Secret

प्रधान मन्त्री सचिवालय

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT.

फाइल संख्या
File No. 2(64)56-68 Pm
vol. IV (closed)

विषय :
Subject : Death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose
" Appointment of an Enquiry Committee to go into the circumstances of the death

— o — o — o

Pl see vol. V

Rack - M

RECORDED

Pots
12.XII.89

'B'

CONTENTS

NOTES / CORP.	S. Nos From	S. Nos To	Pages From	Pages To
			1-1-23	
			~~1-189~~	
			1-190	

Keep
Simran
27/11/15

APPRAISED
KEEP
ARCHIVES

T-126/AS(BK)

P. M. S. 6.

- - - -

Political Section {Confidential/Secret}

F.No. 2(64)/56-PM Vol. IV.

May be recorded and indexed/~~destroyed~~.

Record:

Index : 1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Surendra Mohan
31.10.84

Dy(S)

31/10/84

Prime Minister's Secretariat

.....

2

With the attached letter dated 27.12.67 Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., Convenor, National Committee on Netaji has enclosed a copy of the memorandum purporting to have been submitted to the President by 350 M.P.'s belonging to both the Houses. Underlying the dominant part played by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the Freedom struggle, the Memorandum urges that:

(a) A fresh Committee should be set up to inquire into the alleged death of Netaji;

(b) Due honour should be accorded to Netaji by

(i) placing his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and all offices of the Government;

(ii) Erecting a statue of Nejaji on a prominent site in New Delhi, preferably at India Gate;

(iii) Observing his birthday every year with due solemnity;

(iv) Devising suitable means to accord national recognition to military genius of Netaji;

(v) Erecting suitable memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of I.N.A. heroes who sacrificed their lives in the liberation struggle under the leadership of Netaji;

(vi) Publishing the Volume on I.N.A., already written for the "History of Indian Army During the Second War";

(vii) Giving him his due place in the "History of the Freedom Movement";

(viii) Arranging publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

As regards (a), the Shah Nawaz Enquiry Committee, set up by the Government in 1956, in its report concluded that Netaji met his death as a result of air crash at Taihoku airfield in Taiwan (Formosa) on August 18, 1945. Subsequently, repeated demands have been made from time to time, in Parliament and outside that another Enquiry Committee should be appointed. The late Prime Ministers Shri Nehru and Shri Shastri and the present P.M., however, reiterated more than once that the Government of India have accepted the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee in toto and consider the evidence adduced by them to be overwhelmingly conclusive of Netaji's death. In the words of Panditji "The lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection, adds to that circumstantial evidence".

It is rather strange that although a Question on the subject asked by Shri Samar Guha himself in the last session of Parliament was answered by the Minister of State, Foreign Affairs, he has so soon arranged to have the issue form the subject matter of a Memorandum addressed to the President. In view of the position explained above (For details, please see the Note for Supplementaries at F/B , prepared by the E.A. Ministry), no action in this regard seems to be called for, except to forward to E.A. Ministry a copy each of the Memorandum in question and the covering letter from Shri Samar Guha.

P.T.O.

3

As for the steps suggested in the Memorandum to commemorate Netaji, the Parliamentary Committee on Portraits and Statues is already seized of the matter. In this connection the proceedings at F/Y , may please be glaced through. We might request the Lok Sabha Secretariat to let us know the latest position in this regard.

As regards erecting a statue of Netaji in the Capital, the matter concerns the Committee dealing with the question of installation of statues of national leaders in Delhi. This Committee is functioning under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Works, Housing & Urban Development. We may forward the relevant extract from the Memorandum to the aforesaid Ministry and call for their comments.

The other proposals set out at (b) (iii) to (viii) overleaf primarily concern the Home Ministry and may, therefore, be referred to them for such action as they deem appropriate.

Shri Samar Guha's letter has already been acknowledged by J.S. No further letter to him by way of a specific reply to the points raised in the Memorandum seems to be called for.

Incidentally, the original of the Memorandum at F/F has not been referred to us by the President's Secretariat. May be, the President's Secretariat have forwarded/will forward it to the E.A/Home Ministry. In case they refer it to this Secretariat, we may pass it on to the External Affairs who are concerned with the main demand embodied in the Memorandum viz., setting up a fresh Enquiry Committee on Netaji.

V. P. Marwaha
(V.P. Marwaha)
8.1.68.

U/S. I agree. This seems to be a classic example of "Here we go round the mulberry bush"! M. Mahontra
10/1

J.S.

J.S.

15/1/68

Matwar
15-1-68.

Four drafts are put up for approval.

V.P. Marwaha
(V.P. Marwaha) 18.1.68

U/S

Political Section.

4

A copy of the letter, received from Prof. Samar Guha, Convenor, National Committee on Netaji, together with a copy of the memorandum from M.Ps to the President, was forwarded to the Min'y. of External Affairs. Relevant extracts from the memorandum were forwarded to the Ministries of Home Affairs and W.H.+S. and the Lok Sabha Sect.

8/2

U.S. desired to have this w/n.

V. P. Maseerha

8/2

U/S M. Speak

9/2

Sri Maseerha

Spoken. Copy given to Director Manjit Singh of Ext Affairs

10/2

pol (a)

-4-

P.2504/C

15

P.M will recall a Memorandum Submitted by three hundred odd M.P.s on Netaji Bose.

A meeting of Secretaries was held to consider the suggestions made in the Memo. The minutes of the meeting are placed below.

*P. 22 & 25.

P. Dhar
23.2.68

P.M.

27.2.68

Pol

Pol

Pol

(6

The minutes of the Secretaries Committee appear at Slip M (A.2325/1)

Other flagged papers may also please be seen.

V. Maxwell
16.5.68

US
22/5

Pol

Pol. III

CONFIDENTIAL

POLITICAL SECTION

7

Letter dated 19.5.69 from Prof. Sumar Guha, M.P., New Delhi.

....

In the month of December, 1967 Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., convenor, National Committee on Netaji forwarded to us a copy of a memorandum purporting to have been submitted to the President by 350 Members of Parliament, underlying the dominant part played by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in the freedom suruggle. The memorandum urged inter-alia that a fresh Committee should be set up to inquire into the alleged death of Netaji. The demands embodied in the aforesaid memorandum were considered at a meeting of the Secretaries on February, 1968, and in regard to this particular demand, it was decided that there was no need to order a fresh inquiry into the circumstances leading to the death of Netaji.

2. In the F.R., Prof. Guha has reiterated the demand for a fresh in-quiry on the lines of one already being held to probe the circumstances leading to the murder of Mahatma Gandhi after twenty years. He has appealed to set up a fresh enqiry committee, consisting of Supreme Court Judges, which in cooperation with the Governments of Japan and Formosa, should conduct a thorough proble into Netaji's mystery.

3. In view of the background explained in paragraph 1 above, there is no scope for instituting such an inquiry. Prof. Guha's letter may be forwarded to the Ministry of External Affairs who may be requested to send a suitable reply to him on P.M's behalf, under intimation to us.

SSA
28/5

28/5/69

P.S(S)

V.P. Marwaha
30.5.69

JS.I

This is surely not the first time we have dealt with the demand for a fresh enquiry into Netaji's death. I am sure the present or past PMs must have replied to various people, including Samar Guha. A draft may be prepared accordingly. There is no need to pass the buck to MEA.

P. Oswal
2/6/69

PS(S)

P.T.O.

from over-leaf

CONFIDENTIAL

A draft letter to Shri Samar Guha is put up for consideration.

The Prime Minister or her predecessors did not write to Shri Samar Guha on the subject. In fact, PM does not appear to have entered into correspondence with any person in regard to the proposed institution of a fresh inquiry into the death of Netaji. Panditji, however, did write to the late Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, the elder brother of Netaji, and Shri Amiya Nath Bose, the nephew of Netaji. The two letters addressed to them appear at slips 'A' and 'B' respectively.

Shri Samar Guha wrote recently to HM also, who referred the letter to F.M. F.M. has passed on the papers to us. × slip G

V.P. Marwaha

(V.P. Marwaha)
11-6-69

J.S/I

Who is the Minister who has answered questions in Parliament, in regard to such demands for a fresh enquiry — HM or F.M. I believe F.M. has been doing so: If so, he shd reply to Shri Guha.

S. Banerji
14/6

PS(S)

Js's impression that the Parliament Questions on the subject have been dealt with, in the past, by External Affairs, is correct. A draft note to SA to F.M. is placed below.

V.P. Marwaha
16 6 69

J.S.I

Issue the note placed below.

S. Banerji
(S. Banerji)
16.6.69.

17.6

PS(S).

Confidential

9

At the last Cabinet Meeting, P.M. referred to a letter which she had received from some M.Ps including Shri Samar Guha, on the old standing demand for a second inquiry into the circumstances relating to Netaji's death. The letter stated that over 350 M.Ps have asked for such a Commission of Inquiry. The Cabinet was inclined to accept the request in view of the large number of M.Ps who had asked for the inquiry.

2. At my instance P.M. agreed that Cabinet might consider the matter again at some length in the light of the past background of this case. I expect that the letter from the M.Ps together with the minutes will come to us from Cabinet Secretariat. PS(S) may check with them. He may separately put up a self contained note.

(S. Banerji)
16.8.69.

~~PS(S)~~ I understand from the Cabinet Secretariat (Shri R.N. Haksar) that P.M. has remarked on M.P.'s letter that a second inquiry might become unavoidable. The Cabinet Secretariat are themselves processing the matter, in consultation with Ministries of External Affairs and Home Affairs, and it is expected that either of these Ministries would be requested to bring up a paper before the Cabinet. We might, perhaps, await receipt of the Cabinet paper, and put up an internal note thereafter, if necessary.

V.P. Marwaha
18/8

PS(S)
19.8.

PS(S)

PS/S/K
19/8
PM

→ N-8

copy to
PS put up
to Secretary
20/8

PM

Placed below
SS
21/8

21/8

PS

CONFIDENTIAL 10

POLITICAL SECTION

In the month of December, 1967 Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., Convenor, National Committee on Netaji forwarded a copy of the memorandum purporting to have been submitted to the President by 350 members of the Parliament belonging to both the houses. Underlying the dominant part played by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the freedom struggle, the Memorandum urged that:-

a) a fresh Committee should be set up to inquire into the alleged death of Netaji;

b) Due honour should be accorded to Netaji by

(i) placing his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and all offices of the Government;

(ii) Erecting a statue of Netaji on a prominent site in New Delhi, preferably at India Gate;

(iii) Observing his birthday every year with due solemnity;

(Iv) Devising suitable means to accord national recognition to military genius of Netaji;

(v) Erecting suitable memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of I.N.A. heroes who sacrificed their lives in the liberation struggle under the leadership of Netaji;

(vi) Publishing the Volume on I.N.A., already written for the "History of Indian Army during the Second War";

(vii) Giving him his due place in the "History of the Freedom Movement";

(viii) Arranging publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

2. As regards (a), the Shah Nawaz Enquiry Committee, set up by the Government in 1956, in its report concluded that Netaji met his death as a result of a crash at Taihoku airfield in Taiwan (Formosa) on August 18, 1945, and that his ashes are now kept at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo. Subsequently, repeated demands have been made from time to time, in Parliament and outside that another Enquiry Committee should be appointed. The late Prime Minister Shri Nehru and Shri Shastri and the present Prime Minister, however, reiterated more than once that the Government of India have accepted the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee in toto and consider the evidence adduced by them to be overwhelmingly conclusive of Netaji's death. In the words of Panditji "The lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection, adds to that circumstantial

Contd.....2.

11

Confidential

evidence."

3. The demands embodied in the aforesaid memorandum were considered at a meeting of the Secretaries in Feburary, 1968, and in regard to this particular demand viz. fresh inquiry into the alleged death of Netaji, it was decided that there was no need for a further inquiry, as according to all available information, he had died.

It may be mentioned that it was explained in the Secretaries' meeting that after the inquiry made by the Shah Nawaz Committee, no fresh material had come to notice. Demand for a fresh inquiry had been made from time to time and in reply to the questions in Parliament, Government had been taking the stand that no further probe was called for.

SSA
21/8

SRVerma
21.8.69.

PS (S)

At a recent Cabinet meeting, P.M. mentioned about a letter she has received from a large number of M.P.'s re-iterating the demand for a fresh inquiry be instituted into the death of Netaji Subhas Bose. The Cabinet was inclined to accept the demand; but, at J.S.'s instance, P.M. agreed that Cabinet might consider the matter at some length against the background of this case. It is understood that the Cabinet Secty have since referred the letter in question to the Ex Ministry (who have been handling this matter in the Parliament), with the request that they might furnish a detailed note on the subject.

In the meantime, it is understood that Shri Saman Guha and others are trying to raise the matter in the Parliament again.

V.P. Marwha
21.8.69

J.S.I

Netaji

SECRET

12

Demand for Inquiry into Netaji's Death

P.M. referred to the matter at the last Cabinet meeting. She gave the letter which she had received from Shri Samar Guha and some other M.Ps to Cabinet Secretary. Cabinet Secretary is examining the past records in consultation with the M.E.A. and others.

2. Meanwhile, I might mention for P.M.'s present information on the basis of our records that the demand by some 350 M.Ps was made in 1967, not now. These were examined in some inter-ministerial consultations held in February, 1968. The conclusion reached was that no new information had been brought to light and there was no need for any fresh enquiry.

3. The Shah Nawaz Inquiry Committee was set up in 1956. Its conclusion was that Netaji died as a result of a crash at Taihoku air-field in Taiwan (Formosa) on August 18, 1945, and that his ashes are now kept at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo.

4. The demand for a re-enquiry has been made eversince from time to time, in Parliament and outside. Prime Minister Nehru as well as Prime Minister Shastri had to turn down these demands. We have also in present P.M.'s time, reiterated the Government's acceptance of the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee in toto on the ground that ~~that~~ the evidence adduced by the Committee was overwhelmingly conclusive of Netaji's death. Prime Minister Nehru made a very important point in respect of this decision in the following words:-

> " The lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection, adds to that circumstantial evidence."

5. The present letter of Shri Samar Guha ~~adds~~ has the signatures of another 43 M.Ps.(not 350). It refers to the previous demand of 1967 which had been backed by 350 Members. I am not suggesting that even 44 is a small number. On the other hand, one knows ~~who~~ how such demands often come to bear so many signatures. The main point is that any decision to order a re-enquiry would go against Government's repeated stand in the time of 3 Prime Ministers turning down such a demand. It will also have the demerit of raising an altogether ~~a~~ new excitement over this issue which is believed to be dead except by some ardent followers of Netaji, like Samar Guha with whom it is obviously an incurable ~~mental~~ emotional obsession. Once the demand is accepted, we may find ourselves pushed into a body of two or three to constitute the Commission of Inquiry. If that happens we may be almost certain of a dissenting note or two,

.. Contd.

thereby giving this irrational controversy a further lease of life.

6. These are only tentative thoughts. The note is meant for P.M.'s present information. We may await the fuller note from the Cabinet Secretary to whom P.M. has entrusted this matter.

(S. Banerji)
22.8.69.

Seen. Thanks. Meanwhile several Cab. ministers have questioned P.M. informed Shri Jha (or so he says) that the enquiry has been agreed to!

23.8.

May await note
C.S.
Cox
D(S)
Natwar
26/8/69
PS(S)
26/8

A note about this subject will be circulated by Cabinet Secretary to ask views of the Council of Ministers. This may be put up to me alongwith that note, when received.

(S. Banerji)
30.8.1969

PS(S) The Note for the Cabinet is submitted, together with its summary.

V.P. Mazumdar
3.9.69

J.S/I Thanks. Your summary self contained & quite adequate.

5.9.69

PS(S).

2(64)

Poll II

There was no deputation that came to see P.M. about the demand for a fresh inquiry into the circumstances of Netaji's death. However, when P.M. visited Netaji Bhavan on the morning of 14th September, there was a small demonstration of 15/20 people who shouted slogans demanding such an inquiry. Two representatives were invited to meet P.M. inside Netaji Bhavan which they did. They handed over a memorandum.

(S. Banerji)
15.9.1969

PS (8) Please place these papers on the relevant file (The Cabinet minutes may be released after obtaining relevant extract).

2. The memorandum mentioned in the concluding sentence of IS I's note above may be shown to me when read in Bell'.

V.P. Marcelhe
15/9/69

Poll

2(64)

Copy No: 2
Five copies.

Secret

15

Prime Minister's Secretariat.

Cabinet Meeting on September 5, 1969--Item 3 of agenda--Disapperance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945

...

In April 1956, in response to the public demand, Government of India appointed an Inquiry Committee to ascertain the circumstances concerning Netaji's alleged death in an air crash. The Committee consisted of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose (elder brother of Netaji) and Shri S.N.Maitra (formerly Chief Commissioner, Andamans and Nicobar). The Committee examined witnesses in Delhi, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Turang and Tokyo, and studied relevant records pertaining to the matter. The three members of the Committee arrived at certain broad conclusions which were summarised in a list entitled "Prinpal points agreed to for Draft Report" dated 30.6.56". Shri Suresh Chandra Bose had agreed with the principle conclusions and signed the documents containing these on 2.7.56. The conclusions confirmed that Netaji had, in fact, met his death in the air crash on the 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, however, submitted a dissentient report stating that there had been no plane crash involving Netaji's death as concluded in the Committee's report.

2. The Cabinet considered the report of the Inquiry Committee signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri S.N. Maitra on 9th September, 1956 and accepted the finding that Netaji had in fact met his death as a result of air crash on the 18th August, 1945. A copy of that report and a copy of the dissentient report were placed on the table of the House by the late Prime Minister Nehru, who stated that Government had accepted the majority report.

3. The conclusions of the majority report were - about the spring of 1945, the defeat of the Axis powers became clear, and Netaji began thinking of the future activities of himself and of the Indian Independence League and the Indian National Army. He desired to consult his allies, the Japanese, before arriving at a decision. He left Bangkok on the 17th August, 1945 and reached Saigon from where he, alongwith his colleague Col.Habibur Rehman, was picked up in a Japanese Air Force Bomber for being carried to Tokyo. The Bomber halted at Tohoku in Formosa in the early afternoon of 18th August, 1945. While taking off from Tohoku in the afternoon, however, the propellor and the engine of the 'Bomber' suddenly dropped out, with the result that the plane immediately crashed and burst into flames. Suffering from severe burns, Netaji was carried into the Military Hospital where after some hours he passed away. On the 20th September, his body was cremated in the Tohoku Crematorium and his ashes were flown on the 7th September, 1945 to Tokyo where they have since been lying in the Rankoji Temple.

4. The burden of Shri Suresh Chandra Bose's dissentient report is that the late Prime Minister Nehru had already made up his mind and had agreed to the enquiry only in response to a pressing demand from a large section of the people. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose has further charged that two of the members of the Three-men Committee were under a 'mandate' to arrive at findings which would conform to the pre-conceived notion of the late Prime Minister Nehru that Netaji was dead. He maintained that there was evidence contradicting that there was any air crash at all.

..../---2

5. There have been repeated demands for undertaking another enuiry ever-since the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee's Report was published. However, the Government, having accepted the findings of the Committee, have taken the position that unless fresh evidence or new facts were brought to light, a further enuiry was not warranted. Rumours about Netaji's survival and whereabouts etc. have cropped up repeatedly, but on investigation, these rumours have generally been found to be baseless. In 1962, a rumour was spread that a Sanyasi of Shaulmari Ashram ~~was~~ was ~~met~~ in fact Netaji. This Sanyasi Shradanand himself denied the rumour.

6. On December 26, 1967, about 350 Members of Prliament sent a Memorandum to the President, demanding a fresh enuiry into the reported death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, in collaboration with the Govenments of Japan and Taiwan. The memorandum was discussed at a meeting of Secretaries on 16th February, 1968, and it was felt that no second enquiry was warranted as no fresh evidence had been brouht to light.

7. Shri Samar Guha wrote to the Prime Minister in May, 1969, requesting for a judicial enqiry into Netaji's death on the anology of the enquiry being conducted in regard to Gandhiji's assassination 20 years after Mahatmaji's death. The Foreign Minister, in reply to this letter, informed Shri Guha that the terms of reference of the enuiry being conducted into Gandhiji's assassination did not seek to establish Gandhiji's death. 44 M.Ps. addressed a letter to the Prime Minister on August 7, requesting for the appointment of a fresh Inquiry Commission, consisting of retired Supreme Court judges and eminent public men, on the plea that a fresh probe was being conducted in regard to the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and that a judicial enquiry was also being ordered into the causes of the death of the Jan Sangh leader Shri Deen Dayal Upadhyay. It is quite obvious that these two examples that have been cited are not an all ~~force~~ ~~for~~ ours with an enuiry into the death of Netaji. The question of enquiry was again raised in the Lok Sabha on August 22, 1969 and the Home Minister replied to say, ~~that~~ "This matter is under the active consideration of the Government. The Prime Minister has recently received certain memorandum-~~feren~~ from certain Members of Parliament, and we are very actively considering this".

8. In a letter dated 13-5-62 to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, Prime Minister Nehru said "You asked me to send you proof of death of Subash Chandra Bose. I cannot send you any precise and direct proof. But all the circumstantial evidence that has been produced and which has been referred in the Inquiry Committee's Report has convinced us of the fact that Netaji has died. In addition to this, the lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection adds to that circumstantial evidence".

9. It is for consideration whether a Commission of Inquiry should be appointed or not. Any decision to order a re-enquiry would go against Government's repeated stand in the time of three Prime Ministers, turning down such a demand. It will also have the demerit of raising an altogether new excitement over this issue which is believed to be dead except by some ~~urgent~~ ardent followers of Netaji, like Shri Samar Guha, with whom it is obviously an obsession. In the circumstances, it might not ~~therefore~~ be considered desirable to set up a fresh Commission of Inquiry into Netaji's death. However, if a decision is taken otherwise, the proposed Commission should consist of a single judge of the Supreme Court.

V.P. Marwaha
(V.P.Marwaha)
3.9.69

W/Secy./JS-I./JS-II.

Separate copies
sr/3.9.

Single Copy.

Secret

17

Reference note on pages 1 and 2 ante.

2. The matter was considered by the Cabinet at its meeting held on September 5. It was appreciated that as a number of M.Ps. were insistent that a further probe into the cause of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose's death was necessary, it would not be possible to withstand the pressure. In this context, three possible alternatives were considered:

(i) An eminent scholar may be asked to undertake an historical research into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose;

(ii) A retired judge may be asked to sift all available evidence with a view to advising whether a prima facie case existed for a further probe;

(iii) A Committee of three prominent persons may be requested to go into the question, both within the country and outside.

Taking the political and other aspects of the problem into account, it was ultimately agreed that none of the alternatives may be suitable at present. It was decided that no enquiry would be made now. If there is a consistent demand from a large section of the Members of Parliament, the matter can be brought up later.

3. In a minute dated the 5th September, 1969 to the Cabinet Secretary, PM observed that " ..... After much discussion, as far as I remember, the final decision was not to go further with the inquiry. My personal view is that we might explain the position to the M.Ps. who have signed. I doubt if many will support Shri Samar Guha once the position is made clear to them. However, if there is a consistent demand, we may consider having the matter informally examined by a competent and impartial person". It is understood from the Cabinet Secretariat that the matter was subsequently referred by them to the Home Ministry, for follow-up action.

4. A letter has now been received from Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy, M.P., in which he has repeated the demand for a fresh probe into Netaji's disappearance. He claims that this demand has the support of about 2/3rds of the total Members of Parliament, and should, therefore, be conceded, as had been done in regard to Gandhi Murder case and the tragic death of the Jana-Sangh Leader Shri Deen Dayal Upadhayay. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy's letter may be referred to the Cabinet Secretary, with the request that he may let PM have his comments and also suggest the lines on which she could consider sending a reply to Shri Reddy. In the meantime, a simple acknowledment might go to Shri Reddy over my signature.

V.P. Marwaha
(V.P.Marwaha)
27.9.69

JS-I.

Slip V

Slip L

(x) F.R

'B' - I have sent an extract to Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy, M.P.

'A' - A c.o. note to the Cabinet Secretary is put up for signature.
V.P. Marwaha
4 x 69

J.S.II
sr/27.9.

Natwar
3.x.69 Dept

18

Secret

From over-leaf

In reply to our u.o. note dated the 6th October, 1969, the Cabinet Secretariat have stated that the Minister of Home Affairs proposes to call a meeting of the 44 Members of Parliament, who have signed the representation dated the 7th August, 1969, to clarify the position. They have added that they are suggesting to the Home Ministry to invite Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy also to the meeting. In view of this, they do not consider necessary to send any reply to Shri Reddy at this stage. (Cabinet Secretary has seen the case).

SSA
23/X

SRVerma
23/X/69.

PS(S)

V.P. Marwaha
23 X

S/II

Ramnath
21.10.69

PS(S)
23/X

P-III

We have now received a further communication from the Ministry of Home Affairs in which it has been intimated that the Home Minister has decided to convene a meeting on 20th November at 9.30 A.M. with a view to discuss the matter with all the Members of Parliament who have expressed themselves in favour of the proposal to have a fresh inquiry. They have forwarded a list of the persons who have been called for this meeting.

Submitted for information.

SSA
6/11

SRVerma
7/11/69.

PS(S)

V.P. Marwaha
7 XI

S II

Ramnath
7.11.69

12 11

Political Section

.....

19

In the attached letter dated the 22nd November, 1969, Shri Ramesh Chandra Chanda, Secretary, Sarada Smriti Pathamandir, P.O. Nasra, Dt. Nadia, while giving the account of Netaji's contribution towards the ceaseless struggle for freedom, has stated that doubt has been created amongst the people of the country as to whether Netaji is dead or alive. He has cited certain examples and quoted extracts from the books and dailies that the news, as circulated to the effect that Nejaji died of a plane crash on the 18th of August, 1945 was absolutely a downright falsehood. He has requested P.M. to institute a sifting enquiry commission just to make an end to the prolonged farces centring round the affairs of Netaji and to establish the truth.

2. Our file on the subject is placed below and notes at F/'Y' will recall the case. The letter, if approved, be acknowledged and forwarded to the Ministry of External Affairs for appropriate action.

SSA
9/12

PS(S)

SRVerma
9/12/69

V.P. Marwaha
10/12

Thanks. Jr.

Dir(S)

PS(SPM)

Natwar
10/12

PM
12/12

SCL (Cabinet)

PM

The President has sent to P.M. a letter received by him from Shri Samar Guha, Convenor of the National Committee on Netaji. Shri Samar Guha pleads for the institution of a fresh inquiry into Netaji's death. The President had desired that the matter may be looked into.

2. As P.M. is aware the Ministry of Home Affairs are seized of the matter. On 5th December, 1969 the Home Minister met the leaders of the various parties in Parliament. I understand from Private Secretary to Home Minister that the main point made out by practically all those present at the meeting was that while it was unlikely that Netaji was still alive and fresh inquiry was necessary so that all speculation may be set at rest regarding the matter. Such an inquiry was particularly necessary because the earlier one was not satisfactory. The Home Minister now proposes to bring the matter before the Cabinet.

3. Meanwhile P.M. may wish to acknowledge the President's letter as in the draft.

2.1.70

(B. N. Tandon)
2.1.70.

P.M.

SECRET

Subject: Enquiry into Netaji's death

I have gone through the papers pertaining to fresh inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945.

2. Briefly the position is as stated below. The Cabinet considered the Home Ministry's note on the subject at its meeting on September 5, 1969. It was decided that no fresh inquiry may be undertaken but if there was persistent demand from a section of Members of Parliament the matter could be brought up later. Earlier in December 1967 about 350 Members of Parliament had sent a memorandum to the President demanding a fresh inquiry into the reported death of Netaji. On 21st February, 1968 in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha P.M. had stated that "since no new facts have been brought to light Government do not consider that any fresh inquiry is warranted."

3. As the demand from certain sections of Members of Parliament persisted the Home Minister discussed the matter with 18 MPs on 5th December, 1969. All Members, except Shri K.N. Tiwari, agreed that the matter required to be inquired into afresh by persons with judicial experience. The Home Minister specifically enquired whether it will not be sufficient if a judge were to be requested to scrutinise the available evidence and advise whether there was a prima facie case for a further judicial inquiry. The Members present did not agree that this would be sufficient. The Home Minister promised to the Members present that their views would be placed before the Cabinet.

4. It is understood that a note on the subject has been sent to the Cabinet Secretariat by the Home Ministry on 18th February, 1970. It has not yet been discussed by the Cabinet.

5. P.M. may wish to consult the Chief Justice informally. She indicated that she would first speak to him on phone and then I could go and meet him. I shall do so on getting further instructions from P.M.

(B. N. Tandon)
20.2.70.

P.M.

The draft of a Notification appointing Justice G D Khosla, retired Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court, as the sole member of a Commission to "inquire into all the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and the subsequent developments connected therewith" is placed below for PM's approval.

Justice Khosla has been selected after consulting the CJI, and in a course of a talk with the former Home Minister Sri Amiya Nath Bose MP also considered Sri Khosla to be the most suitable of the persons under consideration.

Ramamurti
7.7.70

PM. PM has approved. Ramamurti 8.7.70

This will be widely welcomed. At the same time it is confidently from previous stand. We shall have to reconcile the two - Parth.

I have spoken to Home Secy about this. Ramamurti 8.7.70

DS may pl. see and send it to Pol. Sector. Ramamurti 8.7.70

9/7

(64)

I have agreed to the writing of the history but have not said anything specific about other matters. I believe, a decision has been taken to have the statue near the Red Fort, though not in front. I had earlier told JS(II) that the ashes should remain where they are until completion of the Commission's enquiry. I hope instructions have been sent to Tokyo.

26.8.1970.

JS(II)

I am told that MEA had sent a cable to Tokyo and a reply has also been received. The ashes are not being brought to India. In fact, the resolution, according to the reply received by MEA from Tokyo, is without any basis.

Ramaswamy
26.8.70

26.8

RM.

Acting on the letter attached, I would be grateful if MEA would move the matter.
29/8

JS(II)

29/8/70

29/8

27/8

Ram 27.8.70

Nathan 28/8

JS(II)

Prof. Samar Guha
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

123 South Avenue
New Delhi-II
27.12.67

To Mrs. Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India ,
New Delhi.

Dear Prime Minister,

I am sending herewith a copy of a memorendum submitted to the president of India by the Members of the Parliament. This memorendum has been signed by nearly 350 members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Approximate number is given as initials, without division numbers , of some members could not be understood.

In this memorendum an appeal has been made to the President of India , and for that matter to the Govt. of India, to take suitable steps to appoint a freshh enquiry committee on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and accord national honour to him .

I shall be obliged if you kindly acknowledge the receipt of this memorendum.

With kind regards.

Your sincerely
Samar Guha
(Samar Guha), Convenor,
National Committee on Netaji

Ackd.
May be examined.
This comes up all the time in Parliament

New Delhi,
Dated:

The President,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi.

Dear President,

We, along with millions of Indians, regard Netaji as not only one of the greatest patriots but also as one of the top-ranking leaders thrown up by India's struggle for freedom whose contribution to its historic termination is no less important than that of any other leader. For it is now being realised by a gradually increasing section of Indians and foreigners that Britain would not have relinquished her political hold on India in 1947, but for the formation of the Azad Hind Fauj (I.N.A.) by Netaji. For it demonstrated that the British Government could no longer rely upon the Indian sepoys with whose help alone she had conquered India and so long maintained her authority over the vast population of an extensive country like India. It may be recalled in this connection that the British Government had successfully put down the last non-violent Civil Disobedience campaign of Mahatma Gandhi as well as the last violent rebellion of 1942; she had refused to grant freedom to India even when the victorious Japanese army had overrun Burma and was at the very gates of India, and the President of U.S.A. made earnest appeals to Churchill to conciliate India. Yet almost immediately after the great and complete triumph over Germany and her allies Britain voluntarily withdrew her political control over India. This can only be explained by the realization on the part of Britain of the grim fact that the Indian sepoys could not longer be relied upon to fight Britain's battle in India, and her resources in men and money were too exhausted by the war to carry on successful efforts to keep down resurgent India by force.

2. Without therefore denying in the least the great importance of the contribution made by Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders to the moral and political uplift of the Indian nation which urged and prepared them for a relentless fight for freedom to the last, we venture to hold that but for Netaji's I.N.A., India would not have gained her freedom so soon after the great victory of Britain in the Second World War. We may further urge that the events culminating in the formation of I.N.A. by Netaji have demonstrated his superb statesmanship, marvellous far-seeing prescience and prodigious talent for military organisation. It is needless for us to recall that it was the I.N.A., under the inspiring leadership of Netaji, that liberated Indian territory from British bondage and hoisted banner of India's independence almost three years before it was unfurled over the Delhi Red Fort. Netaji was in fact the first President of Free India.

3. We, however, regret to say that the Government has signally failed to accord due honour and recognition to the unique personality and leadership of Netaji or to his historic role in our freedom struggle.

4. We, therefore, urge our Government to take the following steps without delay:

...2

1. To place his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and all offices of the Government;

2. To erect a statue of Netaji on a prominent site in New Delhi, preferably at India Gate;

3. To devise suitable means to accord national recognition to military genius of Netaji;

4. To observe his birthday every year with due solemnity;

5. To erect suitable memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of I.N.A. heroes who sacrificed their lives in the liberation struggle under the leadership of Netaji;

6. To publish the Volume on I.N.A., already written for the "History of Indian Army During the Second War", published by the Government;

7. To give him his due place in the "History of the Freedom Movement"(planned by Government of India); (For this it is necessary to take expert advice on the portion of the manuscript relating to him before it is finally approved for the press).

8. To arrange publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

5 - We further beg to bring to your notice that the alleged death of Netaji in a plane-crash on 18th August, 1945, is not believed by a large section of Indian public in spite of the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee. Even the late Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had to admit in a letter, dated 13 May,1962, written to Shri Suresh Bose, elder brother of Netaji, that there was no "precise and direct proof" of the death of Netaji. On the other hand, Reuter reported on 2nd September, 1945, on the authority of the New Delhi correspondent of the Sunday Observer, London, that 'neither the British nor the American War correspondent believes of the news of Netaji's death and there is enough evidence of his presence in Saigon a few days after the reported plane-crash'. A correspondent of an American paper also told Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 20th August, 1945, that Subhash was not dead but still alive and was possibly at Saigon. There are also published reports of Radio Broadcast by Netaji in December, 1945, and January, 1946. The value of the Shah Nawaz Committee is considerably diminished by the fact that no investigation was made into the above reports and that no member of the Committee visited the actual spot of the accident and made any local inquiry. We, therefore, venture to suggest that a further inquiry be made with the collaboration of the Governments of Japan and Taiwan (where the plane-crash took place) by a small independent committee consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two or three public men in whose integrity and capacity to conduct such an inquiry the public has full confidence. Nothing but such an inquiry will satisfy

...3

public opinion by removing the mystery that hangs around Netaji. Even though it is already very late, still such an inquiry may yet be fruitful, but if such a step be not taken without delay posterity will never forgive the Government and people of India for their neglect and indifference to ascertain the actual facts about one of the greatest leaders in the struggle for India's freedom. We, therefore, appeal to you to appoint such a Committee of Inquiry and take suitable steps to accord honour to Netaji whom our country and our people regard as one of the greatest patriots and political leaders, and one of the mightiest architects of India's liberation.

