRALAYA

NEW DELHI-110001 DATED THE JUNE 15, 73.

ORDER. (11)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF THE NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION TO TAIWAN (FORMOSA).

\*\*\*

Sanction of the President is hereby accorded to the deputation of :-

- (i) Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission,
- (ii) Shri S.L. Chopra, Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission,
- (iii) Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel, Netaji Inquiry Commission,
- (iv) Shri M.L. Anand, Private Secretary to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission, and
- (v) Shri H.L. Kundra, P.A. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission.

to Taiwan (Formosa) for purposes of inquiry into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and the subsequent developments connected therewith.

2. The terms and conditions of deputation are as follows :-

(i) PERIOD OF DEPUTATION: The period of deputation will be 9 (Nine) days including 2 days' stay in Hongkong, and the deputation will commence on the date the Commission and the Officers leave India and will terminate on the date on which they return to India.

(ii) PAY AND ALLOWANCES: Full pay and allowances as admissible to them in India, will be payable in rupees.

(iii) PASSAGE: Shri Khosla will be entitled to travel by air by Standard ( 1st ) Class both ways at his option and Sarvashri S.L. Chopra, T.R. Bhasin, M.L. Anand and H.L. Kundra will be entitled to travel by Air by Economy Class both ways.

(iv) RAILWAY ALLOWANCE, ACCOMMODATION, TIP MONEY ETC.

Sarvashri Khosla, Chopra and Bhasin will be entitled to split rates of daily allowances as admissible to Grade I Officers during the period spent in the place mentioned in para.1 above and reimbursement of actual expenditure on tips subject to the maximum of 10% of accommodation charges under the split rates of daily allowance or the 'all inclusive' rate of D.A. in accordance with the orders issued by the Ministries of External Affairs and Finance from time to time.

p.t.o.

758/48(5)/73  
15/6

Santhol  
15/6

SL: PC  
15/6

13



S/Shri Anand and Kundra will be entitled to split rates 'all inclusive' rates admissible to Grade II Officers in accordance with the orders issued by the Ministries of External Affairs and Finance.

(v) CARRIAGE OF OFFICIAL PAPERS:

The official records upto 60 kgs. during the onward journey and 75 kgs. during the return journey will be carried at Government expense as air cargo.

(vi) MEDICAL FACILITIES: The Chairman, Secretary, Counsel, P.S. and P.A. of the Commission will be entitled to the facilities of medical treatment etc. during their stay at the place mentioned in para.1 above, in accordance with the orders contained in the Ministry of External Affairs circular letter No. F.8(2)MP(00.138/56), dated 30.11.1956 as amended from time to time.

(vii) ENTITLEMENT TO HEAD OF MISSION TREATMENT: Shri Khosla will be entitled to 'Head of a Mission' treatment, when not accompanied by his wife, terms of accommodation during the period of deputation.

(viii) CONTINGENT EXPENDITURE ON HIRING OF TAXIS, OFFICE ACCOMMODATION, TYPEWRITERS ETC. AND DAILY ALLOWANCE/TRAVELLING ALLOWANCE TO WITNESSES.

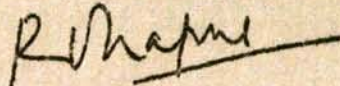
Shri Khosla is authorised to sanction expenses on hiring of taxis, hiring of office accommodation, hiring of typewriters etc. and grant of Daily Allowance/Travelling Allowance to witnesses upto a total of Rs.25,527/- (Rupees twenty five thousand five hundred and twenty seven only) (in local currency) at the place of their visit, in Taiwan (Formosa) and an amount of Rs.1,000/- (Rupees one thousand only) as transport charges during the stay of the delegation at Hongkong.

3. The Commission of India, Hong Kong, are hereby authorised to make payments of D.A. to Sarvashri Khosla, Chopra, Bhasin, Anand and Kundra in local currency as admissible to them during their stay in the respective places. They are also authorised to make payment to Shri Khosla for incurring expenditure on hiring of taxis, office accommodation, typewriters etc. and for making payment of daily allowance/travelling allowance to witnesses etc. as indicated in para.2 (ii) (viii) above. They are authorised to make payments in question in accordance with the terms sanctioned in this Order without waiting for any other authority. The Ministry of Finance have agreed to this sanction being regarded as an authority for payments.



4. The expenditure involved will be met by re-appropriation from the sanctioned budget grant of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the year 1973-74.

5. This sanction issues with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance ( Department of Expenditure) vide their U.O.NO.4349-HF/73, dated 8.6.1973.



(R.D.KAPUR)

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

COPY TO :-

1. The Accountant General, Central Revenues, New Delhi.
2. The Treasury Officer, New Delhi.
3. The Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Expenditure) N. Delhi
4. The Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of E.A.) New Delhi.
5. The Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi.
6. The Finance Section, MHA/ Ac.I Section, M.H.A.
7. The Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi.  
(Shri S.K. Uppal, Under Secretary)
8. Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission, Reserve Bank Building, New Delhi.
9. Shri S.L. Chopra, Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission Reserve Bank Building, New Delhi.
10. Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel C/O Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission, New Delhi.
11. Shri M.L. Anand, P.S. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission, New Delhi.
12. Shri H.L. Kundra, P.A. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission, New Delhi.
13. Netaji Inquiry Commission, Reserve Bank Building, New Delhi.



(R.D. KAPUR)

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action :-

The Commission of India, HONG KONG.



(R.D. KAPUR)

UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.



IMMEDIATE

794/US(J)/73

19/6

15

R. D. Kapur  
Under Secretary

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

गृह मन्त्रालय

D.O.No.24/27/71-Poll.II **MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**



New Delhi 110001

June 15, 1973.

(12)

5707/EAD/73

20/6/73

S.No. (H)

Dear Shri Uppal,

Please refer to your d.o. letter No.C/551/5/72-JP-Vol.II, dated the 3rd May, 1973 to Smt. Mathai, First Secretary, High Commission of India, London, regarding collection of material concerning Netaji for presentation before the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

2. I shall be grateful if you may kindly inform us whether our Mission in London have been able to get the original copy of the magazine INTERPRESS.

3. The Commission require the original copy of the magazine urgently, as their argument session is likely to start in the later part of July, 1973.

Yours sincerely,

(R. D. Kapur)

Shri S. K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

On file pl

skhd

19/6

Shi Pc

20/6



IMMEDIATE

S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary(J)

(13)

17

No. 4551/5/72-N-II

Dated 21st June, 1973

SUBJECT:- Collection of material concerning Netaji for  
presentation before Netaji Enquiry Commission.

...

Dear Smt. Mathai,

S.No. (H)

Please refer to our letter No. C/551/5/72-JP-Vol. II dated 3rd May 1973, on the above mentioned subject. I had requested you in particular to look for a copy of the Magazine called "INTERPRESS" published in 1945 and having references to Netaji. The Ministry of Home Affairs have written to us again about the urgent need of the copy of this Magazine. You are kindly requested to let us know definitely about the availability of this Magazine in London.

Yours sincerely,

*S.K. Uppal*

( S.K. UPPAL )

Smt. Helen J. Mathai,  
First Secretary,  
High Commission of India,  
LONDON.

Copy to Shri R.D. Iyer, <sup>kafur</sup> Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi, with reference to his D.O. No. 24/27/71-Poll. II dated 4.6.73.

S.No. (13)

*S.K. Uppal*

*Smt. Mathai*

Under Secretary(J)

*Immed*  
21/6





सत्यमेव जयते

S.L.CHOPRA  
SECRETARY

5709/EAD/73

20/6/73

MOST IMMEDIATE

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१९७०)

NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

सेक्रेटरी फ्लोर, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग

पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१

Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building

Parliament Street, New Delhi-1

JUNE 19, 1973.

D.O.No.3/13/73-NC

Dear Shri Uppal,

As you are aware, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, have sanctioned the deputation of the Netaji Inquiry Commission for a visit to Formosa in connection with the enquiry into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose after 18th August, 1945. A copy of the Order is enclosed.

2. The Commission consisting of five officers will leave India on 8th July, 1973 ( as per itinerary enclosed) for Hong Kong, where the party will stay from the afternoon of 8th July, 1973 to 10th July, 1973, and proceed to Formosa on the 11th July, 1973.

3. I request that our Mission in Hong Kong may kindly be approached for the following facilities to be provided to the Commission for the under-mentioned officers, for the said days:-

- (i) Shri Justice G.D. Khosla, Chairman of the Commission ('Head of the Mission' status).
- (ii) Shri S.L. Chopra, IAS, Secretary to the Commission.
- (iii) Shri M.L. Anand, P.S. to the Chairman.
- (iv) Shri H.L. Kundra, P.A. to the Chairman.

The fifth officer namely, Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel of the Commission, will make his own arrangements and the Mission in Hong Kong need not book accommodation for him in Hong Kong.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED:

(a) ACCOMMODATION: Accommodation on the approved scale may be arranged for the above officers. The Chairman ranks in Sl.No.21 of the Table of Precedence as a retired Chief Justice of a High Court.

contd...p.2



(from pre-page)

(b) LIAISON OFFICER: An officer of an appropriate rank in the Embassy knowing the local language may be designated as the Liaison Officer with the Commission to look after their day to day needs.

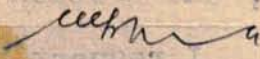
(c) TRANSPORT: The Chairman and the Secretary of the Commission may be received at the airport on arrival and seen off on departure. At least two staff cars may be deputed with a Liaison Officer at the airport on arrival and departure.

4. A copy of this letter is also being endorsed to our Mission in Hong Kong.

Immediate action is solicited.

*With kind regards,*

Yours sincerely,



(S.I. CHOPRA)

Shri S.K. Uppal, IFS,  
Under Secretary (Japan),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

The Liaison Officer, Mission, Hong Kong, is requested to forward a copy of this letter to the Commission, and the Liaison Officer, Mission, Hong Kong, is requested to forward a copy of this letter to the Commission, and the Liaison Officer, Mission, Hong Kong, is requested to forward a copy of this letter to the Commission.

RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARY

The Liaison Officer, Mission, Hong Kong, is requested to forward a copy of this letter to the Commission, and the Liaison Officer, Mission, Hong Kong, is requested to forward a copy of this letter to the Commission, and the Liaison Officer, Mission, Hong Kong, is requested to forward a copy of this letter to the Commission.



V. K. Nambiar,  
Under Secretary(FE)

(15)

(18)

June 20, 1973

No. C/551/5/72-JD

S. no. (14)

Please refer to a copy of a letter No.3/13/73-NC dated the 19th June, 1973, from the Secretary of the Netaji Inquiry Commission (1970) regarding their visit to Hong Kong from 8th to 10th July, 1973. Necessary facilities as detailed in their letter referred to above may kindly be provided to them.

Yours sincerely,

*On*

*bee*

(V. K. Nambiar)

Shri T.C.A. Rangachari,  
Third Secretary,  
Commission of India,  
Hong Kong

Imud  
21/6



D. 3907-8860/73  
28/6



(16)

SECRET

COMMISSION OF INDIA

304, AIA BUILDING 1, STUBBS ROAD,  
HONG KONG

5775/EA/73

June 21, 1973

No. HON.551(1)/71

4154-Div(EA)/73  
25/6

4214-Div(EA)/73  
26/6

4140-Div(EA)/73  
23/6 23/6

My dear Kishan,

? Could be  
Telexmail at  
S.No 9.

Please refer to correspondence resting with our telex of the 29th May regarding the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan.

S.No. (11)

2. We have received a copy of a sanction issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs dated 15th June 1973 indicating the terms and conditions of the Commission's visit to Taiwan for 7 days and Hong Kong for 2 days. A copy of the sanction has been endorsed to Shri S.K Uppal, Under Secretary.

3. In your letter of the 25th May 1973, you have communicated that the Government has permitted the Commission to visit Taiwan "provided the Commission makes its own arrangements." The question is does it include ensuring that they will be given visas to visit Taiwan if and when they present their affidavits issued by this Commission to the ~~China~~ Travel Service?  
Chung Hua

On file,  
urgently.

4. There has been a lot of correspondence in October to December 1970 on the question of visas for the Commission to go to Taiwan. At that time we had clear indication that the Taiwanese authorities would refuse to give visas. This question does not appear to have been pursued since then.

✓ 551(1)/70  
✓ 23/6

5. I wonder whether any soundings have been made with the Taiwanese authorities through non-governmental contacts which might give the Commission reason to hope that visas will not be refused.

6. I presume the Ministry would not like us to make any informal soundings.

Kind regards,

\* vide 'A' in S.No. (83-A) - P.144/col. on Vol - I.

Yours sincerely,

*L.N. Rangarajan*

(L.N. Rangarajan)

Shri K.K.S. Rana,  
Deputy Secretary (EA),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

JS may like to see the FR and my reply.

JS(EA) 25/6  
26/6  
27/6  
27/6



SECRET

(17)

K. K. S. Rana,  
Director (East Asia)

No. C/551/5/72-JP

23rd June, 1973

S.M. (16)

Please refer to your letter No. HON. 551(1)/71 dated June 21, 1973, regarding the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan.

2. We are aware of the earlier correspondence on the difficulties concerning obtaining a visa for Taiwan. However, some months back the decision was taken that the Government would have no objection to the visit of the Inquiry Commission to Taiwan (which the Commission itself has deemed to be most important and essential) provided the Government was not called upon to make any arrangements for the Taiwan visit. This question was taken up by Shri Sumar Guha, MP, and on the basis of his suggestion it was decided that the Commission would use ordinary travel channels to arrange visas, accommodation, etc. I may also add for your information that the Commission was advised to take care not to do anything which might lead to their visit being interpreted as involving official dealings with the Taiwan Government. It was also suggested that official contacts with the Taiwan Government, particularly the Foreign Ministry officials and prominent leaders, should be avoided.

3. We would, therefore, confirm your presumption that there would be no need for you to make any kind of soundings on behalf of the Inquiry Commission concerning the visa or any other aspect of the visit to Taiwan.

Yours sincerely,

  
(K. K. S. Rana)

Shri L. N. Rangarajan,  
Commissioner of India,  
HONG KONG.

Immed  
23/6





सत्यमेव जयते

Mrs Helen J. Mathai  
First Secretary (Pol)

No. POL.69.9.7

D. 6. 31 / EAD / 73  
3/7

IMMEDIATE

INDIA HOUSE  
ALDWYCH  
LONDON  
WC2B 4NA

873-45(5)/73  
3/7

(18)

June 28, 1973

Dear Shri Uppal,

S.M. (H)

Please refer to your letter Nos.C/551/5/72-JP.II, dated 3rd May and 21st June, 1973, regarding the magazine "INTERPRESS".

2. I have exhausted every possible source in this country which might have some information regarding the magazine. But, unfortunately, I have not been able to find any one who has even vaguely heard of it.

3. The only "INTERPRESS" that exists as far as most journalists know is the INTERPRESS NEW SERVICE, which was an American News Agency. You might like to try our Embassy in Washington on this matter.

4. With reference to the Weekly Intelligence Review, there is no record of this magazine in British circles. The Economist used to have a similar Review, but this is not the magazine you require.

5. Despite the fact that we seem to have pulled a blank again, I am continuing my efforts to locate the magazine. You may perhaps like to inform the Ministry of Home Affairs that we have hitherto not been successful in acquiring it.

Regards,

Yours/sincerely,

(Helen J. Mathai)

Shri S.K. Uppal  
Under Secretary (J)  
Ministry of E.A.,  
New Delhi

On file H.  
skh  
3/7  
4 PE  
3/7



S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary (J).

(19)

No.C/551/5/72-JP.

July 4, 1973.

Subject : Collection of material concerning Netaji  
for presentation before Netaji Inquiry  
Commission.

Dear Shri Gupta,

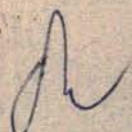
S.No. (3)

Please refer to letter No.24/27/71-Poll. II dated 1st May 1973 from Shri R.C. Iyer regarding the availability of a magazine called "Interpress" in London. This magazine is said to have been published by one of the occupying powers in Germany after the end of the 2nd World War and had contained references to Netaji.

.....  
2. We had written to our High Commission in London requesting them to make all efforts to collect a copy of the magazine. I am enclosing with this a copy of letter No.POD.69.9.7 dated 28th June 1973 received from our High Commission stating that despite their best efforts they have not been able to obtain a copy of the INTERPRESS so far.

S.No. (18)

Yours sincerely,



*S.K. Uppal*

(S.K. Uppal)

Shri Asok Gupta,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*Issued*  
*4/7*

Encl. One



D.6022/EAD/13 Rana  
3/1.

24

COMMISSIONER  
TELEGRAMS: "COMIND", HONGKONG.  
TEL. No. 746323



COMMISSION OF INDIA

304, AIA BUILDING, 1, STUBBS ROAD.  
HONG KONG

No. HON. 551(1)/71

(20)

June 26, 1973

4259-218(EA)/73

My dear Kishan,

S.No. (17)

28/6

Just a line to acknowledge, with thanks, your letter No.C/551/5/72-JP dated the 23rd June 1973 regarding the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan. I am particularly grateful to you for taking the trouble to explain the background in detail.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

L.N. Rangarajan

(L.N. Rangarajan)

Rana  
28/6

US(FE) Rana  
29/6

Shri K.K.S. Rana,  
Director (East Asia),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

927-US(FE)/73  
29/6

P.S. I have just seen in office order naming you in  
varden over as DS(EA). CONGRATULATIONS!

Rana

Rana  
29/6





सत्यमेव जयते

BY DIPLOMATIC BAG 4/7.

**S.L.CHOPRA  
SECRETARY**

NO.3/13/73-NC

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१९७०)

NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

संक्रिड फ्लोर, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग

पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१

Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building

Parliament Street, New Delhi-1 .INDIA.

(21)

JUNE 26, 1973.

Dear Commission,

I have the honour to draw your kind attention to my D.O. letter No.3/13/73-NC dated the 19th June, 1973, addressed to Shri S.K. Uppal, Under Secretary (Japan), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, with a copy to you regarding the forthcoming visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Hong Kong and Taiwan. A copy of this letter is enclosed for ready reference.

2. The Netaji Inquiry Commission headed by Chairman and accompanied with four officials will be reaching Hong Kong on 8th July, 1973, at by 310. As already requested, necessary facilities regarding the provision of transport accompanied with a Liaison Officer to receive the Commission's party at the Airport, on the above date, may kindly be made.

3. The Commission's party will be leaving Hong Kong on the 11th July 1973 for Taiwan by CX 522. The Commission will stay at Hong Kong from 8th to 10th July, 1973, with a view to obtain necessary visas for going to Taiwan.

4. I shall be grateful for providing necessary arrangement which may facilitate us to obtain the requisite visas for the category of persons indicated in the letter enclosed herewith.