6 We are confident that our appeal will not be in vain.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Randhir Singh
" Shashi Bhusan
Smt. Mahindar Kaur
Syed Md. Sayeed Padanatha
Shri Ram Krishna Gupta
" Sheo Narain
Smt. Sucheta Kripalani
" Sarada Mukherjee
Shri U.S. Saigal
" Chaudhury Sadhu Ram
" C.K. Bhattacharyya
" Krishna Mumar Chatterjee
" A.F.T, Barrow
" Frank Anthony
" S.M. Banerjee
" I.K. Mandal
" B.K. Ghosh
" Indulal Yagnik
" G.M. Bakshi
" Yogendra Sharma
" V.D. Bajpai
" Shiv Charan Singh
" Gananand Thakur
" Guru Charan
" Shashi Ranjan
" G.C. Dixit
" Babunath Singh
" S.D. Patil Gupta
" Raj Deo Singh
" S.D. Paul
" T.H. Sarvang
" Nanda Kr. Samani
" Piloo Moody
" S.K. Saha
" J.N. Pramanik
" B.N. Brahma
" Premchand Varma
Smt. Violet Alva
Shri Narendra Singh
Mrs. Tara Sapre
Shri Pratap Singh

6

Shri N. Narotham (R.S.)
" P.C. Misra
" Aga Syed Ahmed
Smt. Lalita Rajya Laxmi
Vijaya Raje
Radhabai Anand Rao
Shri Amrit Nahata
" Onkarlal Bohare
" Buta Singh
" Smt. Tarakeshwari Sinha
" Mrityunjay Pfasad
Smt. Savitri Shyam
Smt. Sangal Laxmi Bai
Shri V. Sambasivam
Shri D.N. Singh
Shri K.R. Ganesh
" Pannalal Barupal
" M.R. Krishna
" N. Sethuraman
" G.S. Reddi
" Bijay Pan
" Karamdhir Singh
" V.N. Pandey
" P. Venkatasubbaiah
" Brahmanand
" Shambulal
" S.S. Syed
" Gurdial Singh Dhillon
" A.C. Singh
" P. Anthony Reddy
" Lutful Huq
" Randhan
Girija Kumari
Shri B.R. Sharma
" N.P. Changalroya Naidu
" T.H. Gavit
" T.A. Patil
" K.Y. Deshmukh
" Nitiraj Singh

Shri Suresh Desai (RS)
" Devakinandan Patodia
" R.P. Khailan (RS)
" Ramchandra Birpa
" Tulshidas Dassappa
" S.B. Patil
" Mali Mariappa
" Bharat Singh Chauhan
" Jageswar Jadav
" Ramchandra Varma
" P.N. Sapre (RS)
" A.D. Mani
Shyam Kumari Khasi (RS)
Shri Rajnarain Singh
" Jagat Narain
" Brahmananda Pande
" S.S. Mariswami
" Dwijindas Lal Sengupta
" Revati Kanta Singh
" Sarda Bgaduria
" Mahitosh Purakayesth (RS)
" Saligram (RS)
" T.V. Anandam (RS)
" Md. Ishaque
" Satyendraprasad Ray
" Shri Chand Goyal
" Saradanand
" Brij Bhusan Lal
" Hardayal Devgun
" Hukum Chand Kachwai
" Jaganath Rai Joshi
" Ram Singh Agarwal
" Kanwarlal Gupta
Smt. Sakuntala Nayar
Shri R.S. Vidyarthi
" Bharat Singh Chawhan
" Onkarlal Barua
" Beni Sankar Sharma
" Narayan Swaroop Sharma

4...

Shri M.L. Sondhi
" Atal Behari Vajpayee
" Suraj Bhan
" Brahmananda
" Trilok Shah
" Vainesh Narain
" Onkar Singh
" Yagna Dutt Sharma
" Ranjit Singh
" Rabi Ray
" George Fernandes.
" Ram Sevak Jadav
" Arjun Singh Bhadoria
" J.M. Patil
" Molahu Prasad
" A. Shreedharan
" P. Vishwambharam
" Nihal Chand Singh
"6 Shibpujan Shastri
" Shiv Chandra Jha
" Kedra Pashwan
" Maharaj Singh
" S.M. Joshi
" Sibcharan Lal
" Gurmand Thakur
" Surendra Nath Dwivedy
" Nath Pai
" Samarendra Kundu
" Baidhar Biara
" Lakhan Lal Kapoor
" Ram Charan
" Shri Nivas Mishra
" M. Hochegawdi
" Hem Barua
" Dinkar Desai
" K. Lakappa
" Jahanuddin Ahmed
" Mulka Govind Reddy (RSO
" Kushumkant (RS)

5...

Shri R.S. Bhupendra Singh (RS)
" J. Venkatappa (RS)
" Choudhury A. Mahammed (RS)
" P.D. Deo (LS)
" Rebati Kanta Singh
" Bhupendra Narayan Mandal
" Gauri Murahari (RS)
" S. Vashist (RS)
" R.K. Kaya (RS)
" P. Ebraham (RS)
" Tenneti Vishwanathan
" Dwaraka Das (RS)
" Sheel Bhadra Yajee
" Vimal Kumar Mannalalji
" Dr. Mahendra Lal (RS)
" Jagat Narain (RS)
" S.S.N. Tankha (RS)
" Niranjan Varma (RS)
" V. Mukku Mannalalji (RS)
" Brij Kishore Prasad
" Shanti Kothari
" G.P. Somasundaram
" B.V. Abdullah
" K.C. Bhagat
" B.N. Antani (RS)
" Narayan Singh Berar(RS)
" K. Sundaram (RS)
" B.D. Khobarayade (RS)
" Niranjan Sinha
" Ibraham Sulaiman Sait
" A.C. Gibbard (RS)
" Triloki Singh (RS)
" Narayan Patre
" Ram Chandiq (RS)
" R.K. Sinha (LS)
" K.R. Ganesh
" Shankar Prasad (RS)
" Purnanand Chilia
Mrs. Jyotsna Chanda
Shri Ram Singh
" R.B. Ray

6...

10

Shri G.P. Samasundaram (RS)
" Chitta Basu
" K. Manoharan
" K. Anbazhagan
" Era Sezhiyan
" G. Viswanathan
" P. Sivasankaran
" M. Deiveekan
" Tridid Chaudhury
" Surya Prasad Narain Puri
" Srikantan Nair
" P.R. Thakur
" Prakash Vir Shastri
" N.C. Chatterjee
" Dr. Ranen Sen
" Nenary K. Daschowdhury
" Amiya Bose
" Madhu Limaye
" Ramcharan
" Ramji Ram
" Atma Das
" Sachindra Nath Maity
" A.K. Kisku
" Raja Venkatappa Naik
" Maitreyee Bose
" Chittaranjan Ray
" Sundar Shong Bhandari (Sundar Shing Bhandari)
" V.V. Ramaswami (RS)
" Akbar Ali Khan (RS)
" M.P. Bhargav (RS)
" C.D. Patridge (RS)
" B.S. Zaidi (RS)
" M.C. Silwal (RS)
" T. Chengalvanayan (RS)
" D. Rai (R.R)
" P. Balachandran Menon
" Banku Behari Das
" K. Chandra Shekhar
" Om Mehta (RS)

7...

Shri Ram Shekhar Singh
" Niti Raj Singh
" S.C. Samanta
" Kanta Kumari
" Janardan Shamkee
" Raghuvir Singh
" Vikram Mahajan
" Nathuram Aherwar
" S.M. Md. Shatig
" Sankatta Prasad
" Shiva Chandika
" B. Chowdhury
" Ramswaroop
" J.N. Hazarika
" Mudrika Sinha
" B. Bishwanath Ray
" Giri Raj Kumari
" Giri Raj Kumari
" Ananta Rao Patil
" G.V. Dhulkar
" Syed Badrudduja
" D.C. Sharma
" Ram Kishan
Smt. Suchila Rohatgi
Shri M.V. Rajashekharan
" J.K. Choudhrry
". V. Sambasivam
" G.G. Swell
" Chintamani Panigrahi
" Anil Kumar Chanda
" H.P. Chatterjee
" Rajindra Barua
" Kashi Nath
" Swami Ramanand Shastri
" K.D. Bhandari
" H. Ajmal Khan
" J. Gadilinganna
" Meetha Lal
" D.N. Deb

8...

12

Shri Raj Singh Deo
" V. Narashimha Rao
" J. Md. Imam
" D.R. Parmar
" R.J. Amin
" ~~Rrx~~ D. D. Lal
" R.K. Amin
" V.K. Shah
" ~~Sivanandax Tapuriah~~ Surendra Tapuriah
" Dibahand Amat
" A. Dipa
" Pratap Keshari Deo
" Debakinandan Patodia
" K.M. Kaushik
" Nanda Kumar Somani
" K.P. Singh Deo
" S.P. Ramamurthy
" S. Xavier
" Jamna Lal
" Erasmo de Sequéira
" Sant Ram Singh
" K.M. Nanje Gowda
" Syed Zulfiquer Ali Khan
" K. Hanumanthaiyya
" M.C. Setalvad (RS)
" Triloki Singh (RS)
" Sisir Kumar (RS)
" Niranjan Singh (RS)
" R.S. ~~Rajm~~ Nandekar
" D.S. Raju
" B.R. Khaitan
" Uma Ray
" D.B. Deb
" Samar Guha

Two or three names have been duplicated in the list and and initials of nearly a dozen signatories could not be understood. Nearly 35 Members of D.M.K., S.S.P., Jan Sangh and Swatantra Parties orally associated their names with this memorandum but their names could not be included in the list of signatories as they left Delhi a few days before the end of the Lok Sabha Session.

S. Banerji,
Joint Secretary to
the Prime Minister

December 29, 1967

Dear Prof. Guha,

This is to acknowledge, with thanks, your letter of 27th December to the Prime Minister with which you have sent her a copy of a memorandum addressed to the President by Members of Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

(S. Banerji)

Prof. Sumer Guha, MP,
123, South Avenue,
New Delhi.

Sl. No. 3

(14)

14

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

P.2-12/C

An extract from a copy of a Memorandum addressed to the President by some M.Ps, forwarded to the Prime Minister by Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., making certain suggestions to commemorate Netaji Subhas Bose, is enclosed for appropriate action.

(M. Malhoutra)
Under Secretary

Ministry of Home Affairs
P.M's Sectt. u.o. No. PMS-1365 dated 22.1.68

22/1

(We)

Sl. No 4

15

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

P.2-12/C

An extract from a copy of a Memorandum which some M.P.s have addressed to the President, presented to the Prime Minister by Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., making *inter-alia* a suggestion that a statue of Netaji Subhas Bose should be erected at a prominent site in New Delhi, is enclosed.

(M. Malhoutra)
Under Secretary

Ministry of Works, Housing & Supply
P.M's Sectt. u.o. No. PMS-1368 dated 22.1.68

Subhas

22/1

130-A PH (1)
17/1/68

Sl. No 5

(16)

16

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

P.2-12/C

An extract from a copy of a Memorandum addressed to the President by certain M.P's, forwarded to the Prime Minister by Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., suggesting inter alia that a portrait of Netaji Subhas Bose should be placed in the Central Hall of Parliament, is enclosed for such action as may be considered appropriate.

(M. Malhoutra)
Under Secretary

Lok Sabha Secretariat
P.M's Sectt. u.o.No. PMS-1367 dated 22.1.68

22/1

Prime Minister's Secretariat

A copy of a letter dated the 27th December, 1967, from Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., with its enclosure, is forwarded herewith for such action as is deemed appropriate. As will be seen, a suggestion has, inter alia, been made that a fresh Enquiry Committee on Netaji Subhas Bose should be set up.

(M. Malhoutra)
Under Secretary

Ministry of External Affairs

U. M's Secty. a. o. No. PMS-1447
dt. 24.1.68

SECRET 18

Subject: Representation from some 350 MPs to the President regarding ~~regarding~~ a fresh enquiry into the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

This is essentially a matter of political importance in view of the strong feelings prevailing in certain sections of West Bengal and other parts of the country about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Netaji played a very prominent part in India's struggle for independence and no one can deny his contribution in this regard. The question, however, is as to whether Government are convinced by the enquiries they have made that Netaji did die in the air crash at Taiwan on 18th August 1945. The Shah Nawaz Committee's Report of 1956, which was signed by Shri Shah Nawaz and Shri S.N. Maitra, (but not signed by the 3rd member, Shri S.C. Bose, elder brother of Netaji) came to the conclusion that Netaji had died in this accident. This conclusion was accepted by Government. No fresh evidence has been adduced to throw any doubt on the findings of the Shah Nawaz Committee.

2. Much has been made of the fact that Shri S.C. Bose did not sign the final Report. However, he did sign the principal points agreed to for draft Report, dated 30th June 1956 (pages 67 and 68 of the Netaji Inquiry Committee Report). These points accept that the plane carrying Netaji did crash and that the witnesses who confirmed the death of Netaji would not be expected to state what was not true.

2. Much has been made of the fact that Shri S.C. Bose did not sign the final Report. However, he did sign the principal points agreed to for draft Report, dated 30th June 1956 (pages 67 and 68 of the Netaji Inquiry Committee Report). These points accept that the plane carrying Netaji did crash and that the witnesses who confirmed the death of Netaji would not be expected to state what was not true.

3. It has also been argued that the late Prime Minister Nehru in his letters to Shri S.C. Bose admitted "I cannot send you any precise and direct proof". However, Prime Minister Nehru added immediately after this sentence "But all the circumstancial evidence that has been produced and which has been referred to in the Enquiry Committee's Report has convinced us ofthe fact that Netaji has died".

4. The point for consideration is whether, the memorandum claimed to have been signed by 350 Members of Parliament, should form the basis of a fresh enquiry. This is a matter for Government to consider in view of its political implications. It is suggested that PM may consult Home Minister in this regard and transfer the question to Home Ministry and request them to deal with the matter as it has now nothing to do with external relations, but is purely an internal matter. If, however, Government decides that a fresh enquiry should be conducted in Formosa and Japan, External Affairs Ministry will be asked to request the foreign Governments concerned to give facilities for such an enquiry. It will be for consideration whether the enquiry should be official or unofficial; if it is to be official, whether we should request Government of Taiwan to help us in conducting the enquiry in Taiwan, which Government we do not recognise and with whom we have no diplomatic relations. Even in the case of Japan it is doubtful whether they would like to get involved in such a matter. However this is a matter for Government to decide.

Sd/-T.N. Kaul
8.2.68

Secy. to PM

I would suggest that this matter might be discussed at official level with the Home Secretary. We may also consider the other demands made by the Memorialists in paragraph four. P.M. and H.M. can be brought in later.

Sd/-P.N. Haksar
8.2.68

Secretary E.A.I.

#, H's Secy. u. o. No. PMS-2234
dt. 9-2-68

Issued
Initial we
and date 9/2

Sl No. 8

(20

20

17th January, 1968

NO/MS-1060

Dear Sir,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 3rd January, 1968, to the Prime Minister.

Sent to L.M. Mng. with S.No.9

Yours faithfully,

(M. Malhoutra)
Under Secretary.

The Chairman,
Tamilnad Forward Bloc,
Netaji Road,
MADURAI (Madras)

Issued 17/1

2(64)
LCA

Sl. No. 9

21

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

//

Ackd. under Sl. No. 8

We forward herewith, in original, a letter from the Chairman, Tamilnad Forward Bloc, Madurai to the Prime Minister regarding the appointment of a new committee to enquire into Netaji's 'Mysterious Disappearance' for appropriate action.

(M. Malhoutra)
Under Secretary.
17.1.68

Ministry of External Affairs

P. M's Secrt. u. o. No. PMS-1059
dt. 17.1.68

(Incl)

Issued w.e.
17/1.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

22

The memorandum from Members of Parliament suggesting certain steps to be taken to accord honour and recognition to the personality of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was discussed at a meeting in the Cabinet Secretary's room on the 17th February 1968. I place below a draft of the minutes of the meeting for approval. It may perhaps be shown to H.M.

2. A copy of the memorandum was also submited by Prof. Samar Guha to the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The Lok Sabha Secretariat have forwarded a copy of Shri Guha's letter to this Ministry and have suggested that the letter may be placed before the Home Minister and his reactions may be intimated for the information of the Speaker. We may inform the Lok Sabha Secretariat that the memorandum has been considered and indicate to them the gist of the conclusions reached in the meeting held on the 16th February, 1968.

3. A draft reply to Shri Guha from H.M. will be put up after the minutes have been approved.

Sd/-K.R. Prabhu
19.2.68

Secretary

Cabinet Secretary may please see the draft minutes, before I put them up to H.M.

Sd/-L.P. Singh

Cabinet Secretary

Sd/-D.S. Joshi
20.2.68

Home Secy

Sd/-L.P. Singh
20.2.

H.M.

I have seen the minutes. I remember that the question of erection of a statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in Delhi was raised when Lal Bahadurji was the Prime Minister and some suitable sites were also considered in consultation with the Ministry of Works & Housing. An effort may be made to trace these papers.

The file may be shown to the Prime Minister.

Sd/-Y.B. Chavan
22.2.68

Home Secy.

Sd/-L.P. Singh
23.2.68

Secretary to the Prime Minister

P.M. has seen.

Sd/- P.N. Haksar
29.2.68

Home Secretary

[redacted] PMS-3417 [redacted]
dt. 2.3.68

Issued w.e.
2.3.68

23

Minutes of the meeting held in the room of the Cabinet Secretary at 12 noon on 17th February, 1968 to consider the Memorandum from Members of Parliament suggesting certain steps to be taken to accord honour and recongnition to the personality of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

****

PRESENT

1. Shri D.S. Joshi, Cabinet Secretary,
2. Shri V. Shankar, Defence Secretary.
3. Shri L.P. Singh, Home Secretary.
4. Shri Asoka Mitra, Secretary, I & B.
5. Shri T.N. Kaul, Secretary, External Affairs.
6. Shri B.R. Patel, Secretary, Deptt. of Works & Housing.
7. Shri G.K. Chandiramani, Addl. Secy., Education.
8. Shri H.N. Trivedi, Secretary, Parliamentary Affairs.
9. Shri K.R. Prabhu, Joint Secretary, Home Affairs.
10. Shri Manjit Singh, Director(South East Asia), Ministry of External Affairs

2 The suggestions made in the Memorandum submitted by the Members of Parliament to accord honour and recongnition to the personality of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose were considered and the following decisions were taken:-

(1) Placing of a portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and offices of the Government.

There is a Committee of Parliament under the Chairmanship of the Speaker, to deal with the question of placing portraits of national leaders in the Central Hall. The Department of Parliamentary Affairs will bring the suggestion to the notice of this Committee.

No directions have been issued to Government offices making it obligatory to display photographs or portraits of national leaders in the offices. There is, however, no bar to photographs or portraits being placed in offices but care has to be taken to ensure that no controversy arose due to display of any photograph or portrait. The same practice could be followed in the matter of placing portraits of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in offices and no directions in the matter would be necessary.

P.T.O.

24

(2) Erection of statue in New Delhi

It was considered desirable to erect a statue of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose at a prominent place in New Delhi. However, in the matter of erection of statues and memorials, Government's policy had been to extend cooperation to non-official organisations and not to erect the statues or memorials on their own. The same procedure could be followed in this case also and if any organisation came forward to put up the statue, Government could extend necessary cooperation to this organisation by providing a suitable site.

(3) Recognition of military genius.

The Defence Secretary stated that no assessment of military genius of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose had been made. The general view was that his role in organising the Indian National Army was more of a political nature than of an Army General and this role would find a place in the history of the INA campaigns.

(4) Observance of birthday.

It was agreed that this was essentially a matter for non-offical organisations and that it would not be possible to treat the birthday of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose as a national holiday. The only National Birthday being observed is that of Mahatma Gandhi.

(5) Erection of memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of INA heroes.

~~It was agreed that this was essentially a matter~~

It was observed that following the general policy in the matter of erection of memorials Government could not themselves erect any memorial for the INA heroes but could give assistance to non-official agencies.

As there was already a proposal for putting up a memorial at Moirang in Manipur, Education Ministry would consider it and see what assistance could be given to the sponsors of this project.

(6) Publication of the Volume on I.N.A.

The Defence Ministry will consider this Suggestion.

(7) Giving due place to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the History of Freedom Movement.

Two volumes of the History of Freedom Movement covering the period upto 1907 have already been published. The third volume which would cover the period during which Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose participated in the freedom movement is under preparation. Dr. Tara Chand is engaged on this work and is assisted by a Committee of Consultants who could be expected to take due note of the role of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in the freedom movement. It was decided that the suggestion made by the Members of Parliament should be brought to the notice of Dr. Tara Chand by the Ministry of Education.

(8) Publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

It was decided that these writings and speeches would be brought together by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and published after suitably editing them.

(9) Demand for fresh inquiry into the alleged death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

It was explained that after the inquiry made by the Shah Nawaz Committee, no fresh material had come to notice. Demand for a fresh inquiry had been made from time to time and in reply to questions in Parliament Government had been taking the stand that, according to all available information, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose had died and that there was no need for a further inquiry. It was decided that no change was called for in this stand.

Sl. No. 11

(26

26

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)

No. C/125/4 /68/JP New Delhi, the March, 5 1968

Dear Chancery,

Enclosed please find for information a copy of Starred/~~Unstarred~~ Question No. 325 together with its answer given in the ~~Lok~~/Rajya Sabha on 29th February, 1968.

Yours ever,

Ministry

Embassy of India,
TOKYO

Copy, together with a copy of the enclosure mentioned above forwarded to :-

1. Cabinet Secretariat.
2. Ministry of Home Affairs (3) Ministry of Defence (4) Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (5) Ministry of Works, Housing & Supply (6) Department of
3. of Parliamentary Affairs (7) Prime Minister's Secretariat.

(K. T. BALANI) (Miss)
Section Officer

(27

27

STARRED QUESTION NO.325

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.325

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 29TH FEBRUARY, 1968

NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

QUESTION

*No.325 SARDAR NARINDER SINGH BRAR: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum signed by 350 Members of Parliament urging the Union Government to appoint a Committee of Enquiry with collaboration of the Governments of Japan and Taiwan to clear the mystery about Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the memorandum and Government's reaction thereto?

.....

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Apart from demanding a fresh enquiry into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose the memorandum suggests certain steps to accord due honour and recognition to the personality of Netaji.

Since no new facts have been brought to light, Government do not consider that any further enquiry into the death of Netaji is warranted.

The suggestions for according due honour and recognition to the personality of Netaji are being examined.

****

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

-2-

28

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Subject:- Starred Question Dy.No. 22270 for 1.5.68 regarding the re-investigation of the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Reference Lok Sabha Secretariat U.O. No. SQ. 22270/15/68Q, dated 20th April, 1968, on the subject mentioned above.

2. A copy of letter dated 30.12.67 from Shri C.C. Chatterjee addressed to the President of India, with which he had enclosed a copy of a letter and a leaflet circulated by him to the Members of Parliament, is enclosed herewith. A copy of this letter was also sent by Shri Chatterjee to the Prime Minister of India.

3. It will be seen from the enclosed copy of the letter addressed to the President of India that Shri Chatterjee had mainly relied on the letter sent by 350 Members of Parliament regarding a fresh enquiry in the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The memorandum submitted by the Members of Parliament has been carefully examined but as no new facts have been brought to light it was decided that no fresh enquiry was warranted. This position was explained to the Lok Sabha in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1408 asked by Shri D.C. Sharma in the Lok Sabha on the 21st February, 1968.

4. No fresh evidence has been brought out by Shri Chatterjee in his letter to the President or the one circulated to the Members of Parliament. Further, no new factors have emerged since the entire position was explained in the Lok Sabha during this Session on February 21, 1968. In the circumstances, the question of Government of India contemplating any fresh investigation into the matter does not arise. It is submitted that the subject matter of this question repeats in substance question No. 1408 answered on 21st February, 1968, and would, therefore, appear to attract the provisions of Rule 41(2)(xii) of the Rules of Procedure in the Lok Sabha.

5. It is requested that the above facts may kindly be brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Speaker to enable him to decide the admissibility of the question.

6. The Ministry of External Affairs have no objection to the information contained in this note being conveyed to the Hon'ble Members.

7. The note issues with the approval of Director(EA).

sd
(Y.R. Dhawan)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

The Lok Sabha Secretariat
Min. of E.A. U/O No.C./125/7/68/JP, dated 23.4.68.

P.T.O.

29

Copy, together with a copy of the enclosure, forwarded to the Prime Minister's Secretariat for information and necessary action.

(Y.R. Dhawan)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
23-4-1968.

30

Copy of letter dated 30.12.67 sent by Shri C.C. Chatterji, 31/133, Kali Niwas, Narahi, Lucknow-1, to H.E. Janab Zakir Hussain Saheb, President, Republic of India, New Delhi. 30

I feel it to be an eternal urge and a bounden duty to place before your exalted self the enclosed copies of a circular letter and an informative leaflet which have been delivered to each Member of Parliament and high dignitory in India and abroad.

Three hundred and fifty Hon'ble Members of Parliament have appealed to your Excellency for a fresh enquiry regarding the death mystery of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose, in Formosa. Shahnawaz Committee had no doubt inferred the death of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose in the plane crash but this was all based on absolutely circumstantial evidences and hearsay. No direct and positive proof was available which fact was also pointed out by late Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru. Hon'ble Mr. Shahnawaz Khan himself had conscientiously given his remark to this effect, in his report. He wished to visit Formosa for collecting direct and positive proofs but somehow or other he could not do so. This aspect in itself, in our opinion, is a substantila ground on which a fresh enquiry in this regard could not be held irrational, morally or legally.

From the reports in their records the Americans seem to have been baffled in this respect, after the publication of Shahnawaz Committee Report. The Russian as well as some well known Indian revolutionaries, still in exile, and who in fact were instrumental in saving the life of Shri Subhas Chandra Bose, were stupified, when after Shri Subhas Chandra Bose's re-entry into India in 1955, they heard about the Shahnawaz Committee Report and the acknowledgement of his death in this report. Many high officials who had to carry out orders regarding the Shoulmari Ashram, wonder, why fresh enquiry is being persistently opposed.

Through a letter received from Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, it is apparent that this matter is in the purview of the Ministry of External Affairs. Probably a top secret and confidential.

Under the circumstances, will you as the first citizen of India, very kindly enquire from Mrs. Vijai Laxmi Pandit and Mrs. Indira Gandhi, if they have any particular objection, against institution of such an enquiry, confided to them by Late Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. If there is no such objection, the concensus of opinion of our Parliament is now before Your Excellency and we await the decision of an exalted personage whose words, whose gesture, whose thoughts, whose every decision and signature goes into the pages of History.

Khuda Hafiz,

Indrad

Sl. No. 13

29

31

Grams : SUVASBOS

Telephone : 47-3745

From the
Executive Director

NETAJI RESEARCH BUREAU
AN INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND POLITICS
NETAJI BHAWAN
38/2, LALA LAJPAT RAI ROAD, CALCUTTA 20

No.6/874/68 April 19, 1968.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's House,
New Delhi

Dear Shrimati Gandhi,

For quite some time now we have been trying to collect and verify facts regarding Netaji's secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in 1941. We have now reached a stage when we need to record statements of a number of persons in Pakistan. I had tried some time ago to contact one very important person in this connection through usual correspondence. But no response was forthcoming. It is clear that we must have the cooperation of the Government of Pakistan in the matter. I expect they will be willing to cooperate in a purely historical work of this kind.

My purpose in writing to you to seek your advice as to how the approach to the Pakistan Government should be made. You may prefer to take the matter up with the Government of Pakistan on governmental level. If not, we shall do as advised.

The work may make it necessary for one or two of us to visit West Pakistan for a limited period. I shall be grateful for an early reply.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Sisir K. Bose

22/4

D(S)

→ Sl. No. 14

Single copy

Secret

Prime Minister's Secretariat

JS(Pak) may kindly see the letter PM has received from Dr. Sisir K. Bose, Executive Director, Netaji Research Bureau, Calcutta. Could he kindly advise PM in the matter?

Sd/- K. Natwar Singh
23.4.1968

JS(Pak) - Shri P.R.S. Mani
P.M's Sectt. u.o.No.PMS-6813 dt. 23.4.68

Ministry of External Affairs
(Pakistan Division)

....

In the present context of relations between India and Pakistan, it is not likely that the Pakistan Government will render cooperation in the matter of providing information to collect and verify facts regarding Netaji's secret journey from Calcutta to Europe in 1941. It is possible that a number of persons in Pakistan, particularly ex-INA personnel, will be willing to assist the Netaji Research Bureau in this matter.

2. It is, therefore, essential to consult our High Commissioner in this matter and request him to take soundings, if considered necessary, of the Information Secretary of Pakistan Mr. Altar Gauhar. A letter is being addressed to High Commissioner Sen accordingly.

3. A brief draft reply to Dr. Bose is also submitted for Prime Minister's approval.

Sd/- P.R.S. Mani
Joint Secretary (Pak)
25.4.1968

Dir(Spl) Shri K. Natwar Singh
MEA u.o.No.2226/JS(Pak)/68, dt. 26.4.68

The letter might go from J.S(Pak). It is best to keep this at official level to begin with.

Sd/- K. Natwar Singh
7.5.68

JS(Pak) MEA
P.M's Sectt. u.o.No. PMS-8041
dt. 9-5-68

CRIMINAL CASE FGR CHEATING AND CONSPIRACY FILED

AGAINST

INDRA GANDHI MORARJI DESAI Y. B. CHAVAN

SWARAN SINGH P.C. SEN S. NIJLINGAPPA

SHAH NAWAZ UTTAMCHAND MALHOTRA

BABA SHARDANAND JI MAHARAJ DR.

GOPE GURBUX A.C. SARKAR

AND OTHERS

July—15th, 1968 fixed as the next date

DELHI—12 July,

Shri Iqbal Bahadur Saxena through his counsel Shri Jethanand (Betab) Advocate an eminent criminal Lawyer of Delhi has filed a case U/s. 420 & 120-B of the Indian Penal Code against Shri Uttamchand Malhotra, Hira Lal Dikshit, Shri P.C. Sen—Ex. Chief Minister of West Bengal, Smt. Indra Gandhi—Prime Minister of India, Shri Morarji Desai—Deputy Prime Minister, Shri Y. B. Chavan—The Home Minister, S. Swaran Singh, Defence Minister Mr. S. Nijlingappa, The Congress President, Swami Shardanandji Maharaj—Pioneer of the Shaul-Marhi Ashram, Dr. Gopc Gurbux—The Administrator, Shri Bhomik—The Secretary of Shaul-Marhi, Ashram Shri A. C. Sakar, Shri Shah Nawaz Khan Ex-

Shri Jethanand (Betab) Advocate discussing the above case with Shri I.B. saxena the complimant who is editor Visheva Neta weekly & Assistant Supreme commander the Akhanda Bharat Sabha Volunteer Corps.

Deputy Minister of Railways and others, for having formed a conspiracy to cheat and loot the people of India in general and the complainant in particular, in the Court of Kumari Kamalini Sen Gupta, Sub Divisional Magistrate, New Delhi. The case is important from the point of view that it is just like a judicial probe into the mystery of existence of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, who is alleged to be none else but Baba Shardanandji Maharaaj—the pioneer of the Shaul-Marhi Aashram. In this case the complainant Shri Iqbal Babadur Saxena has alleged that some where in 1962, the accused Nos. 1 & 2 had formed an organization named "The Subhas-wadi Janta. Accused No. 1 i. e. Shri Uttam chand Malhotra was the President of the Akhil Bhartiya subhas wadi Janta while accused No. 23 was its General Secretary

34

Accused No. 2 was the President of Delhi Pradesh —Subhas-wadi Janta. The three accused started a campaign that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose was still alive and he was living in the Shaul-Marhi ashram under the name of Baba Shardanandji Maharaj. The accused had also-held a public meeting at the Ram Lila grounds where Dr. Gope Gurbux had declared himself as the Administrator of the Shaulmarhi Ashram and said that Baba Shardanand Ji Maharaj the pioneer of this Ashram was the real Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, Accordingly the complainant was convinced and he gave Rs. 251/- as donation to this organization. Later on this entire propaganda through books and press proved to be a hoax and Baba Shardanandji Maharaj alleged to be Netaji Subhas Chander Bose never appeared in the public. The complainant has further alleged that in this campaign the accused Nos. 1 & 2 were actively aided and supported by accused Nos. 9,10,11, 15, 16,17, 18' 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 and they all had formed conspiracy to loot the general public and collected crores of rupees for the maintenance of the Ashram, its inmates and themselves.

Shri Iqbal Bahadur has further allegad that if accused No. 9 i.e. Baba Shardanandji Maharaj was Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, he would certainly have appeared in the public. He has further alleged that this Baba of Shaul-Marhi Ashram is an agent of the Central Government, and he along with other accused is exploiting the noble name of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose and that is why he has no courage to come out of his Ashram and face the people of India.

Shri Iqbal Bahadur has also alleged that the Central Government knowing that accused No. 9 i. e. Baba Shardanandji Maharaj was not Netaji Subhas chander Bose, have allowed accusep Nos. 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 to cheat and loot the people of India and collect crores of rupees. He therefore, holds that Smt. Indra Gandhi Morarji Desai, Y. B. Chavan, S. Swaran Singh, Shri P.C. Sen and S. Nijlingappa are also accomplices in this conspiracy because they have not cared to take any action against the afore-mentioned accused,

In support of his case, the complainant have cited several witnesses including Shri Sumer Guba Prof. N. G. Ranga, Shri N. Dandekar, M.Ps. His Holiness Dalai Lama, Shri Jai Prakash Narain. Smt. Kailash, Rekhi, B. D. Mittal, Dhramchand Jain, Hardwari Lal Jaipuria, Russian Ambassador to India, Director of the Moscow Radio (Urdu section) and several other prominent men a d editors of Indian Journals.