5. It was also requested to arrange for booking of accommodation in an appropriate hotel for all the members of the party (excluding Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel of the Commission) in one hotel at Hong Kong according to the entitlement of these officers.

6. I shall be highly obliged if you kindly confirm the arrangements made at the earliest convenience, preferably by a cable.

Netaji Inquiry Commission

High Commission of India,  
HONG KONG.

P.T.O

3531 us (5) / 23  
27/6/23  
US/FE may also  
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see  
28/6  
Ho PC  
28/6



26

: 2 :

S. L. CHOPRA  
SECRETARY

(from pre-page)

NO.3/13/73-NC

JUNE 26, 1973.

✓  
Copy to Shri S.K. Uppal, IFS, Under Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs, in continuation of my d.o. of even number dated the 19th June, 1973.

*S. No. (14)*  
*[Signature]*  
(S.L.CHOPRA)  
SECRETARY.  
386270

High Commission of India  
New Delhi



Sketched

D. 1254/EAD/13  
9/7

879-USE/1/7387  
IMMEDIATE  
4/7

NO.24/6/71-Poll.II  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA/BHARAT SARKAR  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS/GRIH MANTRALAYA

(22)

NEW DELHI-1 JULY 3, 1973.

ORDER

SUBJECT: VISIT OF THE NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION TO  
TAIWAN (FORMOSA).

\*\*\*\*

S.No. (11)

In continuation of this Ministry's Order No.24/6/71-Poll.II, dated the 15th June, 1973, the President is pleased to sanction that the period of deputation shall be 10 days including 3 days' stay in Hong Kong, instead of 9 days including 2 days' stay in Hong Kong.

2. The President is also pleased to sanction that Shri M.L. Anand, Private Secretary to Chairman whose pay plus dearness pay is equal to Rs.800/- per month shall also be eligible for split rates of daily allowance as admissible to Grade I Officers during the period spent in the place of deputation in accordance with the Ministry of Affairs' letter No. 9GA/681/1/69-Vol.II(EAI/69/1/66) dated the 7th July, 1969.

External

3. This sanction issues with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance (Deptt. Expenditure) vide their U.O.No.5138-HF/73 dated 2.7.1973.

Authentic 3/7/73

(ASOK GUPTA)

Under Secretary to Government of India

Copy to :

1. The Accountant General, Central Revenues, New Delhi.
2. The Treasury Officer, New Delhi.
3. The Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of Expenditure) New Delhi.
4. The Ministry of Finance (Deptt. of E.A.) New Delhi.
5. Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi.
6. Finance Section, MHA/ Ac.I Section, MHA.
7. Ministry of Ext. Affairs, New Delhi (Shri S.K. Uppal, US)
8. Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission
9. Shri S.L. Chopra, Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission
10. Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel, C/O Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission.
11. Shri M.L. Anand, P.S. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission.
12. Shri H.L. Kundra, P.A. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission.
13. Netaji Inquiry Commission, New Delhi.

Authentic 3/7/73  
(ASOK GUPTA)

Under Secretary to Govt. of India.

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to :-

The Commission of India, HONGKONG.

Authentic 3/7/73  
(ASOK GUPTA)

Under Secretary to Govt. of India.

MHC  
my



D-6079/EAD/H3

874-USG/H3  
4/24

10889-Telex/73

INTLEX/5 HONGKONG 61 4.7.1973

JUL 1973

28

FOREIGN NEW DELHI  
FOR S K UPPAL UNDER SECRETARY (JAPAN)

us(Japan) (23)

TELEGRAPH SECTION  
(Ministry of External Affairs)  
Time of Receipt... 040730  
Time of Despatch... 040735  
Signature of Operator... ASK

PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO S L CHOPRA SECRETARY  
NETAJI ENQUIRY COMMISSION QUOTE YOUR LETTER NO. 3/13/73-NC  
DATED JUNE 26 1973 STOP COMMISSION WILL BE MET AT THE  
AIRPORT BY LIAISON OFFICER STOP SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION  
IN HONGKONG RESERVED STOP TWO CARS WILL BE HIRED STOP  
AIR INDIA BOOKING ACCOMMODATION AT TAIPEI UNQUOTE STOP

4416-21(EA)/H3  
4/2  
D. 4135-351(EA)/H3  
5/7  
4451-21(EA)/H3  
5/7

COMIND

✦  
FOREIGN ND2899

✦  
FOREIGN ND2899

✦  
FOREIGN ND2899

HX4034 COMIND  
PLS ACK+?

✦  
FOREIGN ND2899

HX4034 COMIND

R.B. Khandelwal  
and others  
P. Street.

New Delhi

For information,  
message conveyed to Shri Chopra on phone and  
copies sent to him and to M.H.A.

4/24(EA)

skpd  
4/7/73

10/7  
6/7

OS(EA)

4/24

4/24

5/7

4/24  
5/7  
6/7



(24)

28

IMMEDIATE

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

S.No. (23)

Reproduced below is a copy of a Telex  
Message received from our Commission in Hong Kong :-

" YOUR LETTER NO.3/13/73-NC DATED JUNE 26, 1973.  
COMMISSION WILL BE MET AT THE AIRPORT BY LIAISON  
OFFICER . SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN HONG KONG  
RESERVED . TWO CARS WILL BE HIRED . AIR INDIA  
BOOKING ACCOMMODATION AT TAIPEI."

*Skipped*  
(S.K. Uppal)  
Under Secretary (Japan)  
4.7. 1973

1. Shri S.L. Chopra,  
Secretary, Netaji Enquiry Commission,  
Reserve Bank of India Building,  
Parliament Street,  
New Delhi.
2. Shri Asok Gupta,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*of e*

MEa u.o.No.C/551/72-JP.II dated 4th July 1973

*Issued  
Out*



TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI

DATED: 7-7-73

BC

## Two recall Netaji's plane crash

TAIPEI, July 6: A 48-year-old Taiwanese and former private in the Japanese army claimed here today he had guarded the remains of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose following his plane crash on August 18, 1945.

Mr. Chang Chuan, a retired employee of the state-owned Taiwan power company, also claimed he had personally delivered the remains of Netaji Bose for cremation.

An Indian inquiry commission, headed by Mr. G. D. Khosla, is arriving here next Wednesday in an attempt to establish the circumstances of the "disappearance" in Taipei of Netaji Bose a few days after the Japanese surrender in 1945.

The local "China-India-Burma-Ceylon cultural and economic association" has urged Chinese citizens to help the commission.

Mr. Chang told the mass circulation "United Daily" he had been ordered to guard the coffin of Netaji Bose at the former Japanese army hospital in southern Taipei.

He said Netaji Bose's coffin was too big to be sent into the incinerator. Therefore his remains had to be transferred into a small one.

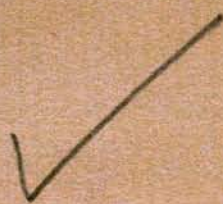
He said he had seen another injured Indian, believed to be Netaji Bose's secretary, shouting in the ward at the army hospital.

He said the plane which was piloted by a Japanese lieutenant crashed at the Taipei sungshan (Pine Tree mountain) airport shortly after take-off. The pilot was badly injured.

The "United Daily" further quoted a reader, Lan Ming Yi, as saying he also witnessed the plane crash. Lan was an airport construction supervisor at the time.

He said he had heard that the plane had carried several senior Japanese officers and valuables. It crashed about 30 km after takeoff.

He said he had heard from an airport sentry "an Indian also died in there," a remark which remained deep in his memory.—AFP.



Netaji file



(P)

T. 820/EAD/23  
13/7

T. 367-DIV(EA)/133  
12/7

O.T.C.  
SECRET

25

CCB NO. 07722

924/USIT  
73  
12/7

Telegram

From: Comind Hong Kong  
To : Foreign New Delhi

DTG JULY 111313  
DIR JULY 111850  
YEAR 1973

IMMEDIATE

NO. 58.

RANA from RANGARAJAN.

Netaji Enquiry Commission left for Taipei this evening as scheduled.

.....

PRIME MINISTER:SECY TO PM : FM : MOS : FS : SECY E :  
SECY W : AS ED : AS ASW : JS PP : JS XP : JS EA : DIR COORD:  
DIR EA : US NGO : CAB SECY : SECY(R&A WING)(2) : CHAIRMAN JIC.

*Stuart*

SUPERINTENDENT (CCB)

B. TRA/21 C.  
11.7.1973.

SECRET

*M. S. 1977*  
*12/7*  
*VS(J)*  
*VS(FE)*  
*12/7*



Hindu.....Madras

Dated.....12-7-73

(26)

## Formosa Annoyed over Indian Official's "Faux Pas"

From K. V. Narain

TAIPEI (Formosa) July 11.  
A diplomatic *Faux Pas* committed by an official of Indian Administrative Service, whether wittingly or unwittingly, has very nearly torpedoed the work of the Khosla inquiry commission on Netaji Bose, even before its arrival here to-day.

Mr. S. L. Chopra, Secretary of the Commission wrote a letter from India to the authorities here on the proposed visit of the Commission and addressed it to the "Government of Formosa, Foreign Department". This lack of diplomatic tact made sensitive officials of the Nationalist Chinese Government here furious.

Whether India recognises the Kuomintang Government here as the Government of China or not, it is a fact that it calls itself as the "Government of the Republic of China". How an official communication was addressed in this manner remains a mystery, because other Indian official organs like the State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and

Metals Trading Corporation which have considerable commercial relations with Taiwan, always address their letters to the "Republic of China".

The Government here had almost decided to refuse the Commission entry to the island but for the timely help by friends of India here, particularly Prof. Tao Yung, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of Parliament, who succeeded in clearing the misunderstanding. Visas were given on the intercession of both the India-China-Burma Cultural Association of Taipei of which Prof. Tao is Chairman, and the India-Free-China Friendship Society in Delhi. Although visas have been given for entry of the Commission members and for Mr. Samar Guha, MP and Convenor of the National Committee to assist the Netaji Inquiry Commission, it is unlikely that the Government here will give any official co-operation unless a proper communication is addressed to it.

However, it is understood that this obstacle is likely to

be overcome when Mr. Chopra, on arrival here addresses a fresh communication to authorities here in the proper form.

Strangely, the Commission which patently cannot make any headway here without official co-operation, has not so far addressed any letter to the Republic of China Government requesting help and co-operation.

According to Mr. Samar Guha, the Government is willing to co-operate with the Commission provided the latter formally approaches it for assistance.

Meanwhile, local newspapers television and radio yesterday gave full publicity to Mr. Samar Guha's Press conference when he explained the objectives of the Commission's visit.

However, what the Commission will achieve here remains in doubt, because of the long lapse of 28 years since Netaji's reported death, the passing away of many possible witnesses and the faded memories of other surviving witnesses.



(27)

33

CONFIDENTIAL  
IMMEDIATE

No.C/551/5/72-JP.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

"South Block"  
New Delhi.

July 17, 1973

...

I am enclosing a copy of a news item which appeared in the HINDU of 12th July 1973 on the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan.

2. The news item states, inter-alia, that the Indian official agencies such as the STC & MMTC which have considerable commercial relations with Taiwan address their letters to the "Republic of China". We would like an urgent clarification from you whether in fact letters are addressed to "Taiwan" or "Republic of China".

*bu*

(V. K. Nambiar)  
Under Secretary (FE)

*ofc*

Shri M.M.Gupta,  
Chief Mkg. Manager,  
State Trading Corpn.,  
Chanderlok Bhawan,  
New Delhi.

*J. Nambiar (w/1)*  
*17/7*

Encl: One



(28)

CONFIDENTIAL  
IMMEDIATE

No.C/551/5/72-JP.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

"South Block"  
New Delhi.

July 17, 1973

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*see*

(V. K. Nambiar)  
Under Secretary (FE)

*o/c*

*Immed (w/fe)*

*17/7*

Shri S. Ramachandran,  
Chairman,  
Minerals & Metals Trading Corpn.,  
Express Building,  
New Delhi.

Encl: One



(29)

35

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
**MOST IMMEDIATE**  
~~BY SOCIAL MESSAGE~~

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(EAST ASIA DIVISION)

...

I am enclosing a copy of a news item which appeared in the HINDU of 12th July, 1973 on the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan, which is self-explanatory.

2. We would like to have your clarification whether a letter was written by the Secretary of the Commission to the "Government of Formosa". We would also like to know whether Shri Samar Guha had actually sought the assistance and cooperation of the Taiwanese Government.

3. This letter issues on the direction of the Director (EA).

*bcu*

(V. K. Nambiar)  
Under Secretary (FE)

*ge*

M.H.A (Shri R. Vasudevan, Dy. Secretary), New Delhi.  
M.E.A U.O.No. C.551/5/72-JP. dated 17.7.1973.

*Immel (wlf)*  
*17/7*

Encl: One



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

pc.

.....  
HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 8.7.3

## Taiwanese official gathers information on Netaji

TAIPEI, JULY 7.—A former worker at a Japanese Air Base in Taipei recalls guarding the casket of Subhas Chandra Bose, whose fate is still considered unknown, a Taiwanese official said yesterday reports AP.

Mr. Tao Yung, the official said he has been collecting information on Bose for a seven-member inquiry commission headed by Mr. G. D. Khosla due in Taipei next Wednesday. The commission, inquiring into exactly what happened to Bose, has visited Manila, Singapore and other Asian cities.

The Japanese say Bose, whose efforts to free India from British rule brought him into a wartime alliance with Japan, was killed in a plane crash on Taiwan in August 1945. Remains said to be his are in a temple near Tokyo.

Mr. Tao said Mr. Chau Chuan, 68, of Taipei, reported he had seen Bose's casket at a Japanese Army hospital in Taipei. (Taiwan was ruled by

Japan from 1895 until after world War II).

"I remember clearly because I stood guard before the casket altogether for 24 hours" Mr. Tao quoted Mr. Chang as saying. Mr. Chang could not be contacted yesterday.

Mr. Tao said Mr. Chang told him the name "Handora Bohsu"—a Japanese phonetic spelling was written in Japanese on the casket, and that he later was among a group of men ordered to cremate Bose's body. Mr. Tao said Mr. Chang does not know what was done with the ashes.

Another Taipei man, Mr. Lan Ing-Yi, 49, told Mr. Tao that he was digging trenches for the Japanese at the airport on August 18, 1945, when he saw flames from a crashed air plane. He said he was told later that some ranking officers and an Indian were aboard.

Investigations into Bose's disappearance have been going on for nearly 20 years.

*Netaji*





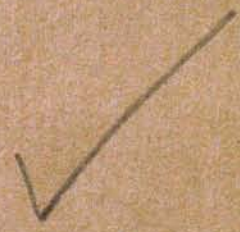
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

37

PC

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HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 11-7-73



**Indian MP  
doubts Netaji's  
death in Taipei**

TAIPEI, JULY 10.—Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, reported killed in an air crash here 28 years ago, might still be alive and under detention in the Soviet Union, according to a visiting Indian member of Parliament, reports Reuter.

The MP, Mr Samar Guha, said there was no convincing evidence that Netaji Bose died in the plane crash.

Mr Guha said Netaji Bose might have flown to the Soviet Union to seek Russian help in ridding India of British rule.

It was possible that he was under detention somewhere in Siberia, Mr Guha added.

But a former Japanese Army private said in a newspaper interview published here he had seen Netaji Bose's body.

Chang Chuan, 48, of Taipei, told the United Daily News he had been on cremation detail and that Netaji Bose's body was cremated in Taipei three days after the crash.

A commission of inquiry formed in India to determine Netaji Bose's fate will arrive here on Wednesday to carry out investigations.

*Netaji*

*h*



PC

INDIAN EXPRESS ----- NEW DELHI

Dated..... 14/7/73

**Khosla panel  
looking for  
Netaji's nurse**

TAIPEI, July 13 ((AP)).  
The Indian mission investigating the fate of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, who disappeared in 1945, is looking for a former Japanese army nurse believed to be the "witness" in an investigation report published in 1956.

"If we can locate the nurse, our mission here would be completed," said the group's spokesman. "The Government here is trying to help us."

The nurse, identified as Cheng Pih-sia, reportedly attended on Netaji at a Japanese army hospital in Taipei, where reports said he was taken after a plane crash on August 18, 1945.

According to the 1956 report which the spokesman said was compiled by an Indian journalist who visited Taipei in 1946, the nurse said she saw Netaji die shortly after the crash.

No further identification of the nurse was given in the 1956 report. She was reported to have been in her mid 30's at the time of the crash.

The inquiry commission, headed by Mr G. D. Khosla, held hearings all day today, its third day in Taipei.

Netaji's nurse

me

✓



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

38

80

.....  
HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 14.7.73

**Netaji probe body  
looking for a  
Japanese nurse**

TAIPEI, JULY 13.—The Indian mission investigating the fate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, who disappeared in 1945, is looking for a former Japanese Army nurse believed to be the "witness" in an investigation report published in 1956, says AP.

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Netaji for  
M



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

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HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 18-7-73

**No proof found  
of Netaji's death  
in Taipei : Guha**

TAIPEI, JULY 17.—The Mission inquiring into the fate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has "found no proof whatsoever" that Netaji died in Taipei, Mr Samar Guha, MP and mission aide, said today, reports AP.

Japanese reports in 1945 said Bose died in a plane crash in Taipei while fleeing from British authorities.

"Some reports by British and US intelligence hinted Bose has escaped from Taipei to the Soviet Union", Mr Guha said in a written statement.

Mr Guha is now in Taipei to assist the inquiry mission headed by Mr G D Khosla, who did not comment on the possibility of Bose's death in the reported crash.

The mission arrived in Taipei on July 11 and has questioned 15 persons, who claim to have knowledge of Bose's death or the plane crash. Taipei is the mission's seventh and final investigation site.

A debate on Bose's reported death will be held in September in India, Mr Guha said.

The mission visited Singapore, Rangoon, Saigon, Japan, Kuala Lumpur and Bangkok. The eight-member group will leave for India tomorrow.

Netaji

PC

20



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

Hindustan Times, New Delhi

Dated: 18.7.73

24  
PC

### Netaji death in Taipei not established

TAIPEI, July 17 (AP) — The mission inquiring into the fate of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has "found no proof whatsoever" that he died in Taipei, Mr Samar Guha, MP, said today.

Japanese reports in 1945 said Netaji died in a plane crash in Taipei while fleeing from British authorities.

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The eight-member group will leave for India tomorrow.

Netaji

✓



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

42

Be

The Patriot, New Delhi

Dated: 18.7.73

**No proof of  
Netaji death in  
Taipei**

TAIPEI, July 17 (AP)

**T**HE mission inquiring into the fate Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has "found no proof whatsoever" that Bose died in Taipei, Mr Samar Guha, MP, mission aide, said today.