The complaint is drafted and prepared by Shri Jethanand (Betab) Advocate, who has tried to show that there is a conspiracy between the Central Government and Baba Shardanandji Maharaj to hoodwink and befool the Indian public. For this he has held Smt. Indra Gandhi, Morarji Desai. Shri Y. B. Chavan, Sardar Swaran Singh, Shri P.C. Sen and S. Nijlingappa responsible who had failed to catchhold of Baba Shardanandji Maharaj and produce him before a competent criminal court. There were severel advocate present in the Court when the case was filed.

The Learned Magistrate has fixed 15th July 1968 as the next date of hearing.

35

In the Court of Kumari Kamalini Sen Gupta, I.A.S. Sub-Divisional Magistrate,

New Delhi.

Shri Iqbal Bahadur Saxena S/o Shri Udya Vir Bahadur Saxena Editor of the Vishwa Neta Weekly Newspaper R/o House No. 1472/3-A/65/15-A, Subhash Gali, Gorakh Park, Shahdara, Delhi-32.

Complainant.

Versus

(1) Shri Uttamchand Melhotra S/o Unknown R/o 97-E Kalkaji. Delhi.

(2) Shri Hira Lal Dikshit, R/o Netaji Rain Basera, Rohtas Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-32.

(3) Shri P. C. Sen, Ex-Chrief Minister of Bengal, R/o Calcutta,

(4) Smt. Indra Gandhi, Prima Minister of India, R/o House No. 1, Safdarjang Road, New Delhi.

(5) Shri Morarji Desai, Deputy Prime Minister of India R/o 5-Dr. Rajinder Prasad Road, New Delhi.

(6) Shri Y. B. Chavan, Home Minister of India, R/o 1-Race Course Road, New Delhi.

(7) S. Swaran Singh, The Defence Minister of India, R/o 607-Hastings Road, New Delhi.

(8) Shri S., Nijllngappa, President of Indian National Congress, 7-Jantar-Mantar Road, New Delhi.

(9) Baba Shardanandji Maharaj of the Shaul-marhi Ashram, village Fala-kata Distt. Cooch Behar, West Bengal.

(10) Shri B. Giri, Ex-Secretary of Shaul-marhi Ashram, Fala-kata Distt. Cooch Behar West Bengal.

(11) Dr. Ramani Ranjan Dass, present Secretary of The Shaul marhi Ashram, Fala-kata, Distt. Cooch Behar, West Bengal.

(12) Shri D. N. Bhomik, Superintendent of Shaul-marhi Ashram, Fala-kata, Distt, Cooch Behar. West Bengal.

(13) Dr. Gope Gur Bux, administrator of the Shaul-marhi Ashram, Fala-kata, Distt. Cooch Behar, West Bengal.

(14) General Shah Nawaz Khan, Ex-Deputy Railway Minister, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

(15) Ram Narain Singh B.A., Arya Missionary, Rohtak.

(16) Shri Shiv Prasad Nag 14, Amherest Street, Calcutta.

(17) Shri Jagdish Mukul Shivaji Park, Rohtas Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi.

(18) Shri Ramesh Rai Chowdhry Editor, Shaul-marhi Weekly, C/o Office Akhil Bharatiya Subhashwadi Janta, 51/1, College Street, Calcutta.

(19) Shri P. K. Rai, Editor Mahabharat Weekly, C/o Office Akhil Bharatiay Subhashwadi Janata, Varanasi.

(20) Shri Sri Niwas Goel Editor, Satya Gupta Weekly, Satya Gupta Bhawan, Nawab-ka-ther, 1857, Bhur, Barailly

(21) Shri Gurupada Bose, Editor, Jagrahi, 74, Serpentine Lane, Calcutta.

(22) Shri Brijendra Swaroop Saxena, Brijendra Niwas, 90-Said Bara, Etawa.

(23) Shri Viswajeet Dutta, General Secretary, Akhii Bharatiya, Subhaswadi Janata, 51/1, College Street, Caicutta.

(24) Dr. R. K. Gupta, Shop No. 67, Bhogal Road, Jangpura, New Delhi.

(25) Shri A. C. Sarkr, General Secretary, National Federation of Netaji Friends, 17, Hassan Building, Nicholson Road, Delhi.

Case U/s. 420 and S. 120-B I,P.C.

Sir,

The Complainant respectfully begs to submit as under :—

1. That he is a resident of Delhi and an admirer and follower of the ideals and aims of "Netaji Subhas Chander Bose", the renowned leader of India, who had formed the Indian National Army, fought for the freedom of India and ultimately succeeded in forcing the British Government to grant freedom to our country. It is on account of the efforts and sacrifices of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose and other leaders like Rashtryapita Mahatama Gandhi, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, Maulana Azad, Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel and lakhs of other patriots that our country was successful in throwing out British Regime from India.

2. That on account of the escape of Shri Subhash Chandra Bose from India in January, 1941 and the consequent formation of the Indian National Army, which brought him fame and admiration throughout India and the world and millions of people In India and in other countries who became ready and willing to sacrific their lives for the cause of country's freedom, that the people of India succeeded in wrestiag power from the Britishers.

3. That on account of the defeat of Germany and surrender of the Japanese Government in 1945, the struggle of the Indian Nationat Army came to a stand-still and Netaji left Singapore in an aeroplane for an unknown destination. Later on a news was falshed throughout the world that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose had died in an air-crash and a few yeers later, a statement to that effect was made by Late Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru the then Prime Minister of India in the Indian Parlaiment, that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose had actually died in the air-crash.

4, That this statement of Hon'ble Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru was challenged by several public organizations and public men including Shri Suresh Chander Bose. elder brother of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, who alleged that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose was still alive. And on account of these protests and propaganda, Late Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru the then Prime Minister of India was compelled to announce the appointment of a commission, headed by accused No. 14 Shri Shah Nawaz Khan formerly a General in the Indian National Army and later on a Deputy Minister of the Indian Union to inquire and investiagate the fact of the death of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose and submit a report to that effect to the Indian Parlaiment. Shri Suresh Chander Bose, was also a member of this commission. This accused No. 14 i e. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan Just to throw the dust in the eyes of the Indian people submitted his report in 1956 saying that Netaji Subhash Chander Bose was actually dead. Shri Suresh Chander Bose however gave a dissenting note said that Netaji Subhash Chander Bose was still alive. He had also written and published a book challenging this report of accused No. 14.

5. That some-where in 1962 accused Nos, 1 & 2 formed an organization named "The Subhas Wadi Janta" and started a public compaign that "Netaji Subhae Chander Bose is stiil alive and is at present living at the Shaul-marhi Ashram in village Fala-kata in the District of Cooch Behar They also openly deelared that Baba Shardanandji Maharaj the pioneer of this Ashram is none but Netaji Subhas Chander Bose. In support of this compaign, both accused Nos. 1 & 2 issued pamphlets, weekiy newspapers, books and statements in the press that Baba Shardanandji Maharaj i. e. accused No 9 was none else but Netaji Subhas Chander Bose himself. They also published several photos of this Baba Shardanandji Maharaj i. e. accused No. 9 and Netaji Subhas Chander Bose showing his similarity of face and hand-writing with that of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose ; and in order to carry on their false propaganda in the name of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, both the accused started collecting funds. Accused Nos. 15, 16 17, 18, 19. 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 actively supported accused Nos. 1 & 2 in their nefarious compaign and wrote several articles in papers and books supporting the faet that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose was still alive and he was not coming out because of certain reasons. The complainant who is also the admirer and follower of the ideals and aims of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose, feil a victim to their false propaganda and paid a sum of Rs. 251/- to accused No. 1 as donation for this organisation known as "The Subhas Wadi Janta" in the presence of Serbashri Ramdas & Mehinder Kunar Gupta. This receipt is signed by accused No. 1 and is being produced in the court.

6. That the accused No. 1 being the President of the All India Subhas Wadi Jaata while accused No. 23 being its General Secretary and accused No. 2 as President of The Delhi Pradesh Subhas Wadi Janta Organisations organised several public meetings in various parts of Delhi in support of their contention. They had also organised a public meeting at the Ram Lila grounds on 29th December, 1963 where accused No. 13 Dr. Gope Gurbux openly declared that Netaji Subhas Chandcr Bose is alive and that he is none else but Baba Shahdanandji Maharaj, the pioneer of the Shaul-marhi Ashram i. e. accused No. 9. The accushd No. 13 had also declared himself as the Administrator of the Shaul-marhi Ashram and said that he was living in that Ashram with Netaji who is none but aceused No. 9 Accused No. 1 also had in that meeting delivered a speech and stated that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose has stayed with him in Kabul for a period of full 46 days and there fore he was in a position to recognize Netaji Subhas Chadder Bose·

7. That the over all effect of the meetings and propaganda through various means was that the complainant was convinced that "Netaji Subhash Chander Bose" is still alive and that he is living in Shaul-marhi Ashram.

8. That in 1964, Shri Ramani Ranjan Das i. e. accused Nc. 11 and Shri D. N. Bhomik accused No. 12 through accused No. 1 called the complainant to their Shaul-marhi Ashram and showed him a Sadhu and named him as Baba Shardanandji Maharaj, the pioneer of that Ashram. They also told him that he is the real "Netaji Subhas Chander

37

Bose". Thereafter both the accused told him that the Ashrum was soon going to publish a book which was being written by the said Babaji himself depicting the entire life-storey of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose. The name of this book they said would be "Problems of the humanity and how to solve them (Part I). And the Anteque Development of life (Part I) and believing their statements to be correct, the complainant promined to send a sum of Rs. 22/- towards the cost of these books from Delhi, which he dld on reaching here at Delhi. Accordingly a receipt was issued to him and sent to him by post at Delhi, But to his siad surprise heither cf these books have been published nor supplied to the complainant. The receipt issued and signed by Shri Ramani Ranjan Dass accused No. 11 is produced herewith. This clearly shows that the complainant had been cheated by accused Nos. 11, 12 and 9 in this way by mis-representotion of the true facts.

9. That on account of the misleading propaganda of accused Nos. 1, 2, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 and mis-representations of accused Nos. 11 & 12 at the instance of accused No. 9, the complainant beeame a member of "The Delhi Pradesh Subhas Wadt Janta" and paid Re. 1/- towards membership fee in the presence of Shri A. C. Sarkar an employee of "Times of India" Press, Mathura Road, New Delhi. But later on the formation of all this "Subhas Wadi Janta" organization proved to be be a hoax and the complainant was cheated and looted to the tune of Rs. 251/- at one time. Rs. 22/- on the other and Re. 1/- on the third occasion. And the fact is that neither Netaji Subhas Chander Bose came out of his alleged self-exile nor the mystery of the Pioneer of the "Shaul-marhi Ashram" Baba Shardanandji Maharaj was solved. Besides, the accused No. 9 has shown no courage to come in the open before the public and prove his identity whether he is Netaji Subhas Chander Bose or not. From this the complainant has come to the conclusion that accused No. 9 is nothing but an imposter. and is playing a fraud with the people of India and it is at his instance that accused Nos. 11, 12, 13 as well as accused Nos. 1, 2, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, & 25 have formed a conspiracy to loot the people of India, collect crores of rupees by way of donations and subscriptions for the Ashram and thus fill their bellies.

10. That in 1065 or so Shri Dwajan Nath Bosh and Shri Amiya Nath Bose M.P., both nephews of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose issued statements contradicting the fact of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose being alive. Shri Amiya Nath Bose says that the Baba of Shaul-marhi Ashram is not Netaji, while Shri Dwajan Nath Bose had said that Baba Shardanandji Maharaj of Shaul-marhi Ashram is an impostor and an agent of the Indian Government. He further alleges that this Sadhu of Shaul-marhi Ashram will come simultaneously at the time when the real Netaji Subhas Chander Bose appears in the public out of his concealment and thereby creats complications for Netaji Subhas Chander Bose. By this trick accused Nos. 4. 5 & 6 & 7 wish to create suspicion in the mind of the public that real Netaji is no longer alive and that he died in the air crash as stated earlier in the Indian Parliament by Late Shri Jawahar Lal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India,

11. That accused Nos. 1 to 13 have been issuing very contradictory statements which create doubt in the mind of the complainant whether accused No. 9 is Netaji Subhas Chander Bose or note. Some times these accused Nos. 10 to 13 say that accused No. 9 i. e. Baba Shardanandji Maharaj is Netaji Subhas Chander Bose himself and some times they say that he is not Netaji. The result is that the complainant has now started believing that Netaji is not alive and that he has been cheated and looted by accused Nos. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 who have formed a conspiracy and so far looted and cheated lakhs of innocent people in India and collected crores of ruppees from the public for the maintenance of Shaul-marhi Ashram and its inmates and them selves.

12. That finding that he had been cheated and looted as shown above, the complainant served the All India Subhas Wadi Janta with a notice inquiring whether he was a member of these organisations or not and whether they had received his membership fee or not. This notice was sent to the Central Office of the Institution at Calcutta but no reply was sent, upon this the complainant went to Calcutta and met office-secretary personally, who told him that they had not received his membership form. The Office Secretary further told him that accused No. 1 had never submitted any account of the donations or funds received by him and therefore he had been removed from the Presidentship of the Organisation.

13. That accused No. 1 had also formed a Reception Committee of Netaji in the year 1964 and had also declared through statements and speeches that Netaji was soon to come out of his self-exile. The complainant also became a member of this Reception Committee and paid its memberr ship fee. But Netaji has never come out in the public nor could he be given a reception for which purpose donations and subscriptions were collected.

14. That the complainant through his weekly paper Vishwa-Neta did publish these facts and not only cautioned the general public but the Central Government too, to take severe action against the accused Nos. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 but to no effect. Neither accused Nos. 4 & 5 nor accused Nos. 6 & 7 whose sole duty was to protect the general public from such a loot and cheating took any steps to catch hold of accused Nos. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 and bring them to book and see that they were properly dealt with according to law by a competent Criminal Court. Not only that but when criminal cases were filed at Mathabhanga, Calcutta, and Jhalawas and accused No. 9 and others were summoned by the learned courts at these places accused No. 3 who was then Chief Minister of West Bengal, declined to arrest or catch hold of accused No. 9 and see that he was produced before a competent court of law. Hence he is also guilty of conspiring with accused Nos. 1. 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, as well as 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25. He also therefore, deserves to be dealt with according to law.

15. That recently Shri Sumer Guha a member of Indian Parliament disclosed in the Parliament that the Indian Government was concealing the activities of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose and that the Indian Government was purposely concealing the fact of his existence from the

Indian Public. For this purpose he held accused Nos. 4, 5, 6 & 7 solely responsible. And after hearing his speech, it is said that about 350 M.Ps. had submitted a Memorandum to the Government of India that the fact of Netaji's existence be properly investigated. But accused Nos. 4, 5, 6 & 7 purposely rejected this memorandum and are taking no action to unearth this conspiracy. This clearly shows that accused Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 are in league with accused No. 9 and they are conniving at his activities and have allowed the Indian public to be looted by accused Nos. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 in every possible way. The accused Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 being aware of the fact that accused No. 9 is not Netaij Subhas Chander Bose have never cared to arrest him or bring him to book ; on the contrary they have been shielding and protecting him. The result is that a fraud is being committed with the people and money is being collected on mass-scale by accused Nos. 1, 2, 10, 11, 12 & 13 with the support of accused Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 at the instance of accused No. 9 who is always protected by accused Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7. Accused No. 8 Shri S. Nijalingappa who is now the President of the Indian National Congress has failed to give a directive to the Congress Government to solve the mystry of "Netaji Subhas Chander Bose's existence and put an end to this controversy once for ever. Hence he is also a Party to this consipracy and ought to be brought to book.

16. That Shri Satya Narain Sinha, a well known writer had issued a statement that Subhas Chander Bose was a prisoner of Russian Government and that he was living in Room No. 42 of a jail in Siheria (Verkutex) some where in Rassia. This statement also indicates that Netaji is still alive and accused Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 being at the helm of Governmental affairs, have been concealing the fact of Netaji's existence and have instead kept accused No. 9 as a substitute of Netaji just to misguide and loot the public.

17. That Shri Bhagat Ram Talwar who had taken Netaji Subhas Chander Bose. out of India in 1940 and led to Kabul had recently issued a statement in the "Blitz" a well-known Engiish weekly from Bombay saying that "Netaji had stayed with Uttamchand Jain and not with Uttamchand Malhotra, accused No. 1. From this it is clear that this accused No. 1 is also an agent of the Central Government and he has been trying to cheat the people and loot them in every possible way. All these facts go a long way to prove that there is a big conspiracy to exploit the name of Netaji Subhas Chander Bose and all the accused Nos. 1 to 25 are active constituents of this conspiracy and they have been trying to perpetrate a fraud upon the Indian Public. The complainant has also become the victim of this fraud and has been cheated several times.

18. That accused Nos. 15, 16 & 17 have also alleged several times through papers and books that Government of India had entered into a secret pact with the British Government the terms of which they could not disclose before 1999. And since certain clauses of this pact are alleged to be such that Indian Government would be forced to handover Netaji Subhash Chander Bose as a War Criminal to the British Government, and it is because of this that the Indian Government is concealing the existence of Netaji Subhash Chander Bose. By spreading such rumours and falso news the accused Nos. 15, 16, 17 led the Indian Public and the complainant to believe that Netaji Subhash Chander Bose was really alive and he was not coming out of his self-exile on account of this "Pact". And inspite of this open propaganda, accused Nos. 4, 5, 7, 6, & 8 have done nothing to contradict this fact and take severe action against accused Nos. 1, 2, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 so far when a duty is cast upon them. Hence they are also guilty of offences Under Section 120-B as well as section 420 I.P.C.

19. That Shri R. K. Gupta accused No. 24 had written an article contradicting that fact of Netaji marriage with Mrs. Emti Shankle and that a daughter named Anita Bose was born. The Government of India had supported the view that Netaji Subhas Chander Bose had actually married but accused No. 1 had contradicted this slanderous propaganda of accused Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8.

20. That the accused No. 1 has his Head Quarters at Kalkaji and it is from here that he has been carrying on all his nefarious activities. Accused No. 2 has been going from place to place throughout and spreading false rumours and stories with the result that image of our beloved leader Netaji Subhash Chander Bose has been tarnished and people of India have

39

second throughts aboute his existence. The rest of the accused i.e. from 2 to 25 have been aiding and assisting accused No. 1 in his deceitful activities. Hence they too are co-accused in this conspiracy. And since all these activities are started from Kalkaji, this Hon'ble Court have got the jurisdiction to try this case.

21. The complainant now respactfully prays that since the accused Nos. 1 to 25 have formed a eonspiracy to cheat and loot the people of India by exploiting the noble name of Netaji Subhas Chander Base, the renowned son of our soil, who saerificed his whole and sole for thc cause of India's freedom and accused Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 14 having allowed accused No. 1 and his associates to collect funds from the people in general and the complainant in particular in a fraudulent way, all the accused Nos. 1 to 25 are guilty of offences under section 420 read with Section 120-B of the Indian Penal Code and they deserve to be dealt with according to law. A deterrent punishment alone would meet the ends of justice in this case.

New Delhi.

Complainant.

Dated 11 July 1928.

(Iqbal Bahadur Saxena)

Through :

(Jethanand)
(Betab)
Advocate.

List of Witnesses.

1. Shri Parkash Vir Shastri, M. P. 1-Keeling Road, New Delhi.
2. Shri R. K. Karanjia, Editor of the "Blitz" WeeSly Blitz Publication, Pvt., Ltd., Patel House 17/17, Kawasji Patel Street, Bombay.
3. Shri Shamlal Jain, Typiat, 57-Chippi wara, Meerut City.
4. Shri Inder Singh Panwari, Chungi No. 3, Shamli Road, Muzaffar Nagar, (U.P.)
5. Shri Ram Saroop Gupta, Jhuggis. Seema Puri, Delhi Shahdara.
6. Shri Uday Singh Dangi, Secretary Haryana Azad Hind Fauj Association Chunni Pura, Rohtak.
7. Shri R. T. Dewan, Editor ; India Reformer, A-T Road, Gauhati.
8. Dr. Satya Narain Sinba, Journalist Ranobi.
9. Manager "the Dharam Yug" Weekly, Bahadur Shall Zaffar Marg. New Delhi.
10. Munni Baba c/o Swami Ram Chander Vir Snadkarachary Hanuman Mandir, Virst Nagar Jaipur.
11. Shri Jagat Guru Swami Ramchander Vir Hanuman Shankarachariya, Mandir, Virat Nagar, Jaipur.
12. Shri Jai Kishan Sharma, 133, Gali Tilak, Kashmeri Gate, Delhi-6.
13. Shri Bhagat Ram Talwar, Ashoka Dairy Farm, Haldwani Distt. Peeli Bhit.
14. Hari Dutt. Sharma, New Bharat Times, Mathura Road, New Delhi.
15. Vir Bhikhishu Dharamdhara Aashoka Mission Vihar Mehrauli, Delhi.
16. Snri K. Narendra, Editor "Pratap', Mathura Road, New Delhi.
17. Shri H. V. Kamath M.P. Uasteru Cours, New Delhi.
18. Prof. Sumer Guha, M.P,, 124 North Avenue, New Delhi.
19. Shri Shashi Ratan c/o Mahashy Vidya Rattan Kesari Chowk, Lajpat Rai Market, Ch. Chowk, Delhi-6.
20. Shri Dwajan Nath Bose, 24, Pargana, Griya Calcutta,
21. Shri Amiya Nath Bose M.P. 44, Western courts New Delhi.
22. Shri Suresh Chander Bose, 14, Pargana Griya, Calcutta.
23. Dr. Neharendra Dutt, Majundar 101-A, Bali Ganj, Palace, Calcutta.
25. Shri N. G. Ranga, M.P., Western Courts New Delhi.
15. Swami H. C. Gtri, Gopal Gaushala, Jamuna Bazar, Delhi.
23. Captain L. C. Talwar, 82 Darya Ganj, Delhi-6.
27. Shri Jai Prakash Narain, Sarvodhya Ashram Allahabad.
28. Shrl Ayodhya Prasad Gupta, President Orissa Forward Block Khariya Road, Kala Handi (Orissa).
29. Shri Mahinder Mumr Gupta s/o L. Ghahila Ram Vaieh, v-8/11, Krlshna Nagar. Delhi-31.
30. Shri Ram Dass s/o Gopaldass. 202/8 Post Office Block Krishan Nagar, Delhi-31.
31. Shri R. S. Jain Vir Bhawan Haldwani, Distt. Nainital.
32. Shri N. Daudekar, M.P. New Delhi.
32. Shri Renan Chakravarti Subhas Pali, Pala-Kata, Distt. Occh Behar.
34. Shri Krishan Kaut Pande, tean member, Shaul Marhi Ashram, vala Kata, Distt. Cooch Behar.

35. Director of Moscow Radia, Urdu Sec-ion, Moscow.
36. Shri Radha Kant Pando, team member; shaul marhi Ashram, Pala Kala, Distt. Cooch Behar.
37. Dr. Ajit Chand Rai, X-Ray Clinic, Roop Narain Road, Cooct Behar.
38. Russian Ambessardor in India.
39. Shri N. K. Badgian. shaul-marhi Ashram, Pale Kata, Distt. Cooch Behar.
40. Chief Editor. the statesman, Calcutta.
41. Major Bireadra Rai, I.N.A. M.L.C. Patna.
42. Editor Shakshi Patriks Delhi.
43. Editor Tarun Bharat News Paper India.
44. Editor the "Hindustan" Hindi Connaught Place, New Delhi.
35. Editor the "Hindustan Times" Connaught Place New Delhi.
46. Editor the Nav Bharat Times, Mathura Road, New Delhi.
47. The Editor "Statesman" Connaught Place, New Delhi.
48. Editor "The Tej" Naya Bazar, Delhi.
49. Shri Ashok Kumar Sarkar Anand Bazar, Patrika Calcutta.
50. The Editor "Milap" Urdu Daily, New Delhi.
51. Shri Narend Dass. M.L.C. Calcutta.
52. Shri Jitendra Chakravati M.L.C. Calcutta.
53. Shri Dwajan Sen Gupta M.L.C. Calcutta, Yugantar Daily Calcutta.
54. Smt. Kailash Rekhi, 84, Sunder Nagar. New Delhi.
55. Shri B.D. Mittal, Mittal stores, Main Market Sunder Nagar, New Delhi.
56. Shri Dharamchand Jain. Nav-Ghara, Kinari Bazar, Delhi.
57. Shri Hardwari Lal Jaipuria Kinari Bazar, Delhi.
58. Shri Bhagat Ram Saran Dass, Pilkhuwa, District Meerut U.P.
59. Shri Abdul Ghani Dar 97, Feroz Shah Road, New Delhi.
60. Shri Har Saroop Sharma President Forward Block Hathi Khana, Delhi.
61. Shri Manu Dev Shastri, Acharya Gurukul, Matindu, Distt. Rohtak.
62. Shri Hari Pada Bose, 307, Nandan Nagar, Bailghuria 24, Pargana, West Bengal.
62. Shri Ramesh Rai Chowdhry Editor "The Shaul-marhi weekly" 51/1 College Street, Culcutta.
64. Shri P.K. Rai Editor "Mahabharat" Varanasi.
65. Shri Sri Niwas Goel, Editor "Satya Gupta" Weekly Satya Gupta Bhawan, Nawab Ka Ther, 1857, Bhur Barreilly.
66. Profecer Bal Raj Medhok, Ex-President Jan Sangh.
67. Jawahar Lal Sharma Deihi Machinery Store Chawri Bazar, Delhi.
68. Amar Nath Sharma, Rajouri Garden New Delhi.
69. Director of Netaji Subash Chander Bose Film.
70. Shri Pram Nath Film Actor Bombay.
71. A.D.M. Matha Bhanga.
72. A.D.M. Jhawar.

O.T.C.

Telegram SECRET CCB No.10347

From: Indembassy Tokyo.
To: Foreign New Delhi.

DTG AUGUST 061230
DTR AUGUST 061650
Year 1968

IMMEDIATE

No.159.

Secretary I from Ambassador.

Memorial meeting commemorating death of NETAJI BOSE being organised on 18th August at Renkoji Temple Tokyo, where his ashes are enshrined, under apparently newly constituted Bose Memorial Service Committee of which Chairman is former Prime Minister KISHI and members include General TOJO's widow, SUZUKI former President of war time Great East Asia Agency (co-prosperity sphere) and KAYA an extreme LDP right wing former Justice and Finance Minister and member of Diet. While inviting me to ceremony organisers have pointedly referred to delay in taking back NETAJI's ashes to India.

As similar memorial meeting never held before and references are likely to be made in meeting to delay on Indian Government's part in taking back NETAJI's ashes to India kindly instruct whether I should attend meeting or excuse myself and send representative instead. Composition of committee indicates meeting might be part of Japanese movement to rehabilitate Japan's war time image in Asia.

PRIME MINISTER : SECY TO PM : DIR PM'S SECTT : MIN OF STATE : DY MIN : FS : SECY EAI : SECY EAII : ADDL SECY : JS PP : JS P : JS XPL : DIR XP : DIR EA : DS EA : ATTACHE NGO(2) : CABINET SECY (2).

VAZIRANI/21
6.8.1968

SUPERINTENDENT CCB.

SECRET

For FAC meeting this afternoon (5.30)

PA Con 7/8

PIII 2(64)

SECRET/IMMEDIATE

Ministry of External Affairs
(East Asia Division)

Sub: Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's ashes at the Renkoji Temple in Tokyo

Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose died in an aircrash on 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku airfield in Formosa. Some doubts were expressed in regard to his death and in response to a demand from a section of the public, the Government of India set up an Enquiry Committee in April 1956. The Committee consisted of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose and Shri S.N. Maitra and a report was submitted by the Committee signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri S.N. Maitra in September 1956. The conclusion reached by the Enquiry Committee was that Netaji had in fact met his death as a result of an aircrash. Government accepted the findings of the Committee when Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru laid copy of a report on the Table of the House on September 11, 1956.

2. Netaji's body was cremated at the Taihoku Crematorium on the 20th August, 1945. The ashes were collected and temporarily kept in the Nishi (West) Honganji Temple in that city until the 7th September, 1945, when they were flown to Tokyo. The Shah Nawaz Committee had recommended that the ashes should be brought to India with due honour and a suitable memorial erected for them. This recommendation was discussed by the Cabinet on 9.9.1956 and it was then agreed that "the question of bringing over the Netaji's ashes to India might be left for future consideration".

3. Late Prime Minister Nehru while laying the Netaji Enquiry Committee Report in the Rajya Sabha said as follows:

> "They (Enquiry Committee) make a recommendation about theses ashes, that they should be brought to India with due honour and a suitable memorial

... 2

43

erected. So far as the latter part is concerned, the Government do not propose, at this stage, to take any action. This is a matter in which, primarily, the family of Netaji is concerned, and it is with their consultation and goodwill that any step should be taken. I am not prepared to say that it is entirely a family or domestic matter. It is a national matter. Nevertheless, the family is concerned."

4. There is a body of opinion in India which still continues to doubt the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In view of this, Government have been reluctant to bring the ashes of Netaji to India as that would raise a controversy and may offend the family of Netaji. This has been explained to Parliament on numerous occasions.

5. Our Ambassador has telegraphed that a memorial meeting commemorating the death of Netaji is being organised on 18th August at Renkoji Temple, Tokyo. The Ambassador has been invited to the function and he anticipates that references are likely to be made at the meeting in regard to Government's reluctance to bring back Netaji's ashes. In 1955, the first memorial meeting was held to which our Ambassador had been invited and late P.M. Nehru had agreed to our participation. It will, therefore, be desirable that our Ambassador attends the forthcoming memorial meeting as otherwise it may be misconstrued as lack of respect for Netaji's memory. If the occasion arises, our Ambassador should even explain Government's difficulties in bringing back Netaji's ashes with due honour etc.

...3

6. We were earlier, this year, approached by the Japanese Government through their Embassy here to bring back the ashes and had explained the position to them. They were not aware of the fact that we were paying Rs. 5,000/- per annum for the upkeep of Netaji's ashes to the Head Priest of the Renkoji temple. The Japanese Government seemed to have appreciated our difficulties and were satisfied with the arrangements we had made.

7. Only recently some 350 Members of Parliament asked for a fresh enquiry to establish whether Netaji in fact died in 1945. As such considerable doubt continues to exist and it is perhaps not advisable, for the present, to bring back the ashes of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Manjit Singh

(Manjit Singh)
Director (EA)
7.8.1968

Secy I.
P.S. to P.M.

Samar Guha

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

Parliament House,
New Delhi-1.

Dated: ~~April~~ May 19, 1969.

45, South Avenue-11

Smt. Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister of India,
NEW DELHI.

Dear Madam,

We hope you will remember that over 350 Members of Parliament ~~had~~ appealed to the Government in the form of a Memorandum to institute a fresh enquiry into the mystry about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose as they felt that investigations done by the Shah Nawaz Committee were not adequate and convincing. But unfortunately the Government did not respond to the appeal by the ~~Memoxan~~ Memorialists on the ground, namely "an enquiry into the matter like this after a lapse of over 22 years can hardly help bringing to light any further material to set at rest whatever doubts the people may have".

We are happy to find that even 20 years after Mahatmaji's murder the Government thought it desirable to make fresh probe into the circumstances leading to murder of the 'Father of the Nation', although his assasin was hanged and another person connected with the conspiracy was imprisoned for life. We believe that the Government have taken right steps to bring to light all facts related to assasination of Mahatmaji. We hope the Government should take a similar view about another national leader like Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, whose reported death in a plane crash has not been proved beyond all doubts.

The Shah Nawaz Committee did not consist of eminent jurists, nor did it either visit the place of occurance of the alleged plane crash involving Netaji or scrutinize all documents available with the Governments of U.S.A. and U.K. regarding the matter. It has been brought to our notice that an enquiry conducted by the Government of Formosa could not verify the report of the plane-crash at Taihoko, the main airport of their country.

Even after the submission of the report by Shah Nawaz Committee late Pandit Nehru informed Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, an elder brother of Netaji, that there was no 'precise and direct proof' of Netaji's death. A month before he passed away Panditji, assured Shri Amiya Nath Bose, a nephew of Netaji and now a Member of Lok Sabha, in a letter that the matter regarding Netaji's mystry 'should be finalised'. All these show that Panditji had also doubts about the report of death of Netaji in Taihoko plane crash.

We believe, therefore, that a fulfledged enquiry about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose has not been made and there are further scopes for renewed probe into the matter. We, therefore, earnestly appeal to you to set up a fresh enquiry committee, consisting of

Contd.....2....

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

46

Supreme Court Judges, which in co-operation with the Governments of Japan and Formosa, should conduct a thorough probe into Netaji's mystery so that it could be finally resolved to the satisfaction of our countryment.

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha, Convener
On behalf of National Committee on Netaji

P.S: I wanted to see you personally and discuss the matter with you. But on enquiry I found that you are away from Delhi. I shall come to Delhi in the first week of July , when I hope to see you to place my view point regarding fresh enquiry about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

S.No.19

CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister's Secretariat

47

Returned with thanks.

2. PM would be grateful if F.M. could kindly send a suitable reply to Shri Samar Guha, M.P. In the past, questions relating to demands for an enquiry into the death of Netaji Subhas have been dealt with by the Ministry of External Affairs. We shall be grateful to have a copy of the reply sent to Shri Guha for our information and record.

sd/-

(S. Banerji)
Joint Secretary to
the Prime Minister
16.6.69.

S.A. to Foreign Minister.

F. M's Secty. a. o. No. P.H.S. ~~1049~~ 1082
dt. 17/6

S.No 18

(We) Issued with "E"
17/6

PM III (BF)

No.2-FM/69/554 June 3, 1969.

48

My dear Shri Chavan,

I have received your letter of 3rd June, 1969, enclosing a copy of a letter from Shri Samar Guha, M.P., together with its enclosure, regarding enquiry into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

It is really a matter for the Prime Minister to consider and I am, therefore, forwarding your letter to the Prime Minister.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shri Y.B. Chavan,
Minister of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

Has this been done?

Itd/-
4.6.69

Pl. forward to JS to PM.

Sd/- 9.6.69

We have some pps.

Itd/- S.Banerji
10.6.

PS(S)

S.No.20

49

Confidential

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

S.No 19

Would the Special Assistant to Foreign Minister kindly refer to this Secretariat U.O.No. PMS-10982 dated the 17th June, 1969, about a letter from Shri Samar Guha, M.P., regarding inquiry into the circumstances leading to the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose?

2. We shall be grateful to be informed whether a reply has been sent to Shri Guha. If so, it is requested that a copy thereof may kindly be sent to us, for information and record.