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The eight-member group will leave for India tomorrow.

*Netaji file*

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TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI

DATED: 19-7-73

P.C.

**Wrong Address**  
HOW needless misunderstandings can be created between countries unwittingly has once again been demonstrated by a bureaucrat who is secretary to the one-man commission of inquiry consisting of Mr. G. D. Khosla, a former Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court.  
Many readers perhaps need to be reminded that Mr. Khosla has been busy for some time investigating whether Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose is dead or alive. For this purpose, he, along with some aides, had gone to Taiwan

where Mr. Bose is said to have died in a plane crash 28 years ago. But his labours in Taiwan were practically ruined even before they began. The authorities there all but turned him back.

This was because they took serious offence to a letter addressed to them by the commission's secretary. For, it bore the address: "The Government of Taiwan", not "The Republic of China" which is the proper official nomenclature!

There may be something entirely pathetic about the Taiwanese pretension of ruling the entire land-mass of China; but anyone wanting to do official business with Taipei must be prepared to respect its sensitivities.

Other governments are not less sensitive by any means. For example, the government of Iran once got very angry because someone called it the government of Persia.

There was a time when Pakistani officials and diplomats took delight in referring to this country as Bharat rather than India. But the practice ended abruptly after a curious exchange of letters between the late Raja Ghaznafar Ali Khan and Mr. Mohammed Yunus, who then headed the Pakistani and Indian embassies in Baghdad respectively.

Mr. Yunus, now secretary to the Foreign Trade Ministry, received a letter from Mr. Khan describing him as "Charge D'Affaires of Bharat," and promptly sent a reply to "the Ambassador of Qabristan (graveyard)."

**Travel Bug**

INCIDENTALLY, it is far from clear why Mr. Khosla should have taken the trouble to go to Taiwan at all.

Any record that the Taiwanese government still has about the plane crash in which Mr. Bose is supposed to have died could be easily obtained through the post—provided, of course, that the request was addressed to the appropriate authority in Taipei "properly."

But it seems that, having undertaken a leisurely tour of several South-East Asian countries including Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia and South Viet Nam, the Khosla commission could not have left Taiwan out of its itinerary.

Indeed, the truth is that as soon as a commission of any kind is appointed these days it gets bitten by the travel bug; its members usually find some pretext or the other to go abroad.

Some M.P.s, asked to investigate the possibility of inland navigation in this country two years ago, promptly sought the Prime Minister's permission to go to Europe to study river navigation there!

The rate at which things are going wrong at Palam airport is a sure indication that a high-powered delegation of the Civil Aviation Department will soon depart for foreign lands to "study in depth" the problem of the safety of air travel.

Khosla  
Commission

roh  
✓



1029-US (FE)/73

D 6566/EA9/73

44



COMMISSION OF INDIA

304, AIA BUILDING 1, STUBBS ROAD.

T.C.A. Rangachari  
Third Secretary

Dy. No. 4214 HONG KONG  
Dated.....16...2...1973  
Secy (East)/73

No. HON. 551(1)/71.

(30)

July 6, 1973.

My dear Vijay,

1956-US(C)/73

13/7  
18/7  
4743-DIRECTOR/73  
18/7

I am enclosing photostat copies of news reports regarding the visit of the Netaji Enquiry Commission to Taiwan and translations of reports from the Ta Kung Pao and the Hong Kong Times regarding the same. The Ta Kung Pao report is an AFP despatch while the Hong Kong Times is a CNA despatch. The same item has also been carried by the Wah Kiu Yat Po based on a Pan Asia despatch and the Sing Tao Jib Pao based on the CNA despatch. The contents are more or less the same as the Ta Kung Pao and the Hong Kong Times.

Ack.  
for info.

Nambiar  
12/7

With regards,

Secy (E) may like to see.

Yours sincerely,

Ranga.

(T.C.A. Rangachari)

Shri V. Nambiar,  
Under Secretary (FE),  
MEA (Videsh Mantralaya),  
New Delhi.

13/7  
20/7

17/7  
17/7  
17/7  
17/7

Two words in the TKP despatch are interesting  
"official" in the 2<sup>nd</sup> line and "pro-japanese" in  
the 5<sup>th</sup> line. Could it perhaps be for later criticism  
that an "official" delegation's visit shows a desire to  
create two-chords?  
Ranga.



HKT  
3-7-73

廿八年前空難無下落

# 印度將派員赴台 調查鮑斯失蹤謎

【台北二十日中央社電】由印度政府任命的一個調查委員會的七位委員，將於本月十一日飛來台北，就印度獨立運動領袖之一的鮑斯，於二十八年前在台灣的一次空難中失蹤，進行調查。

這個由印度政府任命的調查委員會，是由柯斯拉法任主席，七位委員預定在台灣停留一週，並希望各界人士提供任何有關鮑斯失蹤的資料。

調查委員會已致函中國有關單位，希望給予必要的協助。

鮑斯在二戰末期，鮑斯計劃與日本聯繫，將日人的力量，把英國的勢力逐出印度，因此，他贈地到日本、台灣、與日人聯繫。一九四五年八月十八日，鮑斯所搭乘的日本飛機在台灣失事，其後下落不明。



wb

TKP  
3-7-73

# 印度一代表團 將到台灣活動

【法新社台北二日電】台北英文報紙「中國日報」今天報導，一組印度官方代表團預定七月十一日到達這裏，該團一名印度國庫領袖是該團首領。

這名印度領袖被說是在一九四五年八月十

印度一運動場地設在新加坡。

「中國日報」說，在台北，將組織嚴格的團體，這些團體不清楚。這個印度代表團由官員科斯拉率領，他將從七月十一日到七月十七日在台北進行訪問。他將訪問台灣的目的，是希望從他們那裏得到錫斯下落的線索。

八日飛往台北發在的「次飛機失事中，那一天正是日本政府宣佈無條件投降後的第三天。

這位印度領袖名叫鮑斯，二次大戰期間他是屬日本的「自由印度運動領袖，又是印度國民軍的官屬。「自由



STSP  
3-7-72

# 二十年前失踪

## 印度派員 赴台尋人

(中央社台北二日電)由印度政府任命的一項調查委員會的七位委員，將於本月十七日啟程，赴台調查失蹤的印度派員。該委員會之一員，即前在台灣的印度領事官，將於本月十七日由印度啟程，赴台調查失蹤的印度派員。該委員會之一員，即前在台灣的印度領事官，將於本月十七日由印度啟程，赴台調查失蹤的印度派員。

調查委員會已由印度政府任命，由印度政府任命的一項調查委員會的七位委員，將於本月十七日啟程，赴台調查失蹤的印度派員。該委員會之一員，即前在台灣的印度領事官，將於本月十七日由印度啟程，赴台調查失蹤的印度派員。

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W K J F  
3-7-73

印度政府派員飛台調查

# 印獨立運動領袖

## 鮑斯失蹤之資料

（據路透社台北二日電）印度政府七人調查委員會已於十一日飛抵台北，就印度獨立運動領袖鮑斯，可能在廿八年前在台灣的一次飛機失事中失蹤，進行調查，調查委員會主席為柯斯拉法官，委員會預備在台北停留一週，並希望各界人士提供任何關於鮑斯當年在台灣失蹤的資料。此間中印種文化經濟協會理事長陶錦已致函歡迎調查委員會。印度政府調查委員會在來函中稱，該國民族英雄鮑斯據說於一九四五年八月十八日在台灣的一次飛機失事中死亡，但迄未能獲得證實，因此，對於鮑斯可能在台灣「失蹤」一事，需要進一步調查。



India will send officials to Taiwan to investigate  
the circumstances of Bose's death.

Seven members of the Investigation Commission appointed by the Government of India, will fly to Taiwan on the 11th of this month, in order to investigate the death of Bose, a leader of the "Free India" movement, 28 years ago in a plane crash in Taiwan.

The Head of this Commission appointed by the Government of India is Justice Khosla and it is expected that the members of the Commission would stay in Taiwan for a week. It is hoped that people from various walks of life who have any information regarding Bose would give it to the Commission.

The Commission also hopes that the concerned bodies of the Government would also give the necessary assistance. During the concluding years of the Second World War Bose planned to have an alliance with Japan - and with the help of the Japanese might expel the British forces from India, and because of this he came to Japan and Taiwan to have contacts with the Japanese. On the 18th August, 1945, the Japanese plane in which Bose was flying crashed near Taiwan but the circumstances are not clear.

\*\*\*\*\*



Ta Kung Pao - 3rd July, 1973 - Translation

Indian Delegation will visit Taiwan

The Taiwanese English language daily, China Daily News, today reported that an official Indian delegation will arrive here on the 11th of July to investigate the death of an Indian national leader.

It is said that this Indian leader died in an air crash which occurred in Taipei on the 18th of August, 1945, which <sup>was</sup> the third day after the declaration of the unconditional surrender by Japan.

This Indian leader is called Bose and during the Second World War he was the leader of the <sup>pro-Japanese</sup> "Free India" movement, which ~~was pro-Japanese~~, and was the leader of the Indian national army. The "Free India" movement was based in Singapore.

The China Daily News said that the circumstances in which the plane crashed in Taipei was not clear. The Indian investigation team is led by Justice Khosla and he would visit Taiwan from the 11th to the 17th of July. The aim of his visit to Taiwan is the hope that they would be able to obtain some evidence regarding the Bose's air crash.

\*\*\*\*\*



~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~  
V. K. Nambiar,  
Under Secretary (FE)

(31)

51  
July 12, 1973

No. C/551/5/72-JP

(30)  
Thank you very much for your letter  
No. HON. 551(1)/71 dated 6th July 1973, enclosing  
news reports in the Hong Kong Times and Ta Kung Pao  
on the visit to Taiwan of the Netaji Enquiry  
Commission. It will be interesting to see if the  
Chinese react to this "official" visit of the  
Commission to Taipeh.

Yours sincerely,

*lea*

(V. K. Nambiar)

7c  
Shri T.C.A. Rangachari,  
Third Secretary,  
Commission of India,  
Hong Kong.

Journal  
12/73



D. 6922/EAD/h3

(32)

24/1

968-4561/73

25/7

*File*  
*20/7*

Immediate

No. F.24/6/71-POLL.II  
Government of India/Bharat Sarkar,  
Ministry of Home Affairs/Grih Mantralaya.

New Delhi 110001, 17 July, 1973  
26 Asadha, 1895

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: Visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission  
to Taiwan (Formosa).

In this Ministry's Order No. 24/6/71-Poll.II,  
dated the 15th June, 1973, on the subject mentioned  
above, for the existing para 4, the following para 4  
may be substituted:-

"4 The expenditure involved will be debited to  
major head "71"-G. Miscellaneous-G.I-Special  
Commissions of Enquiry - Commission to enquire  
into the circumstances leading to the disappearance  
of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose in 1945 - under  
Grant No. 51-Other Expenditure of the Ministry  
of Home Affairs for 1973-74 and will be met  
by re-appropriation from the sanctioned budget  
grant of the Ministry of Home Affairs for the  
year 1973-74."

*Asok Gupta*, 17/7/73

( ASOK GUPTA )

-UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

No. F.24/6/71-Poll.II

Dated: 17 July, 1973

Copy to:-

1. The Accountant General, Central Revenues, New Delhi.
2. The Treasury Officer, New Delhi.
3. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure),  
New Delhi.
4. The Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic  
Affairs), New Delhi.
5. The Reserve Bank of India, New Delhi.
6. The Finance Section, Ministry of Home Affairs.
7. The Accounts.I Section, Ministry of Home Affairs.
8. The Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi  
(Shri S.K. Uppal, Under Secretary).
9. Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission.
10. Shri S.L. Chopra, Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission.

...2/-

*File*  
*20/7*



53  
-: 2 :-

11. Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel C/O Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission.
12. Shri M.L. Anand, P.S. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission.
13. Shri H.L. Kundra, P.A. to Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission, New Delhi.
14. Netaji Inquiry Commission, New Delhi.

*Asok Gupta 17/7/73*

( ASOK GUPTA )

UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

No. F.24/6/71-Poll.II

Dated: 17 July, 1973

Copy forwarded for information and necessary  
action to:-

The Commission of India, Hong Kong.

*Asok Gupta 17/7/73*

( ASOK GUPTA )

UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

"Lamba."



(33)

54

SECRET

Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)  
- - - - -

In continuation of our discussions today,  
I am forwarding a copy of a note recorded in this  
Ministry on the discussion which we had with  
Mr. Justice G. D. Khosla on the 25th July, 1973,  
concerning Shri Samar Guha's latest allegations  
on the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

*Sh*

(K. K. S. Rana)  
Director (E.A.)  
Tel.No. 374468

*4981-Div(20/17)  
28/7.*

Shri R. Vasudevan, Deputy Secretary, MHA, New Delhi.  
MEA u.o. Note No. 4551/5/72-JY dated 28th July, 1973

*EAD*

*[Signature]*  
3077



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)  
- - - - -

I telephoned Mr. Justice G. D. Khosla today at 1.00 P.M. and mentioned to him that Shri Sumar Guha, MP, had tabled a Calling Attention Notice in the Lok Sabha and because of this the Minister of State had asked me to contact him for such information on the Netaji Commission's visit to Taiwan as he may be able to give to me. Justice G. D. Khosla very kindly came to the Ministry at 2.45 PM and in the presence of US(FE) we had a detailed discussion on the points raised by Shri Sumar Guha as also on all aspects of the visit to Taiwan.

2. Justice Khosla said that last year he had asked to go to Taiwan in order to see the spot where the aircrash was said to have taken place as also to verify a lengthy statement by Shri Satyanarayan Sinha which had been made before the Commission. He had his own doubts about the veracity of this statement. When the proposal regarding the visit had been dropped last year he had no serious objections to this and when a copy of Shri Sumar Guha's letter to the PM was sent to him last year he told the Ministry of Home Affairs that he had no reaction to offer.

3. Justice Khosla went on to say that he had no independent information on the witnesses available in Taiwan and had repeatedly told Shri Sumar Guha that he would be responsible for locating and producing the witnesses which Shri Guha had said were available in Taiwan. Before the visit took place, Shri Guha produced the names of some witnesses and the Commission wrote to them. It later transpired that some of these witnesses were not available while others appeared before the Commission.

4. Shri Guha reached Taiwan via Japan three days before the Commission arrived there. Shri Guha contacted a number of people (including perhaps ~~the~~ Taiwanese officials) and also gave a press conference where he outlined his own thesis. (Shri Guha has long held the view that Netaji is not dead and that even if he has died, it was not in the 1945 aircrash). Justice Khosla saw a report on Shri Guha's press conference in the Taiwan papers and subsequently obtained a full transcript of those remarks. This is available with Justice Khosla. Justice Khosla also mentioned his own view that Shri Guha had placed the Commission in an embarrassing position by implying that his views were shared by the Commission. However, Justice Khosla felt that we should not highlight this point in any way.

5. A number of witnesses appeared before the Commission in Taiwan and sittings were held during the mornings and afternoons, including a full day session on Sunday. Apart from those witnesses who appeared in response to earlier approaches to them, some witnesses voluntarily came forward to give evidence after reports on the Commission's inquiries were published in the Taiwanese press. The witnesses were extremely cooperative and the Commission encountered no difficulties in recording their evidence.



(From prepage)

6. The only point where the Commission came into contact with Taiwanese officials was at the time of the visit to the airport where the 1945 crash took place. This place is a high security area but the Commission was allowed to visit it and to drive around in jeeps. All the Commission's questions regarding the wind direction, alignment of old and new run-ways, etc., were answered and the Commission experienced no difficulty during this airport visit. The Commission also visited the crematorium where Netaji's body was allegedly cremated. However, unlike what appeared in some press reports in India (~~Page 18~~) the Commission did not address any letter to the Taiwan authorities.

7. There was no restriction on the <sup>activities</sup> ~~movements~~ of the Commission either because of secret instructions or for any other reason. In fact there were no secret instructions.

8. Justice Khosla added that a mention was made by Shri Guha of a nurse who attended on Netaji before he died. The whereabouts of this nurse could not be found; in fact it is extremely doubtful if any such nurse existed. <sup>him</sup> Because two witnesses who gave witness before ~~us~~ in Taiwan categorically stated that only male nurses were working in the military hospital in 1945 and there were no female nurses at all. Shri Guha feels Netaji is still alive somewhere. Certainly the evidence examined supported the theory that Netaji died in an aircrash at Taipai on the 18th August, 1945. However, this evidence was of a hearsay nature. There was no evidence to counter this story, either direct or otherwise.

9. I asked Justice Khosla if the Commission had any difficulties in locating the documents, a point which had been mentioned in the 32 MP's memorandum to the Prime Minister in May, 1972. Justice Khosla replied that at no stage was it specified to him by Shri Guha or anyone else as to what particular document he should try and locate. In the absence of any indication at all he could not simply try and go through all the archives of the Taiwan authorities. This was impossible.

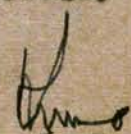
10. I then asked Justice Khosla whether the suggestion from the Government that it would be better for the Commission to make its own arrangements and not to use any intermediary organization had caused any difficulties. He replied that this had caused no problem at all since the purpose of approaching an intermediary organization was only to make the physical arrangements for the visit. These arrangements were made in fact through travel agents and through one Shri Pritam Singh who is a partner stationed in Taiwan of the big Hong Kong Indian firm of Harililas. On the other hand certain non-official organizations in Taiwan did show courtesy to him. The Bar Council of Taiwan held a function in his honour. He was also entertained to tea by the Sino-Indian-Burma-Sri Lanka Cultural and Economic Association. The local Indian community also entertained him to a dinner.



(From pre-nage)

11. Summing up his conversation Justice Khosla stressed the following points:

- i) The Commission received the fullest cooperation from the people of Taiwan and many witnesses were examined, including some who turned up on their own after news about the Commission's visit was published.
- ii) The Commission did not feel that any restrictions had been placed on it by the Indian Government or by anyone else. There was simply no truth in the charge that anyone had tried to "sabotage" the visit.
- iii) Perhaps Shri Guha was making his allegations because the witnesses who were examined did not support his pet theories. However this was only a personal observation and we need not publicise this in any way.
- iv) The Commission does not deal with foreign governments since the mandate given to it, while very extensive within India, does not extend outside the country. Even in the case of the Commission's visit to countries such as Japan, arrangements were made necessarily through the Indian Embassy concerned because the Commission had no authority to call upon a foreign government to furnish information. In the case of the visit to Taiwan, obviously there was no Indian Mission available to furnish such help because there are no political relations between India and Taiwan. Therefore, the Commission made its own arrangements.
- v) No secret directives were issued to the Commission. Rather the Commission reached its own decision that it would have to depend on private channels since the Commission could not approach a foreign government and no Indian Mission was available for assistance in the case of Taiwan. However, within the limits of what was possible, the visit to Taiwan yielded certain results.
- vi) The visit to Taiwan took place at the insistence of Shri Sumar Guha and others. The onus was on Shri Guha for producing useful witnesses.

  
(K. K. S. Rana)  
Director (E. A.)  
25. 7. 1973



6390  
Dy No. (1st)/78  
21/7

D. 7501/EAD/73

58

SECRET



सत्यमेव जयते

COMMISSION OF INDIA

304, AIA BUILDING 1, STUBBS ROAD,

HONG KONG

4898 (18/12)  
25/7 - 4825 (18/12)  
21/7

No.HON.551(1)/71

(34)

July 19, 1973

Subject: Netaji Enquiry Commission

My dear Kishan,

The Netaji Enquiry Commission returned from Taipei yesterday and left, as scheduled, for India today.

2. The Commission was very satisfied with its visit to Taipei. The Commission was treated very well and was provided with all the facilities. Eleven witnesses were examined so much so that it became necessary for the Commission to sit both morning and afternoon on all the days. The Commission was permitted to visit the airport (the scene of the aircrash). The sittings of the Commission received good coverage in the local press.
3. So far as I can gather, nothing startling emerged in the evidence given by the witnesses; most of it appeared to be hearsay.
4. Again, so far as I can gather, the Taiwan authorities did not attempt to make any political capital out of the Commission's visit. I understand that some feelers were put out enquiring whether the Commission would like to call on the Governor of Taipei; Mr. Justice Khosla, naturally, did not encourage such feelers. He kept himself strictly to the work of the Commission.
5. One interesting thing is that Mr. Justice Khosla and Mr. Bhasin, the senior counsel of the Commission, were both full of praise for the trouble taken by Mr. Pritam Singh. It appears that Mr. Pritam Singh was with the Commission all the time, acted as interpreter and made all the administrative arrangements for visits etc. According to the Commission, he spared no effort in ensuring that the visit was a successful one. Mr. Justice Khosla went so far as to say that having Mr. Pritam Singh was as good as having a representative of an Indian Mission.
6. The Commission and the team were entertained to a tea by the Bar Council and to another tea by the Sino-India-Burma-Sri Lanka Cultural and Economic Association. They were also entertained to a dinner by the local Indian community.
7. The local Indian community has given a small present to the Prime Minister which Mr. Justice Khosla is taking with him for handing over to PM. I understand that the Indian community mentioned to Mr. Justice Khosla their unhappiness at the question of issue of visas to people from Taiwan. They appear to have pointed out that while Indians have no difficulties in visiting Taiwan for business or cultural purposes, individuals from Taiwan are put to great difficulties in going to India.

for information

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21/7

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A put up  
with the file

K.C. - W  
23/7

Dir (SA) *[Handwritten signature]*

K.C. - W  
24/7

Dir (SA) *[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

7/5

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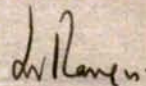


Mr. Khosla mentioned to me that he proposes to refer to this matter when he meets the Prime Minister.

8. A certain element of politics does appear to have come in through the activities of Mr. Samar Guha, M.P. Mr. Guha does not appear to have passed through Hong Kong but seems to have gone to Taipei from Tokyo. He, of course, has a political interest in the Netaji Enquiry Commission. He appears to have given a press conference wherein he implied, almost as if it was the view of the Commission, that the alleged death of Netaji was a cover-up operation by the Japanese. Mr. Khosla was not very happy with the issue of this press statement. Mr. Guha also appears to have called on the Governor of Taipei and other political personalities. He also participated in a rally of about 3,000 people on "captive people of the world". When I get hold of some publicity given by the KMT authorities to Mr. Guha's visit, I will forward it to you.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(L.N. Rangarajan)

Shri K.K.S. Rana,  
Director (EA),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

SECRET



SECRET

K. K. S. Rana,  
Director (East Asia)

(35)

No. C/551/5722-J

6th August, 1973

S.M. (34)

Thank you for your letter No. HON. 551(1)/71 dated July 19, 1973, concerning the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Taiwan.

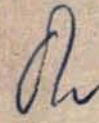
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2. Since receiving your letter there have been a number of developments on this here in New Delhi. Mr. Samar Guha has addressed a lengthy letter to PM and reply is being sent to all the points of criticism which he has raised. The information which you have provided has been most useful.

3. It took us a little while to figure out the identity of Mr. Pritam Singh to whom you have referred in paragraph 5. The Division's "Hong Kong hands" thought this might be the person who is with the Hong Kong Government and is also perhaps associated with the TV and radio. It was only after Mr. Justice G. D. Khosla spoke of the assistance which he received from various private individuals that we realised that this was an individual working with the firm of Harililas and that he is stationed in Taiwan.

4. In any case Mr. Justice Khosla has made it abundantly clear to us that the visit went off well and that he is very grateful for all the assistance which he received, including of course your own discreet help to the Commission in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,



(K. K. S. Rana)

Shri L. N. Rangarajan,  
Commissioner of India,  
HONG KONG.

Insaid  
2/18



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

The Patriot, New Delhi

Dated: 23-7-73

(36)

**'Bose enquiry  
body's freedom  
scuttled',  
says Guha**

CALCUTTA, July 22 (UNI)—  
Socialist leader Samar Guha, MP  
today accused the east Asia de-  
partment of the External Affairs  
Ministry of "deliberately attempt-  
ing to sabotage" the work of  
the Netaji inquiry commission  
in Taiwan by issuing "secret di-  
rectives" to the commission.

Mr Guha, who is also the con-  
vener of the national committee  
to assist the inquiry commission  
headed by Mr Justice G. D.  
Khosla regretted that although  
the Prime Minister took personal  
initiative to facilitate the com-  
mission's visit to Taipei this par-  
ticular department "scuttled" the  
commission's freedom. As a result  
the functioning of the commis-  
sion at Taipei was virtually para-  
lysed, he added.

Mr Guha, who was in Taiwan  
for 11 days along with the in-  
quiry commission said the de-  
partment by an order prohibi-  
ted the commission from address-  
ing any letter to any depart-  
ment of the Government of Tai-  
wan or any non-official associa-  
tion seeking their co-operation.

He alleged that such directives  
not only circumscribed the inde-  
pendent judicial authority of the  
commission, but largely frustrat-  
ed its work in Taiwan.



62  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

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HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 23/7/73

## Netaji inquiry sabotage charges against Ministry

From A Staff Reporter

Prof. Samar Guha, making a serious allegation against the External Affairs Ministry, said a section dealing with East Asian affairs of the Ministry made deliberate efforts to sabotage the work of the Commission of Inquiry set up by the Government of India to probe the reported death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Prof. Guha, who is the convener of the National Committee to assist Netaji Inquiry, made this allegation while addressing a Press conference at the Press Club, Calcutta, on Sunday.

Prof. Guha said that the commission recently went to Taiwan. The East Asia section issued an order to the commission prohibiting it from addressing any letter to any department of the Government of Taiwan or to any non-official association therein from connection with the inquiry. "Such directive not only circumscribed the independence of judicial authority of the commission but it also very largely frustrated the work of inquiry in Taiwan," he pointed out.

Prof. Guha said that the commission could not function there properly because of this order imposed on it. "If the commission was not debarred from seeking the necessary co-operation from the Government of Taiwan, the work of the commission could have been completed successfully to finally unravel the mysteries surrounding the disappearance of Netaji," he added.

Prof. Guha told newsmen that the Government, the peo-

ple and the Press of Taiwan tried their best to co-operate with the commission.

Prof. Guha said that the facts placed before the present commission and the earlier Netaji Inquiry Committee varied widely relating to date, time and location of the alleged plane crash, the name of the medical unit where Netaji was reported to have been hospitalised, the date and time of cremation of the reported body of Netaji and the text of the news of the plane accident. It was, therefore, hardly possible for them to accept the credentials of the Japanese news about the reported death of Netaji in a plane crash at Taipei, he added.

F



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

Background note on the visit of the Netaji  
Enquiry Commission to Taiwan:

Justice G.D. Khosla, who constitutes the one-man Netaji Enquiry Commission, suggested <sup>in 1942</sup> that the Commission should undertake a visit to several South-East Asian countries which were associated with the disappearance of Netaji in 1945, including Taiwan where, it was alleged, he had died in an air crash.

2. Although the Government had no objection to his visit to Taiwan, it was clarified that since India did not have any diplomatic relations with Taiwan, an official approach could not be made to the Taiwan authorities for the visit.

3. Speaking in Parliament on the 10th May 1972, the Minister of State for Home Affairs told Shri Samar Guha and others in response to a Parliament Question that the real difficulty regarding the Taiwan visit was that the Taiwanese authorities wanted a formal request from the Government of India which could not be issued because of the absence of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Shri Samar Guha and some other MPs including Shri A.B. Vajpayee and Shri S.N. Mishra expressed dis-satisfaction with the Government's decision.

4. Subsequently a group of 32 Members of Parliament addressed a memorandum to the Prime Minister <sup>in late May 1972</sup> stating that a visit of the Enquiry Commission to Taiwan was essential in order to examine three specific aspects:

- i) to study the topography of Taikoho airport where the alleged air crash took place;
- ii) to examine some witnesses who were still alive; and
- iii) to examine war-time documents of the Japanese military authorities in Taiwan which were at present in the National Archives there.



- 2 -

*On the 3rd June 1972*

5. F.M. met Shri S.M. Banerjee, Shri Vajpayee and Shri Naval Kishore to discuss their memorandum to the P.M. FM explained that the Government was not opposed to the Khosla Commission visiting Taiwan. In fact, we had tried to sound the Taiwan authorities informally but they raised two pre-conditions. Firstly, that the Government should make an official request; and secondly, that the Government should give an assurance on reciprocity for visits to India by Taiwanese. Such an assurance could not be given. Shri Vajpayee agreed that this was true and said that we might continue efforts to persuade Taiwan to give facilities.
6. On the 5th July 1972, there appeared a press report in which it was said that Justice G.D. Khosla had decided that he would not renew his request for the visit to Taiwan since the Government had rejected it because it had no diplomatic ties with Taiwan. Therefore, although the visit to Taiwan was essential, the Commission would not issue a directive to the Government. It had no authority to do so.
7. On September 6, 1972, Shri Samar Guha wrote to F.M. repeating the demand that the Commission should visit Taiwan so that there would be no limitations placed on the enquiries of the Netaji Commission.
8. Subsequently, Shri Samar Guha wrote to the Prime Minister and suggested that some alternative means could be utilised for the Commission to visit Taiwan without directly approaching the Taiwan authorities. For instance, the Commission could visit on an invitation from (a) the Formosa Buddhist Association; (b) the Civic Association; (c) the China-India Cultural and Economic Association; (d) the World anti-Communist League of China.
9. After this suggestion was examined in full, the Ministry of External Affairs agreed, ~~that~~ in a communication addressed to the Ministry of Home Affairs, that the Taiwan visit could take place if it was felt that the enquiry would



not be complete without the visit. However, we suggested to M.H.A. that (i) Ministry of E.A. would not be able to arrange for any facilities for the visit; (ii) that the Commission would have to use ordinary travel channels; (iii) it would be desirable for the Commission not to depend on any intermediary organisation for examining witnesses but to make their presence known in Taiwan and then examine such witnesses as are relevant to the case; and (iv) to caution the Commission not to have official contacts with Taiwanese leaders or Government officials, particularly the Foreign Ministry.

10. These points were incorporated in a letter which the Ministry of H.A. addressed to Justice G.D. Khosla (~~flag E~~). The Commission was told that the visit to Taiwan could take place if it was deemed essential. However, since the Government does not recognise Taiwan and has no official contacts with it, it would not be possible for the Government to arrange any facilities for the visit and the Commission would have to use the ordinary travel channels for visas, accommodation, etc. The Commission may not wish to use other channels directly for arranging such facilities. It should be noted, however, that we only put forward certain suggestions to the Commission and it would be misleading to treat these suggestions as "directives" from the Government. It was entirely proper for the Commission to have approached the Ministry of H.A. for advice on their foreign programme and the advice tendered by the Ministry of H.A. was in full awareness of the Commission's own powers to reach decisions.

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Will you please refer to your letter dated the 25th of July, 1973, addressed to the Prime Minister, regarding the Netaji Inquiry Commission's visit to Taiwan?

I am sorry that you feel that the Commission's work was hampered in any way by any action on our part. I am afraid, your impression is based on a misunderstanding and I thought I would give you some of the facts in respect of the matters raised by you.

You are aware of the circumstances surrounding the Commission's visit to Taiwan. In fact, it was through your efforts and advice that the Commission was able to make a visit to Taiwan and hold its sittings there in a satisfactory manner.

As you know, we do not have diplomatic relations with Taiwan and have consistently held the view that the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate Government of China and that Taiwan is a Province of China. Because of this, neither the Government of India nor judicial bodies appointed by the Government of India can enter into direct or formal contacts any time with the Government of Taiwan and its departments. Here again, it was at your initiative that a formula was worked out which would make the



visit possible on a private basis. Naturally, this entailed the cooperation of the Taiwan authorities and we are grateful to you for having contributed to such cooperation. We also appreciate the cooperation extended by the people of Taiwan and the various authorities who were concerned with the work of the Commission.

In the political context mentioned <sup>above</sup> ~~by you~~, however, it was natural that we should advise the Commission not to make any formal approaches to the Taiwan authorities and to make an independent enquiry without enlisting the formal cooperation of any official or non-official body there. The Commission, in its judgement, accepted this advice. As you know, while the Commission has extensive powers to gather material evidence in India, it has no authority to compel the cooperation of any foreign Government. In all its visits to foreign countries, therefore, the Commission had conducted its enquiries with the assistance of the Indian Diplomatic Missions located abroad. In the case of Taiwan, this avenue was not available and the Commission had to rely on informal arrangements and on assistance of influential persons like yourself.

I should like to emphasise at this stage that the fact that the Commission did not address a formal request to the Taiwan Foreign Ministry or its East



Asia Department, did not prevent the presentation of all available evidence to it. The Commission is, in fact, satisfied with the visit and with the response it received.

I understand that the question of obtaining evidence and witnesses was discussed with you extensively by Mr. Justice Khosla before the departure of the Commission for Taiwan and he had stressed to you that the Commission was relying on you and your friends to help in gathering the available evidence. On the lists given by you, the Commission wrote to many witnesses in advance. While several of them turned up before the Commission in Taiwan, it was also fortunate that the publicity given to the Commission's visit in various Taiwanese newspapers succeeded in attracting some other witnesses all of whom gave evidence.

I can assure you that no directive was given from the Government to the Commission which inhibited it from extending its stay in Taiwan, as feared by you. I am informed that the Commission decided against an extension beyond the nine days of its stay because it had no firm indication of the nature of any material evidence which might be produced in case the Commission stayed for an extra length of time. In any event, this was entirely an independent



decision of the Commission. You have referred in your letter to some vital documents which the Commission has asked the Government to supply to it. I have conveyed the relevant extract of your letter to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Please rest assured that we in the Government fully share your desire that every possible effort should be made to assist the Commission in making the present inquiry into Netaji's disappearance a definitive and an independent judicial study.

Yours sincerely,

(Swaran Singh)

Shri Samar Guha,  
Member of Parliament,  
27, South Avenue,  
New Delhi-110011.



170  
SECRET

Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)  
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In <sup>1971</sup> ~~early 1972~~ the Netaji Inquiry Commission which was set up by the Government to inquire into the disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandar Bose approached the Government for facilities to visit some foreign countries in order to carry out its assigned task. Taiwan was included in the list of places to be visited. The Government considered this and some informal enquiries were made. However, as stated in the Lok Sabha on the 10th May, 1972 by Shri K. C. Pant, Minister of State for Home Affairs, certain difficulties arose over the Taiwan visit. The Taiwan authorities wanted a formal request from the Government of India which could not be issued since India has no diplomatic relations with Taiwan.

2. Subsequently, <sup>in late</sup> ~~on~~ May, 1972, 32 Members of Parliament addressed a memorandum to the Prime Minister in which it was stated that if the Commission did not visit Taiwan it would not be able to reach positive conclusions. It was also pointed out that even in the absence of diplomatic relations, ways and means should be devised for arranging the visit to Taiwan.

3. In early June 1972 the Foreign Minister met some opposition Parliament leaders and mentioned to them that apart from the difficulty arising because of the lack of diplomatic relations, the Taiwan authorities had also put forward the pre-condition that



they would allow the Netaji Commission to visit Taiwan only if we gave an assurance on reciprocity for visits to India by Taiwanese. Obviously such an assurance could not be given.

4. Thereafter on the 23rd December, 1972, Shri Samar Guha wrote to the Prime Minister and made certain suggestions for an informal visit <sup>to Taiwan by the Commission</sup>. The matter was once again examined in depth and in response to the strong demand from various quarters, as also the desire to enable the Commission to make a definitive inquiry into the disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, it was decided that the visit to Taiwan could take place. However, since the Government did not recognize Taiwan and had no official contacts with it, the Commission would have to use ordinary travel channels to arrange for visas, accommodation, etc. By announcing the dates of its visit and inviting people having a knowledge about the terms of the inquiry to tender evidence to the Commission, it was expected that the Commission would be able to discharge its functions.

5. Accordingly, the Commission has visited Taiwan from the 10th to 18th July, 1973 after having arranged for its visas and other travel formalities in Hong Kong. The Commission was able to make all the arrangements in a very satisfactory manner and obtained the assistance of various non-officials, including some



overseas Indians. There was extensive coverage of the visit in the Taiwan press and the Commission not only examined certain witnesses whose names and addresses had been furnished <sup>earlier</sup> by Shri Samar Guha but also examined some witnesses who turned up on their own after learning of the Commission's visit to Taiwan. The Commission held morning and afternoon sittings, including a full day's session on a Sunday. Shri Samar Guha who had reached Taiwan a few days before the Commission also held a press conference and assisted in the arrangements.

6. We have learnt from Mr. Justice G. D. Khosla that he was highly satisfied with all the physical arrangements of the visit. At no stage did he feel any constraints on him or that any attempt had been made by any agency whatsoever to "sabotage" the visit. He received full cooperation from the people of Taiwan. The authorities there also allowed to visit Taikoho airport which was the site of the 1945 aircrash.

7. As the House will be aware, the Netaji Inquiry Commission has the fullest authority to gather evidence relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. At the same time this mandate necessarily does not extend to foreign countries and the Commission has no powers to demand evidence from outside India. In all the foreign countries which the Commission has visited it has necessarily depended on the Indian Embassy concerned to examine witnesses and



gather othe relevant evidence. In the case of Taiwan, since there was no Indian Mission available which could render this assistance, the Commission had to make its own arrangements.