19/7

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister.

SSA o/c

Special Assistant to
Foreign Minister.
P.M's Sectt. U.O.No. PMS-12726 dated 19.7.69

B.F 19-8-69

2(64)

19/7

Srno 21

L.S.S.
Q.1/4

50

QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA

PROVISIONAL STARRED

ADMITTED

D. No. 3051

Ministry to which the day has been allotted P.M. SECTT. O.P.I

The question will be put down for the sitting on the :— 30.7.69

DEMAND FOR A PROBE INTO THE DEATH OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

* SHRI MAHANT DIGVIJAI NATH:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a demand has been made by the national committee of Netaji for a fresh probe into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the said committee has also demanded the probe in cooperation with the Government of Japan and Formosa;

(c) if so, whether the Government of India have acceded to the demand so made;

(d) if so, the time by which a fresh enquiry is expected to be started; and

(e) who will be the Chairman of the Committee?

Pol. Section for necessary action
B.L. Comas
10.7.69

Poll
PS(S)
10/7

Maybe transferred to Ext. Affairs!
V.P. Marwahe
10.7.69

* mar

J.S.I

Cos 10-7-69

S.No. 22

51

QUESTION FOR LOK SABHA/RAJYA/SABHA/

PROVISIONAL STARRED/ UNSTARRED

D.NO. 3051 ADMITTED/ FACTS

Notice was received on the

Ministry to which the day has been allotted P.M. SECTT.

The question w-ill be put down for the sitting on the:- 30.7.69

DEMAND FOR A PROBE INTO THE DEATH OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE

* SHRI MAHANT DIGVIJAI NATH:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a demand has been made by the national committee of Netaji for a fresh probe into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the said committee has also demanded the probe in cooperation with the Government of Japan and Formosa;

(c) if so, whether the Government of India have acceded to the demand so made;

(d) if so, the time by which a fresh enquiry is expected to be started; and

(e) who will be the Chairman of the Committee?

(Lok Sabha admitted question for 30-7-69)

Original sent to Poll Section for necessary action

B.Z. Omar 10-7-69

J.S.'s impression is correct. We have already requested MEA to take over the question. V.P. Marcelo 11-7-69

J.S.I

J.S.(I)

Post MEA answer

a. NHA

J.S.(I)

Sno. 23

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

-3-

No.C/125/10/69/JP.
Government of India
Ministry of External Affairs

New Delhi,
July 14, 1969.

Subject:- Starred Question D.No. 3051 to be asked in the Lok Sabha by Shri Mahant Digvijai Nath on the 30th July, 1969, regarding demand for a probe into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

The undersigned is directed to refer to Starred Question D.No. 3051, to be asked by Shri Mahant Digvijai Nath on the 30th July, 1969, regarding a probe into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, which has been transferred to this Ministry by the Prime Minister's Secretariat vide their O.M. No. PMS-12234, dated the 10th July, 1969.

2. The subject-matter of the question, namely, an enquiry into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, has been raised in the Lok Sabha a number of times since the report of the Enquiry Committee led by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan was xxx laid on the Table of the House on the 11th September, 1956. A list of these questions is enclosed herewith. In reply to all questions on the subject raised from time to time, it was made quite clear that the Government of India felt that the evidence adduced in the Shah Nawaz Committee Report was overwhelming and that the death of Netaji should be accepted as a fact. It was also made clear in reply to various questions and supplementaries that, as no new facts have been brought to light since the acceptance of the Shah Nawaz Committee Report by the Government of India, the need for any further enquiry into the matter did not arise.

3. It is submitted that the above facts may kindly be brought to the notice of the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha to consider the admissibility of the question.

2(64)

(Y.R. Dhawan)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

The Lok Sabha Secretariat,
New Delhi.

P.T.O.

53

Copy, for information, to the Prime Minister's Secretariat, New Delhi, with reference to their O.M. No. PMS-12234, dated the 10th July, 1969.

(Y.R. Dhawan)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.

Parliament Section

May also see for info:

Pol

Seen. Thanks.

16.7.69

Pol

P.T.O.

Sno. 24

MOST IMMEDIATE
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

Prime Minister's Secretariat
.....

No. PMS-12234

July 10, 1969.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Admitted provisional Starred Question Dy. No. 3051 tabled by Shri Mahant Digvijai Nath for answer in the Lok Sabha on 30.7.69, regarding demand for a probe into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of the Starred Question mentioned above and to request that as its subject matter primiraly concerns the Ministry of External Affairs, they may kindly take over the Question under intimation to the Lok Sabha Sectt. and this Sectt.

sd/-

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Ministry of External Affairs,
(Shri C.V. Ranganathan, Dy. Secy.)
New Delhi.

Copy for information to:

1) Lok Sabha Sectt. (Sh. K.D. Chattarjee, U.S.)
2) Parliament Section, P.M's Sectt.

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Confidential

55

Ministry of External Affairs

Subject:- Enquiry into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Reference Prime Minister's Secretariat U.O. No. PMS-12726 dated 19.7.1969.

Foreign Minister has sent a reply to Shri Samar Guha, M.P., vide letter No. 2-FM/69/858 dated July 30, 1969, a copy of which is enclosed for your information and record.

S.V. Purushottam

(S.V. Purushottam)
Special Assistant to the Foreign Minister
31-7-1969

Prime Minister's Sectt. (Shri V.P.Marwaha, PS to PM)
M.E.A. U.O. No. C/551/4/69/JP dated 31-7-1969.
1420/51/FM/69

Pl keep with papers.
(PSI is very busy and need not be troubled with these papers)
V P Marwaha
1/8

Pl 111

Lup
2(64)

S No 26

56

No.2-FM/69/858 July 30, 1969.

Dear Shri Samar Guha,

Will you kindly refer to your letter dated the 19th May, 1969, addressed to the Prime Minister, regarding a further enquiry into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose?

As you are aware, this matter has been raised in Parliament on several occasions and Government have adequately explained their stand. Last year, when Members of Parliament had given a Memorandum, the matter was examined by Government in some depth. However, since no new facts were brought to light, Government reiterated that a further enquiry into the death of Netaji was not warranted.

You have referred to some letters which late Prime Minister Nehru wrote to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose and Shri Amiya Nath Bose. You will recall that you had raised this aspect when you tabled Starred Question No.582 which was answered on 11th December, 1967. I think Shri Bhagat had clarified the position and I have nothing to add to what was stated in reply to the question. Regarding on-the-spot verifications, etc., it has already been explained in the House that the relevant records were taken by the Japanese authorities who were in occupation of Taiwan at that time. These records were made available to the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee by the Japanese Government.

You have mentioned in your letter that Government are conducting an enquiry 20 years after Mahatmaji's assassination and that Government should similarly hold another enquiry into Netaji's death. I have no doubt that you are aware of the terms of reference of the enquiry being conducted in respect of Mahatmaji's assassination. I need, therefore, hardly point out that this enquiry is not being conducted to establish Mahatmaji's death. The enquiry, as you know, is being conducted only to ascertain whether any prior information was available with the Government of Bombay or the Government of India and whether appropriate action was taken in the light of that information.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Samar Guha, M.P.,
45, South Avenue,
NEW DELHI.

57

J S/
I

(Presumably left with PM by Shri Saman Suha)

D(P) Pasar 30.7

2(64)

57A

UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA

BY

Members of Parliament

We Demand
Fresh Enquiry
About Disappearance of
Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

58

UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

Azad Hind Fauj Association

Phhone : 273532

82 Daryaganj, Delhi-6

Dated 20th Sept. 1968

Dear Friends,

JAI HIND.

In this small pamphlet the Azad Hind Fauj Association has tried to bring home to the Indian public in general, and to all non-Indians also who, during the sojourn of NETAJI outside India might have come into contact with him and studied his sterling qualities as a Statesman and Leader, the injustice that has been perpetrated upon him by the Government of his own Country (for the freedom of which he struggled indefatigably with all the weapons at his command) after his disappearance on 18th August 1945, The Shah Nawaz Khan Inquiry Committee's findings leave much room for doubt about the authenticity of the facts narrated therein. This is the considered view of a great many jurists and authorities versed in the art of making such inquiries who vehemently aver that there are some important links missing in the factual data of that Report. The blame, however, does not go to General Shah Nawaz Khan personally since he was a soldier uninitiated in the work of collecting, evaluating and collating intelligence material in intricate cases of this nature.

From the following pages it will dawn on our readers that about 350 Members of the Parliament who repsesent about 50% electorates of this vast sub continent, inhabiting 450 million souls, have urged the Government of India to institute a fresh inquiry to delve into and unravel the mystery of the fateful plane crash on 18-8-1945 which is said to have been the cause of NETAJI's death. If it be found a mere myth then true facts must be ascertained leading to the present whereabouts of NETAJI. But the Government has turned down this simple request on very flimsy grounds which hold no water.

We venture to suggest to the Government that an opinioa poll, on the lines conducted in other democratic countries on matters of controversial Government policy to elicit the trend of people's thinking, be held throughout India to ascertain the views of the people and if (as we ardently anticipate) the majority favour holding of a fresh inquiry, the Government must abide by the wishes of the people and carry them out. We would therefore suggest that a judicial inquiry committee headed by some eminent retired Judge of the Supreme Court be constituted for this purpose, which should enlist the co-operation of the Governments of Japan and Taiwan, who have already shown their willingness to give every help in the inquiry, so that this mystery is solved once for all.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

LCTalwar

(L.C. TALWAR) CAPT. I.N.A.
General Secretary

Memorandum to the President of India

BY

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

New Delhi,

Dated: 26th December, 1967.

The President,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi.

Dear President,

We, along with millions of Indians, regard Netaji as not only one of the greatest patriots but also as one of the top-ranking leaders thrown up by India's struggle for freedom whose contribution to its historic termination is no less important than that of any other leader. For it is now being realised by a gradually increasing section of Indians and foreigners that Britain would not have relinquished her political hold on India in 1947, but for the formation of the Azad Hind Fauj (I.N.A.) by Netaji. For it demonstrated that the British Government could no longer rely upon the Indian sepoys with whose help alone she had conquered India and so long maintained her authority over the vast population of an extensive country like India. It may be recalled in this connection that the British Government had successfully put down the last non-violent Civil Disobedience campaign of Mahatma Gandhi as well as the last violent rebelion of 1942; she had refused to grant freedom to India even when the victorious Japanese army had overrun Burma and was at the very gates of India, and the President of U.S.A. made earnest appeals to Churchill to conciliate India. Yet almost immediately after the great and complete triumph over Germany and her allies Britain voluntarily withdrew her political control over India. This can only be explained by the realization on the part of Britain of the grim fact that the Indian sepoys could not longer be relied upon to fight Britain's battle in India, and her resources in men and money were too exhausted by the war to carry on successful efforts to keep down resurgent India by force.

Without therefore denying in the least the great importance of the contribution made by Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders to the moral and political uplift of the Indian nation which urged and prepared them for a relentless fight for freedom to the last, we venture to hold that but for Netaji's I.N.A., India would not have gained her freedom so soon after the great victory of Britain in the Second World War. We may further urge that the events culminating in the formation of I.N.A. by Netaji have demonstrated his superb statesmanship, marvellous far-seeing prescience and prodigious talent for military organisation. It is needless for us to recall that it was the I.N.A., under the inspiring leadership of Netaji, that liberated Indian territory from British bondage and hoisted banner of India's independence almost three years before it was unfurled over the Delhi Red Fort. Netaji was in fact the first President of Free India.

We, however, regret to say that the Government has signally failed to accord due honour and recognition to the unique personality and leadership of Netaji or to his historic role in our freedom struggle.

60

We, therefore, urge our Government to take the following steps without delay :

1. To place his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and all offices of the Government ;
2. To erect a statue of Netaji on a prominent site in New Delhi, preferably at India Gate ;
3. To devise suitable means to accord national recognition to military genius of Netaji ;
4. To observe his birthday every year with due solemnity ;
5. To erect suitable memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of I.N.A. heroes who sacrificed their lives in the liberation struggle under the leadership of Netaji ;
6. To publish the Volume on I.N.A., already written for the "History of Indian Army During the Second War", published by the Government :
7. To give him his due place in the "History of the Freedom Movement" (planned by Government of India) ; (For this it is necessary to take expert advice on the portion of the manuscript relating to him before it is finally approved for the press).
8. To arrange publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

We further beg to bring to your notice that the alleged death of Netaji in a plane-crash on 18th August, 1945, is not believed by a large section of Indian public in spite of the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee. Even the late Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had to admit in a letter, dated 13th May, 1962, written to Shri Suresh Bose, elder brother of Netaji, that there was no "precise and direct proof" of the death of Netaji. On the other hand, Reuter reported on 2nd September, 1945, on the authority of the New Delhi correspondent of the *Sunday Observer*, London, that 'neither the British nor the American War correspondent believes of the news of Netaji's death and there is enough evidence of his presence in Saigon a few days after the reported plane-crash'. A correspondent of an American paper also told Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 20th August, 1945, that Subhas was not dead but still alive and was possibly at Saigon. There are also published reports of Radio Broadcast by Netaji in December, 1945, and January, 1946. The value of the Shah Nawaz Committee is considerably diminished by the fact that no investigation was made into the above reports and that no member of the Committee visited the actual spot of the accident and made any local inquiry. We, therefore, venture to suggest that a further inquiry be made with the collaboration of the Governments of Japan and Taiwan (where the plane-crash took place) by a small independent committee consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two or three public men in whose integrity and capacity to conduct such an inquiry the public has full confidence. Nothing but such an inquiry will satisfy public opinion by removing the mystery that hangs around Netaji. Even though it is already very late, still such an inquiry may yet be fruitful, but if such a step be not taken without delay posterity will never forgive the Government and people of India for their neglect and indifference to ascertain the actual facts about one of the greatest leaders in the struggle for India's freedom. We, therefore, appeal to you to appoint such a Committee of Inquiry and take suitable steps to accord honour to Netaji whom our country and our people regard as one of the greatestp atriots and political leaders, and one of the mightiest architects of India's liberation.

We are confident that our appeal will not be in vain.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Randhir Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Mohinder Kaur, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Krishan Gupta, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sucheta Kripalani, M.P.
Sd/- A.S. Saigal, M.P.
Sd/- C.K. Bhattacharyya, M.P.
Sd/- A.E.T. Barrow, M.P.
Sd/- S.M. Bannerjee, M.P.

Sd/- P.K. Ghosh, M.P.
Sd/- G.M. Bakshi, M.P.
Sd/- V.D. Bajpai, M.P.
Sd/- Gunanand Thakur, M.P.
Sd/- Shashi Ranjan, M.P.
Sd/- Babunath Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Raj Deo Singh, M.P.
Sd/- T.H. Sonavane, M.P.
Sd/- Piloo Moody, M.P.
Sd/- J.N. Pramanik, M.P.
Sd/- Prem Chand Verma, M.P.
Sd/- Narendra Singh Mahida, M.P.
Sd/- Pratap Singh, M.P.
Sd/- P.C. Mitra, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Lalita Rajya Laxmi, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Radhabai Ananda Rao, M.P.
Sd/- Onkar Lal Bohra, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Tarkeshwari Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Savitri Shyam, M.P.
Sd/- V. Sambasivam, M.P.
Sd/- K.R. Ganesh, M.P.
Sd/- M.R. Krishna, M.P.
Sd/- G.S. Reddi, M.P.
Sd/- Narindar Singh Brar, M.P.
Sd/- V.N. Pandey, M.P.
Sd/- Swami Brahmanand, M.P.
Sd/- S.S. Syed, M.P.
Sd/- A.C. Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Haji Lutfal Haque, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Girja Kumari, M.P.
Sd/- N.P.C. Naidu, M.P.
Sd/- T.A. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- Nitiraj Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Devakinandan Patodia, M.P.
Sd/- Ramchandra Veerappa, M.P.
Sd/- S.B. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- Bharat Singh Chauhan, M.P.
Sd/- Ramesh Chandra Vyas, M.P.
Sd/- A.D. Mani, M.P.
Sd/- Raj Narain, M.P.
Sd/- Brahmananda Pande, M.P
Sd/- D.L. Sen Gupta, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sarla Bhadauria, M.P.
Sd/- Salig Ram, M.P.
Sd/- Muhammad Ishaque, M.P.
Sd/- Shri Chand Goyal, M.P.
Sd/- Brij Bhushan Lal, M.P.
Sd/- Hukam Chand Kachwai, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Singh Agarwal, M.P.
Sd/- Shashi Bhushan, M.P.
Sd/- P.M. Sayeed, M.P.
Sd/- Sheo Narain, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sharda Mukerjee, M.P.
Sd/- Chaudhury Sadhu Ram, M.P.
Sd/- Krishna Kumar Chatterjee, M.P.
Sd/- Frank Anthony, M.P.
Sd/- J.K. Mandal, M.P.
Sd/- Indulal Yagnik, M.P.
Sd/- Yogendra Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Shiv Chandika Prasada Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Guru Charan Naik, M.P.
Sd/- G.C. Dixit, M.P.
Sd/- S.D. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- S.B. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- N.K. Somani, M.P.
Sd/- S.K. Saha, M.P.
Sd/- R.N. Brahma, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Violet Alva, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Tara Sapre, M.P.
Sd/- N. Narotham Reddy, M.P.
Sd/- Aga Syed Ahmed, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Vijaya Raje, M.P.
Sd/- Amrit Nahata, M.P.
Sd/- Buta Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Mrityunjay Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sangal Laxmi Bai, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Pannalal Barupal, M.P.
Sd/- N. Sethuraman, M.P.
Sd/- Maharani Vijayamala Rajaram Chhatrapati Bhonsle, M.P.
Sd/- P. Venkatasubbaiah, M.P.
Sd/- Shambhu Nath, M.P.
Sd/- Gurdial Singh Dhillon, M.P.

62

Sd/- P. Anthony Reddi, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Dhan, M.P.
Sd/- B.R. Parmar, M.P.
Sd/- T.H. Gavit, M.P.
Sd/- K.G. Deshmukh, M.P.
Sd/- Suresh Desai, M.P.
Sd/- R.P. Khaitan, M.P.
Sd/- Tulsidas Dassappa, M.P.
Sd/- Mali Mariyappa, M.P.
Sd/- Jageswar Yadav, M.P.
Sd/- P.N. Sapru, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Shyam Kumari Khan, M.P.
Sd/- Jagat Narain, M.P.
Sd/- S.S. Mariswami, M.P.
Sd/- Revati Kanta Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Mahitosh Purkayastha, M.P.
Sd/- T.V. Anandam, M.P
Sd/- Satyendra Prasad Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Sharda Nand, M.P.
Sd/- Hardayal Devgun, M.P.
Sd/- Jaganath Rai Joshi, M.P.
Sd/- Kanwarlal Gupta, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Shakuntla Nayar, M.P.
Sd/- Bharat Singh Chawhan, M.P.
Sd/- Beni Sankar Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- M.L. Sondhi, M.P.
Sd/- Suraj Bhan, M.P.
Sd/- Tirlokshah Lal Priendra Shah, M.P.
Sd/- Onkar Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Major Ranjeet Singh M.P.,
Sd/- George Fernandes, M.P.
Sd/- Arjun Singh Bhadoria, M.P.
Sd/- Molahu Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- P. Vishwambharan, M.P.
Sd/- Shiopujan Shashtri, M.P.
Sd/- Kedra Paswan, M.P.
Sd/- S.M. Joshi, M.P.
Sd/- Gunanand Thakur, M.P.
Sd/- Nath Pai, M.P.
Sd/- Baidhar Biara, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Charan, M.P.
Sd/- M. Huche Gowda, M.P.
Sd/- Dinkar Desai, M.P.
Sd/- Jahanuddin Ahmed, M.P.
Sd/- Krishan Kant, M.P.
Sd/- J. Venkatappa, M.P.
Sd/- P.K. Deo, M.P.
Sd/- Bhupendra Narayan Mandal, M.P.
Sd/- S. Vashist, M.P.
Sd/- P. Abraham, M.P.
Sd/- Devaki Gopidas, M.P.
Sd/- Loknath Misra, M.P.
Sd/- Jagat Narain, M.P.
Sd/- Niranjan Varma, M.P.
Sd/- Braja Kishore Prasad Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- G.P. Somasundaram, M.P.
Sd/- K.C. Baghel, M.P.
Sd/- Narinder Singh Berar, M.P.
Sd/- B.D. Khobaragade, M.P.
Sd/- Ibraham Sulaiman Sait, M.P.
Sd/- Tirloki Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Chander, M.P.
Sd/- K.R. Ganesh M.P.
Sd/- Purnananda Chetia, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Singh, M.P.
Sd/- G.P. Sundaram, M.P.
Sd/- K. Manoharan, M.P.
Sd/- Era Sezhiyan, M.P.
Sd/- P. Sivasankaran, M.P.
Sd/- Trideb Chaudhuri, M.P.
Sd/- Srikantan Nair, M.P.
Sd/- Prakash Vir Shastri, M.P.
Sd/- Dr. Ranen Sen, M.P.
Sd/- Amiya Nath Bose, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Charan, M.P.
Sd/- Atma Das M.P.
Sd/- A.K. Kisku, M.P.
Sd/- Dr. (Mrs) Maitreyee Bose, M.P.
Sd/- Sunder Singh Bhandari, M.P.
Sd/- Akbar Ali Khan, M.P.
Sd/- R.S. Vidyarthi, M.P.
Sd/- Onkarlal Barua, M.P.
Sd/- Narayan Swaroop Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Atal Behari Vajpayee, M.P.

Sd/- Brahmanand, M.P.
Sd/- Bansh Narain Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Yajna Datt Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Rabi Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Sevak Yadav, M.P.
Sd/- J.M. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- A. Sreedharan, M.P.
Sd/- Nihai Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Shiva Chandra Jha, M.P.
Sd/- Maharaj Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Sibcharan Lal, M.P.
Sd/- Surendra Nath Dwivedy, M.P.
Sd/- Samarendra Kundu, M.P.
Sd/- Lakhan Lal Kapoor, M.P.
Sd/- Shri Nivas Mishra, M.P.
Sd/- Hem Barua, M.P.
Sd/- K. Lakkappa, M.P.
Sd/- Mulka Govind Reddy, M.P.
Sd/- R.S. Bhupendra Singh M.P.
Sd/- Choudhury A. Mohammed, M.P.
Sd/- Rebati Kanta Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Gauri Murahari, M.P.
Sd/- P.K. Koya, M.P.
Sd/- Tenneti Viswanathan, M.P.
Sd/- Sheel Bhadra Yajee, M.P.
Sd/- Dewan Chaman Lal, M.P.
Sd/- S.S.N. Tankha, M.P.
Sd/- V.K. Mannalalji Chordia, M.P.
Sd/- Shanti Kothari, M.P.
Sd/- B.V. Abdullah, Koya, M.P.
Sd/- B.N. Antani, M.P.
Sd/- K. Sundaram, M.P.
Sd/- Niranjan Singh, M.P.
Sd/- A.C. Gilhert, M.P.
Sd/- Narayan Patre, M.P.
Sd/- R.K. Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- Sukhdev Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Jyotsna Chanda, M.P.
Sd/- R.B. Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Chitta Basu, M.P.
Sd/- K. Anbazhagan, M.P.
Sd/- G. Viswanathan, M.P.

Sd/- M. Deiveekan, M.P.
Sd/- Surya Prasad Narain Puri, M.P.
Sd/- P.R. Thakur, M.P.
Sd/- N.C. Chatterjee, M.P.
Sd/- Benary K. Das Chowdhury, M.P.
Sd/' Madhu Limaye, M.P.
Sd/- Ramji Ram, M.P.
Sd/- Sachindra Nath Maity, M.P
Sd/- Raja Venkatappa Naik, M.P.
Sd/- Chittaranjan Ray, M.P.
Sd/- V.V. Ramaswami, M.P.
Sd/- M.P. Bhargav, M.P.
Sd/- C.D. Pande, M.P.
Sd/- C.M. Setalvad, M.P.
Sd/- D. Rai, M.P.
Sd/- Banke Behari Dass, M.P.
Sd/- Om Mehta, M.P.
Sd/- Niti Raj Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Kanta Kumari, M.P.
Sd/- Raghuvir Singh Shastri, M.P.
Sd/- Nathuram Ahirwar, M.P.
Sd/- Sankata Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- V. Choudhury, M.P.
Sd/- J.N. Hazarika, M.P.
Sd/- B. Bishwanath Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Ananta Rao Patil, M.P.
Sd/- Syed Badrudduja, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Kishan, M.P.
Sd/- M.V. Rajashekhran, M.P.
Sd/- V. Sambasivam, M.P.
Sd/- Chintamani Panigrahi, M.P.
Sd/- H.P. Chatterjee, M.P.
Sd/- Kashi Nath Pande, M.P.
Sd/- K.D. Bhandari, M.P.
Sd/- Y.G. Gadilinganna, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Deb, M.P.
Sd/- Raj Singh Deo, M.P.
Sd/- J.M. Imam, M.P.
Sd/- R.K. Amin, M.P.
Sd/- V.K. Shah, M.P.
Sd/- Debananda Amat, M.P.
Sd/- Pratap Keshari Deo, M.P.

65

Sd/- K.M. Kaushik, M.P.
Sd/. K.P. Singh Deo, M.P.
Sd/- S. Xavier, M.P.
Sd/- Erasmo de Sequeira, M.P.
Sd/- M.K. Nanja Gowder, M.P.
Sd/- K. Hanumanthaiyya, M.P.
Sd/- Tirloki Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Niranjan Singh, M.P.
Sd/- D.S. Raju, M.P.
Sd/. Uma Roy, M.P.
Sd/- Samar Guha. M.P.
Sd/- B.S. Zaidi, M.P.
Sd/- T. Chrngalvaroyan, M.P.
Sd/- P. Balachandra Menon, M.P.
Sd/- K. Chandra Shekhar, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Shekhar Singh, M.P.
Sd/- S.C. Samanta, M.P.
Sd/- Janardan Shukre, M.P.
Sd/- Vikram Chand Mahajan, M.P.
Sd/- S.M. Muhammed Sheriff, M.P.
Sd/- Shiva Chandrika, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Swarup, M.P.
Sd/- Mudrika Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt Girja Kumari, M.P.
Sd/- G.S. Dhillon, M.P.
Sd/- D.C. Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sushila Rohtgi, M.P.
Sd/- J.K. Choudhury, M.P.
Sd/- G.G. Swell, M.P.
Sd/- Anil Kumar Chanda, M.P.
Sd/- Rajindra Barua, M.P.
Sd/- Swami Ramanand Shastri, M.P.
Sd/- H. Ajmal Khan, M.P.
Sd/- M.L. Meena, M.P.
Sd/- Fazl Haque, M.P.
Sd/- V. Narashimha Rao, M.P.
Sd/- D.R. Parmar, M.P.
Sd/- B.B. Lal M.P.
Sd/- Surendra Tapuriah, M.P.
Sd/- A. Dipa, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Patodia, M.P.
Sd/- Nand Kumar, Somani, M.P.
Sd/- S.P. Ramamurthy, M.P.
Sd/- Jamna Lal, M.P.
Sd/- Sant Ram Singh. M.P.
Sd/- Syed Zulfiquer Ali Khan, M.P.
Sd/- M.C. Setalvad, M.P.
Sd/- Sisir Kumar, M.P.
Sd/- N. Dandekar, M.P.
Sd/- R.P. Khattan, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Deb, M.P.

Two or three names have been duplicated in the list and initials of nearly a dozen signatories could not be deciphered. It was stated that nearly 35 Members orally associated their names with memorandum but their names could not be included in the list of signatories as they left Delhi a few days before the end of the Lok Sabha Session.

65

SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA,
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI-4.

No. F. 62/68. May 24, 1968.

Dear Shri Guha,

You had sent the President with your letter dated the 26th December 1967 a Memorandum signed by several Members of Parliament suggesting steps for according honour and recognition to the personality of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. These suggestions have been examined by the different Ministries concerned. A note which explains the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government is enclosed.

2. Government's view on the suggestion that there should be a fresh inquiry into the death of Netaji has been made clear in reply to questions answered in Parliament in February 1968. You will appreciate that an inquiry into a matter like this after a lapse of over 22 years can hardly help in bringing to light any further material to set at rest whatever doubts people may have.

Yours sincerely,

S/d——————

(Nagendra Singh)

Shri Samar Guha, M.P.,
1 23, South Avenue,
New Delhi.

*** *** *** *** ***

66

Note on the action taken/proposed to be taken on the suggestions made by Shri Samar Guha and other Members of Parliament in their letter to the President for according honour and recognition to the personality of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

* * *

(1) *Portraits of Netaji*

The Department of Parliamentary Affairs has requested the Lok Sabha Secretariat to bring the suggestion that Netaji's portrait be placed in the Central Hall of Parliament, to the notice of the Committee on Portraits and Statues in the Parliament House.

There is no objection to portraits of national leaders including Netaji's being displayed in offices. Government have not issued any directions making it obligatory for Government offices to display the photographs or portraits of national leaders nor is it proposed to issue such directions now.

(2) *Erection of statue of Netaji in New Delhi.*

Sites for erection of statues in the Capital are found by the Ministry of Works and Housing as and when any proposal is sponsored by municipal bodies, non-governmental organisation or individuals who have to bear all expenses in this regard. No proposal for the erection of a statue of Netaji in New Delhi, supported by offer of funds, has been received by that Ministry. They will take necessary action as and when firm proposals in this behalf are received.

(3) *Erection of memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of INA heroes.*

Memorials are not erected by Government. Usually some non-official organisation takes up the responsibility. It is understood that the erection of a memorial near Imphal has been sponsored by a non-official agency.

Kohima is in Nagaland and the initiative for erecting the memorial there should appropriately come from the local people. It is, however, open to any other organisation to sponsor such a project.

(4) *Observance of birthday.*

Government do not sponsor any celebrations in connection with the birthdays of national leaders. However, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi alone has been treated as a national holiday. It would be difficult to add to the list of such holidays as the number of holidays is already large.

(5) *Publication of the volume of INA written for the History of Indian Army during the Second War.* Ministry of Defence are considering this matter.

(6) *According national recognition to the military genius of Netaji and giving him due place in the 'History of Freedom Movement'.*

Netaji's role in organising the I.N.A. would appropriately find a place in the History of the I.N.A. Campaigns. The compiler of the "History of Freedom Movement" who had been apprised of the suggestion by the Ministry of Education has confirmed that Netaji's ideas and his contribution to the freedom struggle would find a place in the Third Volume of the History.

(7) *Publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.*

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting are considering this matter.

* * *

67

MINISTER OF WORKS,
HOUSING & SUPPLY,
INDIA

D.O. No. 28011 (11)/68-W

New Delhi,
20th May, 1968.

Dear Shri Guha,

Please refer to your letter dated the 9th May, 1968, regarding the installation of a statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose near the Red Fort. As you know, Government do not initiate proposals for the erection of statues at public expense. Such proposals have to be sponsored by municipal bodies, non-Government organisations or individuals who have to bear all expenses in this regard. No offer in this case has been received from any quarter. If there is a firm offer to finance the installation of a statue of Netaji, a site near the Red Fort can be made available for the purpose.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Jaganath Rao

(Jaganath Rao)

Shri Samar Guha, M.P.,
45-South Avenue,
New Delhi.

— : —

Prof. Samar Guha, M.P., Convenor, National Committee on Netaji, while addressing a press conference on 21-6-68 said :

Eagerly awaited reply to the memorandum submitted to the President of India, by nearly half the members of the Parliament, which urged for a fresh enquiry into mystery about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose by the Govt. of India in collaboration with the Governments of Japan and Taiwan, shockingly belied an expectation film highest dignitary of the Indian State. It is unfortunate that instead of giving due importance to a memorandum signed by over 350 members of the Parliament the reply received from the President cursorily referred to a casual reply made by a Minister of State in the Rajya Sabha regarding a question on Netaji inquiry.

68

The Parliamentary memorialists have been further informed on behalf of the President that "after a lapse of 22 years" no useful purpose will be served by any fresh enquiry. But strangely although Gandhiji's assasin has been hanged long ago and his associate imprisoned for life, the Govt. of India has started a fresh enquiry about 'Gandhi-murder' to "help bringing to light" new facts.

An issue of supreme importance like probe into alleged death of Netaji in a mysterious circumstances, was handled not by highest judicial talents available in India but by a wholly incompetent body, under the Chairmanship of a soldier who could hardly claim any recognised judicial acumen, which conducted the inquiry in an extra-ordinarily slip shod and superficial manner.

The probe body neither visited the place of occurence of alleged plane crash nor did it scrutinise all documents relevent to Netaji's plan for escape after fall of Japan and not even thoroughly examined the views of surviving leaders of war time Japan.

Shah Nawaz Committee's report failed to convince even late Pandit Nehru, who in a letter to Shri S.C. Bose, an elder brother of Netaji, admitted that "there was no direct and precise proof of his (Netaji) death" and a month before his demise Panditji expressed an opinion that mystery about Netaji should be "finally resolved". The memorialists explained to the President all these back-ground facts.

About according national recognition to Netaji, the attitude of the Govt. of India even after 20 years of freedom still remained either neggardly and evasive or step motherly.

The reply received from the President regarding the demand for fresh enquiry into Netaji mystery is wholly unsatisfactory and as such this matter will be raised in the Parliament in the ensuing session.

A fresh enquiry into Netaji-mystery is a national obligation, which canot remain unfulfilled indefinitely.

— : —

Published by Capt. L. C. TALWAR, I. N. A. for Azad Hind Fauj Association, 82 Daryaganj, Delhi-6 (Tel. 273532) and printed at Navin Press, Daryaganj, Delhi-6.

Copy No: 5
Div: Copies.

Secret

69

Prime Minister's Secretariat.

Cabinet Meeting on September 5, 1969--Item 3 of agenda--Disapperance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945

...

In April 1956, in response to the public demand, Government of India appointed an Inquiry Committee to ascertain the circumstances concerning Netaji's alleged death in an air crash. The Committee consisted of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose (elder brother of Netaji) and Shri S.N.Maitra (formerly Chief Commissioner, Andamans and Nicobar). The Committee examined witnesses in Delhi, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Turang and Tokyo and studied relevant records pertaining to the matter. The three members of the Committee arrived at certain broad conclusions which were summarised in a list entitled "Prinpal points agreed to for Draft Report" dated 30.6.56". Shri Suresh Chandra Bose had agreed with the principle conclusions and signed the documents containing these on 2.7.56. The conclusions confirmed that Netaji had, in fact, met his death in the air crash on the 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, however, submitted a dissentient report stating that there had been no plane crash involving Netaji's death as concluded in the Committee's report.