In a letter addressed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to the Commission in March 1973 it was pointed out that the Ministry of External Affairs would not be able to arrange any facilities for the visit of and the Commission would have to use ordinary travel channels. The Commission was advised not to depend on any inter-mediary organization for examining witnesses but rather to make its presence known in Taiwan and then examine such witnesses as were relevant to the case. The Commission was also cautioned not to have official contacts with Taiwanese leaders or Government officials, particularly the Foreign Ministry. While such advice given to an independent judiciary body such as the Netaji Commission cannot be construed as "directives", It was entirely proper for the Government to bring to the notice of the Commission points which would have a bearing on India's relations with foreign countries. In view of the fact that India does not recognize Taiwan, has full diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China and has consistently held Taiwan to be a part of the PRC, it would have been improper for the Commission to write directly to the Taiwan authorities.

*The Commission agreed with this.*

*As for the suggestion that*

~~It was also suggested to~~ the Commission that it might make its presence known in Taiwan and thereby



-:- 5 -:-

attract witnesses rather than rely on any inter-mediary organization, In fact the Commission issued letters to various individuals in Taiwan in advance of its visit, on the basis of a list supplied by Shri Guha. Some of these witnesses turned up to give evidence while a few others did not. In addition, there were witnesses who came up on their own after news about the enquiry had been published in Taiwanese newspapers. Shri Guha reached Taiwan a few days in advance of the Commission and held a <sup>press</sup> conference and contacted various authorities in order to assist the Commission. Justice Khosla was also honoured at receptions given by the India-China Cultural and Economic Association and by the Taiwan Bar Council. It is thus evident that the Commission did not encounter any lack of cooperation from the people of Taiwan and it felt no inhibitions or restrictions in its inquiries.

Shri Guha suggested to the Commission that it should extend its stay in Taiwan but because there was no firm indication of the types of witnesses or the evidence which might be produced if the Commission's visit were prolonged, the Commission decided on its own authority to stick to its original schedule of a nine-day stay in Taiwan. There were no secret directives from the Government in this regard.

According to Justice Khosla the people of Taiwan gave him the fullest cooperation. He was also assisted, on an informal basis, by various authorities. While conducting its sittings in Taiwan, the Commission did



-:- 6 -:-

not feel that its activities had been circumscribed or inhibited through any Government directives. Justice Khosla also felt that the visit was fruitful and within the limits of what was possible it yielded certain results, even though no startling evidence emerged. Justice Khosla also feels very strongly that the visit to Taiwan took place at the repeated insistence of Shri Samar Guha and he had made it absolutely clear to him <sup>in advance</sup> that the responsibility for producing witnesses and other evidence was strictly on Shri Guha because of his many promises that important evidence would be located if only the Commission were to visit Taiwan.



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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
( EA DIVISION )

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The main charges which Shri Samar Guha has raised against the Government concerning the Netaji Commission's visit to Taiwan are listed below together with our replies to the points.

Allegation

Reply

1) The Government issued<sup>a</sup>/secret directive to the Commission prohibiting it from writing to the Taiwan Government and its Foreign Ministry. The Taipei Government did not want a formal letter from the Government of India but wanted that the Commission should write to the East Asia Dept. of their Government seeking cooperation. The Commission refused to write this letter.

1) In a letter issued in March 1973 after consulting this Ministry, MHA suggested to the Commission that care should be taken not to do anything which would lead to their visit being interpreted as involving official dealings with the Taiwan Government and to avoid official contacts with Taiwan Government officials, particularly the Foreign Ministry or other prominent leaders. This advice was entirely consistent with the fact that we have no diplomatic relations with Taiwan. The Commission fully agreed with this advice.

Even without an official communication from the Commission, the Taiwan authorities permitted the Commission to visit the Taihoku airport which is a high security area. The Commission also visited the crematorium where Netaji is believed to have been cremated.

2) The Government prohibited the Commission from addressing any letter to any non-official association in Taiwan seeking their cooperation.

2) When Shri Samar Guha wrote to PM in December, 1972 suggesting alternate informal methods for the Commission's visit to Taiwan, he indicated that a non-official body such as the Civic Association, the Buddhist Association or the China-India Friendship Association could be asked to act as host to the Commission. After full consideration, we decided



that the Commission should make its own travel arrangements and not depend on any intermediary organisation. We also suggested to the Commission that "it may not be desirable to depend on any intermediary organization for the examination of witnesses." Instead, it would be better for the Commission to announce the dates of their visit to Taiwan and invite those having information to tender evidence before it. The results of the Commission's visit show that witnesses who were contacted earlier as also others who heard of the Commission's enquiry came forward on their own to tender evidence.

In fact, the Commission was given full cooperation by the people of Taiwan and receptions were held in honour of Justice Khosla by the China-India Association as also the Bar Association of Taiwan.

3) The Commission was requested to extend its sittings for a few days so that some more material could be found and important personnel could be located but the Commission refused to do so due to the "strict directive" given to it.

3) There was no directive from the Government obliging the Commission to restrict its visit. According to our information, Justice Khosla did not accept Shri Samar Guha's request for an extension because Shri Guha was unable to confirm that any material witnesses would be located or even to indicate the type of evidence which might become available. It was the Commission's own decision that it should stick to its originally scheduled 9-day stay in Taiwan.

4) The Taiwan authorities were annoyed because the Secretary of the Commission addressed a letter to the "Foreign Office, Government of Formosa, Taiwan."

4) In advance of the Taiwan visit, Shri Guha gave the Commission a list of potential witnesses. At his suggestion, the Commission wrote to them, but ~~since~~ the addresses of a few were not available, at Shri Guha's suggestion, these letters were addressed to these individuals by name, care of the Foreign Office, Government of Formosa, Taiwan. The Secretary of the Commission also discussed this with the Under Secretary (Japan) in the MEA and he too did not suggest any different mode of address.



In the absence of diplomatic recognition, this was as good a means of addressing a letter as any other since, obviously, the Commission could not have written to the "Republic of China", which is the formal title preferred by the Taiwan authorities. The Taiwan authorities did not refuse to accept these letters. Moreover, according to the Chairman of the Commission, he did not receive any direct or indirect protest or expression of displeasure from any Taiwanese and Shri Guha mentioned this only on one occasion to the Secretary of the Commission in Taiwan.

5) The people and Government of Taiwan showed an attitude of extreme goodwill, friendship and cordiality to India and did not raise any political issues. However, the Commission was frustrated by MEA's directive which curbed its initiative and freedom.

5) According to Justice Khosla, the people of Taiwan fully cooperated with the enquiry as did the authorities who were informally approached for facilities such as the visit to Taihoku airport. The Commission also received its visas in Hong Kong without any difficulty and these were given gratis. The Commission held full days' sittings throughout its visit, including Sunday.

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ASOK GUPTA  
UNDER SECRETARY

D 7287/EAD/13 1041-4507/1  
4/8 3/4/73

5112 (M) 1/73  
4/8

D.O.No. 24/27/71-Poll.II  
Government of India  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
(Grih Mantralaya)

1054-4507

(37)

New Delhi-110001,  
the August, 1973

6/8

Dear Shri Uppal,

2 AUG 1973  
S.N. (5) / P. 7/201

Please refer to your D.O. letter No. C/551/5/72-JP-II dated the 8th May, 1973 regarding the availability in U.K. of documents which can throw light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945.

It is observed from the letter of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office enclosed with your letter under reference that the former have suggested that some of the papers in the two files mentioned therein can be <sup>passed</sup> used by a representative of the High Commission at the Departmental Record Office (Army), Ministry of Defence Northumberland House, if he makes an appointment in advance. The Netaji Inquiry Commission have enquired whether any representative of the Indian High Commission in London visited the Department Record Office of the United Kingdom, Ministry of Defence and whether any copy was taken from the files in that office which may be useful to the Commission. I would be grateful if you could write to our High Commission in London on this point and let us know the position in this regard for the information of the Commission.

with regards,

Yours sincerely,

Asok Gupta 2/8/73  
(ASOK GUPTA)

Shri S.K. Uppal,  
Under Secretary (J),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Papers for  
M  
31/8/73  
M  
ETA has 12 papers.

Shri  
4/8

AS

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(38)

(80)

P.L. Goyal,  
Under Secretary (J).

No.C/551/5/72-JP.

August 10, 1973.

Dear Mrs. Mathai,

We invite reference to your letter No.Pol/69/9/7 dated May 3rd 1973 regarding some documents of interest to Netaji Inquiry Commission.

2. The Netaji Inquiry Commission has requested that as suggested in the enclosure to your letter that some relevant papers can be perused by a representative of the High Commission at the Departmental Record Office (Army), Ministry of Defence Northumberland House. In item (III) of the enclosure Statement I have since been obtained and sent by the High Commission. If not, they would be grateful for the same to be obtained and sent to India. I am enclosing a copy of item III (Encl.I) for your ready reference.

*(S)*

*/if he makes an appointment in advance. They have now asked if the documents referred to*

3. We would be grateful if you would take early action in the matter as the Netaji Inquiry Commission would like to get an expeditious answer.

Yours sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
(P.L. Goyal)

Smt. Helen J. Mathai,  
First Secretary (Pol)  
High Commission of India,  
London.

Encl. One

*[Signature]* @11/1  
10/8  
d/c



(81)

(39)

~~SECRET~~

Immediate.

1045-1150/73  
3/8

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(GRIH MANTRALAYA)

Poll. II Sec.

Subject: News-item appeared in the Hindu dated the 12th July, 1973 on the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

--- S.M. (29)

Reference Ministry of External Affairs' U.O. No.C.551/5/72-JP, dated the 17th July, 1973, on the subject mentioned above.

2. A copy of d.o. letter No. Ch./NIC/73, dated the 25th July, 1973 received from the Chairman, Netaji Inquiry Commission, which is self-explanatory, is enclosed, for information.

Sd/- Asok Gupta.  
Under Secretary.

Ministry of External Affairs (East Asia Division -  
Shri V.K. Nambiar, Under Secretary (FE)).  
MHA U.O. NO.24/11/73-Poll.II. dated the

- 3 AUG 1973

**AUTHORISED FOR ISSUE**

*Vimla S. Jhangiani*  
**(VIMLA S. JHANGIANI)**  
Section Officer.

'Rks'

D. 7272/EA/73  
4/8

Director (EA) has perhaps seen this letter.  
It is however placed below for information

5103-AN(EA)/73  
4/8

*Nambiar*  
3/8

*JIR (EA)*

Wanted to know!

Justice Khosla has sent a copy to  
FS.

82-P.C  
6/8

*Nambiar*  
4/8



(copy)

82

CONFIDENTIAL

Justice G.D. Khosla  
Chairman.

D.O. No.Ch./NIC/73.  
Government of India  
Netaji Inquiry Commission(1970)

Dated the 25th July, 1973.

My dear Mukherji,

As you know, I have just returned from a visit to Taiwan where I had gone to record some evidence in the Neteji case. In accordance with instructions issued by the Government, my visit was in a purely private capacity. The arrangements of my travel were made through travel agents and hotel accommodation was also arranged privately. Witnesses were requested to come before the Commission by means of private letters issued to them. At no stage during my visit did I contact any Government agency in Taiwan.

I was, therefore, surprised on my return to Delhi to read a somewhat misleading statement has been made that the conduct of a bureaucrat, namely, Shri Chopra, Secretary to the Commission, had created a needless misunderstanding between India and the Government of Taiwan, and that the Republic of China has taken umbrage at the manner in which some letters were addressed. The suggestion made in the newspaper report is that the Secretary addressed a letter to the Government of Taiwan and not to the Republic of China, which is the proper official nomenclature.

It is not in accordance with judicial etiquette to enter into a controversy with newspaper reporters, and I have not chosen to contradict the insinuation made by the reporter that Shri Chopra, Secretary to the Commission, behaved in an improper or irresponsible manner, and that offence was caused to the Government of the Republic of China. I would, however, like to set the record right by stating the true facts so that there is no reflection upon Shri Chopra's conduct and the Government should know that he did not behave improperly in any manner.

The visit was undertaken at the express insistence of Shri Samar Guha, who wrote a personal letter to the Prime Minister requesting that the Commission should be allowed to visit Taiwan. The purpose of the visit was to see certain spots which were relevant to the subject matter of the inquiry, and to examine whatever witnesses were available. We had no information about any witnesses and Shri Samar Guha was asked to provide a list. He accordingly gave a list. The addresses of some of the witnesses were not known, but Shri Samar Guha said that they had been working in the Foreign Office of the Government of Formosa previously. He suggested that the letters should be addressed to these persons c/o the Foreign Office, Government of Formosa, Taiwan. Shri Chopra discussed this matter with Shri Uppal, Under Secretary (Japan), Ministry of External Affairs, and he too did not suggest a different mode of addressing witnesses in

....2/-

A comment in the  
Times of India of  
July 19, 1973 in  
which a



Taiwan. Letters were accordingly sent to two or three witnesses c/o Foreign Office, Government of Formosa, Taiwan. No letter was sent to any Government official or to any representative of the Government of the Republic of China.

During my visit I received the utmost cooperation from every one who came into contact with me. The witnesses were most willing to appear and stated whatever they knew. I was allowed to visit the airfield where the plane carrying Netaji was alleged to have crashed. I also visited the crematorium where it is said his remains were cremated. During my visit I and the staff of the Commission were entertained to a special Tea Reception by the Sino-Indo-Burma-Ceylon Cultural Association. I was also invited to a special function by the Bar Association of Taipei. I received no direct or indirect protest or expression of displeasure from any one, and no one except Shri Samar Guha on one occasion mentioned that the Secretary had been wrong in addressing individuals in Taipei c/o the Foreign Office, Government of Formosa.

The onus of producing evidence before the Commission was on Shri Samar Guha, and he reached Taipei 2 or 3 days before my arrival. It seems that he was unable to find any witnesses who would support his theory of Netaji being still alive or at least not having died in an air crash on August 18, 1945. This naturally gave rise to a sense of frustration in him, and he began to attribute his failure to something the Secretary to the Commission had not done. I may add that Shri Guha made a very indiscreet and misleading statement to reporters at a press conference in Taipei. After reading some parts of this statement reproduced in the Taipei newspapers I obtained a complete transcript of it and a reading of it astonishes me that a public person of his standing should have given utterance to such a statement.

It therefore seems to me obvious that the newspaper comment was inspired by something which Shri Samar Guha must have said to some one. In any event, the matter is of no real importance but I have written this merely to vindicate the conduct of Shri Chopra, Secretary to the Commission, who acted in complete good faith and after consulting Shri Samar Guha and an Under Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/- G.D. Khosla.

Shri N.K. Mukherji,  
Home Secretary,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.





D. 7613/EHD/123  
10/8

S.L. CHOPRA  
SECRETARY.

(40)

D.O.NO.4/23/71-NC

1092-4507/15  
15/8

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

(84)

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१६७०)  
NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

सैंकिड फ्लोर, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग  
पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१  
Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building  
Parliament Street, New Delhi-1

AUGUST 9, 1973.


Dear Shri Goel,

I enclose copies of the photostat documents forwarded to me by Shri R.C. Iyer, Under Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, vide his d.o. letter No.24/27/71-Poll.II dated the 4th June, 1973. These documents were reported to have been received by *from* Mrs. Helen J. Mathai, First Secretary (Political) in the High Commission of India, London. Relevant paragraph relating to the query made in my d.o. letter to Shri Ashok Gupta, Under Secretary, MHA, may be seen at item III of the enclosure, Statement I.

I hope the papers will meet your requirements and we would be able to get further details of the documents asked for by this Commission, with the help of our London High Commission.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(S.L. CHOPRA)

Shri P.L. Goel,  
Under Secretary (Japan)  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.

Encls :

*Antur fure*  
*ML*  
*10/8*



The Foreign and Commonwealth Office presents its compliments to the High Commission of India and ~~has~~ has the honour to refer to the High Commission's note dated 9th January concerning the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office regrets that it is unable to trace the reports believed by the High Commission to have been submitted to the War Office in 1945-46 but the documents described below may be of use to the High Commission in this connection.

1. Diaries of the Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia in WO Class No. 1972.

A summary of records in this class relating to the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose which are in the Public Record Office is attached. These papers are filed in date order and may be viewed in the Public Record Office on presentation of an authorising letter which may be obtained from Miss Fortescue, South Asian Department, FCO.

II. Military HQ Papers Far East .WO Class No. 203.

In peiece No. 4498 (Collaborators-policy) in this class, enclosure 286A is a memorandum by the Director of Intelligence which deals with the alleged statment by Mr. Gandhi that he believed that Chandra Bose was still alive and supports the evidence given by his "personal Chief of Staff and Military Advbsor" Habib-ur-Rahman that he died after an aircraft accident on 18th August, 1945.



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**III. Directorate of Military Intelligence, WO Class 208.**

Two documents in Box 273/4 (Activities and death of Subhas Chandra Bose) belonging to this class are records of interrogations. One is report 1089 on "B 1189" (Lt. Col. Bhonsle) by the Interrogation Centre (India) which may already be known to the Indian Government. It is headed "The last movements of S.C. Bose." The other document appears to be a copy of a statement by a Japanese medical officer under interrogation by the War Crimes Liaison Section (Formosa) in Hong Kong on 19 October 1946. Copies of documents referred to at II and III above are attached. But the rest of the papers in these two files can be viewed by a representative of the High Commission at the Departmental Record Office (Army), Ministry of Defence, Room No. 2, Northumberland House if he makes an appointment by telephone in advance,

(930-9400 Ext 4561)

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the High Commission of India the the assurances of its highest considerations.

SEAL

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

30 APRIL 1973



IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.

1. The "Bose Legend" has received an additional fillip from the publication of an alleged statement by Gandhi that he personally believe S.C. Bose to be alive.
2. In expressing this opinion the Gandhi is possibly not as well informed as we are, since he is ~~is~~ unlikely to have the knowledge of the statement made by Habib-ur-Rahman who was in the aircraft with Bose when it crashed in Formosa.
3. Habib-ur-Rahman can be described as Bose's personal ~~off~~ Chief-Staff and Military Advisor. He was the only Indian to accompany Bose on the last flight from Saigon to Tokyo.
4. He states that when the aircraft ~~was~~ crashed it caught fire. he escaped from the wreckage with slight burns. He saw Bose escape also, more severely burnt, and with his clothes on fire. Bose was able to walk, and to beat out the flames from his clothing. Bose then lay down and said in felt to he was goint to die. He was taken to hospital and Habib-ur-Rahman ascorts that he remained at Bose's bedside untill he died that night, and that he remained with the body untill it was coffined and cremeted on the second day following.
5. No photographs were ~~is~~ taken of the body. Rahman explain that disfluration by burns and ointment used in dressing made the face appear too grotesque to be recorded.
6. Habib-ur-Rahman statement is credible and is probably true. He is ~~is~~ said to have been extremely distressed when told of Mr. Gandhi expression of ~~his~~ opinion which be thought mischievous.
7. There is a possible explanation on Mr. Gandhi's belief. Bose's closet confidant, and probably the only man who know all his plans and secrets is one S.A. Ayer. He was to have gone with lost on his last trip, but there was not room in the aircraft. He proposed to follow in a later aircraft, but subsequently changed the mind. This man is now leaves in India, and it is highly probable that he has since met Mr. Gandhi.
8. It is likely that Bose had a plan to disappear for a while untill the time was ~~is~~ nice for his re-appearance. If so Ayer would have know it, and is ~~is~~ possibly the only man who would have known it. Possibly his knowledge of such a plan, coupled with a reluctance to believe in Bose's death may have led him to think that the crash in Formosa was



staged, even though it did not form part of any plan. He may have expressed this belief to Mr. Gandhi, whom knowing the relationship between Bose and Ayer, would incline to believe it himself. That, however, is purely a opportunity, theor and there is no evidence to support it.