2. The Cabinet considered the report of the Inquiry Committee signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri S.N. Maitra on 9th September, 1956 and accepted the finding that Netaji had in fact met his death as a result of air crash on the 18th August, 1945. A copy of that report and a copy of the dissentient report were placed on the table of the House by the late Prime Minister Nehru, who stated that Government had accepted the majority report.

3. The conclusions of the majority report were that - about the spring of 1945, the defeat of the Axis powers became imminent and Netaji began thinking of the future activities of himself and of the Indian Independence League and the Indian National Army. He desired to consult his allies, the Japanese, before arriving at a decision. He left Bangkok on the 17th August, 1945 and reached Saigon from where he, alongwith his colleague Col.Habibur Rehman, was picked up in a Japanese Air Force Bomber for being carried to Tokyo. The Bomber halted at Tohoku in Formosa in the early afternoon of 18th August, 1945. While taking off from Tohoku in the afternoon, however, the propellor and the engine of the 'Bomber' suddenly dropped out, with the result that the plane immediately crashed and burst into flames. Suffering from seve burns, Netaji was carried into the Military Hospital where after some hours he passed away. On the 20th September, hi body was cremated in the Tohoku Crematorium and his ashes were flown on the 7th September, 1945 to Tokyo where they have since been lying in the Nankoji Temple.

4. The burden of Shri Suresh Chandra Bose's dissentient report is that the late Prime Minister Nehru had already made up his mind and had agreed to the enquiry only in response to a pressing demand from a large section of the people. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose has further charged that two of the members of the Three-man Committee were under a 'mandate' to arrive at findings which would conform to the pre-conceived notion of the late Prime Minister Nehru that Netaji was dead. He maintained that there was evidence contradicting that there was any air crash at all.

.../---2

Secret

5. There have been repeated demands for undertaking another enquiry ever since the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee's Report was published. However, the Government, having accepted the findings of the Committee, have taken the position that unless fresh evidence or new facts were brought to light, a further enquiry was not warranted. Rumours about Netaji's survival and whereabouts etc. have cropped up repeatedly but on investigation, these rumours have generally been found to be baseless. In 1962, a rumour was spread that a Sanyasi of Shaulmari Ahsram was in fact Netaji. This Sanyasi Shradanand himself denied the rumour.

6. On December 26, 1967, about 350 Members of Parliament sent a Memorandum to the President, demanding a fresh enquiry into the reported death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, in collaboration with the Governments of Japan and Taiwan. The memorandum was discussed at a meeting of Secretaries on 16th February, 1968, and it was felt that no second enquiry was warranted as no fresh evidence had been brought to light.

7. Shri Samar Guha wrote to the Prime Minister in May, 1969, requesting for a judicial enquiry into Netaji's death on the analogy of the enquiry being conducted in regard to Gandhiji's assassination 20 years after Mahatmaji's death. The Foreign Minister, in reply to this letter informed Shri Guha that the terms of reference of the enquiry being conducted into Gandhiji's assassination did not seek to establish Gandhiji's death. 44 M.Ps. addressed a letter to the Prime Minister on August 7, requesting for the appointment of a fresh Enquiry Commission, consisting of retired Supreme Court judges and eminent public men, on the plea that a fresh probe was being conducted in regard to the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and that a judicial enquiry was also being ordered into the cause of death of the Jan Sangh leader Shri Deen Dayal Upadhyay. It is quite obvious that these two examples that have been cited are not an all ~~force for~~ fair an enquiry into the death of Netaji. The question of enquiry was again raised in the Lok Sabha on August 22, 1969 and the Home Minister replied to say ~~that~~ "This matter is under the active consideration of the Government. The Prime Minister has recently received certain memorandum-~~feren~~ from certain Members of Parliament, and we are very actively considering this".

8. In a letter dated 13-5-62 to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, Prime Minister Nehru said "You asked me to send you proof of death of Subash Chandra Bose. I cannot send you any precise and direct proof. But all the circumstantial evidence that has been produced and which has been referred in the Inquiry Committee's Report has convinced us of the fact that Netaji has died. In addition to this, the lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection adds to that circumstantial evidence".

9. It is for consideration whether a Commission of Inquiry should be appointed or not. Any decision to order a re-enquiry would go against Government's repeated stand in the time of three Prime Ministers, turning down such a demand. It will also have the demerit of raising an altogether new excitement over this issue which is believed to be dead except by some/~~xxgent~~ followers of Netaji like Shri Samar Guha with whom it is obviously an obsession. In the circumstances, it might not therefore be considered desirable to set up a fresh Commission of Inquiry into Netaji's death. However, if a decision is taken otherwise, the proposed Commission should consist of a single judge of the Supreme Court.

L ardent

V. P. Marwaha

(V.P.Marwaha)
3.9.69

Secy./JS-I./JS-II.

Separate

Copy No: 4
Five copies.

Secret

Prime Minister's Secretariat.

71

Cabinet Meeting on September 5, 1959--Item 3 of agenda--Disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945

...

In April 1956, in response to the public demand, Government of India appointed an Inquiry Committee to ascertain the circumstances concerning Netaji's alleged death in an air crash. The Committee consisted of Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, Shri Suresh Chandra Bose (elder brother of Netaji) and Shri S.N.Maitra (formerly Chief Commissioner, Andamans and Nicobar). The Committee examined witnesses in Delhi, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Turang and Tokyo, and studied relevant records pertaining to the matter. The three members of the Committee arrived at certain broad conclusions which were summarised in a list entitled "Prinpal points agreed to for Draft Report" dated 30.6.56". Shri Suresh Chandra Bose had agreed with the principle conclusions and signed the documents containing these on 2.7.56. The conclusions confirmed that Netaji had, in fact, met his death in the air crash on the 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, however, submitted a dissentient report stating that there had been no plane crash involving Netaji's death as concluded in the Committee's report.

2. The Cabinet considered the report of the Inquiry Committee signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri S.N. Maitra on 9th September, 1956 and accepted the finding that Netaji had in fact met his death as a result of air crash on the 18th August, 1945. A copy of that report and a copy of the dissentient report were placed on the table of the House by the late Prime Minister Nehru, who stated that Government had accepted the majority report.

3. The conclusions of the majority report were - about the spring of 1945, the defeat of the axis powers and Netaji began thinking of the future activities of himself and of the Indian Independence League and the Indian National Army. He desired to consult his allies, the Japanese, before arriving at a decision. He left Bangkok on the 17th August, 1945 and reached Saigon from where he, alongwith his colleague Col.Habibur Rehman, was picked up in a Japanese Air Force Bomber for being carried to Tokyo. The Bomber halted at Taihoku in Formosa in the early afternoon of 18th August, 1945. While taking off from Taihoku in the afternoon, however, the propellor and the engine of the 'Bomber' suddenly dropped out, with the result that the plane immediately crashed and burst into flames. Suffering from severe burns, Netaji was carried into the Military Hospital where after some hours he passed away. On the 20th September, his body was cremated in the Taihoku Crematorium and his ashes were flown on the 7th September, 1945 to Tokyo where they have since been lying in the Rankoji Temple.

4. The burden of Shri Suresh Chandra Bose's dissentient report is that the late Prime Minister Nehru had already made up his mind and had agreed to the enquiry only in response to a pressing demand from a large section of the people. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose has further charged that two of the members of the Three-man Committee were under a 'mandate' to arrive at findings which would conform to the pre-conceived notion of the late Prime Minister Nehru that Netaji was dead. He maintained that there was evidence contradicting that there was any air crash at all.

..../---2

5. There have been repeated demands for undertaking another enquiry ever since the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee's Report was published. However, the Government, having accepted the findings of the Committee, have taken the position that unless fresh evidence or new facts were brought to light, a further enquiry was not warranted. Rumours about Netaji's survival and whereabouts etc. have cropped up repeatedly but on investigation, these rumours have generally been found to be baseless. In 1962, a rumour was spread that a Sanyasi of Shaulmari Ashram was ~~met~~ on behalf Netaji. This Sanyasi Shradanand himself denied the rumour.

6. On December 26, 1967, about 350 Members of Prliament sent a Memorandum to the President, demanding a fresh enquiry into the reported death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose, in collaboration with the Govenments of Japan and Taiwan. The memorandum was discussed at a meeting of Secretaries on 16th February, 1968, and it was felt that no second enquiry was warranted as no fresh evidence had been brought to light.

7. Shri Samar Guha wrote to the Prime Minister in May, 1969, requesting for a judicial enqiry into Netaji's death on the analogy of the enquiry being conducted in regard to Gandhiji's assassination 20 years after Mahatmaji's death. The Foreign Minister, in reply to this letter informed Shri Guha that the terms of reference of the enquiry being conducted into Gandhiji's assassination did not seek to establish Gandhiji's death. 44 M.Ps. addressed a letter to the Prime Minister on August 7, requesting for the appointment of a fresh Enquiry Commission, consisting of retired Supreme Court judges and eminent public men on the plea that a fresh probe was being conducted in regard to the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and that a judicial enquiry was also being ordered into the cause of death of the Jan Sangh leader Shri Deen Dayal Upadhyay. It is quite obvious that these two examples that have been cited are not an all ~~force~~ ~~ler~~ forms with an enquiry into the death of Netaji. The question of enquiry was again raised in the Lok Sabha on August 22, 1969 and the Home Minister replied to say, ~~that~~ "This matter is under the active consideration of the Government. The Prime Minister has recently received certain memorandum-~~feren~~ from certain Members of Parliament, and we are very actively considering this".

8. In a letter dated 13-5-62 to Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, Prime Minister Nehru said "You asked me to send you proof of death of Subash Chandra Bose. I cannot send you any precise and direct proof. But all the circumstantial evidence that has been produced and which has been referred in the Inquiry Committee's Report has convinced us of the fact that Netaji has died. In addition to this, the lapse of time now and the extreme improbability of his being alive secretly somewhere when he would be welcomed in India with great joy and affection adds to that circumstantial evidence".

9. It is for consideration whether a Commission of Inquiry should be appointed or not. Any decision to order a re-enquiry would go against Government's repeated stand in the time of three Prime Ministers, turning down such a demand. It will also have the demerit of raising an altogether new excitement over this issue which is believed to be dead except by some ardent followers of Netaji like Shri Samar Guha with whom it is obviously an obsession. In the circumstances, it might not therefore be considered desirable to set up a fresh Commission of Inquiry into Netaji's death. If however a decision is taken otherwise, the proposed Commission should consist of a single judge of the Supreme Court.

V.P. Marwaha
(V.P.Marwaha)
3.9.69

PM/Secy./JS-I./JS-II.

Separate copies
sr/3.9.

ओ३म्

'बन्दे प्रभु विश्वमातरम'

विश्व जनता के नाम खुला पत्र

कथित भारत की प्रधान मन्त्री जी का क्रमशः बर्मा, अफगानिस्तान व विशेषतः यहां के राष्ट्रपति के चुनाव के अवसर पर जापान जाना तथा वहां रैनको जी मन्दिर में रखी नेता जी की कथित भस्मी पर धूप जलाना यह एक रहस्यमय और महत्वपूर्ण बात है और अधिक महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि नेता जी इन्कवायरी रिपोर्ट १९५६ में जो कि कथित शाहनवज़ कमीशन के नाम से भी प्रसिद्ध है। उसमें प्रकाशित कुछ फोटो जिनमें नेता जी की कथित भस्मी को रैनकोजी मन्दिर में जिस स्थान अवस्था व व्यवस्था से रखी हुई दिखाई गई है, उनमें और प्रधान मन्त्री जी के रैनकोजी मन्दिर में उपस्थित धूप जलाते समय के इस नये फोटो में, जो कि राजधानी के कुछ दैनिक समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुआ है कोई समानता ही नहीं। इस नये और पुराने फोटो में बड़ा अन्तर है। क्योंकि पूर्व प्रकाशित फोटो जिस स्थान के तथा कथित भस्मी जिस पात्र आदि में दिखाई गई है व स्थिति, स्थान, पात्र आदि इस नये फोटो में दिखाई नहीं देती। ऐसा प्रतीत होता है कि मन्दिर के साथ साथ भस्मी तथा भस्मी पात्र आदि में मूल-चूल परिवर्तन किया गया है। पुराने कथित भस्मी पात्र के दो चित्रों में "भस्मी" शब्द अंकित किये बिना ही एक पर अंग्रेजी में केवल "नेता जी सुभाष चन्दर बोस" व दूसरे में "नेता जी सुबास चन्द बोस" परिवर्तित शब्दों में अंकित हैं। उनमें से एक वहां के पुजारी के हाथों में दिखाया गया है। इस प्रकार २९-६-६६ को समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित फोटो एक तीसरा ही दृश्य प्रस्तुत करता है, जिसमें भस्मी पात्र तथा उन पर क्रमशः अंकित उपरोक्त "नेता जी आदि परिवर्तित शब्दों में से एक भी अंकित नहीं दिखाई देती है। इस फोटो में केवल कुछ फल, फूट सजवाट के अलावा और कुछ नहीं है। क्या इसे एक नया व तीसरा रैनकोजी मन्दिर का परिवर्तित दृश्य समझा जाये या कुछ और ?

फोटो में प्रधानमन्त्री जी नंगे पावं मन्दिर में अकेले ही गई यह तो साफ स्पष्ट दिखाई देता है, लेकिन नेता जी के फोटो पर ना पुष्प या पुष्पहार चढ़ाये। फोटों में उनके साथ कोई अन्य व्यक्ति नज़र नहीं आता है, जबकि वह जापान में एक राजकीय मेहमान थीं। कोई भी राजकीय अतिथि किसी भी जगह किसी महान स्व० पुरुष को श्रद्धांजली अर्पण करता है तो उनके साथ कोई अन्य व्यक्ति भी होता है। लेकिन इस फोटो में कोई भी उनके साथ नज़र नहीं आता। दोनों प्रधान मन्त्रियों की संयुक्त विज्ञप्ति में कही भी नेता जी की चर्चा नहीं आयी। इससे भी गम्भीर रहस्यपूर्ण बात यह पता चली है कि इस फोटो में जो २९-६-६६ को कुछ समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित है उस फोटो को बिना इजाजत कोई ना छाप सकते है ना ही अन्य व्यवहार में ला सकते हैं। ऐसे केवल इस अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय फोटो पर यह पाबन्दी का रहस्य क्या है ? जो कि समाचार पत्र के लिए नुकसानदायक तो

-----२

है ही अपमानजनक भी है। और पत्रकारों के मौलिक अधिकार छीनना तथा सत्य पर परदा डालना है। इस फोटो को देखने सर ऐसा प्रतित होता है कि यह वास्तविक फोटो ना होकर बनावटी या (स्क्रीन) पर्दा फोटो जैसी है, इसमें शेड, छाया किसी भी वस्तु का नहीं है यह तमाम बातें प्रमाणित करती है कि स्वतन्त्रता-प्रेमी-नेता जी से दुष्मनी के कारण व कथित शाहनवाज़ कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के नाम से कथित राष्ट्रीय, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय गुट बन्द षड़यन्त्रकारियों के हथकन्डे ढोल की पोल है जिसकी भन्डा-फोड़ षड़यन्त्रकारियों ने इन सब प्रमाणों से कर दिया और सिद्ध किया कि नेता जी जीवित हैं। जब नेता जी के बड़े भाई श्री सुरेश चन्द्र बोस के पत्र के उत्तर में स्व० प्रधान मन्त्री नेहरू जी ने लिखा था कि -"नेता जी की मृत्यु का कोई ठोस प्रमाण नहीं है तथा क० हबीबुर रहमान जी ने भारत आते ही गांधी जी से मुलाकात की। तदंतर नेता जी के परिवार को तार द्वारा सूचित किया कि वह लोग नेता जी के अन्तिम संस्कार ना करें। जिसके फलस्वरूप आज तक नेता जी का अंतिम संस्कार नहीं किया और ना ही विश्व के किसी ने भी स्व० नेता जी कहा है। अनेकों महानुभाव तथा रायटर जैसे प्रमुख संवाददाता आदि ने भी कथित मृत्यु पर प्रबल संदेह प्रकट किया इनके बावजूद भी जबरदस्ती तानाशाही मनमानी से नेता जी को श्रंद्धाजलि अर्पण तथा धूप-बत्ती जला कर उनको मृतक सिद्ध करने की कोशिश करना महा अपराध है। और दोनों दिवंगत नेताओं स्व० गांधी जी व नेहरू जी का अपमान तो है ही अपितु उनकी आत्मा को अशान्ति दी है। "और जैसा कि विभाजित सरकार होते हुए भी तानाशाही मनमानी से अपनेको भारत सरकार नाम देकर सबको धोखा दे रहा है, ठीक वैसा ही यह झूठा शाहनवाज़ रिपोर्ट की आड़ में नेता जी पर श्रंद्धाजलि अर्पण तथा धूप-बत्ती जला कर उनको मृतक सिद्ध कर सबको धोखा दे रहा है"। श्रद्धांजलि अर्पण तथा धूप-बत्ती जलाने से मृतक सिद्ध नहीं होते। धूप-बत्ती जलाना तो हर घर में प्रचलित है।

याद रहे कि सही मायनों में राष्ट्रीय, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय एक दूसरा ही सुदृढ़ संगठन सक्रिय है। नेता जी और उनके अनुयायी विश्व को अपनी मातृ भूमि मानते हैं। और नेता जी सेना के मंच से निखिल विश्व शान्ति हेतु संघर्ष जारी है। अत: वह गुटबन्द अपनी पूरजोर संयुक्त शक्ति अजमा लें। नेता जी को मृतक कहने वाले आज भी व कल भी मृत हैं और नेता जी जीवित हैं। यह कहना गलत है कि नेता जी होते तो आते तथा नेता जी अब नहीं हैं। क्या अब या आज नहीं है तो क्या कल था? नेता जी इसलिए नहीं आते कि कथित शाहनवाज़ रिपार्ट बन्दीश में नेता जी बन्दी है जैसा कि भवाल सन्यासी २० - ३० साल बाद प्रकट हुआ था। अगर विश्व के किसी में साहस है तो शाहनवाज़ रिपोर्ट से नेता जी की कथित मृत्यु तथा कथित भस्मी नेता जी की है प्रमाणित करे या रिपोर्ट को जनादालत में महत कमीशन के समक्ष पेश करके सिद्ध करे कि नेता जी मृतक है तथा भस्मी नेता जी की है। नेता जी अनुयायी या कम से कम हम फांसी पर लटकने को तैयार हूं यह स्पष्ट लिखित पेश करता हूं ----------।" अगर मृतक सिद्ध नहीं हुए तो महानुभाव कमीशन का कर्त्तव्य है कि नेता जी को मृतक कहने वाले को सज़ा दें। यह ठीक है कि ढोलके आगे तूती बांसूरी की आवाज़ सुनाई नहीं देती लेकिन हकीकत है कि तूती बांसरी की आवाज़ प्रबल आत्मिक कर्ण

----३

25

मधुर है। और ढोल की पोल, खाली जहाज की आवाज़ कर्ण कटू है। अत: किसी भी बहाने हथकन्डे या शक्ति से मानवता एकता, विश्वशान्ति और स्वतन्त्र संग्राम तथा नेता जी सम्बन्धीत प्रबल आत्मिक आन्दोलन वेग को दबाया नहीं जा सकता। आन्दोलन और तीव्र होगा। और यह कथित राष्ट्रीय अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय अराष्ट्रीय अमानवता तथा विश्व शान्ति विरोधी काले कानूनों की धज्जियां उड़ेगी और इस फोटो पर पाबन्दी भी तोड़ा जायेगा, यू० एन० ओ० आदि संस्था टूटेगी और परम्परागत सत्य क्रान्ति की ज्वालामुखी फटेगी! सवाल यह नहीं कि नेता जी अब जीवित है या नहीं, सवाल यह है कि कथित हवाई दुर्घटना में नेता जी की मृत्यु हुई या नहीं। तथा यस्मी नेता जी का है या नहीं!

नेता जी सेना जिन्दाबाद!

नोट:- मानव-शरीर-यन्त्र अति उत्तम साधन है। इसका सदव्यवहार ही मानवता तथा सर्वसुख और विश्व शान्ति है। अत: "शौलमारी आश्रम प्रतिष्ठता श्रीमत् शारदानन्द महाराज जी को निर्विरोध राष्ट्रपति चुना जाये" या ब्रह्म देश के भूतपूर्व प्रधान मन्त्री श्री यून जी का नाम प्रस्तुत करता हूं। विश्व भ्रातृत्व तथा विश्वशान्ति हेतु यह आदर्श उदाहरण होगा। क्योंकि भारत सदा ही विश्व प्रेमी तथा विश्वशान्ति में अगुवा रहा है। और आज भी है और विश्व के किसी को भी विदेश विदेशी नहीं मानता यह ही भारतीय परम्परागत सभ्यता है। भारत अपना पराया नहीं समझता। कुशासक या शासन नहीं चाहता सुशासक शासन चाहता है। जय हिन्द!

तारीख २५ आषाढ़ २०२६
जयहिन्द सं० २६ (७-८-६९)

ए०सी० सरकार
(ए० सी० सरकार)
३३१।१६ इ० राजगढ़ कालोनी,
गांधी नगर, दिल्ली-३१

सूचनार्थ
श्रीमति इन्दिरा गान्धी जी
प्रधान मन्त्री
नई दिल्ली। ए०सी० सरकार

76

I suggest that after P.M. has talked to H.M. and Shri J. Ram on [C], she may call in Def. Minister also — or even the whole I.A.C. — to discuss: —

(a) Telangana

(b) Netaji.

Samar Guha has been reminding since yesterday.

P. Saxena —

P.M. has rec'd

Prof. Samar Guha
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

New Delhi
28.8.69

VERY URGENT

Dear Mrs. Gandhi,

This session of Lok Sabha is going to be over on 30th of this month.

I would earnestly request you to announce the decision of the Govt. regarding Fresh Enquiry about Netaji on the floor of the House. Such step will be hailed by the people as a very bold step taken by the Prime Minister in fulfilling our national obligation to Netaji and ~~xx~~, I have no doubt , for such an act you will earn a ~~deep~~ place deep into the heart of the Indian People.

The Speaker has admitted a motion of mine on Fresh Enquiry on Netaji. Only two days are left for Lok Sabha business. If you kindly announce the decision in the House on any of these days , after my motion is initiated , it will have great impact on the mind of the people and I shall also derive some satisfaction that my humble effort, with your bold concurrence, proved fruitful.

Hope you will kindly consider this request.

With kind regards. Jai Hind !

Yours Sincerely
Samar Guha
(Samar Guha)

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

SECRET

IMMEDIATE

COPY NO. 1

No.39/CM/69
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CABINET SECRETARIAT
(Department of Cabinet Affairs)

New Delhi, the 6th September, 1969.
15th Bhadra, 1891.

The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on September 5, 1969 (Cases Nos.203/39/69 to 205/39/69).

(R.N. Kalia)
for Cabinet Secretary.

To

All Members of the Cabinet.

Copy, with a copy of the enclosures, and the relevant papers, forwarded to the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Shipping & Transport/the Minister of Irrigation & Power, for information.

Copy, with a copy of the enclosures, forwarded to the Secretary to the Prime Minister/the Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister/the Private Secretary to the Prime Minister.

Copy, with a copy of the enclosures, forwarded to the Secretary to the President/the Secretary to the Vice-President, for information.

(R.N. Kalia)
Under Secretary to the Cabinet.

SECRET

COPY NO. 1

79

MEETING OF THE CABINET HELD
AT 10-00 A.M. ON FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 5, 1969.

PRESENT

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister.
Shri Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed, Minister of Industrial Development, Internal Trade and Company Affairs.
Shri Bali Ram Bhagat, Minister of Foreign Trade and Supply.
Shri Y.B. Chavan, Minister of Home Affairs.
Shri Jai Sukh Lal Hathi, Minister of Labour and Rehabilitation.
Shri Jagjivan Ram, Minister of Food and Agriculture.
Shri P. Govinda Menon, Minister of Law and Social Welfare.
Shri C.M. Poonacha, Minister of Steel & Heavy Engineering.
Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of External Affairs.
Dr. Karan Singh, Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation.
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Minister of Railways.
Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of Defence.
Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, Minister of Information & Broadcasting, and Communications.

ALSO PRESENT

Shri Bhakt Darshan, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education & Youth Services(Item 1).

IN ATTENDANCE

Shri V. Nanjappa, Secretary, Department of Rehabilitation (Item 2).
Shri L.P. Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs(Item 3).
Shri T.P. Singh, Finance Secretary(Item 2).
Shri T.N. Kaul, Foreign Secretary(Item 3).
Shri P.N. Haksar, Secretary to the Prime Minister.
Shri V.H. Coelho, Secretary(EA II), Ministry of External Affairs(Item 1).
Shri Kewal Singh, Secretary(EA I), Ministry of External Affairs (Item 2).
Dr. I.G. Patel, Special Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs(Item 2).
Shri A.B. Chandiramani, Joint Educational Adviser, Ministry of Education & Youth Services(Item 1).
Shri A.P.V. Krishnan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance(Deptt. of Expenditure)(Item 2).

SECRETARIAT

Shri B. Sivaraman.
Shri J.S. Mongia.

SECRET

....2/-

80

Case No.203/39/69. Item 1.

Cultural Agreement between India and Philippines.

The Cabinet considered the note dated August 30, 1969 from the Ministry of Education and Youth Services and approved the proposal contained in paragraph 5 of the note.

2. It was agreed that Cultural Agreements to be signed hereafter should include a provision for promotion of tourism.

Case No.204/39/69. Item 2.

Court deposits, deposits of minors and others under the guardianship of courts - deposits of wards under the control of Managers, encumbered Estates.

The Cabinet considered the note dated August 22, 1969 from Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Department of Rehabilitation) and approved the proposals contained in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the note.

Case No.205/39/69. Item 3.

Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945.

The Cabinet considered the note dated September 1, 1969 from Ministry of Home Affairs.

8)

2. On the question as to whether an inquiry was at all necessary, one view was that as no new evidence had come to light and a Commission of Inquiry would have no legal authority to function outside the borders of the country, little purpose would be served by setting up yet another Commission of Inquiry. It was appreciated, however, that as a number of Members of Parliament were insistent that a further probe into the cause of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's death was necessary, it would not be possible to withstand the pressure. In this context, three possible alternatives, for satisfying the demand, were considered:

(i) An eminent scholar may be asked to undertake an historical research into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

(ii) A retired judge may be asked to sift all available evidence with a view to advising whether a prima facie case existed for a further probe.

(iii) A Committee of three prominent persons may be requested to go into the question, both within the country and outside.

Taking the political and other aspects of the problem into account, it was ultimately agreed that none of the alternatives may be suitable at present. It was decided that no enquiry will be made now. If there is a consistent demand from a large section of the Members of Parliament the matter can be brought up later.

KATARIA
35 copies.

Sno 31

82

UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

National Committee On Netaji

123, South Avenue, New Delhi-11

Telephone : 35381

Ref. No.....

Dated.....8.9.69.....196

60A Raja Subodh Mallik Rd.
Calcutta -32

Chairman
Shri H. V. Kamath

Convenors
Prof. Samar Guha
" M, L. Sondhi
Shri K- Manoharan
" Madhu Limaye
" P. K. Deo
" Chitta Basu

Dear Prime Minster,

A news item has been published in the Calcutta edition of Statesman (page-7,col.-4) on 6.8.69 which runs thus:

"NO FRESH PROBE INTO NETAJI'S DEATH

(From Our special Correspondent)

New Delhi.Sept.5-- No further inquiry will be held into the circumstances resulting in the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose . This view was unanimously taken by the Union Cabinet today."

I would request you to kindly let me know if the report is correct, and if so the reasons for sudden change in the attitude of the Govt. regarding the issue of Fresh Probe Into Netaji Mystery.

I met you on several occasions in connection with the demand of a large majority of the Members of Parliament regarding Netaji Enquiry. As far as I could gather from you and other members of your Cabinet that the Govt. agreed to accept the appeal of the Members of Parliament to institute fresh enquiry into Netaji mystery, only formal annoucement was awaiting. This being the position , as I could understand,the above news item is rather very puzzling to us. I hope you will kindly inform me if the above news is correct.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely
Samar Guha
(Samar Guha)

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

MS 8/9

PM 9/9

This matter will come up - clarify what do I say?

[draft minutes of Cab. Mtg. on 5.9.69]

Sr. 32

SECRET 83

I think Cabinet Secretary is right. After much discussion, as far as I remember, the final decision was not to go further with the enquiry. My personal view is that we might explain the position to the M.Ps who have signed. I doubt many will support Shri Samar Guha once the position is made clear to them. However, if there is a consistent demand, we may consider having the matter informally examined by a competent and impartial person.

Sd. Indira Gandhi

5.9.1969.

Cabinet Secretary

P.S. (S)

J.S.I

(4)

S.No 33

84

SECRET/IMMEDIATE

INTELLIGENCE BUREAU,
(MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS)

TAMIL NADU: PROPOSED DEMONSTRATION BY FORWARD BLOC DURING PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO MADURAI

The Madurai Town unit of the Forward Bloc has decided to present a memorandum to the Prime Minister on her arrival at Madurai on October 4, demanding the constitution of a high-powered Committee to enquire into the whereabouts of Netaji. It has further decided that in case the Prime Minister did not receive the memorandum, workers of the Forward Bloc would demonstrate with black flags during the Prime Minister's journey in the town.

S.Tandan 30/9/69.
(S.C.Tandan)
Jt.Deputy Director.

MHA (Shri L.P.Singh)
PM's Sectt. (Shri S.Banerji)

DIB UO No. 1/50(D)/69 Dated. 30.9.69

Forwarded
1/10

PM
98(II)

why could not receive the memorandum. Local authorities should be visited beforehand.

JS(I)

Perhaps JS(II) could speak to the D.M. direct or the C.S. & assure that they will be met.

JS(II) is unable to speak, telephone PS to PM could.

[illegible] 3/10/69

Cos 3/10

98(II) I have spoken to Chief Secretary. He will arrange for the presentation of memorandum to PM.

2(64)

at the Circuit House.

B. Ramachandra

3.10.69

On Netaji file

PS(S)

P III

S.No 34

Mulka Govinda Reddy

86

Members of Parliament
(Rajya Sabha)

Parliament House,
New Delhi 1

~~August 9~~, 1969
20/9/69

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

Dear Madam,

You will, we hope, remember that over 350 Members of Parliament made an earnest appeal to the Government to institute a fresh enquiry into the circumstances leading to disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, Nearly 100 other Members of Parliament extended their oral support to the appeal as they were not present in Delhi at the time of submission of the Memorandum to the Government,

After a lapse of 20 years the Government of India very rightly considered it desirable to order for a fresh probe into the background of the murder of Mahatma Gandhi.

Recently, the Government of India sympathetically agreed to a request made by a number of Parliament Members to institute a judicial enquiry into the cause of tragic death of the Jan Sangh leader, Shri Din Dayal Upadhyaya.

We trust that in a similar patriotic spirit you will accept the appeal made to the Government by an overwhelming majority (nearly two-third majority) of the Members of Parliament to set up a fresh Enquiry Commission, consisting of retired Supreme Court Judges and eminent public men, to make fresh probe into the circumstances leading to disappearance of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

We fervently hope that the demand for a fresh enquiry about Netaji voiced by millions of our countrymen will not fail to evoke patriotic response from you. Let us not forget that a national duty to fulfil regarding Netaji is overdue.

Jai Hind

Yours sincerely,

Mulka Govinda Reddy
(MULKA GOVINDA REDDY)

N-13-15
S.No 35

S.NO.35

87

Prime Minister's Secretariat

Sub: Demand for a fresh Inquiry into the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

.....

S.NO 34

A copy of the letter dated the 20th September, 1969, from Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy, M.P., to the Prime Minister on the subject noted above is enclosed. We shall be grateful if the Cabinet Secretary would kindly let the Prime Minister have his comments on this letter. He may also like to suggest the lines on which she could consider sending a reply to Shri Reddy.

6.10.69

Joint Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Cabinet Secretary

F. No. PMS-18/69
dt. 6/X/69

B.F. 21-10-69

Issued
6/X/69

P.111

S.No 36

PMS-18/24

88

4th October, 1969

Dear Sir,

S.No 34

I am desired to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 20th September, 1969, to the Prime Minister regarding the demand for a fresh enquiry into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Yours faithfully,

4/x

(V.P.Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy, M.P.,
10 Ferozeshah Road,
New Delhi.

PS (9)

Issued
4/x

Pol III (Chile)
2(64)

BALRAJ TRIKHA
M. A. (ECON. & POL. SC.) LL., B.
ADVOCATE SUPREME COURTS OF INDIA
& NEPAL

Phone: Off. 70542
Resi. 76052
N-227, GREATER KAILASH-I
NEW DELHI - 48

S.No 37

89

Ref. No._____

Dated 16.9.1969.

Dear Smt. Indra Gandhi Ji,

I am quite sure you will not be remembering my last meeting with you at the Prime Minister's House when I personally gave to you my views about the Isrile issue and had the pleasure of being with you for some time. The whole nation salutes to you today for your heroic acts and bold deeds viz. Nationalization of Banks etc. which have made you a "Peoples' Leader". In ~~the~~ you the nation has got a bold and strong Prime Minister who is piloting the ships of the countrymen with great grace out of the whirl pool at this critical juncture when other wise country is facing domestic problems but I assure you that God is with those who act according to their conscience and you have developed your stature to such a height which is being recognized nationally and internationally that we only pray for your long life and sweet health.

Some time ago I understand from the press that about 364 Hon'ble members of Parliament sent a signed requisition to you to reconsider the question of re-opening of the matter of death of Netaji as the Shah Nawaz Commission of Enquiry report was neither a fit and nor a legal document to be relied upon. Netaji was surely one of the architects of India's freedom and the countrymen have the right to know about the truth of his death and therefore the question of his death is required to be legally proved and could not be so arbitrarily decided as it has been done. However the question of reappointment of a new commission of enquiry on the matter of death of Netaji is your exclusive perogative and I am too small a fry to advice you in that respect.

Contd...P/2.

BALRAJ TRIKHA
M. A. (ECON. & POL. SC.) LL., B.
ADVOCATE SUPREME COURTS OF INDIA
& NEPAL

Phone: Off. 70542
Resi. 76052
N-227, GREATER KAILASH-I
NEW DELHI - 48

90

Ref. No._____

Dated 16.9.1969.