9. There is another man who might have been privy to any ~~XXXX~~ secret plan of Bose s, and I believe we have now located him in Malaya. His arrest, if he can be found, has been ordered. His interrogation might then throw some further light.

10. Discounting Mr. Gandhi's statement the concrete facts we have to go on are:

(a) A close examination of all the extent Japanese records and signals concerning the flight has revealed no indication of anything "phony" about the flight on the crash.

(b) Habib-ur-Rahman statement, which those in the position to judge the best, consider to be true.

11. The evidence is by nomeans conclusive, and it probably never will be through gradually facts are likely to accumulate to a point of reaching virtue certainly. In the meantime there is, as far as we know, nothing to justify Mr. Gandhi's statement nor to alter our view that the weight of evidence is that Bose is dead.

Sd/.  
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE

24th January, 1946

Copy to:- DGA

GPA





2302-US(C)/73  
18/8

COMMISSION OF INDIA

304, AIA BUILDING 1, STUBBS ROAD.

HONG KONG

August 8, 1973

No. HON/122(2)/73

8201-EAD/28

Subject:- Visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission to Hong Kong and Taiwan (Formosa)-Expenditure incurred on the

Dear Ministry,

Please refer to your endt. Nos. F.24/6/71-Poll.II dated 15th June 1973 and 3rd July 1973, on the above subject.

2. We furnish below the details of payments made by this Mission to and on behalf of the members of Netaji Inquiry Commission during their visits to Hong Kong and Taiwan in July 1973:-

For Hong Kong

Handwritten notes in red ink: "USIO", "USIO", "2/4", "12/10", "20/7".

- (i) Advance of daily allowance (cash allow.) and 10% of tips on hotel accommodation for 3 days from 8th to 10th July 1973 to Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman (Vr. No.19 of 7/73) .. HK\$336.00 = 438.15
- (ii) -do- to Shri S.L. Chopra, Secy.(Vr.No.20 of 7/73) ..... HK\$267.00 = 348.15
- (iii) -do- to Shri M.L.Anand, P.S.(Vr.No.21 of 7/73) \$198.00 = 258.20
- (iv) -do- to Shri H.L. Kudra, P.A.(Vr.No.22 of 7/73)\$198.00 = 258.20
- (v) Difference of daily allowance as Grade I Officer to Shri M.L. Anand, P.S. (Vr.No.23 of 7/73) .....HK\$ 60.00 = 78.25
- (vi) Advance of daily allowance at all inclusive rate for 3 days from 1st to 3rd July 1973 to Shri T.R. Bhasin, Counsel (Vr. No.43 of 7/73) ..... HK\$ 360.00 = 469.45
- (vii) Advance of transport charges during visit of the delegation to Hong Kong paid to Shri S.L.Chopra, Secy. (Vr. No.24 of 7/73) ..... HK\$ 766.85 = 1000.00
- (viii) Hotel accommodation charges for 3 days stay in Hong Kong of S/Shri G.D. Khosla, S.L. Chopra, M.L. Anand and H.L. Kudra paid by this Commission (Vr. No.53 of 7/73) ..... HK\$ 1780.80 = 2322.20

For Taiwan

- (ix) Advance of daily allowance (cash allow.) for 7 days stay from 11th to 17th July 1973 in Taipei to Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman (Vr.No.25 of 7/73) (NT\$2940.-) ..... HK\$ 410.25 = 535.00
- (x) -do- to Shri S.L. Chopra, Secy.(Vr. No.26 of 7/73) -(NT\$2940.-) ..... HK\$ 410.25 = 535.00
- (xi) -do- to Shri M.L. Anand, P.S. (Vr. No.27 of 7/73)-(NT\$2940.-) ..... HK\$ 410.25 = 535.00
- (xii) -do- to Shri H.L. Kudra, P.A. (Vr. No.28 of 7/73)-(NT\$2206.-) ..... HK\$ 307.65 = 401.20
- (xiii) Advance paid to Shri G.D. Khosla, Chairman for meeting expenses on hiring of taxis, office accommodation, typewriters etc. and grant of daily allowance/travelling allow. to witnesses during visit to Taiwan (Vr. No.29 of 7/73)- Paid in Sterling Traveller Cheques ..... HK\$19573.37 = 25527.00



(xiv) Advance paid to Shri S.L. Chopra, Secretary, for meeting hotel accommodation charges of the delegation in Taipei (Vr. No.30 of 7/73) (US\$1003.68) - in Sterling Travellers Cheques... HK\$4,946.59 = 6,450.50

3. Of the advances at items (vii) and (xiii), the following refunds were received from the party on their way back from Taiwan which amounts have been credited to Govt. account in July 1973:-

(i)	Refund of unspent balance of transport charges drawn for Hong Kong (in cash) .....	HK\$ 15.20	=	Rs 19.82
(ii)	Refund of unspent balance of expenditure drawn for Taiwan:-			
a)	In cash .....	HK\$ 98.96	=	Rs 129.05
b)	-do- .....	US\$25.00 = HK\$ 127.40	=	Rs 106.13
c)	In Sterling Travellers Cheques (21212.-) =	HK\$ 15222.72	=	Rs 19850.95
				<u>Rs 20165.95</u>

Yours ever,

Commission

Ministry of Home Affairs  
Govt. of India  
New Delhi

Copy forwarded to:-

- 1) The Accountant General, Central Revenue, New Delhi
- 2) Sri S. L. Chopra, Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission, Reserve Bank Building, New Delhi.
- 3) Ministry of External Affairs (E.A. Division) New Delhi.

*N. K. Nair*  
(N. K. Nair)  
First Secretary



5480-2M(8)/15 (1) (91)  
17/8 ~~SECRET~~

COMMISSIONER  
TELEGRAMS: "COMIND", HONGKONG.  
TEL. No. 746323



COMMISSION OF INDIA  
304, AIA BUILDING, 1, STUBBS ROAD.  
HONG KONG

(42)

2297-US(6)/73  
17/8

No. HON. 551(1)/71

8199-2AA/73

August 14, 1973

My dear Director,

S.M. (35)

Thank you for your letter No. C/551/5/72-JP dated 6th August 1973 regarding the visit of the Netaji Inquiry Commission and particularly for your appreciative words.

2. I can quite realise the confusion between the two Pritam Singhs - I myself was confused in the beginning. It is somewhat confounded by the fact that both of them have connections with the Harilelas.

3. In order to obviate the necessity for leaning on the knowledge of "Hong Kong hands", I am describing both briefly in this letter for the sake of record.

4. Pritam Singh (Taiwan): He is the person always involved with Netaji affairs. He was in the Indian National Army in Shanghai. Now he is more or less permanently resident in Taiwan and is in charge of certain aspects of Harilela business there. While he might have been a Sikh by origin, he is now shaven and does not wear a turban. In physical appearance he has an oriental look.

5. Pritam Singh (Hong Kong): He is, on the other hand, a turbaned, bearded Sikh and is a permanent civil servant in the Hong Kong Government. He used to be in the Hong Kong Radio but is now in the office of the Registrar-General. He is interested mainly in cultural activities and is fairly active in the Indian Associations here. He is also the editor of the Harilela magazine, "Bharat Ratna".

6. I am sending this letter in two copies so that one may be kept on a guard file of Hong Kong personalities and the other in whichever file you consider appropriate.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*L.N. Rangarajan*

(L.N. Rangarajan)

Shri K.K.S. Rana,  
Director (East Asia),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*Handwritten notes:*  
17/8  
US(PE) / 20/8  
US(PE) / 17/8  
B.M.

*Handwritten notes:*  
Mr. PC  
20/8

*Handwritten note:*  
Second copy given to P.D. Anand Singh for his file.

*Handwritten signature and date:*  
Anand  
29/8/73





ASOK GUPTA  
UNDER SECRETARY.

1239-US(1)/33  
25/8  
(43)

D.O. No.F.24/27/71-Poll-II

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
गृह मन्त्रालय  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(92)

New Delhi-110001

Dated the 24th August, 1973.

8186 RAD/73

Dear Shri Goyal,

S.M. (37)

Kindly refer to my D.O. letter of even number dated the 2nd August, 1973, addressed to Shri S.K. Uppal, regarding the availability of some documents which can throw light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945. We shall be grateful for an early reply in the matter.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Asok Gupta 23/8/73  
(ASOK GUPTA)

Asok  
25/8

Shri P.L. Goyal,  
Under Secretary (J),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.



V. K. Nambiar,  
Under Secretary (FE)

(44)

93

No. C/557/5772-JP-II

August 30, 1973

S. (43)

Please refer to your D.O.No.F.24/27/71-Poll.II dated the 24th August 1973, addressed to Shri P.L.Goyal, regarding the availability of some documents throwing light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945. We are in touch with the High Commission in London and are awaiting their reply on the question. We shall revert to you on hearing from them.

Rh

Yours sincerely,

bell

(V. K. Nambiar)

Shri Ashok Gupta,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Immed  
31/8



D. 6848/EA/73

4400-JRE/73

# Stc

CONFIDENTIAL 23/7  
(94)

DIVISION

Interops

~~4872-20/12/73~~



P.N. Agarwala  
Chief Marketing Manager

21/7  
~~5882-20/12/73~~

THE STATE TRADING CORPORATION OF INDIA LTD  
CHANDRALOK 36 JANPATH NEW DELHI-1

13/8 (45)

July 18, 1973

Dear Shri Nambiar,

Please refer to your immediate Office Memo No. C/551/5/72-JP dated 17th July 1973 seeking clarification on a news item which appeared in the 'Hindu' of 12th July 1973.

We have checked up with our Commodity Divisions who have dealings with Taiwan and from our records we could not find a single instance where STC managers have addressed their correspondence with Taiwan as "Republic of China". Therefore, as far as we are concerned, there is no basis for the staff reporter of the Hindu to mention that STC addresses its letters to Taiwan as "Republic of China". In addition we would like to inform you that we are issuing a circular to all our managers not to make any mistake in this regard.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

*P.N. Agarwala*  
(P.N. Agarwala)

DIR(EA) may like to see

*Nambiar*  
20/7

~~DIR(EA)~~

JS may like to see.

*JS(EA) o.r.*  
1/8

Shri V.K. Nambiar,  
Under Secretary (FE)  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
South Block,  
N. Delhi.

DC/sns

~~DC/EA~~

13/8  
14/8  
14/8  
14/8  
P.C.



**CONFIDENTIAL.**

B.O. No. Ch/NIC/73.

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१९७०)

NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

सैंकिट पनोर, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग

पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१

Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building

Parliament Street, New Delhi-1

Dated the 25th July, 1973.



सत्यमेव जयते

Justice G. D. Khosla  
CHAIRMAN

Dy. No. 4550 Secy (East)/13  
Dated 27/7 1973

(46)

95

Dy. No. 5761 MS/13  
Dated 27/7

No 1159 MS/13  
Date 27/7

Secy (East)

My dear Kewal,

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have addressed to Mukherji, Home Secretary. The letter is self-explanatory, and I am sending you a copy because I feel that the matter mentioned in it concerns you as much as him.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

G. D. Khosla

(G.D. KHOSLA)

Shri Kewal Singh,  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.

Encls: 3

Minister of State and F.M. may like to see. Most of this information is contained in the Record of Discussion with Div (EA) put up after seeing Justice Khosla. The only new point is about the manner in which some witnesses were addressed.

Minister of State  
F.M.

ve. 27/7



CONFIDENTIAL.



सत्यमेव जयते

Justice G. D. Khosla  
CHAIRMAN

D. O. No. Ch/NIC/73.

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१९७०)

NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

सेक्रेटरी ऑफिस, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग

पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१

Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building

Parliament Street, New Delhi-1

Dated the 25th July, 1973.

My dear Mukherji,

As you know, I have just returned from a visit to Taiwan where I had gone to record some evidence in the Netaji case. In accordance with instructions issued by the Government, my visit was in a purely private capacity. The arrangements of my travel were made through travel agents and hotel accommodation was also arranged privately. Witnesses were requested to come before the Commission by means of private letters issued to them. At no stage during my visit did I contact any Government agency in Taiwan.

I was, therefore, surprised on my return to Delhi to read a comment in the Times of India of July 19, 1973, in which a somewhat misleading statement has been made that the conduct of a bureaucrat, namely, Shri Chopra, Secretary to the Commission, had created a needless misunderstanding between India and the Government of Taiwan, and that the Republic of China has taken umbrage at the manner in which some letters were addressed. The suggestion made in the newspaper report is that the Secretary addressed a letter to the Government of Taiwan and not to the Republic of China, which is the proper official nomenclature.

It is not in accordance with judicial etiquette to enter into a controversy with newspaper reporters, and I have not chosen to contradict the insinuation made by the reporter that Shri Chopra, Secretary to the Commission, behaved in an improper or irresponsible manner, and that offence was caused to the Government of the Republic of China. I would, however, like to set the record right by stating the true facts so that there is no reflection upon Shri Chopra's conduct and the Government should know that he did not behave improperly in any manner.

The visit was undertaken at the express insistence of Shri Samar Guha, who wrote a personal letter to the Prime Minister requesting that the Commission should be allowed to visit Taiwan. The purpose of the visit was to see certain spots which were relevant to the subject matter of the inquiry, and to examine whatever





महामेव जयते

Justice G. D. Khosla  
CHAIRMAN

2.

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१९७०)  
NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

सेक्रेटरी फ्लोर, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग  
पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१  
Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building  
Parliament Street, New Delhi-1

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witnesses were available. We had no information about any witnesses and Shri Samar Guha was asked to provide a list. He accordingly gave a list. The addresses of some of the witnesses were not known, but Shri Samar Guha said that they had been working in the Foreign Office of the Government of Formosa previously. He suggested that the letters should be addressed to these persons c/o the Foreign Office, Government of Formosa, Taiwan. Shri Chopra discussed this matter with Shri Uppal, Under Secretary (Japan), Ministry of External Affairs, and he too did not suggest a different mode of addressing witnesses in Taiwan. Letters were accordingly sent to two or three witnesses c/o Foreign Office, Government of Formosa, Taiwan. No letter was sent to any Government official or to any representative of the Government of the Republic of China.

During my visit I received the utmost cooperation from every one who came into contact with me. The witnesses were most willing to appear and stated whatever they knew. I was allowed to visit the airfield where the plane carrying Netaji was alleged to have crashed. I also visited the crematorium where it is said his remains were cremated. During my visit, I and the staff of the Commission were entertained to a special Tea Reception by the Sino-Indo-Burma-Ceylon Cultural Association. I was also invited to a special function by the Bar Association of Taipei. I received no direct or indirect protest or expression of displeasure from any one, and no one except Shri Samar Guha on one occasion mentioned that the Secretary had been wrong in addressing individuals in Taipei c/o the Foreign Office, Government of Formosa.

The onus of producing evidence before the Commission was on Shri Samar Guha, and he reached Taipei 2 or 3 days before my arrival. It seems that he was unable to find any witnesses who would support his theory of Netaji being still alive or at least not having died in an air crash on August 18, 1945. This naturally gave rise to a sense of frustration in him, and he began to attribute his failure to something the Secretary to the Commission had not done. I may add that Shri Guha made a very indiscreet and misleading statement to reporters at a press conference in Taipei. After reading some parts of this statement reproduced in the Taipei newspapers I obtained a complete transcript of it and a reading of it astonishes me that a public person of his standing should have given utterance to such a statement.





सत्यमेव जयते

Justice G. D. Khosla  
CHAIRMAN

भारत सरकार

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

नेताजी जांच आयोग (१९७०)

NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION (1970)

सैकेंड फ्लोर, रिजर्व बैंक बिल्डिंग

पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट, नई दिल्ली-१

Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building

Parliament Street, New Delhi-1

3.

It therefore seems to me obvious that the newspaper comment was inspired by something which Shri Samar Guha must have said to some one. In any event, the matter is of no real importance but I have written this merely to vindicate the conduct of Shri Chopra, Secretary to the Commission, who acted in complete good faith and after consulting Shri Samar Guha and an Under Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(G.D. KHOSLA)

Shri N.K. Mukherji,  
Home Secretary,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.



(47)  
CONFIDENTIAL

(99)

No.4550/Secy(E)/73


July 27, 1973

Dear Mr. Justice Khosla,

Thank you for your D.O. letter  
No.Ch/NIC/73 dated the 25th of July addressed  
to Kewal Singh, enclosing a copy of your  
letter to Mukherji. I am acknowledging it  
as Kewal Singh is away in Islamabad at present.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
( V.C. Trivedi )

Mr. Justice G.D. Khosla,  
Chairman,  
Netaji Enquiry Commission,  
Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building,  
Parliament Street, New Delhi.



(48)

100

Copy of letter dated the 25th July, 1973 from  
Shri Samar Ghua, Member of the Parliament, 26, South  
Avenue, New Delhi-110011 to the Prime Minister.

The whole country felt highly grateful to you for taking personal initiative to permit the Netaji Inquiry Commission to visit Taipei in Taiwan. Taipei, which was known as Taihoku at the time of Japanese occupation, really holds the key to unravel the mystery about the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose.

We expected that the Netaji Inquiry Commission while visiting Taipei will avail every opportunity and all facilities for conducting thorough enquiry into Netaji-mystery. But on reaching Taipei we were completely surprised to know from the Commission that a departmental letter issued from the Ministry of External Affairs strangely inhibited the Commission from seeking any direct help from the Government of Taiwan or any other non-official organisation in that country. In consequence the Commission took an absolutely passive attitude sitting almost like an inert body doing nothing in exercising its initiative and freedom to conduct inquiry into Netaji-mystery. If we did not accompany the Commission, perhaps the Commission would have returned to India without doing any inquiry whatsoever in Taipei.

The directive issued by the Ministry of External Affairs not only circumscribed the independence of the judicial body like the Netaji Inquiry Commission but practically frustrated its work of investigation into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji.

The Government of Taipei did not ask for any formal letter from the Government of India to the Government of Taiwan, but they expressed their desire that the Commission should write to the East Asia Department of their Government for seeking its cooperation in conducting inquiry in Taiwan. On our request the Government of Taiwan issued visas to the members associated with the Netaji Commission and made an unusual liberal gesture of goodwill to the Commission by allowing it to hold court proceedings in their country without formal permission. The Government of Taiwan, various non-official organisations there and the press as a whole expressed their sincere willingness to extend all kinds of cooperation to the Commission. But as the Commission refused, even being requested by us repeatedly, to write to the East Asia Department of the Government of Taiwan, the Commission failed to avail all opportunities that were before them for resolving Netaji-mystery.

I alongwith two other members of National Committee to assist Netaji Inquiry made frantic efforts with the help of some members of Parliament of Taiwan and press reporters



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there to collect some materials and find out some witnesses for appearing before the Commission. Many revealing facts were coming before the Commission which contradicted the most of the earlier reports circulated by the Government of Japan and many of the facts that were placed before the earlier Netaji Inquiry Committee headed by Major General Shah Nawaz Khan. As it required for us to conduct various enquiries from the airport, hospital, municipality, crematorium and other authorities related to documents and records in connection with the reports that were circulated by the Government of Japan, the task was every difficult to complete without the formal help of the Government of Taiwan. We were getting unknown facts, many witnesses and many other materials which if we succeeded to collect and produce before the Commission, Netaji-mystery would have been finally resolved. We could trace a number of local inhabitants who were working during the days of Japanese occupation under the various authorities as stated above, but it was difficult for us to produce them before the Commission without getting time and opportunity to track them and bring them before the Commission. We requested the Commission to extend its sittings by a few days so that we could try to do our best to collect more materials and find important personnel for the purpose of getting facts for Netaji Inquiry. But unfortunately due to strict directive given to the Commission, the Commission expressed its reluctance to extend its sittings at Taipei. I am extremely sorry to observe that the inhibiting directive issued by the Ministry of External Affairs practically scuttled the objective of Commission's visit to Taiwan.

I also want to inform you that the facts that came before us revealed wide range of divergence about the reported date, time and location of the alleged plane crash involving Netaji, time and date of his reported death, location of his hospitalisation the date and time of his cremation etc.

The meteorological report showed that the plane crash could not have occurred at the place where it was reported so by the Government of Japan. It was also reported to us by one or two witnesses that a body that was told to be of Netaji was cremated. But everybody stated that the body was rolled inside an army blanket additionally covered by a sheet of white cloth and nobody was allowed to see whose dead body it was. No photograph of the dead body was taken and nobody was allowed to see the body which was told by the Japanese as that of Netaji.

We got two very important documents which were submitted by the military authority of Japan - one as that of the municipal certificate and the other of cremation certificate as permits for cremating the reported body of Netaji, but startlingly these two vital documents were found to contain not the name of Netaji but of a Japanese young military officer.



Mr. Harin Shah, a journalist, who visited Taipei, submitted a report to late Panditji and Sardar Vallabhbhai in an attempt to convince them that Netaji really died in a crash at Taipei. Subsequently he published a book and included in it many documents and photographs of various persons which he claimed to have found during his visit to Taipei. He produced these documents before the earlier Shah Nawaz Committee also. But on our enquiry at Taipei we found that most of the documents are either fabricated or concocted and many of the photographs were frauds.

I returned from Taipei with the firm conviction that the report of death of Netaji that was circulated by the Government of Japan could not be relied. But unfortunately due to the restriction imposed on the Netaji Inquiry Commission and inert attitude of the latter in course of its investigation work at Taipei, we missed the opportunity to finally unravel Netaji-mystery.

I shall fail in my duty if I do not inform you that the Government of Taiwan, the people at large and the press as a whole there showed an attitude of ~~extreme~~ extreme goodwill, friendship and cordiality to India and to us who visited Taipei very recently. None of them raised any political issue but expressed their goodwill and friendship to India and urged that India and Taiwan should have friendly, cultural, social and economic relations.

I regret to remark very frankly to you that the effort of Netaji Inquiry Commission has been frustrated by the directive issued to it curbing its initiative and freedom by the Ministry of External Affairs.

I want to draw your attention to another aspect in connection with the Netaji Inquiry Commission. The Commission has fixed up the dates for Argument Session from 30th July. But all the vital documents that the Commission asked from the Government have not yet been supplied. Without these documents it will be again extremely difficult for the Commission to arrive at a right conclusion.

I harboured this faith that by taking the patriotic step of setting up a fresh Netaji Inquiry Commission, you showed your keenness to resolve Netaji-mystery. I still hope that you should take necessary steps to ask the different departments of the Govt. submit relevant documents to the Commission. I would take liberty further to request you to write a personal letter to the President of Pakistan, Mr. Bhutto, requesting him to take necessary steps to enable Col. Habibur Rehman, who can say the last word about Netaji to appear before the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

I hope you will appreciate the frankness of my letter as it will reflect to you the prevailing feeling of our countrymen about Netaji-mystery.



Copy

No.149/FM/73.

103  
New Delhi  
August 14, 1973.

Dear Shri Samar Guha,

Will you please refer to your letter dated the 25th of July 1973, addressed to the Prime Minister, regarding the Netaji Inquiry Commission's visit to Taiwan.

I am sorry that you feel that the Commission's work was hampered in any way by any action on our part. I am afraid, your impression is based on a misunderstanding and I thought I would give you some of the facts in respect of the matters raised by you.

You are aware of the circumstances surrounding the Commission's visit to Taiwan. In fact, it was through your efforts and advice that the Commission was able to make a visit to Taiwan and hold its sittings there in a satisfactory manner.

As you know, we do not have diplomatic relations with Taiwan and have consistently held the view that the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate Government of China and that Taiwan is a Province of China. Because of this, neither the Government of India nor judicial bodies appointed by the Government of India can enter into direct or formal contacts any time with the Government of Taiwan and its departments. Here again, it was at your initiative that a formula was worked out which would make the visit possible on a private basis. Naturally, this entailed cooperation of the Taiwan authorities and we are grateful to you for having contributed to such cooperation. We also appreciate the cooperation extended by the people of Taiwan and the various authorities who were concerned with the work of the Commission.

In the political context mentioned above, however, it was natural that we should suggest to the Commission not to make any formal approach to the Taiwan authorities and to make an independent enquiry without enlisting the formal cooperation of any official or non-official body there. The Commission, in its judgement, accepted this suggestion. As you know, while the Commission has extensive powers to gather material evidence in India, it has no authority to compel the cooperation of any foreign Government. In all its visits to foreign countries, therefore, the Commission has conducted its enquiries with the assistance of the Indian Diplomatic Missions located abroad. In the case of Taiwan, this avenue was not available and the Commission had to rely on informal arrangements and on assistance of influential persons like yourself.

.....2/-



I should like to emphasise at this stage that the fact that the Commission did not address a formal request to the Taiwan Foreign Ministry or its East Asia Department, did not prevent the presentation of all available evidence to it. The Commission is, in fact, satisfied with the visit and with the response it received.

I understand that the question of obtaining evidence and witnesses was discussed with you extensively by Mr. Justice Khosla before the departure of the Commission for Taiwan and he had stressed to you that the Commission was relying on you and your friends for help in gathering the available evidence. On the basis of the list given by you, the Commission wrote to the witnesses in advance. While several of them turned up before the Commission in Taiwan, it was also fortunate that the publicity given to the Commission's visit in various Taiwanese newspapers succeeded in attracting some other witnesses, all of whom gave evidence.

I can assure you that no directive was given by the Government to the Commission which inhibited it from extending its stay in Taiwan. I am informed that the Commission decided against an extension beyond the nine days of its stay because it had no firm indication of the nature of any material evidence which might be produced in case the Commission stayed for an extra length of time. In any event, this was entirely an independent decision of the Commission. You have referred in your letter to some vital documents which the Commission has asked the Government to supply to it. I have conveyed the relevant extract of your letter to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Please rest assured that we in the Government fully share your desire that every possible effort should be made to assist the Commission in making the present inquiry into Netaji's disappearance a definitive and an independent judicial study.

Yours sincerely,

sd/-

(Swaran Singh)

Shri Samar Guha,  
Member of Parliament,  
27, South Avenue,  
New Delhi - 110011.

Copy for information to Prof. P.N. Dhar, Secretary to PM

sd/- V.C. Trivedi  
Secretary (East)  
14.8.1973



(49) (105)  
No. C/551/5/73-JP  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

...

August 30, 1973.

Office Memorandum

Subject:- Netai Inquiry Commission's Visit to Taiwan.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of the letter dated the 25th July, 1973, addressed to the Foreign Minister by Hon'ble Shri Samar Guha, M.P., together with a reply dated the 14th August, 1973, from the Foreign Minister.

*pu* *JK*  
(N.A. Amin)  
for Under Secretary

Ministry of Home Affairs,  
(Shri R. Vasudevan - Dy. Secretary),  
New Delhi.

*Issued (w/le)*  
*30/8*



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

106

pc

.....  
HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 31-7-73

**Netaji probe  
body postpones  
session**

NEW DELHI, JULY 30 --  
The one-man-Khosla Commission, inquiring into the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, today postponed its argument session till September 10, says UN.

The postponement was made following the illness of Mr. A. M. Chakravarty and Mr. T. R. Bhasin, counsel for the National Committee to assist the Commission and counsel for the Commission, respectively.

Mr. Justice Khosla also ordered that both counsels should make alternative arrangements to avoid further postponement of the arguments during the next sitting.

Netaji

Amerson

✓



Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

102

P.C.

INDIAN EXPRESS ----- NEW DELHI

Dated. 11.8.73

**Netaji academy for  
army urged**

NEW DELHI, Aug 10 (UNI).

The Socialist member, Mr Samar Guha, said in the Lok Sabha today that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was, after Shivaji, the greatest military genius India had produced.

He was resuming his speech on a bill moved by him last month for the establishment of the Netaji National Academy with the object of conducting "advanced studies in comparative political philosophies, in planning, in higher military science and in search of new avenues for national integration."

Mr Guha said the setting up of the academy would be an overdue national debt to the "heroic and endearing" personality of Netaji.

He greatly resented that the Education Minister, Mr Nurul Hasan, was absent from the House when such an important bill was being discussed.

The Deputy Education Minister, Mr D.P. Yadav, informed that Mr Hasan was busy in the other House.

✓  
Netaji



MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(East Asia Division)

pc  
108

.....  
HINDUSTAN STANDARD --- CALCUTTA

Dated: 12-8-73

**Netaji National  
Academy not  
to be set up**

NEW DELHI, AUG. 11.—  
Mr. D. P. Yadav, Deputy  
Education Minister, said in  
the Lok Sabha yesterday that  
it was not legally and consti-  
tutionally feasible to estab-  
lish a "Netaji National Aca-  
demy" for advanced studies  
as demanded by the West  
Bengal Socialist member,  
Prof. Samar Guha, in his un-  
official Bill, says PTI.

The Bill received wide sup-  
port in the House.

Intervening in the incon-  
clusive debate, the Minister  
said a National Institute of  
Sports existed in Patiala in  
the name of Netaji. The Gov-  
ernment proposed to estab-  
lish five national centres in  
different parts of the country  
affiliated to the institute.

Mr. Yadav said Netaji  
Subhash Chandra Bose was a  
national hero. As such the  
Indian Council of Historical  
Research organised an exhibi-  
tion on revolutionaries, in  
which achievements of Netaji  
and his colleagues got promi-  
nence.

Mr. Samar Guha replying to  
the debate describing the  
Minister's speech as "hypo-  
cracy galore."

Netaji



SECRET/IMMEDIATE

D.O. No.F.24/27/71-Poll.II



ASOK GUPTA  
UNDER SECRETARY.

1496-US(FE)/73

14/9/73

50

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

गृह मन्त्रालय  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

109

New Delhi-110001

Dated the 12th September 1973.

13 SEP 1973

Dear Shri Nambiar,

Sm. 49

Please refer to your D.O. letter No.C/551/5/72-JP.II dated August 30, 1973, regarding availability in U.K. of documents throwing light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945.

2. The Netaji Inquiry Commission has since started its Session. They would require a definite reply from the Government about the availability of documents required by them. In particular we have to give a specific reply about the availability of the 'communication between Mac-Arthur and Louis Mountbatton after surrender of Japan which reported that Bose has again escaped' and also the documents said to be available in the War Office, London, referred to in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office letter received with Shri Uppal's D.O. letter No.C/551/5/72-JP-II, dated May 8, 1973. It is likely that the Commission may require the Ministry of External Affairs also to depose before them in this regard. It is thus necessary that we should have a definite reply from our High Commission before long. You may, therefore, like to remind our High Commission in London telegraphically and get their reply. The reply as and when received from them may please be forwarded to us.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

*Asok Gupta* 12/9/73  
(ASOK GUPTA)

✓  
Sm: 6  
On file  
with the  
file  
14/9

Shri V.K. Nambiar,  
Under Secretary (FE),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
NEW DELHI.



110

51

TELEX

**FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI**

**TO: HICOMIND  
LONDON**

ATTENTION FIRST SECRETARY POLITICAL(.) REFOURLET  
DATED AUGUST TENTH REGARDING DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST TO NETAJI  
INQUIRY COMMISSION(.) COMMISSION HAD REQUESTED THAT SOME  
RELEVANT PAPERS IN ITEM THREE OF STATEMENT ENCLOSED WITH  
LETTER REFERRED TO ABOVE BE PROVIDED BY HIGH COMMISSION LONDON'S  
REPRESENTATIVE AT THE DEPARTMENTAL RECORD OFFICE (ARMY) MINISTRY  
OF DEFENCE NORTHUMBERLAND HOUSE(.) COMMISSION REQUIRES URGENT  
REPLY

N.T.T.

No.C/551/5/72-JP

Dated SEPT.14,1973.

*bu*

*o/c* (V.K. Nambiar)  
Under Secretary (FE)  
14.9.73

① me  
SFF  
14/805



(11)

Draft

TELEX

(SIA)  
~~SIA~~

FROM: FOREIGN NEW DELHI

TO: HICOMIND  
LONDON

ATTENTION FIRST SECRETARY POLITICAL(.)

REFOURLET DATED AUGUST TENTH REGARDING DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST TO NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION(.) COMMISSION HAD REQUESTED THAT SOME RELEVANT PAPERS IN ITEM THREE OF STATEMENT ENCLOSED WITH LETTER REFERRED TO ABOVE BE PERUSED BY HIGH COMMISSION LONDON'S REPRESENTATIVE AT THE DEPARTMENTAL RECORD OFFICE (ARMY) MINISTRY OF DEFENCE NORTHUMBERLAND HOUSE(.) COMMISSION REQUIRES URGENT REPLY

N.T.T.

No.C/551/5/72-JP

Dated: ~~August~~ <sup>Sept</sup> 14, 1973

Nambiar  
(V. K. Nambiar)  
Under Secretary (FE)  
14.9.73

For approval  
Nambiar  
14/9

Director (SA)

18/9  
Pl. mine urgently  
Nambiar  
14/9



R-502 LONDON 50 171800

14 978 / Rebut 73  
9 SEP 1913

ETAT PTY IMMEDIATE

52  
IMMEDIATE

FOREIGN AFFAIRS NEW DELHI

EA Du

TELEGRAMS SECTION  
(Ministry of External Affairs)  
Time of Receipt .. 1919.55..  
Time of Despatch .. 1920.00..  
Signature of Operator .. [Signature]

112

4445 PL GOYAL FROM SUNDRAM

REFERENCE YOUR TELEX S-241 OF 14TH SEPTEMBER REGARDING

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST TO NETAJI INQUIRY COMMISSION(.)

THE HEAD OF RECORD OFFICE (ARMY) MINISTRY OF DEFENCE IS AWAY ON

LEAVE AND IS EXPECTED AFTER A WEEK(.) SHALL SEND YOU RELEVANT

PAPERS IF ANY AFTER CONTACTING HEAD OF DEPARTMENTAL RECORD

OFFICE(.)

HICOMIND

COLL R-502 4445 S-241 14TH

HICOMIND/VM/191445

→ USG on file pl.  
immediately  
[Signature]  
20/9  
Submitted.  
[Signature]  
USG



SECRET

(53)

P.L. Goyal,  
Under Secretary (J).

113

No.C/551/5/72-JP.

September 20, 1973.

Dear Shri Gupta,

Please refer to your d.o. letter No.24/27/71-Poll.II dated 13th September 1973, regarding the availability in U.K. of documents throwing light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945.

2. Reproduced below is a copy of the telex received from our High Commission in London, for your information :-

"Reference Your Telex S-241 of 14th September regarding documents of interest to Netaji Inquiry Commission (.). The Head of Record Office (Army) Ministry of Defence is away on leave and is expected after a week (.). Shall send you relevant papers if any after contacting Head of Departmental Record Office."

Yours sincerely,

*P.L. Goyal*  
(P.L. Goyal)

*SLC*

Shri A. Gupta,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

*21/7*



CSV Sundram  
Second Secretary(Pol)



सत्यमेव जयते

No.Pol/69/9/7

TELEPHONE: 01-836 8484 EXT .....  
TELEGRAMS: HICOMIND, LONDON, W.C.2

Our Reference .....

IMMEDIATE

भारत का हाइ कमिशन  
लन्दन

THE HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA

DEPARTMENT

INDIA HOUSE,  
ALDWYCH,  
LONDON, WC2B 4NA

October 8, 1973

Dear Shri Goyal,

Kindly refer to para 2 of your letter  
No.C/551/5/72-JP, dated the 10th August, 1973, regarding  
some documents of interest to Netaji Inquiry Commission.

re

2. I have gone through the two files referred to in  
the last paragraph of Foreign & Commonwealth Office, London,  
Note No.FSE 10/7, dated the 30th April, 1973. These two  
files mainly deal with the activities and death of Netaji  
Subbash Chandra Bose and the number of civilians and  
military officers who were arrested as collaborators in  
Burma and Malaya soon after the war. However, I found  
in their file (No.WO 208, April 1942) a copy of a statement  
made by Captain YOSHIMY Taneyoshi, a medical officer of  
the Japanese Imperial Army, concerning the death of Subhas  
Chandra Bose, a copy of which I am forwarding herewith.  
I am not sure whether a copy of the same had already been  
forwarded to Shri S.K. Uppal, vide Mrs Helen J. Mathai's  
letter of even number dated the 3rd May, 1973, since a  
copy of the statement is not on our file. Apart from the  
enclosed statement, there is nothing else which may be of  
importance to the Netaji Inquiry Commission.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(CSV Sundram)

Shri P.L.Goyal  
Under Secretary(J)  
Min.of E.A., New Delhi.