However, my judicial and personal conscience revolted and I studied the subject and came to a conclusion that the Shah Nawaz Commission of Enquiry report not a fit and a suitable document to be relied upon as it neither inspire confidence nor it proved the death of the alleged Thaicku Air Crash. You should be also aware of the fact that the brother of Netaji gave a dissenting report which is more rational, logical and appealable. I have written a book challenging the commission of enquiry report of Mr. Shah Nawaz giving my own findings therein as a law man and which is being published in a Daily English Newspaper of Delhi in series. To my mind the nation has a right to demand of you as a beloved Prime Minister of India to finally settle the controversy of Netaji's death by some judicial document. After all the Central Government appointed two peculiar commission of enquiry which have no parallel in the judicial history of India that after when a competent court adjudicates upon a matter judicially, the commission of enquiries by the executive have been approved by the CentralGovernment over the judgments passed by the Judicial Courts. <u>One is a Mahatma Gandhi's murder enquiry and the second is Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhayaya's murder enquiry</u>; in both these matters there exists already the judicial findings passed by the competent courts of law in the country. If in such matters the further commission of enquiry can be appointed for any reasons, political or non-political why not a further commission of enquiry be appointed in the matter of Netaji's death on which there exists no judicial findings till today and therefore the reappointment of a commission of enquiry in thematter of death of Netaji should invite your and your Govt's attention more favourably. Netaji was a leader of national and international reputation and

BALRAJ TRIKHA
M. A. (ECON. & POL. SC.) LL., B.
ADVOCATE SUPREME COURTS OF INDIA
& NEPAL

Phone: Off. 70542
Resi. 76052
N-227, GREATER KAILASH-I
NEW DELHI - 48

91

Ref. No._____ Dated_____

and his subject of death could not be so lightly and arbitrarily dealt as it has been done. I therefore, request you to kindly consider the matter in the national interest and in that connection I am also enclosing the first instalment of the publication of my book for your kind reading and I shall be obliged if the same is acknowledged at your kind hands.

I am also keen to personally come and discuss the matter with you as a citizen of the country and I shall be obliged if you are kind enough to grant me an interview to discuss the above subject at any time or any day convenient to you.

With kindest regards and thanks.

Faithfully yours,

(Bal Raj Trikha),
Advocate.

Smt. Indra Gandhi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
1 Safdarjang Road, New Delhi.

WHAT INSPIRED ME ?

By **Pt Balraj Trikha**

My conscience, both legal and personal, compelled me to challenge the report of the Shah Nawaz Commission which declared the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose as an absolute fact in the Thacko air crash.

Since being a professional person, practising criminal law for the last two decades and having conducted cases of national and international importance in India and outside India, I was not satisfied to go through the report written by the Shah Nawaz Commission which did not inspire confidence.

Mr Radha Binod Paul, a jurist of intetnational wing and a former judge of the Inte[illegible]nal Court had also at one time written to Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister, to re-testify the bona fides of this report.

The evidence recorded by the Shah Nawaz Commission shows that it is full of contradictions and no rational man can be made to believe that Netaji died in the said air crash. Further the Commission did not exert itself to go into the death matter and based its report on the evidence of some individuals which even otherwise did not confirm the death of Netaji.

At one stage Mr Uttam Chand Malhotra with whom Netaji stayed outside India and who was an istrument in seeing through the escape of Netaji from the clutches of the British, impressed upon me that I should challenge the Shah Nawaz report in a court of law.

I have come to conclude that it is a [illegible] farce and a fraud on the nation if my countrymen are made to believe that Netaji died in the Thacku air crash.

If this story is read by readers and an opinion is created in the masses I am sure my labour will be duly rewarded and the Government will be compelled to reappoint a commission finally to adjudicate about Netaji as to whether he died in the Thacko air crash or not ?

You can safely take it from me that he did not die in the air crash and the reasons which have made me come to this conclusion are here for everyone to read.

(*See page 3*)

DEATH OF NETAJI ON TRIAL

Pt. Bal Raj Trikha, M.A. (Econm., Pol. Sc. & History) L.L.B. Advocate Supreme Court of India & Nepal.

The leaders of Indian National Congress have always been considered as the true fighters of the war of India's independence. Under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, India attained freedom from foreign yoke and became a Republic and adopted her own Constitution on January 26, 1950.

Mahatma Gandhi's leadership in India and that of men like Subhash Chandra Bose outside, was acquired essentially on this count: mobilising public opinion on the soil of India against the British who had ruled this country by force, coercion and pressure and made India one of their colonies where Indians were not allowed to prosper or to have nationalist views.

The period of British rule in India has been the period of black days in the history of Indian culture. The Britishers, by adopting the policy of divide and rule, had made Indians morally bankrupt, physically weak and spiritually ignoble.

The history of India during the British rule has left behind a legacy. This was gradually washed away by the spiritual and human touch in the speeches of Mahatma Gandhi, who by dint of selfless sacrifice and undaunted courage, infused a new life into the Indian people.

An apostle of peace and non-violence, Mahatma Gandhi gave a new life to the Indian civilisation by adopting the dictates of Shrimad Bhagwat Gita into his own life and putting people on the right track to face British bullets and guns with the slogan of 'Ahimsa Parmodharma'.

He became an emblem of peace and united the Indian masses in one chord to stand firm against the terror and might of the British Empire.

Band of Workers

In the Congress, Mahatma Gandhi reared a band of workers like Jawaharlal, Vallabhbhai Patel, Subhash Bose and others who had also dedicated their lives to the cause of India's war of Independence and who, according to the circumstances and developments, acted as Gandhiji taught and preached them, day to day.

It was Gandhiji's clarion call to the nation which was responsible for making Indians bold and developing in them personal confidence and mutual understanding. This they possessed without any discrimination of caste and creed and stood united like the Himalayan rocks, to deal a fatal blow to British Imperialism.

The school of thought to which these Indian leaders belonged, left behind a legacy to be followed by Indian nationalists whose only desire was to make India free and to establish their own rule on their own soil.

To trace the history of sacrifices made by these Indians in fighting the battle of independence, takes us back to the lives of Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Motilal Nehru, Gopal Krishna Gokhle, Arvind Ghosh, Sardar Bhagat Singh, Rabindra Nath Tagore, Chandra Shekhar Azad, Rash Behari Ghose, Vir Savarkar, Lala Lajpat Rai, Bhai Parma Nand and numerous others whose blood spread a red carpet to infuse fire and enthusiasm into the youth of the country and who were responsible for bringing Indian's, irrespective of caste and creed, on one common platforms, to work for only one cause—India's independence.

They launched the battle and never retraced their steps for they had just one glorious mission before them. To them human life and selfish ends had no value and as true saputs of Bharat, they contributed their bit and sacrificed their lives to achieve the goal.

Ultimately they succeeded with the blessings of God, to establish their own rule in this country. These leaders never deceived the public and they never served in their purpose.

War of Independence

The war of independence had actually started in the year 1857 and gave a new life, new thought and a new revolution to Indians to adopt their own culture and to throw off the foreign yoke.

This desire was highly ambitious and noble and these founders of India's Freedom Movement always considered that if they die in the fulfilment and completion of their sacred mission, every drop of there blood would produce many more like them to take up the thread and to go on fighting against the black deeds of imperialists.

Gandhian philosophy of life, which was based on the Karma theory of Lord Krishna, gave a new school of thought to Punjab and Bengal and gems like Subhash Chandra Bose and Jawahar Lal Nehru came to the forefront to write the chapters of Indian history with their own blood and sacrifices.

The story of India will never be complete without reading the lives of these two great men, who discharged their duties in the manner they considered best according to the circumstances.

Temperamentally both of them were poles apart, but the hand of Gandhiji had always kept them under one roof and the pent up emotions of these two fire baands of Indian culture and civilisation, followed the soothing tune of Gandhi.

History is a witness to this that they both became disciples of the apostle of peace. At times they differed materially with Gandhiji their lines of action and yet gave a new school of thought to implement their policies, keeping in view the best interest of the country.

They might have differed on many occasions in their outlook on nationalism but their ultimate ends were always to achieve only one goal-the freedom of India.

To show the growth and progress of the Indian national movement, I think it is necessary to show the conquest of India by the British, which started in the year 1757 by their winning of the Battle of Plassey when the then independent King of Bengal, Nawab Sirajuddaula was thrown off.

The British occupied India in stages and established their kingdom and ruled for a long period of about 200 years. Even after the Battle of Plassey, only the financil administration of Bengal passed into the hands of the British. Political administration remained in the hands of Nawab Mir Jafar, the man who had betrayed Nawab Sirajuddaula, by joining the British.

Thereafter, it was only over a period of time that the British could take over the entire administration of Bengal and gradually they extended their rule over other parts of India as well.

With this process of gradual annexation the British recognised the suzerainty of the Emperor at Delhi for which they used their arms. But more than that they used the weapon of bribery, treachery and every other possible form of corruption.

The founder of the British Empire in India, Robert Clive, who was later made a Lord, has been proved by historians to have been guilty of forgery; and likewise Warren Hastings, a Governor General of India, was impeached by Edmund Burke in the British Parliament for being guilty of high crimes and misdemeanours.

When the cruelties and treacheries of the British exceeded all limitation and their lust for plunder reached a climax, it was then clearly understood all over our country that the British were no make India bankrupt and to leave her as a slave nation for centuries to come.

So a mighty revolution broke out in 1857 and it took the shape of the first War of Independence. The British were on the point of being thrown out of this country but as luck would have it, they succeeded in dividing Indians once again.

Some greedy Indians supported them in their hour of trial and they once again came into power and survived for yet another blow which ended in the declaration of the Charter of Independence for India on the night of August 14/15, 1947.

Divide and Rule

During the period from 1857 to 1947 the British continued a reign of terror and they like despots on Indian soil in a manner which has no parallel in the history of the world.

They indulged in wholesale massacres in which innocent people were bound hand and foot and were blown off the mouths of cannon. It was after the revolution of 1857 that the British realised that they could not hold India by sheer brutal force.

Therefore they adopted a policy to disarm the country and to divide and rule. This policy was the fundamental basis of their rule from 1858 to the end.

The policy was to keep India divided by putting 3/4th of the people directly under British control and the remaining 1/4th under Indian princes The attitude of the British Government towards the Indian Princes was noteworthy: upto 1857 though a number of Rulers viz. the heroic Rani of Jhansi, fought against the British, many remained neutral or actively sided with them, including the Maharaja of Nepal.

It then occured to the British for the first time, that it would perhaps be advisable not to disturb the Princes but to enter its alliances of friendship with them so that in the event of any trouble, the Princes would come to their rescue.

Thereafter, in 1906 the British introduced a new policy—separation of Muslims from Hindus, when Lord Minto was the Viceroy of India. It must be recalled that in the great revolution of 1857, Hindus and Muslims had fought side by side against the British and it was under the fiat of Bahadur Shah, a Muslim King, that India's first War of Independence was fought.

First World War

During the first World War, when the British found that further political concessions would have to be made to the Indian people, they realised that it was not enough to try and divide the Muslims from the rest of the population and so they set about to divide the Hindu community itself. They introduced the caste problem and suddenly became the champions and liberators of the so-called depressed classes.

As late as the year 1937 the British had hoped to keep India divided by posing as the champions of the princes, the Muslims and of the so-called depressed classes. In the elections held under the constitution of 1935 they found, to their utter surprise, that all their tricks and bluffs had failed and that a strong nationalist feeling had permeated the whole nation.

They realised that if the Indian people could no longer be divided, then the country had to be divided geographically and politically.

Ceylon which belonged geographically and culturally to India, was separated from India. Burma was also separated in 1935. The Britishers thereafter, introduced the unholy idea of Pakistan further to divide India and they started collosal anp skilful propaganda in support of Pakistan.

Though the vast majority of Indian Muslims wanted a free and independent India and only a minority of the Muslims supported the idea of Pakistan, the masterly propaganda throughout the world gave the impression that Indian Muslims were not behind the national struggle for liberty and wanted a separted state.

The Britishers knew well that what they propagated was false, but they nevertheless ended by repeating falsehood again and again so that they should make the world believe it. The British also originated the idea of Khalistan and Pathanistan. Their main object was to keep India divided into different fragments, disunited and weak.

(To be continued)

THANKS

NEWSDAY thanks its army of readers for the warm welcome they have accorded to the first instalment on the "Truth about Netaji's death", By B.R. TRIKHA, published on Sunday.

We received more that 200 telephone calls from our patrons and for their information we proudly announce that the next instalment will appear an Wednesday.

ON THE SCREEN

BANDOLERO
James Dean, Stewart Martin
PLAZA
3-30, 6-30 and 9-30

BATTLE OF THE BULGE
Henry Fonda, Robert Shan
DELITE
3-30, 6-30 and 9-30

CHANDA AUR BIJLI (U)
Padmini, Sanjeev Kumar
REGAL, MINERVA, WEST END, LIBERTY, ALPNA, AJANTA, SUDERSHAN, APSARA, URVASHI, (Ghaziabad)
Daily 12, 3-15, 6-30 and 9-30 p.m.

DANKA (U)
Dara Singh, Nishi
JUBILEE, KHANNA, SHALIMAR, RAJ (R.K. Puram), DEF-

Jehangir Sabavala's Refreshing Show

LONDON, September 14: Visitors to art galleries are well aware of the features of of India's classical art and the traditional stances of its dancers and of its folk art performers.

In the past few years there has been a tremendous surge of interest in the culture of the subcontinent and in some ways the satisfaction of this interest has reached the saturation point.

With this in mind, it was tremendously refreshing to go along to the art gallery at the Commonwealth Institute for the current one man exhibition by that most distinctive Indian painter, Mr. Jehangir Sabavala.

The exhibition was later to be shown at Edinburgh for two weeks in October.

While Mr. Sabavala's work is well known to the public in India and to art connoisseurs in many countries, the mass of British art lovers have so far not had much opportunity of seeing it and so these two exhibitions in the United Kingdom are that much more welcome.

This artist completes the pictorial representation of India, by offering something that most other artists do not portray.

Mr. Sabavala does not see things on human scale. His perception soars higher than the immediate and takes cognisance of the greater scale of Nature and so we are spared from seeing just another representation of the very obvious side of India such as the vivid cslours, the bustle of tne massed population and the richness of the architecture.

Very fine, as they undoubtedly are, these things have been presented so frequently that the eye feels it can hardly take in any more.

Here is where Mr. Sabavala provides a respite with his unique interpretation of the Indian scene.

Cubist

His current style remains Cubist and the background leans towards his early Impressionist period, but there is now a romantie feeling as well and other influences that stem from the artist's own greater appreciation of his medium.

What he sees is timeless. With his mind transcending the present, he paints the India that the ancients knew and the India that men of the far future will know.

Without resorting to the mundane details that a photograph would capture, he conveys an emotional representation of India by capturing the light, the tones and half tones and the shades.

It is a marvellous way of showing India to us because his conception of these things is on a scale as grand as the great expanse of the subcontinent itself.

A perfect example of this grandeur of perception is contained in his painting entitled "The Boundless Spaces of the Night."

Promenade

Actually, Mr. Sabavala was looking out over the promenade at Bombay at a time when it was thronged with countless people.

But his painting shows only a small group of five figures and than in semi-abstract terms and quite small on the canvas.

They are there as a reference so that the viewer can appreciate the great sweep and subtletp of the sky in late evening.

This is problr the scene that an aesthetic Indian might see in his mind's eye when he mentally frees himself for the clamour all round.

Another typical picture is called "The Darkening Fields." but rather than the ground and vegetation, it depicts a panorama of the subtle play of light.

Said the artist: "I saw this from a traing out of Bombay. I jotted down the coloue scheme. I did not see the details. It was quietly Indian."

There are 25 paintings in the exhibition, 10 fewer than when it was staged in Bombay in June. In Mr. Sabavala's own terms, they explore the colourful subtleties of the elements in all the seasons of the year.

Said the artist: "This collection represents nearly three years' work. I was interested in showing personalised landscapes showing the light, atmosphere and colour of India.

I had notdone a collection on that precise themo before. I wanted to maintain a sustain ed emotion and effort on an even tenor throught."

Before he returns to India, Mr. Sabavala intends to visit Italy, hoping to arrange for exhibitions in the future. He has already had an offer from Israel. - -NAFEN

ENGAGEMENT NG AGO

took her last assignment in Rajindra Singh Bedi's offbeat film, DASTAK, just because she liked the subject and the part she had to play.

Anju said that she was quite busy working as a model.

time ago, are two of her picture yet to be rei[illegible]sed.

Anju disclosed [illegible]t she had received as ma[illegible]y as 20 movie offers lately, but she had declined all these.

Anju's engagement to Sobers in early 1967 had received worldwide publicity. The two had also appeared in a short scene for a movie depicting the story of their romance which led to their engagement. The film has not been released so far.

ished by K. Kumar at The xtension Part 1, New Delhi-49. elephone : 621539

Threat To Gold Price Revealed

LONDON, September 14: The present premium on gold could be "wiped out" if speculators' faith in an ultimate change in the official price was ever seriously undermined, said London's leading bullion dealers. Mocatta and Goldsmid Limited.

In its latest report on the gold situation, the firm says: "Gold in August once again failed to react to monetary uncertainties. The devaluation of the French franc, which reawakened currency fears, affected the price of gold for only a few hours."

According to the report, "It is becoming increasingly clear to speculators that, as the present parities of several currencies are in danger, there is a better return to be gained from the currencies themselves than from gold.

"The devaluation of the franc led to the selling of gold by Frenchmen who had bought it against such an event—and perhaps by others who thought that the chances of a Deutschmark revaluation were thereby improved."

In addition, there are large amounts of gold overhanging the market, says the report, adding: "South Africa must dispose of considerable quantities if she is to balance her external accounts and the countries of t[illegible]e Western Bloc have built up large stocks in the last few years.

"Large quantities of gold are also held by investors who see their profits dwindling and the prospect of revaluation becoming more remote."

No Shooting In Bareilly Jail

(Contd. from page 1 col. 5)

Road murder, the police officials said that no such incinent in which an inmate of tne Bare!lly jail had taken place and the story of shooting effray inside the jail was "canard" to divert the attention of the police.

The murder of Balram on Ridge Road is being investigated by the Mandir Marg police and it has sent a man to ascertain the news of shooting in the U.P. town.

TODAY's TV

Channel 4: Band 1: 62.25 Mc/s (Picture): 67.75 Mc/s (Sound): Transmission time: 7: p.m. to 9-30 p.m.; Feature film; news.

LATE QUOTATIONS

Saturday cash list; Indian Iron 16.80; Hind Motors 16.50, 16.54; DCM 44.06 44.12 44 43.87 43.81 43.75 43.81 43.75 44.12 44.19 44.25 44.19 44.22 (o.1.) 43.81 43.75; Modi Spinning 11.69 Rohtas Ind. 6.96; Escorts 25.50.

ENGAGEMENTS

Society of Servants of God: Discourse by Dr Dinsha K. Mehta on "Education as a need of life", 12 Yashwant Place, Satya Marg, Chanakyapuri, 6 p. m.

Bharat Sadhu Samaj: Reception to Swami Akhandand Saraswati, Darbar Hall, Chandni Chowk, 6 p. m.

Young India Cultural Forum: General meeting, Brahman Sabha Bhavan, Salwan Public School, Rajinder Nagar, 5 p. m.

Sree Vinayaka Mandir: Discourse on Vinayak[illegible] Puranam, AB Block, Saroj[illegible] Nagar, 7-30 p. m.

Delhi Tamil Sangam: Mr. A.V. Kuppuswamy to speak on Kamba Ramayanam, Sector V, Ramakrishnapuram, 6-30 p.m.

Radio and Electronics Society: Monthly meeting, 5C-21 Rohtak Road, 5-30 p.m.

Assam Association: Tithi of Mahapurush Shri Shri Shankardev, North Avenue MP's Club, 5 p.m.

Swar Sandhya: Music concert, G.B.H. Secondary School, Sector III, R.K. Puram, 6-30 p.m.

Music Club: Annual day, concert by Smt. Sita Sundararajan and party, MEA School, Sector IV, R.K. Puram, 5-30 p.m.

Tensho-Koati-Jingu-Kyo Ogamisama's prayer meeting for world peace and sl[illegible] projection, 16/58 Dr. Jos[illegible] Road, Karol Bagh, 6 p.m.

Indo-Italian Cultural Society: Play, Banjara Hall, Curzon Road Hostel, 5-30 p.m.

S.No 38

PMS-17365

22nd Sept. 1969

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 16th September, 1969 to the Prime Minister.

Yours faithfully,

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister.

Shri Balraj Trikha,
No,227, Greater Kailash-1,
New Delhi-48.

S No 39

(94) (95)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT,

NEW DELHI-11.

---

* Forwarded to...the Ministry of....

.....Home Affairs.....

.....

for disposal.

The communication has ~~been~~ not been acknowledged.

13/10

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Prime Minister's Sectt. U.O. No. PMS-1343

dated.....17-10-69.....

* A memorandum dated 5.10.69 presented to [illegible] during her visit to Madurai by the Dep Deputy Chairman, All India Forward Bloc.

P.M.S. 1.

Request for fresh inquiry into Netaji's death.

17/x/69

CABINET SECRETARIAT
(Department of Cabinet Affairs)

Subject:- Demand for a fresh Inquiry into the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Reference Prime Minister's Secretariat u.o.No. PMS-18269 dated the 6th October 1969, on the above subject.

2. While approving the draft minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on September 5, PM had minuted as under:-

> "After much discussion, as far as I remember, the final decision was not to go further with the enquiry. My personal view is that we might explain the position to the M.Ps. who have signed: I doubt if many will support Shri Samar Guha once the position is made clear to them. However, if there is a consistent demand, we may consider having the matter informally examined by a competent and impartial person."

The above directions of the Prime Minister were brought to the notice of the Ministry of Home Affairs for taking appropriate action in the matter. It is understood that the Home Minister proposes to call a meeting of the 44 Members of Parliament who have signed the representation dated 7th August 1969, to clarify the position. It is being suggested to the Ministry of Home Affairs that they may invite Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy also to the meeting. In view of this, it does not appear necessary to send any reply to Shri Reddy at this stage.

3. Cabinet Secretary has seen.

(J.S. Mongia)
Joint Secretary to the Cabinet.

PM's Secretariat (Shri G. Ramachandran, JS(I) to PM)
Cabinet Sectt. u.o.No.10/21/CF-69, dated 17-10-69.

3128 PMC 17/10/69 25/X/69.

with H. please

21.10.69

2(64)

S.No.41

97 ~~96~~ ~~95~~

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

...

S.No.39

Will you please refer to your U.O.No.PMS 19143 dated 17th October 1969 and also the representation submitted by Members of Parliament to the Prime Minister for institution of fresh inquiry into the circumstances leading to the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945? The Home Minister has decided to convene a meeting on 20th November at 9.30AM with a view to discuss the matter with all the Members of Parliament who have expressed themselves in favour of the proposal to have a fresh inquiry. The list of Members of Parliament who have been called for this meeting is enclosed.

5/11

(R.Kuppu Rao)
Under Secretary

P.M.Secretariat (Shri V.P. Marwaha)
M.H.A.U.O.No.29/48/69-Poll.II. dated 5.11.69

....

Written
6/11
Poll III
3418 PM(1)/69
1/7/11

N-p-14

List of M.Ps. who have been called for a meeting.

1. Prof. N.G. Ranga,
2. Shri D.K. Kunte.
3. Shri Shashi Bhushan.
4. Shri A.K. Chanda,
5. Shri K.N. Tewari.
6. Shri A.K. Sen.
7. Shri A.S. Saigal.
8. Shri T.S. Jadhav.
9. Shri S.N. Dwivedy.
10. Shri Nath Pai.
11. Shri K. Ambazhagan.
12. Shri Karni Singh
13. Shri B.P. Mandal
14. Shri P. Venkatasubbiah.
15. Shri Madhu Limaye.
16. Shri V. Sambasivam.
17. Shri A.B. Vajpayee.
18. Shri S.M. Joshi.
19. Shri N.C. Chatterjee
20. Shri Bal Raj Madhok.
21. Shri Rabi Ray.
22. Smt. Ila Pal Chaudhuri.
23. Shri Samar Guha.
24. Shri Tanneti Viswanathan
25. Shri Mrityunjay Pd.
26. Shri D.S. Raju
27. Shri S.C. Samanta.
28. Smt. Susheela Rohatagi.
29. Shri N.K.P. Salve.
30. Shri Tribid Chaudhuri.
31. Shri Bedabrata Barua
32, Shri Era Seshiyan.
33. Shri Bakar Ali Mirza.
34. Shri G.M. Bakshi
35. Shri N.M. Patel
36. Smt. Sharda Mukerji
37. Shri J.K. Choudhury
38. Shri B.K. Daschowdhury.
39. Shri J. Chanda.
40. Shri C.C. Desai
41. Shri K.L. Gupta
42. Shri P.V. Shastri.
43. " Mulka Govinda Reddy
44 " G.G. Swell.

S.No.42

(99)

Prime Minister's Secretariat.
....

15th December, 1969

Pmg-24171

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 22nd November, 1969, addressed to the Prime Minister.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Shri Ramesh Chandra Chanda,
Secretary,
Sarada Smriti Pathamandir,
P.O. Nasra, P.S. Ranaghat,
Dt. Nadia.

Copy, together with the letter under acknowledgement, forwarded to the Ministry of External Affairs, for appropriate action.

15/12

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister.

SSA 9/2
15/12

15/12

N-16

S.No 56

P. III

S.No 43

Copy of Letter dated 20th April, 1964 from Shri Amiya Nath Bose, M.P. to Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India, New Delhi.

- - - - -

20th April, 1964

My dear Panditji,

With reference to our talk in Delhi recently, I would like to submit to you the following proposals for your consideration.

The controversy regarding the aircrash at Taihoku in August 1945 is having unfortunate consequences. The report of the Enquiry Committee consisting of Shah Nawaz Khan and two other members has not found acceptance among a large section of the Indian people. The main reason for this is to be found in the fact that the Shah Nawaz Enquiry Committee did not include any person of high judicial standing and experience. Irresponsible statements by a number of persons are also keeping this controversy alive. In the national interest there should be a final judicial finding regarding the aircrash at Taihoku in August 1945. It will be in the fitness of things if the Chief Justice of India will agree to preside over a body of Judges and enquire into this question. All the materials collected by the Shah Nawaz Enquiry Committee on the subject and other materials that may be available to the Government of India should be placed at the disposal of this body of Judges. This body should, of course, be at liberty to take any further evidence on the subject if that is considered necessary by it and if such evidence is available.

The Government should accept the findings of this Judicial body and take whatever steps that may be found necessary on the basis of its recommendations. This being purely a national question the Government should not take into account the opinion of any individual in this matter even though he happens to be related to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

I shall be thankful if you will kindly send me your message in support of the plans of Netaji Hall Society.

Hope you are feeling better.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Amiya Nath Bose

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru
Prime Minister of India
New Delhi.

Given to me by Amiya Bose today. May I see the originals

Kindly see Flags 'A' & 'B' in the file below

SSA 6/12

PS(S) 6/12

PS(S) V.P. Marathe 6/12

You may see these & also some recent Cabinet or IAC papers re: this demand for a fresh enquiry. In the last cem, a joint demand of M.P.s arose. It may arise again anytime.

P. Gaur 13.12.69

SLs 153A & 154A Vol. 2

J/S.

DS;

(158)

From pre-page:

Hon recently had a meeting with MPs. The views expressed at that meeting were in favour of a fresh enquiry. MHA propose to take the matter to the Cabinet for a decision. (This ~~was~~ has been conveyed to one of PS to Hon)

Kanwar
18.12.69

DC(S)

Mathur
19.12.69

PS(Shri)

19.12

Poll

102

Copy of Letter No.293-PMH/64 dated 22nd April, 1964 from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister of India to Shri Amiya Nath Bose, M.P.

No.293-PMH/64

Prime Minister's House
New Delhi

April 22, 1964.

My dear Amiya,

I have your letter of the 20th April. I agree with you that something should be done to finalise the question of Netaji's death. But it is not quite clear to me how far it will be proper for me to ask the Chief Justice of India to look into this matter. It may involve visiting Japan, and I am sure I cannot ask the Chief Justice to do so.

I have sent you a brief message already about the Netaji Hall Society.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-
(Jawaharlal Nehru)

Shri Amiya Nath Bose
1, Woodburn Park
Calcutta-20.

S.No44

राष्ट्रपति भवन, नई दिल्ली-4.
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI-4.

(103)

December 27, 1969.

My dear Prime Minister,

I am herewith enclosing a letter received from Shri Samar Guha, Convener of the National Committee On Netaji. You may kindly look into the same.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

V. V. Giri

Shrimati Indira Gandhi,
Prime Minister,
New Delhi.

N/M-(7)

S.No45

UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

SAMAR GUHA
Convenor

Telephone : 35381
Ref. No.....

National Committee On Netaji

123, South Avenue, New Delhi-11

45, South Avenue
New Delhi

Dated December 23, 1969

Respected Rashtarpati Ji,

On 26th December, 1967, more than 350 Members of the Parliament submitted a Memorandum to the then President of India with an appeal to use his good office to ask the Government of India to institute a fresh enquiry into the circumstances leading to disappearance of Netaji Subash Chander Bose after the alleged plane crash on 18th August, 1945.

The people of India did not believe in the report of this plane crash and are not convinced by the findings of the enquiry conducted by Shah Niwas Committee, which did not visit the place of reported plane crash and failed to go through the documents of American and British Governments regarding that plane crash and which ~~made~~ made probe into such a complicated matter without cross-examining the witnesses who submitted written statements to that Committee, and failed to create any trust in the mind of Indian people about the adequate basis of its investigation into Netaji's affairs.

It has been reported that the issue of fresh enquiry is under consideration of the Government of India. The Home Minister met the leaders of all parties representing the Parliament on 5th December, 1969. In that meeting, all the leaders of the parties emphatically demanded that a fresh public enquiry should be made by a small committee consisting of Supreme

...2/-

UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

National Committee On Netaji

123, South Avenue, New Delhi-11

Telephone : 35381

Ref. No..... Dated..... 196

Court Judges and public men in whose integrity and capacity to conduct such an enquiry, the public have full confidence.

Now that the matter of fresh enquiry on the circumstances leading to disappearance of Netaji Subash Chander Bose is under consideration of the Government of India, I would, on behalf of the National Committee on Netaji, earnestly appeal to you to extend your good office to ask the Government of India to institute a fresh enquiry into Netaji's mystery so that all speculations may be set at rest regarding the matter.

You had all along been a close associate of Netaji and a great admirer of his contribution to the freedom struggle of India. I believe that you will do your best to send a note to the Government of India communicating your views regarding the issue of fresh enquiry on Netaji so that the Government feel obliged to discharge our national duty to the greatest revolutionary of our time.

I am herewith attaching a copy of the Memorandum sent to the former President of India

...3/-

UNITY FAITH SACRIFICE

National Committee On Netaji

123, South Avenue, New Delhi-11

Telephone : 35381

Ref. No..... Dated..... 196

by the Members of Parliament.

With kind regards and Namaskar,

Jai Hind.

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha

(Samar Guha)

Convener, National Committee on Netaji.

Shri V.V. Giri,
President of India,
New Delhi.

Encl: 1

Memorandum to the President of India

BY

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

New Delhi,

Dated: 26th December, 1967.

The President,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi.

Dear President,

We, along with millions of Indians, regard Netaji as not only one of the greatest patriots but also as one of the top-ranking leaders thrown up by India's struggle for freedom whose contribution to its historic termination is no less important than that of any other leader. For it is now being realised by a gradually increasing section of Indians and foreigners that Britain would not have relinquished her political hold on India in 1947, but for the formation of the Azad Hind Fauj (I.N.A.) by Netaji. For it demonstrated that the British Government could no longer rely upon the Indian sepoys with whose help alone she had conquered India and so long maintained her authority over the vast population of an extensive country like India. It may be recalled in this connection that the British Government had successfully put down the last non-violent Civil Disobedience campaign of Mahatma Gandhi as well as the last violent rebelion of 1942; she had refused to grant freedom to India even when the victorious Japanese army had overrun Burma and was at the very gates of India, and the President of U.S.A. made earnest appeals to Churchill to conciliate India. Yet almost immediately after the great and complete triumph over Germany and her allies Britain voluntarily withdrew her political control over India. This can only be explained by the realization on the part of Britain of the grim fact that the Indian sepoys could not longer be relied upon to fight Britain's battle in India, and her resources in men and money were too exhausted by the war to carry on successful efforts to keep down resurgent India by force.

Without therefore denying in the least the great importance of the contribution made by Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders to the moral and political uplift of the Indian nation which urged and prepared them for a relentless fight for freedom to the last, we venture to hold that but for Netaji's I.N.A., India would not have gained her freedom so soon after the great victory of Britain in the Second World War. We may further urge that the events culminating in the formation of I.N.A. by Netaji have demonstrated his superb statesmanship, marvellous far-seeing prescience and prodigious talent for military organisation. It is needless for us to recall that it was the I.N.A., under the inspiring leadership of Netaji, that liberated Indian territory from British bondage and hoisted banner of India's independence almost three years before it was unfurled over the Delhi Red Fort. Netaji was in fact the first President of Free India.

We, however, regret to say that the Government has signally failed to accord due honour and recognition to the unique personality and leadership of Netaji or to his historic role in our freedom struggle.

We, therefore, urge our Government to take the following steps without delay :

1. To place his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and all offices of the Government ;
2. To erect a statue of Netaji on a prominent site in New Delhi, preferably at India Gate ;
3. To devise suitable means to accord national recognition to military genius of Netaji ;
4. To observe his birthday every year with due solemnity ;
5. To erect suitable memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of I.N.A. heroes who sacrificed their lives in the liberation struggle under the leadership of Netaji ;
6. To publish the Volume on I.N.A., already written for the "History of Indian Army During the Second War", published by the Government :
7. To give him his due place in the "History of the Freedom Movement" (planned by Government of India) ; (For this it is necessary to take expert advice on the portion of the manuscript relating to him before it is finally approved for the press).
8. To arrange publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

We further beg to bring to your notice that the alleged death of Netaji in a plane-crash on 18th August, 1945, is not believed by a large section of Indian public in spite of the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee. Even the late Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had to admit in a letter, dated 13th May, 1962, written to Shri Suresh Bose, elder brother of Netaji, that there was no "precise and direct proof" of the death of Netaji. On the other hand, Reuter reported on 2nd September, 1945, on the authority of the New Delhi correspondent of the *Sunday Observer*, London, that 'neither the British nor the American War correspondent believes of the news of Netaji's death and there is enough evidence of his presence in Saigon a few days after the reported plane-crash'. A correspondent of an American paper also told Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 20th August, 1945, that Subhas was not dead but still alive and was possibly at Saigon. There are also published reports of Radio Broadcast by Netaji in December, 1945, and January, 1946. The value of the Shah Nawaz Committee is considerably diminished by the fact that no investigation was made into the above reports and that no member of the Committee visited the actual spot of the accident and made any local inquiry. We, therefore, venture to suggest that a further inquiry be made with the collaboration of the Governments of Japan and Taiwan (where the plane-crash took place) by a small independent committee consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two or three public men in whose integrity and capacity to conduct such an inquiry the public has full confidence. Nothing but such an inquiry will satisfy public opinion by removing the mystery that hangs around Netaji. Even though it is already very late, still such an inquiry may yet be fruitful, but if such a step be not taken without delay posterity will never forgive the Government and people of India for their neglect and indifference to ascertain the actual facts about one of the greatest leaders in the struggle for India's freedom. We, therefore, appeal to you to appoint such a Committee of Inquiry and take suitable steps to accord honour to Netaji whom our country and our people regard as one of the greatestp atriots and political leaders, and one of the mightiest architects of India's liberation.

We are confident that our appeal will not be in vain.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Randhir Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Mohinder Kaur, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Krishan Gupta, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sucheta Kripalani, M.P.
Sd/- A.S. Saigal, M.P.
Sd/- C.K. Bhattacharyya, M.P.
Sd/- A.E.T. Barrow, M.P.
Sd/- S.M. Bannerjee, M.P.

Sd/- P.K. Ghosh, M.P.
Sd/- G.M. Bakshi, M.P.
Sd/- V.D. Bajpai, M.P.
Sd/- Gunanand Thakur, M.P.
Sd/- Shashi Ranjan, M.P.
Sd/- Babunath Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Raj Deo Singh, M.P.
Sd/- T.H. Sonavane, M.P.
Sd/- Piloo Moody, M.P.
Sd/- J.N. Pramanik, M.P.
Sd/- Prem Chand Verma, M.P.
Sd/- Narendra Singh Mahida, M.P.
Sd/- Pratap Singh, M.P.
Sd/- P.C. Mitra, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Lalita Rajya Laxmi, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Radhabai Ananda Rao, M.P.
Sd/- Onkar Lal Bohra, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Tarkeshwari Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Savitri Shyam, M.P.
Sd/- V. Sambasivam, M.P.
Sd/- K.R. Ganesh, M.P.
Sd/- M.R. Krishna, M.P.
Sd/- G.S. Reddi, M.P.
Sd/- Narindar Singh Brar, M.P.
Sd/- V.N. Pandey, M.P.
Sd/- Swami Brahmanand, M.P.
Sd/- S.S. Syed, M.P.
Sd/- A.C. Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Haji Lutfal Haque, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Girja Kumari, M.P.
Sd/- N.P.C. Naidu, M.P.
Sd/- T.A. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- Nitiraj Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Devakinandan Patodia, M.P.
Sd/- Ramchandra Veerappa, M.P.
Sd/- S.B. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- Bharat Singh Chauhan, M.P.
Sd/- Ramesh Chandra Vyas, M.P.
Sd/- A.D. Mani, M.P.
Sd/- Raj Narain, M.P.
Sd/- Brahmananda Pande, M.P
Sd/- D.L. Sen Gupta, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sarla Bhadauria, M.P.
Sd/- Salig Ram, M.P.
Sd/- Muhammad Ishaque, M.P.
Sd/- Shri Chand Goyal, M.P.
Sd/- Brij Bhushan Lal, M.P.
Sd/- Hukam Chand Kachwai, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Singh Agarwal, M.P.
Sd/- Shashi Bhushan, M.P.
Sd/- P.M. Sayeed, M.P.
Sd/- Sheo Narain, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sharda Mukerjee, M.P.
Sd/- Chaudhury Sadhu Ram, M.P.
Sd/- Krishna Kumar Chatterjee, M.P.
Sd/- Frank Anthony, M.P.
Sd/- J.K. Mandal, M.P.
Sd/- Indulal Yagnik, M.P.
Sd/- Yogendra Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Shiv Chandika Prasada Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Guru Charan Naik, M.P.
Sd/- G.C. Dixit, M.P.
Sd/- S.D. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- S.B. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- N.K. Somani, M.P.
Sd/- S.K. Saha, M.P.
Sd/- R.N. Brahma, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Violet Alva, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Tara Sapre, M.P.
Sd/- N. Narotham Reddy, M.P.
Sd/- Aga Syed Ahmed, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Vijaya Raje, M.P.
Sd/- Amrit Nahata, M.P.
Sd/- Buta Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Mrityunjay Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sangal Laxmi Bai, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Pannalal Barupal, M.P.
Sd/- N. Sethuraman, M.P.
Sd/- Maharani Vijayamala Rajaram Chhatrapati Bhonsle, M.P.
Sd/- P. Venkatasubbaiah, M.P.
Sd/- Shambhu Nath, M.P.
Sd/- Gurdial Singh Dhillon, M.P.

Sd/- P. Anthony Reddi, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Dhan, M.P.
Sd/- B.R. Parmar, M.P.
Sd/- T.H. Gavit, M.P.
Sd/- K.G. Deshmukh, M.P.
Sd/- Suresh Desai, M.P.
Sd/- R.P. Khaitan, M.P.
Sd/- Tulsidas Dassappa, M.P.
Sd/- Mali Mariyappa, M.P.
Sd/- Jageswar Yadav, M.P.
Sd/- P.N. Sapru, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Shyam Kumari Khan, M.P.
Sd/- Jagat Narain, M.P.
Sd/- S.S. Mariswami, M.P.
Sd/- Revati Kanta Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Mahitosh Purkayastha, M.P.
Sd/- T.V. Anandam, M.P
Sd/- Satyendra Prasad Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Sharda Nand, M.P.
Sd/- Hardayal Devgun, M.P.
Sd/- Jaganath Rai Joshi, M.P.
Sd/- Kanwarlal Gupta, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Shakuntla Nayar, M.P.
Sd/- Bharat Singh Chawhan, M.P.
Sd/- Beni Sankar Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- M.L. Sondhi, M.P.
Sd/- Suraj Bhan, M.P.
Sd/- Tirlokshah Lal Priendra Shah, M.P.
Sd/- Onkar Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Major Ranjeet Singh M.P.,
Sd/- George Fernandes, M.P.
Sd/- Arjun Singh Bhadoria, M.P.
Sd/- Molahu Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- P. Vishwambharan, M.P.
Sd/- Shiopujan Shashtri, M.P.
Sd/- Kedra Paswan, M.P.
Sd/- S.M. Joshi, M.P.
Sd/- Gunanand Thakur, M.P.
Sd/- Nath Pai, M.P.
Sd/- Baidhar Biara, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Charan, M.P.
Sd/- M. Huche Gowda, M.P.

Sd/- Dinkar Desai, M.P.
Sd/- Jahanuddin Ahmed, M.P.
Sd/- Krishan Kant, M.P.
Sd/- J. Venkatappa, M.P.
Sd/- P.K. Deo, M.P.
Sd/- Bhupendra Narayan Mandal, M.P.
Sd/- S. Vashist, M.P.
Sd/- P. Abraham, M.P.
Sd/- Devaki Gopidas, M.P.
Sd/- Loknath Misra, M.P.
Sd/- Jagat Narain, M.P.
Sd/- Niranjan Varma, M.P.
Sd/- Braja Kishore Prasad Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- G.P. Somasundaram, M.P.
Sd/- K.C. Baghel, M.P.
Sd/- Narinder Singh Berar, M.P.
Sd/- B.D. Khobaragade, M.P.
Sd/- Ibraham Sulaiman Sait, M.P.
Sd/- Tirloki Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Chander, M.P.
Sd/- K.R. Ganesh M.P.
Sd/- Purnananda Chetia, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Singh, M.P.
Sd/- G.P. Sundaram, M.P.
Sd/- K. Manoharan, M.P.
Sd/- Era Sezhiyan, M.P.
Sd/- P. Sivasankaran, M.P.
Sd/- Trideb Chaudhuri, M.P.
Sd/- Srikantan Nair, M.P.
Sd/- Prakash Vir Shastri, M.P.
Sd/- Dr. Ranen Sen, M.P.
Sd/- Amiya Nath Bose, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Charan, M.P.
Sd/- Atma Das M.P.
Sd/- A.K. Kisku, M.P.
Sd/- Dr. (Mrs) Maitreyee Bose, M.P.
Sd/- Sunder Singh Bhandari, M.P.
Sd/- Akbar Ali Khan, M.P.
Sd/- R.S. Vidyarthi, M.P.
Sd/- Onkarlal Barua, M.P.
Sd/- Narayan Swaroop Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Atal Behari Vajpayee, M.P.

Sd/- Brahmanand, M.P.
Sd/- Bansh Narain Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Yajna Datt Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Rabi Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Sevak Yadav, M.P.
Sd/- J.M. Patil, M.P.
Sd/- A. Sreedharan, M.P.
Sd/- Nihai Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Shiva Chandra Jha, M.P.
Sd/- Maharaj Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Sibcharan Lal, M.P.
Sd/- Surendra Nath Dwivedy, M.P.
Sd/- Samarendra Kundu, M.P.
Sd/- Lakhan Lal Kapoor, M.P.
Sd/- Shri Nivas Mishra, M.P.
Sd/- Hem Barua, M.P.
Sd/- K. Lakkappa, M.P.
Sd/- Mulka Govind Reddy, M.P.
Sd/- R.S. Bhupendra Singh M.P.
Sd/- Choudhury A. Mohammed, M.P.
Sd/- Rebati Kanta Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Gauri Murahari, M.P.
Sd/- P.K. Koya, M.P.
Sd/- Tenneti Viswanathan, M.P.
Sd/- Sheel Bhadra Yajee, M.P.
Sd/- Dewan Chaman Lal, M.P.
Sd/- S.S.N. Tankha, M.P.
Sd/- V.K. Mannalalji Chordia, M.P.
Sd/- Shanti Kothari, M.P.
Sd/- B.V. Abdullah, Koya, M.P.
Sd/- B.N. Antani, M.P.
Sd/- K. Sundaram, M.P.
Sd/- Niranjan Singh, M.P.
Sd/- A.C. Gilhert, M.P.
Sd/- Narayan Patre, M.P.
Sd/- R.K. Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- Sukhdev Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Jyotsna Chanda, M.P.
Sd/- R.B. Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Chitta Basu, M.P.
Sd/- K. Anbazhagan, M.P.
Sd/- G. Viswanathan, M.P.

Sd/- M. Deiveekan, M.P.
Sd/- Surya Prasad Narain Puri, M.P.
Sd/- P.R. Thakur, M.P.
Sd/- N.C. Chatterjee, M.P.
Sd/- Benary K. Das Chowdhury, M.P.
Sd/' Madhu Limaye, M.P.
Sd/- Ramji Ram, M.P.
Sd/- Sachindra Nath Maity, M.P
Sd/- Raja Venkatappa Naik, M.P.
Sd/- Chittaranjan Ray, M.P.
Sd/- V.V. Ramaswami, M.P.
Sd/- M.P. Bhargav, M.P.
Sd/- C.D. Pande, M.P.
Sd/- C.M. Setalvad, M.P.
Sd/- D. Rai, M.P.
Sd/- Banke Behari Dass, M.P.
Sd/- Om Mehta, M.P.
Sd/- Niti Raj Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Kanta Kumari, M.P.
Sd/- Raghuvir Singh Shastri, M.P.
Sd/- Nathuram Ahirwar, M.P.
Sd/- Sankata Prasad, M.P.
Sd/- V. Choudhury, M.P.
Sd/- J.N. Hazarika, M.P.
Sd/- B. Bishwanath Ray, M.P.
Sd/- Ananta Rao Patil, M.P.
Sd/- Syed Badrudduja, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Kishan, M.P.
Sd/- M.V. Rajashekhran, M.P.
Sd/- V. Sambasivam, M.P.
Sd/- Chintamani Panigrahi, M.P.
Sd/- H.P. Chatterjee, M.P.
Sd/- Kashi Nath Pande, M.P.
Sd/- K.D. Bhandari, M.P.
Sd/- Y.G. Gadilinganna, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Deb, M.P.
Sd/- Raj Singh Deo, M.P.
Sd/- J.M. Imam, M.P.
Sd/- R.K. Amin, M.P.
Sd/- V.K. Shah, M.P.
Sd/- Debananda Amat, M.P.
Sd/- Pratap Keshari Deo, M.P.

Sd/- K.M. Kaushik, M.P.
Sd/. K.P. Singh Deo, M.P.
Sd/- S. Xavier, M.P.
Sd/- Erasmo de Sequeira, M.P.
Sd/- M.K. Nanja Gowder, M.P.
Sd/- K. Hanumanthaiyya, M.P.
Sd/- Tirloki Singh, M.P.
Sd/- Niranjan Singh, M.P.
Sd/- D.S. Raju, M.P.
Sd/. Uma Roy, M.P.
Sd/- Samar Guha. M.P.
Sd/- B.S. Zaidi, M.P.
Sd/- T. Chrngalvaroyan, M.P.
Sd/- P. Balachandra Menon, M.P.
Sd/- K. Chandra Shekhar, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Shekhar Singh, M.P.
Sd/- S.C. Samanta, M.P.
Sd/- Janardan Shukre, M.P.
Sd/- Vikram Chand Mahajan, M.P.
Sd/- S.M. Muhammed Sheriff, M.P.
Sd/- Shiva Chandrika, M.P.
Sd/- Ram Swarup, M.P.
Sd/- Mudrika Sinha, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt Girja Kumari, M.P.
Sd/- G.S. Dhillon, M.P.
Sd/- D.C. Sharma, M.P.
Sd/- Shmt. Sushila Rohtgi, M.P.
Sd/- J.K. Choudhury, M.P.
Sd/- G.G. Swell, M.P.
Sd/- Anil Kumar Chanda, M.P.
Sd/- Rajindra Barua, M.P.
Sd/- Swami Ramanand Shastri, M.P.
Sd/- H. Ajmal Khan, M.P.
Sd/- M.L. Meena, M.P.
Sd/- Fazl Haque, M.P.
Sd/- V. Narashimha Rao, M.P.
Sd/- D.R. Parmar, M.P.
Sd/- B.B. Lal M.P.
Sd/- Surendra Tapuriah, M.P.
Sd/- A. Dipa, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Patodia, M.P.
Sd/- Nand Kumar, Somani, M.P.
Sd/- S.P. Ramamurthy, M.P.
Sd/- Jamna Lal, M.P.
Sd/- Sant Ram Singh. M.P.
Sd/- Syed Zulfiquer Ali Khan, M.P.
Sd/- M.C. Setalvad, M.P.
Sd/- Sisir Kumar, M.P.
Sd/- N. Dandekar, M.P.
Sd/- R.P. Khattan, M.P.
Sd/- D.N. Deb, M.P.

Two or three names have been duplicated in the list and initials of nearly a dozen signatories could not be deciphered. It was stated that nearly 35 Members orally associated their names with memorandum but their names could not be included in the list of signatories as they left Delhi a few days before the end of the Lok Sabha Session.

S.no 45

113

No.16-PMO/70

New Delhi,
January 3, 1970.

S.no 44

Dear Rashtrapatiji,

Thank you for your letter of the 27th December with which you have sent Shri Samar Guha's letter. The Home Minister is already seized of the matter raised by Shri Samar Guha.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

o/c

(Indira Gandhi)

Shri V. V. Giri,
Rashtrapati,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi.

Sent
on 5/1

2(64)

4

Sno 46

Ghatgur
6.2.70

Shrimati
Hon, Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister
Govt of India.
Delhi.

I have the greatest pleasure to read the news of the whereabouts of Shri Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in "The Gondwana" published on the 26th Jan/70, that he is imprisoned in Russia Room No 45 of Yarkunask jail.

If the news is true, what kind of action by our Govt has been taken? I am very eager to know the efforts made on his part, hence I, as a citizen of my land, earnestly and humbly request you to kindly intimate whether the news is true.

I wish, God may provide him long happy life.

Yours faithfully
6.2.70
6.2.70

112

Is it this news?

JS-II

PS(S)

P-III

2(64 III)
Indexc

Original sent to Admin, PMO for onward tran to MHA

यहाँ डाक टिकट चिपकाइए ← Affix postage stamps here

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड
INLAND LETTER CARD

To, Smt. Hon, Indira Gandhi.
Prime Minister.
Govt of India.
New Delhi

पहला मोड़ First fold

तीसरा मोड़ Third fold

दूसरा मोड़ Second fold

प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— Sender's name and address :—

M. J. Jadtamwar.
Secretary
Mandal Congress Committee
At+Post- Ghatur Ettapalli.
Dt- Chanda. (Sirongha)
(Maharastra)

Shri Jadtamwar
6.2.76

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

Sno 46

Ghatgur
6.2.70

Shrimati
Hon, Indira Gandhi
Prime Minister
Govt of India.
Delhi.

I have the greatest pleasure to read the news of the whereabouts of Shri Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in "The Gondwana" published on the 26th Jan/70; that he is imprisoned in Russia Room No 45 of Yarkunask jail.

If the news is true, what kind of action by our Govt has been taken? I am very eager to know the efforts made on his part; hence I, as a citizen of my land, earnestly and humbly request you to kindly intimate whether the news is true.

I wish, God may provide him long happy life.

Yours faithfully
6.2.70
Goldamwar
6.2.70

(116)

HV

Is it this news?

JS-II
Funny
Kanwar
13/2/70

PSCSI
14

P-III
13/2

N 13/V

2(64)
Index

(117)

खोलने के लिए यहाँ दबाइए ← To open cut here →

अन्तर्देशीय पत्र कार्ड
INLAND LETTER CARD

15 P. INDIA 15 P.

To, Smt. Hon, Indira Gandhi.
Prime Minister.
Govt of India.
New Delhi

पहला मोड़ First fold

तीसरा मोड़ Third fold

दूसरा मोड़ Second fold

प्रेषक का नाम और पता :— Sender's name and address :—

M. J. Gaddamwar.
Secretary
Mandal Congress Committee
At+Post- Ghatur Ettapalli
Dt- Chanda. (Sironcha)
(Maharastra)

M J Gaddamwar
6.2.70

इस पत्र के भीतर कुछ न रखिए NO ENCLOSURES ALLOWED

Sno 47

L.S.S.
Q.1/4.

QUESTION FOR THE LOK SABHA

O.I.H.

PROVISIONAL STARRED

ADMITTED

D. No. 5243 O.P. II

Ministry to which the day has been allotted PRIME MINISTER SECRETARIAT

The question will be put down for the sitting on the :— 4.3.70

DEMAND FOR AN ENQUIRY COMMITTEE FOR GOING INTO THE CAUSE OF DEATH OF NETAJI SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE

* SHRI YASHWANT SINGH KUSHWAH:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a demand has been made to the Government for appointing another Enquiry Committee to go into the causes of death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

K1/19.2

MEA have been requested to take over this Question. For present with Poll. Section for necessary action.
V. P. Marwaha 20/2

PS(S)/JS

The Home Ministry has been dealing with this subject. The Q. shd be taken over by them.

20.2.70

20.2.70

Most Immediate
Parliament Question

Prime Minister's Secretariat

.....

February 20, 1970

Office Memorandum

Subject: Lok Sabha Starred Question D.No.5243 by Shri Yashwant Singh Kushwah, regarding demand for the enquiry Committee for going into the cause of death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

.....

The undersigned is directed to enclose, a copy of the Question noted above, with the request that the Ministry of External Affairs, who are primarily concerned with the subject matter, may kindly take over the Question, under intimation to the Lok Sabha Secretariat and this Secretariat.

Sd/-
(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Ministry of External Affairs,
New Delhi.

Copy to:

1. Lok Sabha Secretariat(Question Branch).
2. Parliament Section, P.M's Secretariat.

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister.

B.F

Sno 49

Most Immediate
Parliament Question

120 119

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(East Asia Division)
....

Subject: Lok Sabha Starred Question D.No.5243 by Shri Yashwant Singh Kushwah, regarding demand for the enquiry Committee for going into the cause of death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

Sno 48

Please find enclosed Prime Minister's Secretariat Office Memorandum No.PMS-4093 dated the 20th February,1970(in original) along with a copy of Advance Notice for the provisionally admitted Starred Question D.No.5243 , due for answer if admitted on 4.3.1970. As this matter is being dealt with by the Ministry of Home Affairs, they are requested to kindly accept the transfer of this question and intimate their acceptance to the Lok Sabha Secretariat(Question Branch)under intimation to this Ministry.

PP link
21/2
Poll

Encl:- as above.

sd/-
(T. Cherpoot)
Under Secretary(Japan)
Ministry of External Affairs.

Ministry of Home Affairs(Shri S.S. Varma, Deputy Secretary)New Delhi.
E.A.Division U.O.No. 2919-EA/70 dated the 21.2.1970.

Copy for information to:-

Sno 48

1. Prime Minister Secretariat(Shri V.P. Marwaha,PS to PM)New Delhi with reference to their O.M.No.PMS-4093 dated 20.2.70.

2. Lok Sabha Secretariat(Question Branch)New Delhi.

(T.Cherpoot)
Under Secretary(J)
Ministry of External Affairs.

Most Immediate
Parliament Question

Prime Minister's Secretariat
.....

PMS-4208

February 21, 1970

Office Memorandum

Subject: Provisional Starred Question D.No.5243 tabled in the Lok Sabha by Shri Yashwant Singh Kushwah, regarding demand for an Enquiry Committee for going into the cause of death of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose.

....

The undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of the above mentioned Question and to request that the Ministry of Home Affairs may kindly accept its transfer immediately, under intimation to the Lok Sabha Secretariat and this Secretariat.

Sd/-

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Ministry of Home Affairs
(Shri R. Kuppurao, Under Secretary),
New Delhi.

Copy to:

1. Lok Sabha Secretariat (Question Branch),
2. Parliament Section, P.M's Secretariat,

in continuation of the endorsement on this Secretariat O.M.No.PMS-4093 dated the 20th February, 1970, addressed to the E.A. Ministry.

21/2

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister.

Sro 51

No. 18/ 7 /70-Poll.II

Most Immediate
PARLIAMENT QUESTION

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

New Delhi-1
23rd February 1970.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

Subject:- Provisional Starred Question D.No.5243 tabled in the Lok Sabha by Shri Yashwant Singh Kushwah, regarding demand for an enquiry committee for going into the cause of death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The undersigned is directed to say that the Prime Minister's Secretariat have transferred the above-mentioned Question to this Ministry. This Ministry have accepted the transfer of the Question. It is requested that, if admitted, the question may be put down on a question day for this Ministry, subsequent to 4-3-1970.

2. It may be mentioned that there is already a Provisional Starred Question D.No.3344 by Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey on the same subject which is due for 27-2-1970.

(R. Kuppu Rao)
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

To

The Lok Sabha Secretariat,
(Question Branch),
NEW DELHI.

Copy for information to :-

1) Prime Minister's Secretariat (Shri V.P.Marwah, P.S. to Prime Minister) with reference to their O.M. No.PMS-4208 dated 21-2-1970.
2) Ministry of External Affairs (East Asia Division) (Shri T. Cherpoot, U.S.(Japan), with reference to their u.o. No.1919-EAD/70 dated 21-2-1970.
3) Parliament Section, M.H.A.

(R. Kuppu Rao)
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

2(64)

Sno Sr

(123)

#8

SECRET

CABINET SECRETAIRAT
(Department of Cabinet Affairs)

New Delhi, the 24th February, 1970.

Subject:- **Fresh inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 - Demand for.**

An advance copy of the ~~xxxxxx~~/Note dated 18-2-1970 (Copy No. 45) for the Cabinet on the above subject received from the Ministry/~~Department~~ of Home Affairs is sent herewith for Prime Minister's perusal.

(R.N. Kalia)
Under Secretary to the Cabinet.

PS to PM (Shri N.K. Seshan)
Cab. Secty. u/o dt. 13/2/70 dt. 24/2/70.

MS/24/2

JS(T)

Pol.

PS/SO 7/3

PM

7/3

2(64)

COPY No. 45 SECRET

(128) #19

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Subject:- Fresh inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 - Demand for.

The Cabinet in its meeting held on September 5, 1969, considered a note on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945, submitted by the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was decided that no fresh inquiry may be undertaken now, but if there is a persistent demand from a section of Members of Parliament, the matter can be brought up later. While approving the draft minutes of the Cabinet proceedings, the Prime Minister had observed that if the position were to be explained to the Members of Parliament who had signed the memorandum demanding a fresh inquiry, it was doubtful whether many would support the demand. The Prime Minister, also observed, "however if there is a consistent demand, we may consider having the matter informally examined by competent and important persons".

2. 45 Members of Parliament, who had signed a letter dated 7th August 1969 to the Prime Minister suggesting the appointment of a new commission of inquiry, were requested by the Home Minister to attend a meeting to discuss this matter. Eighteen Members accordingly attended a meeting on 5th December 1969 and views expressed by them are summarised in the attached minutes of the meeting.

3. Shri Amiyanath Bose spoke at length explaining why a fresh judicial inquiry was called for. All Members present, except Shri K.N. Tiwari, agreed with Shri Amiyanath Bose that the matter

..../-

required to be inquired into afresh by persons with judicial experience. The Home Minister specifically inquired whether it would not be sufficient if a Judge were to be requested to scrutinise the available evidence and advise whether there was a prima facie case for a further judicial inquiry. The Members present did not agree that this would be sufficient. The Home Minister promised to the Members present that their views would be placed before the Cabinet. The trend of the discussion thus clearly showed that the conclusions of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee did not find acceptance. The Home Minister, therefore, feels that it would be advisable to appoint a fresh Commission of Inquiry to set at rest any doubts on this sensitive issue. It is for consideration whether in view of the support extended for a demand for a fresh inquiry by Members of Parliament belonging to different political parties, another Commission of Inquiry should be appointed.

4. Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of External Affairs have seen this note.

(L.P. SINGH)
Secretary to the Government of India

(29/48/69-Poll. II)

NEW DELHI-1

The 18th February, 1970.

Cabinet Secretariat

Minutes of the meeting held on 5-12-69
at 9.30 A.M. in room No.62, Parliament House.

The Members of Parliament (as per list attached) attended the meeting.

2. The Home Minister stated that the memorandum presented by Members of Parliament suggesting a fresh inquiry into the circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was carefully considered by the Cabinet. The difficulty in this matter was that the inquiry by the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee took place about 13 years ago and the Committee had then considered all available evidence. It is doubtful whether, now, after lapse of so much time any fresh evidence would be available on the subject. The Cabinet had, however, decided that the position should be explained to the Members who had presented the memorandum and their views should be ascertained. The Home Minister invited the Members to express their views.

3. Shri Amiyanath Bose traced the background leading to the appointment of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. Even at that time, he was of the view that a Committee on this subject should be constituted only with persons of high judicial standing who had the experience of going into questions of evidence. Secondly, he also felt that no member of the Bose family should be on the Committee because he would lack objectivity. Regarding the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee itself, he had always taken the view that the Committee was not capable of inquiring into a question of such national importance. Since the publication of the report of the Committee, he had been pressing his demand for an inquiry by Judges of standing. The impression he formed after his conversations with late Pandit

Nehru was that Pandit Nehru had rejected the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. The Prime Minister had then written to him to state that something should be done to finalise the question of Netaji's death. Before Pandit Nehru could take any decision in the matter he suddenly passed away.

Regarding the possibility of fresh evidence, Shri Bose made the following points:

(1) He had been informed that the Government of Japan would still be willing to collaborate and cooperate with any Committee of Judges or any Judicial body that may inquire into the matter.

(2) According to his information, three intelligence parties went from different directions to Taihoku where the air crash is alleged to have taken place. One party went from Delhi, another party went from the headquarters of Lord Mountabatten and the third was an intelligence party sent from Gen. McArthur's headquarters in Tokyo. Dr. Radha Vinod Pal, who was a member of the International War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo, had learnt from an American colleague on the Tribunal that the finding of the intelligence party which went from Gen. McArthur's headquarters was that the evidence regarding the air crash was inconclusive. Secondly, a war correspondent by name Alfred Wagg, who had arrived in Tokyo along with Gen. McArthur, had told Gandhiji in his presence that the photograph of the damaged air craft which was reported to have crashed in Taihoku airport could not have been taken in Taihoku airport. The location did not tally. It was on the basis of conversations with this war correspondent that Gandhiji had made a statement that Netaji Bose was alive. He admitted that the war correspondent's story cannot now be

checked up because the old airport at Taihoku no longer exists and in its place a modern hotel has been built up.

(3) The explanations regarding the absence of any photograph of the dead body of Subhash Chandra Bose are not convincing. The Japanese version was that it was against Japanese custom to photograph a dead body. The explanation given by Shri Habib-ur-Rehman was that a photograph was not taken because Netaji's face was disfigured due to burns. But when he was asked as to why a photograph of his body was not taken when there were many persons in India who recognised Netaji's body he had no explanation.

(4) Several discrepancies discredit the report of the Committee. The story given out was that Netaji had sustained serious injuries. But at the same time it was stated that Netaji got out of the plane without being assisted by anybody. It was also said that his uniform had caught fire. But he was not wearing any uniform and he had got into civilian clothes in Saigon.

(5) Shri Habib-ur-Rehman had brought a watch, which according to him, was worn by Netaji at the time of the aircrash. It was given out that it had stopped at the time the aircrash took place. The air crash was reported to have taken place at 2.30 P.M. But the watch had stopped an hour earlier than 2.30 P.M. Further, the watch before it reached Calcutta was opened by experts at the instance of late Mr.Bhulabhai Desai, The watch contained oil when it was opened. According to Shri Bhulabhai Desai, the watch which came into contact with so much fire could not contain oil, more so when its leather band was also burnt. He was therefore not willing to accept that the watch was worn by Netaji.

(6) Regarding the actual announcement, the Japanese

...4/-

Government admits, and there is some indication in the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee report also, that some time in July, 1945, Netaji asked the Japanese Government to negotiate on his behalf with the Soviet Ambassador to see whether Netaji with at least 100 men could shift his activities into the Soviet Zone. The Soviet authorities refused to agree. On 6th of August 1945, the first atom bomb fell on Hiroshima and on 7th August the Soviet army started marching into Manchuria. It was only at that stage that the Japanese Government agreed to place a plane at Netaji's disposal and reach him to Dairen. It was further agreed that after he had safely landed at Dairen, the Japanese Government would announce his death. Therefore, the news of the death of Netaji was pre-planned, though the Japanese Government sources also say that the air crash in fact had occurred and, therefore, the announcement about his death was a true announcement.

(7) According to the Japanese Government, arrangements had been made for Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and others in the Committee to visit Taihoku and the Chinese girl who had attended on Netaji at the time of his death. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and others did not avail of the opportunity and reasons for their failure to do so are not known.

(8) It is true that a good deal of evidence had disappeared. But he was quite sure that some of the knowlegeable persons are still alive. If the matter is further delayed, we will of course lose further evidence.

(9) Sato's evidence, on the basis of which the dissenting report was given by his uncle, will require to be tested. According to him, Sato was an anti-aircraft gunner at Taihoku

airport. According to him, there was no aircrash. There was only a forced landing by a plane. Suddenly, a military jeep turned up and some people got into the jeep and went away. He (Shri Bose himself) had cross-examined Sato for four hours and his conclusion was that his evidence was utterly useless.

(10) He thought that there were certain materials in the custody of Government of India which were not placed before the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. He too had some material which would be placed before the new Commission. There are possibilities of getting people who can give evidence. There are people who were involved in this air crash. He, therefore, suggested that it should be treated not so much, as a question of fresh evidence but as the need for a fresh inquiry into the evidence available.

4. Shri S.N. Dwivedi agreed that there was need for a fresh inquiry to remove the doubts about the death of Netaji in the air crash from the minds of the people. But he did not share the views of Shri Bose that members of the Bose family should not be included in the Commission. A more judicial inquiry may not satisfy people.

5. Shri Balraj Madhok said that he had visited places in Burma, Bangkok and Taiwan where Netaji had lived and worked. People of these places expressed doubts whether Netaji was dead. The Government of Taiwan had also no information about the air crash. They were prepared to cooperate fully. Hence an inquiry commission should be appointed and Shri Amiyanath Bose should be included in the Commission.

6. Shri S.M. Joshi supported the view that a fresh inquiry should be made and pointed out that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

himself felt the need for finalising the question. According to him, the evidence that was given to the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee was not assessed properly and they took it for granted that the death was a fact.

7. Shri Kunte said that the findings of the enquiry Commission are not conclusive and that a fresh enquiry should be held.

8. Shri B.K. Daschowdhury said that the Shah Nawaz Committee's report did not conclusively prove that an air crash took place on 18th August and that Netaji was in the plane. He supported the appointment of a fresh commission.

9. Shri Samar Guha said that the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee did not convince the people. There was no conclusive proof in its report that Netaji is dead. He invited Home Minister's attention to the memorandum which 350 Members of Parliament had submitted to the Prime Minister in this connection. He said that he had visited Burma and Japan and met all the friends of Netaji. But he did not come across any evidence to show that Netaji was really dead. The intelligence report of the American authorities had not also been gone through. Therefore, he suggested that a fresh inquiry should be made by a Judge of the Supreme Court and two or three publicmen in whose integrity the public has full confidence.

10. Sarvashri Bakar Ali Mirza, K.L.Gupta, Rabi Ray, Tridib Chaudhuri and Era Sezhiyan supported that fresh inquiry should be made by persons with judicial experience.

11. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy agreed with the demand that a fresh inquiry should be conducted. He siad that during his

....7/-

visit to Kualalampur he had met certain people, none of whom believed that Netaji was dead. He referred to his discussions with Foreign Office persons of Taipeh. He was told that they had constituted a cell to inquire into the matter and that they firmly believed that Netaji never died in the alleged aircrash. He was also told that they were prepared to cooperate with any commission that the Government of India might constitute to go into the question.

12. Shri Shashi Bhushan supported that a fresh inquiry Commission should be appointed. He also suggested that retired intelligence officers like Shri Mullick should be associated with the commission. He also supported the view that Shri Amiyanath Bose should be included in the Commission.

13. Shri K.N. Tiwari, however, expressed his disagreement with the views expressed by Shri Amiyanath Bose. He said that since there was no new evidence, there was no need for any fresh inquiry. If Netaji were alive, he would not have kept himself hidden.

14. Shri N.C. Chatterjee expressed the view that there had been no real cross-examination or judicial inquiry. Government should, therefore, agree to a judicial inquiry in order to satisfy people and to remove all doubts.