Register No. MD/JAG/FS(A)1223

Minute Sheet No. (115)

TO M.I.2A

LOOSE MINUTE

M.I.2

General Staff W.O.  
SEAL - MI 2

21 Jan. 1947

Dte. of Mil. Intelligence

Death of Subhas Chandra Bose

1. Enclosed is a copy of a statement made by Capt. Yoshimi Taniyoshi a medical officer of the Japanese Imperial Army Concerning the death of SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE.
2. The statement was received originally from War Crimes Liaison Officer HONG KONG the testator being interned in STANLEY Goal Hong Kong.
3. The original statement is in the possession of War Crimes Section S.E.A.L.F.
4. The India Office Foreign Office and Law Offices has had a copy of this report.

IND/F/2

sd/Illegible

Mil. Dept.  
J.A.G.'s Office,  
Whitehall 7936 Ext 105  
17 Jan 46.

/GDH



( COPY )

CONFIDENTIAL.

STATEMENT OF YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, CAPTAIN(MEDICAL) OF THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE ARMY, WITH REGARD TO THE DEATH OF ONE CHANDRA BOSE, WHO DIED AT THAIHOKU, FORMOSA ON 18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1947.

I, TANEYOSHI YOSHIMI, Captain(Medical) of the Imperial Japanese Army, at present at Stanley Gaol, Hong Kong, having observed a statement in a Japanese newspaper, requesting information regarding the death of Chandra Bose, wish of my own free will to place any knowledge I have of this matter at the disposal of the Authorities requiring it. To the best of my ability and memory I hear state the events surrounding the death of Chandra Bose.

In August, 1945, I was the Senior Officer at the NANMON Military Hospital, Taihoku, Formosa. At about 1700 hrs on the 18th day of August, 1945 a truck driven up before the hospital contained several men who had been injured in an aeroplane crash. Two of the men were Indians, and the remainder, about five or six in number were Japanese. One of the Japanese, a Staff Officer with with the rank of Lt. Colonel whose name I cannot properly recall, but believe was Ishii- something, informed me that one of the Indians, pointing him out, was Chandra Bose and that I was not to spare myself and must give him the very best of treatment. I immediately gave instructions for some medical orderlies to go and prepare a bed, and for others to carry in the injured man.

When he was laid on the bed, I personally cleaned his injuries with oils and dressed them. He was suffering from extensive burns over the whole of his body, though the most serious were those on his head, chest and thighs. There was very little left on his head in the way of hair or other identification marks. During the first four hours he was semi-conscious, and practically normal, speaking quite a good deal. The first words I remember him speaking were in Japanese, when he made a request for water, which had to be fed to him through a hospital cup with a spout. As most of his speaking was in English, a request for an interpreter was made, and one was sent from the Civil Government Offices named NAKAMURA. He informed me that he had very often interpreted for Chandra Bose and had had many conversations with him. He appeared to have no doubt that the man he was speaking with was Chandra Bose. During the treating of his injuries, I twice inquired of Chandra Bose if he was in any pain, and neither time did he make any answer. After about four hours, I inquired whether there was any statement, will, or such matter he wished to make. He answered "Nothing". After the fourth hour he appeared to be sinking into unconsciousness. He murmured, and muttered in his state of coma, but never regained consciousness. At about 2300 hrs. he died. There was apart from the injuries mentioned above, abrasions on his elbows and knees. There were no fractures.



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The other Indian was a Chandra Bose's Adjutant, a Colonel of the Indian National Army, who was suffering from burns to the sides of his head, arms, hands and knees. I do not remember this man's name, but recall that it was a very long one. He was a very tall man, about six feet or over, medium build, and clean shaven.

It was the wish of this Colonel, and also that of the authorities that the remains of Chandra Bose should be transported to Tokyo, and to facilitate this I injected Formalin into the body, and also had the coffin partly filled with lime. The whole was put in a box, and on the 20th August, was taken to Taihoku airport for transporting to Japan, in charge of Warrant Officer NISHI. W.O. Nishi returned later and informed me that the body could for some unknown reason, not be taken to Japan, and was to be sent to the crematorium for cremation. I therefore made out a Death Certificate, stating the causes of death to be extensive burning and shock. The orders for this change of plans came from the Adjutant's Department, Taiwan Army.

On the morning of the 19th August, Colonel Miyata, Staff Officer of General Ando came to the hospital to express mourning on behalf of General Ando and his staff, and as is our custom brought gifts of flowers, fruits and cakes for the deceased. The news of the death of Chandra Bose was kept a secret, and I and my staff were warned not to divulge that we knew who it was that had died. The news was as far as I can remember published in the public press early in the month of September, 1945.

Of the other passengers of the aircraft I have some direct and some information which was told to me. As far as I could make out, the aircraft, carrying Chandra Bose, his Adjutant and about ten or twelve others (Japanese), took off from the Taihoku Air Port, and after rising to a height of about thirty feet, suddenly burst into flames and crashed to the ground. A Major-General SHIDEL and two others were killed, or unable to escape and were burned with the plane. The others escaped or were rescued, and were brought to Nanmon Hospital. The two pilots, warrant Officer (Late 2/Lt.) AOYAGI and a Sergeant Major., were both burned, but after remaining in my care for about two or three weeks had practically recovered and were transferred to the Hokuto Military Hospital where I later heard they had died, about ~~three~~ three weeks after admittance.

The Indian Colonel, Adjutant to Chandra Bose, remained in my care for about 10 days, and was then sent to the Hokuto Military Hospital. The interpreter Nakamura went up there with him, and I have no knowledge of what became of either of them. I do know however that the ashes of Chandra Bose were handed over to the Indian Colonel.



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There is nothing more I can remember of this matter, at the present, but will give thought to it, and anything of importance I later remember I will disclose.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

.....

Name in Block letters. YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI.

CERTIFICATE OF INTERPRETER.

I, HANAGAKI YOSHIO, state that I truly and correctly translated the above statement made by YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, into English, and saw it taken down by Captain A.R. Turner. I later read over the whole of the above statement in the Japanese language, and YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI agreed and then signed the above statement, in the presence of myself and Captain A.R. Turner.

Signed at Stanley Gaol, this 19th Day of October, 1946.

.....

Name in Block letters. HANAGAKI YOSHIO.

I, ALFRED RAYMOND TURNER took the above statement of YOSHIMI TANEYOSHI, with regard to the death of Chandra Bose, and the certificate of the Interpreter HANAGAKI YOSHIO at Stanley Gaol, this 19th day of October, 1946, duly witnessing.

..... Captain.,  
A.R. TURNER.

WAR CRIMES LIAISON SECTION(FORMOSA).

HONG KONG.  
19th Oct. 1946.



1461-UST/73

19/x

(119)

(55)

IMMEDIATE

ASOK GUPTA  
UNDER SECRETARY

D.O.No. 24/27/71-Poll.II  
Government of India  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
(Grih Mantralaya)

...

New Delhi-110001,  
the 18<sup>th</sup> October, 1973.

Dear Shri Goyal,

(53)

Please refer to your d.o. letter No. C/551/5/72-JP, dated the 20th September, 1973, regarding the availability in U.K. of documents throwing light on Netaji's disappearance in 1945. I shall be grateful if you would get the matter expedited.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely  
*Asok Gupta*  
(ASOK GUPTA)  
UNDER SECRETARY

18/10/73

proposed for...  
*18/10*

Shri P.L. Goyal,  
Under Secretary (J),  
Ministry of External Affairs,  
New Delhi.

....



IMMEDIATE

(56)

(120)

P.L. Goyal,  
Under Secretary (J).

No.C/551/5/72-JP.

October 20, 1973.

Dear Shri Gupta,

2. (55)

I invite reference to your letter No.24/27/71-Poll.II dated 18th October 1973 regarding the availability of documents in U.K., throwing light on Netaji's disappearance in 1946.

✓ S. (54)

.....

△ Taneyoshi

2. A copy of letter No.Pol/69/9/7 dated 8th October 1973 received from our High Commission in London, together with its enclosures (in original), containing the report of Capt. Yoshimizu, Medical Officer of the Japanese Imperial Army concerning the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

3. I hope this would meet the requirements of the Netaji Inquiry Commission. If the Commission requires any other document, we may please be informed.

Yours sincerely,

(P.L. Goyal)

Shri Asok Gupta,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Issued (wle)

22/x

Encl. as above



COPY

(57)

MOST URGENT

(124)

SAMAR GUHA

Member of Parliament  
(LOK SABHA)

27, South Avenue,  
New Delhi-11

20th August 1973

Dear Prime Minister,

I had written to you earlier that Col. Habibur Rehman, who is now an important officer in Pakistan, can say the last word about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. He has not appeared before the Netaji Inquiry Commission. In my earlier letter I requested you to write to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mr. Bhutto, to enable Col. Habibur Rehman to appear before the Commission.

Now Mr. Aziz Ahmed, the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, is in Delhi. According to press reports he will be meeting you very soon. May I request you to suggest to him that suitable steps may be taken to enable Col. Habibur Rehman to appear before the Netaji Inquiry Commission?

My 'Netaji National Academy Bill' is being discussed in the House. The debates will be concluded on 24th August next. I have no doubt that such an academy will be set up in future if it is not accepted now.

May I request you to accept the objectives of this Bill and yourself initiate the move to set up 'Netaji National Academy' for research work and higher studies on the subjects namely :

- (i) Economics of National Planning;
- (ii) Comparative Political Philosophies;
- (iii) Advance Military Science; and
- (iv) Problems of National Integration.

This will be a positive step for the Government to pay their tributes to Netaji in a constructive way which will benefit our nation also.

If the Government cannot accept the objectives of the Bill, I will withdraw my Bill to enable the Government to move a fresh Bill in a more comprehensive manner. If you take such step to set up 'Netaji National Academy', I have no doubt the people all over the country will highly appreciate your move in this regards.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

sd/- Samar Guha

Smt. Indira Gandhi,  
Prime Minister of India,  
New Delhi.



(58)

(122)

P.L. Goyal,  
Under Secretary (J).

No.C/551/5/72-JP(II) Nov.13,1973.

Dear Shri Gupta,

5. (57)

I am enclosing letter dated 20th August 1973 addressed to Prime Minister by Shri Samar Guha, M.P., regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. As the subject matter concerns the Ministry of Home Affairs they may kindly take necessary action.

Yours sincerely,



(P.L. Goyal)

Shri Asok Gupta,  
Under Secretary,  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
New Delhi.

Ind (19)  
G 01"



2412/11/73 D. 6374-55180/73

SAMAR GUHA  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
(LOK SABHA)

Foreign Minister's Office  
No. 15572 / F.M.



17/11 (59) 27, South Avenue, NEW DELHI-11.  
23rd August, 1973

6/11 (123)

Pl speak. *Singh*  
6/11  
JS (FA)

Dear Sardar Swaran Singhji,

Thank you for your letter dated August 14, 1973 in reply to my earlier letter to the Prime Minister regarding Netaji Inquiry Commission's visit to Taiwan.

As I visited Taiwan along with the Commission and personally experienced all the difficulties there, it is not my "feeling" what you have mentioned in your letter but it is my definite opinion that the work of the Commission has been positively hampered due to the attitude taken by the Ministry of External Affairs to it. I don't know how could you presume that the Commission's visit to Taiwan and its sittings there had been "satisfactory" as indicated in your letter. In my opinion, the conduct of inquiry by the Commission had been unsatisfactory from the beginning to the end. In fact, if I did not accompany the Commission, the latter would have returned to India without practically doing any inquiry work there.

After persistent refusal to permit the Commission to visit Taiwan for two years, it was the Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, who took initiative on my earnest request to enable the Commission to visit Taiwan.

I don't know anything about any "formula" of work as you have mentioned in your letter regarding the Commission's visit to Taiwan.

I only mentioned to the Prime Minister that many Indian ships are regularly visiting Taiwan and our Government are doing regular export/import trades with the Government of Taiwan and as representatives of our Shipping Agencies, public and private, and high Government officials belonging to S.T.C., M.M.T.C. and other similar organizations do regularly visit Taiwan without involving themselves in matters related to the question of diplomatic relations with the Government of Taiwan, I thought that the Commission's visit to Taiwan could be facilitated in the similar way.

I reached Taipei about 3 days prior to the Commission reaching there. There were a lot of difficulties regarding the visa <sup>who were</sup> associated with the Commission and the

discussed with F.M. on 9.11.73  
E.M. directed that work be done  
this job had been done  
I will send a copy of the report to the Commission.  
17/11

*[Signature]*  
12/11  
US (FE) check 11

[for persons]





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: 2 :

legal question also arose whether a foreign Commission could hold court proceedings in another country, without formal permission from the Government there. On my persuasion these problems were smoothed and I assured the Government of Taiwan that the Commission will send a letter of request to their Far East Asia Department seeking their help and cooperation and permission for holding court proceedings there.

The Government of Taiwan did not raise any issue in regard to the diplomatic relations with our country nor did they seek for any letter from the Government of India but they requested only that the Commission being a judicial body which required to conduct in this country, it could send a letter to them so that they could offer necessary help and cooperation to the Commission for successful investigation by it in resolving the issues regarding disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at Taipei.

*Inquiry*

When at Taipei I requested the Commission to send a formal letter to the Far East Asia Department of Taiwan and other non-official bodies there, seeking their help and cooperation, I was told by the Secretary of the Commission that the Commission received written instructions from the Government not to seek any cooperation or assistance either from the Government of Taiwan or from any non-official organisations there. I asked them why the matter related to such instructions by the Ministry of External Affairs was not reported to me before leaving Delhi. No satisfactory reply was given to me. The Government Counsel also corroborated that written instructions were issued to the Commission by the Ministry of External Affairs restricting its activities in Taiwan. He further argued that as the Commission was the 'creature' of the Government, it was bound to obey the directives issued to it by the Ministry of External Affairs, although I protested that a judicial body like the present Commission once formed cannot have any inhibitive instructions from the Government, as such instructions will tantamount to interfere with the proceeding of the court.

However, on the basis of my appeal the Government of Taiwan, desisted from cancelling the visas of the members who accompanied the Commission and allowed the Commission to hold its court proceedings even without any formal request made by the latter to the Government of Taiwan.





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: 3 :

In your letter, you have admitted that you had made 'suggestion' to the Commission not to seek help from the Taiwan Government or any non-official organisation there. A written 'suggestion' is nothing but 'directive' or 'instruction' and such written note certainly compromised the authority of the Commission. I am extremely surprised to know that "the Commission, in its judgement, accepted this suggestion". It was never communicated to me as the Convener of the National Committee to Assist Netaji Inquiry, although I receive all important communications from the Commission related to its inquiry works. It was also not communicated to me by the Commission that "they rely for informal arrangements and assistance of influential persons like yourself" (me).

You have mentioned in your letter that the fact "that the Commission did not address a formal request to the Taiwan Foreign Ministry or its East Asia Department, did not prevent presentation of all available evidence to it. The Commission is, in fact, satisfied with the visit and with the response it received".

I am sorry to say that the Commission did not receive adequate response from the Government of Taiwan and the Commission may be satisfied with its work in Taiwan but I am, as one who experienced all the difficulties there, not at all satisfied with the work of the Commission there.

*[reported]*  
I found many more witnesses who could appear before the Commission and record some vital information. There were quite a good number of Taiwanese personnel who definitely knew about a plane crash that took place in 1944 in the month of September exactly in the same place where the plane crash involving Netaji was alleged to have had occurred a year later. I found some other very important personnel as mentioned in the book of Shri Harinshaw who visited Taipei in 1946, and whose documents and conclusions carried great weight with the Government of India. I found some other personnel who were outside Taipei and as such, I had to make arrangements to bring them from there. I requested the Commission to extend its sittings at least by three days more but the Commission refused as it pointed out that the Government did not permit it to continue its stay in Taipei. Because of lack of time, the Commission did not agree to visit the hospital where Netaji was reported to have had received medical aid. I can add more instances how the work of the Commission was hampered by the restrictive instructions issued to it by the Ministry of External Affairs.





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: 4 :

I am afraid that perhaps you are not aware of all the facts regarding sending of written instructions to the Commission by the Department of your Ministry which deals with China affairs. According to my information, it was Mr. Pranjape and on his advice, his Assistant who took over-jealous attitude in issuing restrictive directives to the Commission. I would request you to please inquire what actually happened and how the instructions were sent to the Commission without your knowledge and the knowledge of the Prime Minister, who cleared the whole issue of permitting the Commission to visit Taiwan. When I met the Prime Minister after sending my letter to her, she expressed her surprise saying, "I don't know why they have done so."

The mystery about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose could have been ~~very largely~~ resolved if the Commission was allowed to conduct investigations in Taiwan without any restrictions issued to it by the Ministry of External Affairs. I am constrained to remark that the objectives of the Commission's visit to Taiwan have been very largely defeated by the restrictions imposed on it. The inquiry done by the Commission in Taiwan was half-hearted, incomplete and inadequate and its purpose of visiting Taiwan, as such, has been frustrated.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Samar Guha*

(SAMAR GUHA)

Sardar Swaran Singh,  
Minister of External Affairs,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.



(122)

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(POLL. II SECTION)

Dy.No.5929/73-Poll.II (F.R.)

F.R. From the Min. of E.A. may be seen.

2. We are concerned only with first para of Shri Samar Guha's letter dated 20.8.1973 of which we have taken extracts. We may return the F.R. to the M/External Affairs for such action as they may deem proper.

We may also advise them that this would probably concern M/Edn.

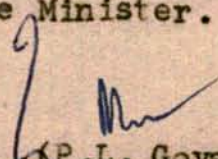
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NR/Min. of E.A. (Shri P.L. Goyal, U.S. (J))  
MHA u.o.No.5929/73 Poll. II dated 17.11 1973

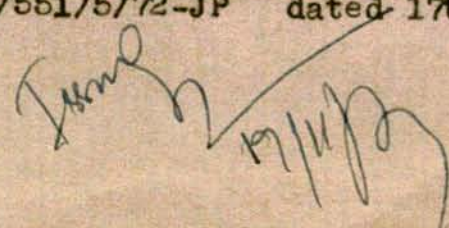
Ministry of External Affairs  
(East Asia Division)

.....

Reference M.H.A.'s note above. The Ministry of Education & S.W. may kindly see for action with regard to para.2 of Shri Samar Guha's letter dated 20th August 1973, addressed to the Prime Minister.

  
(P.L. Goyal)  
Under Secretary(J)  
17. 11. 1973

Min. of Education & S.W. New Delhi.  
MEA u.o.No.C/551/5/72-JP dated 17th Nov. 1973





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