15. The Home Minister promised that he would report to the Cabinet the trend of the discussions at the meeting and the views expressed. He further said that an alternative to a formal judicial inquiry would be to request a judge to scrutinise the evidence and advise whether there was a prima facie case for a further inquiry. He wished to know the reactions of the Members. Shri Amiyanath Bose stated that such an alternative procedure would not satisfy the people. Unless the available

evidence has been tested by cross-examination to ascertain truth, it will be impossible for any judge to give any opinion merely on the basis of dead records. What is required is that an eminent judge should examine whatever material is already available, and also have the opportunity to take evidence afresh of persons who may have given evidence before, to find out the truth. A proper commission of inquiry will rouse public sympathy. It should be an inquiry in public.

16. The Home Minister inquired whether a commission of inquiry would be competent to record evidence and cross-examine witnesses in foreign courts. Shri Amiyanath Bose stated that according to his information, Japanese Government and people would allow such evidence to be recorded and witnesses to be cross-examined. The Government of Formosa would also be willing to cooperate.

17. The Home Minister assured the Members that their views would be placed before the Cabinet.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING

1. Shri Bedabrata Barua
2. Shri N.C Chatterjee
3. Shri Tridib Chaudhuri
4. Shri S.N. Dwivedi
5. Shri S.M. Joshi
6. Shri D.K. Kunte
7. Shri B.K. Daschowdhury
8. Shri Samar Guha
9. Shri Bal Raj Madhok
10. Shri Bakar Ali Mirza
11. Shrimati Sharda Mukerji
12. Shri Rabi Ray
13. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
14. Shri K.L. Gupta
15. Shri Era Sezhiyan
16. Shri Shashi Bhushan
17. Shri Amiyanath Bose
18. Shri K.N. Tewari

SHAH NAWAZ KHAN
CHAIRMAN

D.O. No: CH/FCI/Cam/70

CONFIDENTIAL

PHONES: Office : 27432
Resi. : 625702
THE FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
1-Bahadurshah Zafar Marg,
NEW DELHI-1

Dated: 10th March, 1970.

My dear Indraji,

During the last two years I have been observing that there is an increasing demand on the Government in Parliament for holding a fresh inquiry to ascertain the truth about the reported death of Netaji in a plane crash at Taipeh(Formosa). It appears that certain interested parties have succeeded in creating confusion about the incident about which there can be no doubt. As far as I am concerned I have not the least bit of doubt in my mind that the facts reported in the report of the Netaji Inquiry Committee held in 1956 are absolutely correct and irrefutable and no other inquiry can come to a different decision. I, therefore, feel that this controversy should be set at rest as soon as possible. I have only one request to make and that is that the new Committee should consist of two High Court and one Supreme Court judges. No politician, any member of Netaji's family or anyone from the I.N.A. should be on this Committee. It is presumed that the new Committee when appointed would call upon me to place before them full facts about the previous inquiry and if they feel that there is any lacuna in the inquiry held by us in 1956, they would be free to enlarge the scope of their inquiry.

Signed statements of all the witnesses are also available in the Ministry of External Affairs to whom the Report of the Committee was submitted.

I have all this time had a feeling of great disappointment for our inability to bring back Netaji's ashes from the Reinkoji Temple in Tokyo. I hope the fresh inquiry would be held soon and if their report also corroborates the report of the previous Inquiry Committee then no time should be lost in bringing back Netaji's sacred ashes with full national honours.

Contd...

Decision has been taken. A copy of the letter should be sent to HM. 10.3.70

PS(H)

Pl. put up with the minutes after Cabinet. 13/3/70

Ack. A copy of this letter should be sent to HM, who may be requested to send a reply. 11/3/70

PS(S)

THE FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

13/(136)

It is an honour which is richly deserved by him for the great sacrifices that he has made for securing the freedom of our motherland.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shahnawaz Khan

(SHAH NAWAZ KHAN)

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

Minutes

132 (134) (137)

FRESH INQUIRY INTO DISAPPEARANCE OF NETAJI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE IN 1945 - Demand for.

The Cabinet considered the note dated February 18, 1970 from the Ministry of Home Affairs and decided that a SupremeCourt or High Court Judge may be appointed as a one-man Commission of Inquiry.

Sno 53

(138)
123

Prime Minister's Secretariat

Fresh inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Sno 53

A copy of a letter dated the 10th March, 1970, from Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, on the subject noted above is enclosed. We shall be grateful if the Home Minister is requested kindly to send a suitable reply to Shri Shah Nawaz Khan.

12/3

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

P.S. to Home Minister
(Shri M.D. Godbole)

P.M.'s Sectt. u.o.No. 2(64)/70-PM dt.12.3.70

(we)

Issued with the
12/3

Pol III

S.No 55

CONFIDENTIAL

134
138
139

No.2(64)/70-PM

12th March, 1970

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 10th March, 1970, to the Prime Minister, regarding Netaji Subhas Bose.

Yours faithfully,

12/3

(V.P.Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan,
Chairman,
The Food Corporation of India,
1 Bahadurshah Zafar Marg,
NEW DELHI

Issued
12/3

Pol III

Prime Minister's Secretariat

.....

Will the Ministry of Home Affairs kindly refer to the endorsement on this Secretariat letter No.PMS-24171 dated the 15th December, 1969, with which was forwarded a letter from Shri Ramesh Chandra Chanda, Secretary, Sarada Smriti Pathamandir, Nasra, requesting for the institution of a fresh inquiry into Netaji's death?

2. We have now received a further letter dated the 9th March, 1970, from Shri Chanda, on the subject, which is forwarded herewith for such action as is considered appropriate.

18/3

(V.P. Marwaha)
Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Ministry of Home Affairs
P.M's Sectt. u.o.No.F.2/64/56-70-PM dt. 18/3

(w.e)

18/3

MRH. SNO 57

(141) (~~149~~)

~~136~~

Dear Bishan Bhai,

I am sending a copy each of two notes for Cabinet as desired by you.

Surjit S. Varma
20/2

Shri B.N. Tandon.
J.S & P.M.
Parl. House

N-18

COPY No. 47

SECRET

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

NOTE FOR THE CABINET

Subject:- Fresh inquiry into disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 - Demand for.

The Cabinet in its meeting held on September 5, 1969, considered a note on the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945, submitted by the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was decided that no fresh inquiry may be undertaken now, but if there is a persistent demand from a section of Members of Parliament, the matter can be brought up later. While approving the draft minutes of the Cabinet proceedings, the Prime Minister had observed that if the position were to be explained to the Members of Parliament who had signed the memorandum demanding a fresh inquiry, it was doubtful whether many would support the demand. The Prime Minister, also observed, "however if there is a consistent demand, we may consider having the matter informally examined by competent and important persons".

2. 45 Members of Parliament, who had signed a letter dated 7th August 1969 to the Prime Minister suggesting the appointment of a new commission of inquiry, were requested by the Home Minister to attend a meeting to discuss this matter. Eighteen Members accordingly attended a meeting on 5th December 1969 and views expressed by them are summarised in the attached minutes of the meeting.

3. Shri Amiyanath Bose spoke at length explaining why a fresh judicial inquiry was called for. All Members present, except Shri K.N. Tiwari, agreed with Shri Amiyanath Bose that the matter

..../-

required to be inquired into afresh by persons with judicial experience. The Home Minister specifically inquired whether it would not be sufficient if a Judge were to be requested to scrutinise the available evidence and advise whether there was a prima facie case for a further judicial inquiry. The Members present did not agree that this would be sufficient. The Home Minister promised to the Members present that their views would be placed before the Cabinet. The trend of the discussion thus clearly showed that the conclusions of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee did not find acceptance. The Home Minister, therefore, feels that it would be advisable to appoint a fresh Commission of Inquiry to set at rest any doubts on this sensitive issue. It is for consideration whether in view of the support extended for a demand for a fresh inquiry by Members of Parliament belonging to different political parties, another Commission of Inquiry should be appointed.

4. Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of External Affairs have seen this note.

(L.P. SINGH)
Secretary to the Government of India

(29/48/69-Poll.II)

NEW DELHI-1

The 18th February, 1970.

Cabinet Secretariat

Minutes of the meeting held on 5-12-69
at 9.30 A.M. in room No.62, Parliament House.

The Members of Parliament (as per list attached) attended the meeting.

2. The Home Minister stated that the memorandum presented by Members of Parliament suggesting a fresh inquiry into the circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was carefully considered by the Cabinet. The difficulty in this matter was that the inquiry by the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee took place about 13 years ago and the Committee had then considered all available evidence. It is doubtful whether, now, after lapse of so much time any fresh evidence would be available on the subject. The Cabinet had, however, decided that the position should be explained to the Members who had presented the memorandum and their views should be ascertained. The Home Minister invited the Members to express their views.

3. Shri Amiyanath Bose traced the background leading to the appointment of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. Even at that time, he was of the view that a Committee on this subject should be constituted only with persons of high judicial standing who had the experience of going into questions of evidence. Secondly, he also felt that no member of the Bose family should be on the Committee because he would lack objectivity. Regarding the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee itself, he had always taken the view that the Committee was not capable of inquiring into a question of such national importance. Since the publication of the report of the Committee, he had been pressing his demand for an inquiry by Judges of standing. The impression he formed after his conversations with late Pandit

.....2/-

Nehru was that Pandit Nehru had rejected the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. The Prime Minister had then written to him to state that something should be done to finalise the question of Netaji's death. Before Pandit Nehru could take any decision in the matter he suddenly passed away.

Regarding the possibility of fresh evidence, Shri Bose made the following points:

(1) He had been informed that the Government of Japan would still be willing to collaborate and cooperate with any Committee of Judges or any Judicial body that may inquire into the matter.

(2) According to his information, three intelligence parties went from different directions to Taihoku where the air crash is alleged to have taken place. One party went from Delhi, another party went from the headquarters of Lord Mountabatten and the third was an intelligence party sent from Gen. McArthur's headquarters in Tokyo. Dr. Radha Vinod Pal, who was a member of the International War Crimes Tribunal in Tokyo, had learnt from an American colleague on the Tribunal that the finding of the intelligence party which went from Gen. McArthur's headquarters was that the evidence regarding the air crash was inconclusive. Secondly, a war correspondent by name Alfred Wagg, who had arrived in Tokyo along with Gen. McArthur, had told Gandhiji in his presence that the photograph of the damaged air craft which was reported to have crashed in Taihoku airport could not have been taken in Taihoku airport. The location did not tally. It was on the basis of conversations with this war correspondent that Gandhiji had made a statement that Netaji Bose was alive. He admitted that the war correspondent's story cannot now be

checked up because the old airport at Taihoku no longer exists and in its place a modern hotel has been built up.

(3) The explanations regarding the absence of any photograph of the dead body of Subhash Chandra Bose are not convincing. The Japanese version was that it was against Japanese custom to photograph a dead body. The explanation given by Shri Habib-ur-Rehman was that a photograph was not taken because Netaji's face was disfigured due to burns. But when he was asked as to why a photograph of his body was not taken when there were many persons in India who recognised Netaji's body he had no explanation.

(4) Several discrepancies discredit the report of the Committee. The story given out was that Netaji had sustained serious injuries. But at the same time it was stated that Netaji got out of the plane without being assisted by anybody. It was also said that his uniform had caught fire. But he was not wearing any uniform and he had got into civilian clothes in Saigon.

(5) Shri Habib-ur-Rehman had brought a watch, which according to him, was worn by Netaji at the time of the aircrash. It was given out that it had stopped at the time the aircrash took place. The air crash was reported to have taken place at 2.30 P.M. But the watch had stopped an hour earlier than 2.30 P.M. Further, the watch before it reached Calcutta was opened by experts at the instance of late Mr.Bhulabhai Desai. The watch contained oil when it was opened. According to Shri Bhulabhai Desai, the watch which came into contact with so much fire could not contain oil, more so when its leather band was also burnt. He was therefore not willing to accept that the watch was worn by Netaji.

(6) Regarding the actual announcement, the Japanese

...4/-

Government admits, and there is some indication in the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee report also, that some time in July, 1945, Netaji asked the Japanese Government to negotiate on his behalf with the Soviet Ambassador to see whether Netaji with at least 100 men could shift his activities into the Soviet Zone. The Soviet authorities refused to agree. On 6th of August 1945, the first atom bomb fell on Hiroshima and on 7th August the Soviet army started marching into Manchuria. It was only at that stage that the Japanese Government agreed to place a plane at Netaji's disposal and reach him to Dairen. It was further agreed that after he had safely landed at Dairen, the Japanese Government would announce his death. Therefore, the news of the death of Netaji was pre-planned, though the Japanese Government sources also say that the air crash in fact had occurred and, therefore, the announcement about his death was a true announcement.

(7) According to the Japanese Government, arrangements had been made for Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and others in the Committee to visit Taihoku and the Chinese girl who had attended on Netaji at the time of his death. Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and others did not avail of the opportunity and reasons for their failure to do so are not known.

(8) It is true that a good deal of evidence had disappeared. But he was quite sure that some of the knowlegeable persons are still alive. If the matter is further delayed, we will of course lose further evidence.

(9) Sato's evidence, on the basis of which the dissenting report was given by his uncle, will require to be tested. According to him, Sato was an anti-aircraft gunner at Taihoku

airport. According to him, there was no aircrash. There was only a forced landing by a plane. Suddenly, a military jeep turned up and some people got into the jeep and went away. He (Shri Bose himself) had cross-examined Sato for four hours and his conclusion was that his evidence was utterly useless.

(10) He thought that there were certain materials in the custody of Government of India which were not placed before the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee. He too had some material which would be placed before the new Commission. There are possibilities of getting people who can give evidence. There are people who were involved in this air crash. He, therefore, suggested that it should be treated not so much, as a question of fresh evidence but as the need for a fresh inquiry into the evidence available.

4. Shri S.N. Dwivedi agreed that there was need for a fresh inquiry to remove the doubts about the death of Netaji in the air crash from the minds of the people. But he did not share the views of Shri Bose that members of the Bose family should not be included in the Commission. A more judicial inquiry may not satisfy people.

5. Shri Balraj Madhok said that he had visited places in Burma, Bangkok and Taiwan where Netaji had lived and worked. People of these places expressed doubts whether Netaji was dead. The Government of Taiwan had also no information about the air crash. They were prepared to cooperate fully. Hence an inquiry commission should be appointed and Shri Amiyanath Bose should be included in the Commission.

6. Shri S.M. Joshi supported the view that a fresh inquiry should be made and pointed out that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

himself felt the need for finalising the question. According to him, the evidence that was given to the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee was not assessed properly and they took it for granted that the death was a fact.

7. Shri Kunte said that the findings of the enquiry Commission are not conclusive and that a fresh enquiry should be held.

8. Shri B.K. Daschowdhury said that the Shah Nawaz Committee's report did not conclusively prove that an air crash took place on 18th August and that Netaji was in the plane. He supported the appointment of a fresh commission.

9. Shri Samar Guha said that the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee did not convince the people. There was no conclusive proof in its report that Netaji is dead. He invited Home Minister's attention to the memorandum which 350 Members of Parliament had submitted to the Prime Minister in this connection. He said that he had visited Burma and Japan and met all the friends of Netaji. But he did not come across any evidence to show that Netaji was really dead. The intelligence report of the American authorities had not also been gone through. Therefore, he suggested that a fresh inquiry should be made by a Judge of the Supreme Court and two or three publicmen in whose integrity the public has full confidence.

10. Sarvashri Bakar Ali Mirza, K.L.Gupta, Rabi Ray, Tridib Chaudhuri and Era Sezhiyan supported that fresh inquiry should be made by persons with judicial experience.

11. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy agreed with the demand that a fresh inquiry should be conducted. He siad that during his

....7/-

visit to Kualalampur he had met certain people, none of whom believed that Netaji was dead. He referred to his discussions with Foreign Office persons of Taipeh. He was told that they had constituted a cell to inquire into the matter and that they firmly believed that Netaji never died in the alleged aircrash. He was also told that they were prepared to cooperate with any commission that the Government of India might constitute to go into the question.

12. Shri Shashi Bhushan supported that a fresh inquiry Commission should be appointed. He also suggested that retired intelligence officers like Shri Mullick should be associated with the commission. He also supported the view that Shri Amiyanath Bose should be included in the Commission.

13. Shri K.N. Tiwari, however, expressed his disagreement with the views expressed by Shri Amiyanath Bose. He said that since there was no new evidence, there was no need for any fresh inquiry. If Netaji were alive, he would not have kept himself hidden.

14. Shri N.C. Chatterjee expressed the view that there had been no real cross-examination or judicial inquiry. Government should, therefore, agree to a judicial inquiry in order to satisfy people and to remove all doubts.

15. The Home Minister promised that he would report to the Cabinet the trend of the discussions at the meeting and the views expressed. He further said that an alternative to a formal judicial inquiry would be to request a judge to scrutinise the evidence and advise whether there was a prima facie case for a further inquiry. He wished to know the reactions of the Members. Shri Amiyanath Bose stated that such an alternative procedure would not satisfy the people. Unless the available

evidence has been tested by cross-examination to ascertain truth, it will be impossible for any judge to give any opinion merely on the basis of dead records. What is required is that an eminent judge should examine whatever material is already available, and also have the opportunity to take evidence afresh of persons who may have given evidence before, to find out the truth. A proper commission of inquiry will rouse public sympathy. It should be an inquiry in public.

16. The Home Minister inquired whether a commission of inquiry would be competent to record evidence and cross-examine witnesses in foreign courts. Shri Amiyanath Bose stated that according to his information, Japanese Government and people would allow such evidence to be recorded and witnesses to be cross-examined. The Government of Formosa would also be willing to cooperate.

17. The Home Minister assured the Members that their views would be placed before the Cabinet.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING

1. Shri Bedabrata Barua
2. Shri N.C Chatterjee
3. Shri Tridib Chaudhuri
4. Shri S.N. Dwivedi
5. Shri S.M. Joshi
6. Shri D.K. Kunte
7. Shri B.K. Daschowdhury
8. Shri Samar Guha
9. Shri Bal Raj Madhok
10. Shri Bakar Ali Mirza
11. Shrimati Sharda Mukerji
12. Shri Rabi Ray
13. Shri Mulka Govinda Reddy
14. Shri K.L. Gupta
15. Shri Era Sezhiyan
16. Shri Shashi Bhushan
17. Shri Amiyanath Bose
18. Shri K.N. Tewari

153

148

COPY NO._____ SECRET

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Note for the Cabinet

Subject:- Disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945.

In April 1956, in response to the public demand, Government of India appointed an Enquiry Committee to ascertain the circumstances concerning Netaji's departure from Bangkok on 16.8.1945 and his alleged death in an air-crash. The Committee consisted of the following:-

(i) Shri Shah Nawaz Khan, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport;

(ii) Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, elder brother of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose; and

(iii) Shri S.N. Maitra, I.C.S., formerly Chief Commissioner, Andamans and Nicobar.

The Committee examined witnesses in Delhi, Calcutta, Bangkok, Saigon, Tourane and Tokyo. They also examined books and articles about Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and studied relevant classified records pertaining to the matter.

2. The members compared and discussed the statements of the witnesses whom they had personally interviewed and took into consideration the evidence from several sources. The three members of the Committee then arrived at certain broad conclusions and

.../-

unanimously agreed that the report should be written on the basis of these conclusions. These were summarised in a list entitled "Principal points agreed to for Draft Report dated 30.6.1956". This was signed by all the three members of the Committee on 2.7.1956.

3. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose had agreed with the principal conclusions and signed the documents containing these on 2.7.1956. The conclusions confirmed that Netaji had, in fact, met his death in the crash on the 18th August, 1945 at Taihoku. Shri Suresh Chandra Bose, however, submitted a dissentient report stating that there had been no plane crash involving Netaji's death as concluded in the Committee's Report.

4. The Cabinet considered the Report of the Enquiry Committee signed by Shri Shah Nawaz Khan and Shri S.N. Maitra on 9th September, 1956 and accepted the finding that Netaji had, in fact, met his death as a result of the air-crash on 18th August, 1945. The Cabinet also decided that "the question of bringing over Netaji's ashes to India might be left for future consideration". A copy of the Report was laid on the Table of the House by late Prime Minister Nehru on 11th September, 1956 when he informed the House that the Government had accepted the findings of the Committee. The dissentient report too was placed on the Table of the House on 12th December, 1956, and in doing so the Prime Minister again confirmed that the Government had

accepted the majority report.

5. Briefly, the conclusions of the majority were that about the spring of 1945 the defeat of the Axis Powers became likely, and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose began thinking of the future activities of himself on the one hand, and of the Indian Independence League and the Indian National Army on the other. As regards himself, he decided to leave South East Asia and to take refuge in Russia, whence, in due course, he could re-emerge and continue the struggle for India's freedom against the British. As regards the Indian Independence League and the Indian National Army, he appeared to be undecided and desired to consult with his allies, the Japanese, before imparting final instructions.

6. With a view to implementing these intentions he left Bangkok on the 17th August, 1945, for Saigon, whence he had been promised passages for himself and 6 companions by a Tokyo-bound Japanese military plane.

7. At Saigon, however, there was a serious disappointment: only two passages in an Air Force bomber were offered by the Japanese Military Command, which, as a consequence of Japan's surrender to the Allies on the 15th August, 1945, found itself short of air transport. After some discussion Netaji found himself obliged to accept the 2 passages offered, and with the approval of his companions selected Col. Habibur Rehman to accompany him. Netaji and Col. Rehman accordingly took off for

.../-

Tokyo by the bomber about 5.00 p.m. on the 17th August, 1945.

8. Apart from Netaji and Col. Rehman the bomber included 6 Japanese Service Officers as passengers, and a crew of 5 or 6 persons.

9. The bomber landed for the night at Tourane on the Indo-China coast at about 7.30 p.m., and took to the air again with the same inmates at 5.00 a.m. the next morning. The next brief stop was at Taihoku in Formosa in the early afternoon of 18th August, 1945. While taking off from Taihoku later in the afternoon, however, the propeller and the port side engine of the bomber which appears to have been defective even from the start, suddenly dropped out, with the result that the plane immediately crashed about 50 metres off the run-way and burst into flames. Suffering from severe burns Netaji was carried into the Taihoku Military Hospital, where after some hours he passed away.

10. Two days later, on the 20th, his body was cremated in the Taihoku Crematorium. His ashes were collected and temporarily kept in the Nishi (West) Honganji Temple in that city until the 7th September, 1945, when they were flown to Tokyo. There they have since been lying in the Renkoji Temple.

Dissentient Report

11. The main burden of Shri Bose's dissentient report is that late Prime Minister Nehru had already made up his mind and had agreed to the enquiry only in

.../-

response to a pressing demand from a large section of the people. Secondly, Shri Bose has charged that two of the members of 3-man Committee were under a "mandate" to arrive at findings which would conform with the pre-conceived notion of the late Prime Minister Nehru that Netaji was dead. He has also charged that he was not taken into confidence by the other two members and was not shown all the relevant material to institute an impartial enquiry. The Committee, he has asked was dominated by the two official members and considered only selective evidence which would only enable them to arrive at the pre-conceived conclusion that Netaji had died in the crash at Taihoku. Shri Bose has gone further to charge that some of the officials of the Government of India had tried to harass and pressurise him into accepting the conclusions of the other two members.

12. Shri Bose mainly picked up small contradictions in details relating to the height of the aircraft, timing of the aircrash, etc. He also maintained that there was evidence contradicting that there was any aircrash at all. This dissentient report was carefully examined by the Government and when laying the report on the table of the House on 12.12.1956, Prime Minister Nehru said that Government adhered to their acceptance of the majority report.

Continuing rumours about Netaji's survival

13. There have been repeated demands for undertaking another enquiry ever since the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee Report was published. However, Government

.../-

having accepted the findings of the Committee, have taken the position that unless fresh evidence or new facts were brought to light a further enquiry was not warranted. Rumours about Netaji's survival and whereabouts, etc., have cropped up repeatedly. Each of these, whenever brought to Government's notice, has been investigated and generally found to be baseless. In 1962, rumour was spread that a Sanyasi of Shaulmari Ashram was in fact Netaji. The Sanyasi, Swami Shradhanand himself denied the rumour. Another claim made by Dr. S.N. Sinha that Netaji was incarcerated in Cell No. 46 of Yakutusk prison in Siberia has not been corroborated by any tangible evidence. Lt. Gen. Fujiwara of Japan who came to India to present Netaji's sword, while urging for further investigation, did not produce any evidence to contradict the findings of the Shah Nawaz Khan Enquiry Committee. Recently a press report in a Bengali Daily, "Jugantar", based on information given by an ex-Indian army personnel, presently employed in West Bengal Police (as Inspector of Police, Security Control, Calcutta), that Netaji left Singapore by submarine towards the end of 1945 was investigated and found to be hearsay and vague information. The latest instance is of the news report claiming that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had spoken from Radio Moscow after the Tashkent Agreement. On checking up with Radio Moscow authorities, it was discovered that a student by

.../-

the name of Subhas Chandra had in fact made the broadcast.

Correspondence between Prime Minister Nehru and Shri Amiya Bose

14. It has been claimed by Shri Amiya Nath Bose that Prime Minister Nehru, in his letter of April 22, 1964, to him, had accepted that "something should be done to finalize the question of Netaji's death". However, there is nothing to suggest, in the context of the entire correspondence, that at any time Prime Minister Nehru had entertained any doubts about the conclusions of the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee Report. Presumably, what Shri Nehru had in mind was that something should be done to persuade those who still doubted this fact to accept the finality of the conclusions that Netaji was no more. Shri Amiya Bose has however claimed that a month before his death, Pandit Nehru had agreed that a proper enquiry Commission should be formed.

Memorandum by 350 M.Ps.

15. On December 26, 1967, about 350 Members of Parliament sent a memorandum to the President demanding a fresh enquiry into the reported death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. They had urged that further enquiry be made in collaboration with the Governments of Japan and Taiwan. This memorandum was discussed at a Meeting of Secretaries held under the Chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary on 16th February, 1968 to examine the various points raised. As far as the question of a fresh enquiry was concerned, the meeting

.../-

was of the view that this was not warranted as no fresh evidence had been brought to light. This recommendation was brought to the Prime Minister's notice in connection with a question in the Lok Sabha on 21.2.1968. The Prime Minister, in reply to the question, stated that "since no new facts have been brought to light, Government do not consider that any fresh enquiry is warranted.

Recent requests for official Enquiry

16. Shri Samar Guha wrote in May this year to the Prime Minister requesting for a judicial enquiry on the analogy of the enquiry being conducted in regard to Gandhiji's assassination 20 years after Mahatmaji's death. The Foreign Minister in reply to this letter informed Shri Guha that the terms of reference of the enquiry being conducted into Mahatma Gandhi's assassination did not seek to establish Gandhiji's death. In the letter sent to the Prime Minister by 44 M.Ps., dated August 7, the request for the appointment of a fresh enquiry Commission, consisting of retired Supreme Court Judges and eminent public men, has been made on the ground that a fresh probe was being conducted in regard to the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi and that a judicial enquiry was also being conceded in response to a number of M.Ps' request into the cause of death of the Jan Sangh Leader Shri Dindayal Upadhyay. It is quite obvious that these two examples that have been cited are not on all fours with the demand for an enquiry to establish the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

.../-

156 (160) (161)

17. The question of inquiry was again raised in the Lok Sabha on August 22, 1969 during the course of interpellation on Starred Question No.8 Shri S.M. Banerji wanted to know why the Government could not appoint another Commission to inquire into the whole thing. The Home Minister replied "This matter is under the active consideration of the Government. The Prime Minister has recently received certain memorandum from Members of Parliament and we are very actively considering this."

18. It is for consideration whether a Commission of Inquiry should be appointed. In case it is decided that such a Commission should be appointed, it may consist of a single Judge of the Supreme Court. Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of External Affairs have seen this note.

(L. P. Singh)
Secretary to the Govt. of India

/32/132/69-Poll.I(A)/

NEW DELHI-1.

The 1st September, 1969.

Cabinet Secretariat

(162) ~~159~~ (161)

Copy of letter dated 12th May 1970 received by Shri T.N. Kaul, Foreign Secretary, from Shri P.S. Jayasinghe, Publisher, Asia Publishing House, Calicut Street, Ballard Estate, Bombay-1.

I have come across the following passage from a book THE GOEBBELS DIARIES edited, translated and with an introduction by Louis P Lochner:

> "Subhas Chandra Bose was head of the Zentrale freies Indien (Central Bureau for a Free India), which had its Berlin office at No. 2 Lichtenstein Allee. With Pandit K.A. Bhatta as editor, he brought out a monthly magazine, AZAD HIND, with Nazi money. It was published with the English text on the right side, the German on the left. Later he left for Japan and, according to reports, was seized there by the Americans, tried, and executed for treason."

> "LOUIS LOCHNER for over twenty years was chief of the Associated Press Bureau in Berlin, and for six years president of the Foreign Press Association there. He knew all of the inner circle of Nazis personally, and was a close observer of their rise to power. His familiarity with the German scene and his keen understanding of German history and the German people are evidenced in theediting of this volume, in which Goebbels's story has been skillfully brought out of the huge mass of material which the Nazi leader kept in his diaries."

I thought this might be of interest to you in case it was not known earlier.

With best wishes.

JS(II) may kindly see

NKSeshan
18/5

~~JS(II)~~

May be kept in filed in Pol. section for record.

18570

2(64)

Pol
18/5
PS(S)

Ministry of Home Affairs

JS to PM may kindly refer to his observations on the letter received from Shri Samar Guha, MP. (FR). A copy of the assurance fulfilled in connection with the Lok Sabha Question relating to the one-man Commission of Inquiry is enclosed.

(R. Vasudevan)
Deputy Secretary
13.8.70

JS to PM (Shri B.N. Tandon)

MHA. U.O. No. 25/29/70-Poll. II, dt: 13-8-70

APS (Pol) may fix a meeting with Sri Samar Guha. I shall meet him at his convenience.

14-8-70

APS (Pol)

JS II spoke to Shri Samar Guha last evening.

19-8-70

Poll

PS(S)

PM

19/8

2(64)

SAMAR GUHA,
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

45, South Avenue,
New Delhi-11.

Dated: 5th August, 1970.

Dear Mrs. Gandhi,

I find in the Press that Justice G.D.Khosla has been nominated as the Chairman of the Committee to enquire into the circumstances leading to disappearance of Netaji Subhash Bose. But although the Report appeared some three weeks back, there is neither any official communique nor any statement made regarding the matter on the floor of the House. As Mr. Y.B. Chavan was dealing with the matter, I had written to him on the issue. But on seeing him, he informed me that while he was dealing with the matter, he agreed to nominate Justice Khosla as the Chairman of the Enquiry Committee and he has now sent all the papers to you as it will be the Home Ministry which will decide the course in which formal announcement regarding the 'Netaji Enquiry' will be made. He also informed me that he has referred to you my letter addressed to him.

2. As the Government has taken the decision to hold fresh enquiry on Netaji the people of India would appreciate if an early announcement is made by you on the floor of the House during the present Session. You have taken a very patriotic decision in agreeing to hold fresh enquiry on Netaji and I will request you to make announcement about appointment of the Chairman of the Committee as also the points of reference for the enquiry without further delay. I am anxious to have your reply as early as possible.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Samar Guha
(Samar Guha)

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

'A'

why 1st delay?

I think the notification has been laid on the Tables of the two Houses in some form or other. Pl. let us know the position. I will then speak to Sri Samar Guha

Sri R Vasudevan
10.8.70

R. Mrs Gandhi a. c. No. MS-17357
dt. 11-8-70

Tenth Session, 1970 of the Lok Sabha

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Date & Reference	Subject	Promise made	When & how fulfilled	Remarks
Unstarred Questiom No.5099 dated the 3rd April, 1970. by Shri Chengalraya Naidu Shri Dhandapani, Shri Deven Sen, Shri N.R.Laskar, Shri D.N.Patodia, Shri Saminathan, Shri Prakash Vir Shastri and Shri Yashwant Singh Khushwah.	Asking (a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have taken a final decision to set up a Commission of Inquiry to finally settle whether Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose is dead or alive. (b) if so, whether Government have decided about the personnel of the Commission; and (c) if so, when it is likely to be announced and what will be the terms of reference of the said Commission.	(a) to (c) The Government have decided to appoint a one-man Commission of Inquiry. The constitution of the Commission and its terms of reference are under consideration.	The relevant information is given below:- Shri G.D. Khosla, retired Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court, has been appointed as the one-man Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945 and the subsequent developments connected therewith. A copy of notification S.O.No.2375 published in the Extraordinary issue of the Gazette of India dated 11.7.70 containing the terms of reference of the Commission is attached.	

(To be published in Part II, Section 3- Sub-Section (ii) of the Gazette of India Extraordinary)

165

~~167~~ 166

No. 25/14/70-Poll.II
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

...

New Delhi-11, the 11th July, 1970.

NOTIFICATION

S.O. 2375 WHEREAS the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee appointed by the Government of India in April, 1956, to inquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose from Bangkok about the 16th August, 1945, his reported death as a result of an aircraft accident, and subsequent developments connected therewith, had come to the conclusion that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose met his death in an air crash;

AND WHEREAS there is a widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains;

AND WHEREAS there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter;

AND WHEREAS the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessary to appoint a Commission of Inquiry for the purpose of making an inquiry into a definite matter of public importance, namely, the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 (60 of 1952), the Central Government hereby appoints a Commission of Inquiry consisting of Shri G.D.Khosla, Retired Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court, as sole member.

2. The Commission shall inquire into all the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and the subsequent developments connected therewith and make its report to the Central Government. The Commission will be expected to complete its inquiry and make its report by the 31st December, 1970.

3. The Central Government is of opinion that, having regard to the nature of the inquiry to be made and other circumstances of the case, all the provisions of sub-section (2), sub-section(3), sub-section(4) and sub-section(5) of section 5 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952(60 of 1952) should be made applicable to the said Commission and the Central Government hereby directs under sub-section (1) of the said section 5 that all the provisions aforesaid shall apply to the said Commission.

Sd/- T. C. A. SRINIVASAVARADAN
Joint Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To
Manager,
Govt. of India
Press, New Delhi.

लोक सभा का 10 वां सत्र, 1970

गृह मंत्रालय

तिथि तथा संदर्भ	विषय	दिया गया आश्वासन	कब और कैसे पूर्ति की गई
श्री चेंगलराया नायडू, श्री दण्डपाणि, श्री देवेन सेन, श्री नि०रं० लास्कर, श्री देवकी नन्दन पाटोदिया, श्री सामिनाथन, श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री तथा श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह द्वारा 3 अप्रैल, 1970 को पूछा गया अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 5099.	पूछा गया कि: (क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्र सरकार ने यह निश्चय करने के लिये कि नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस मर चुके हैं अथवा जीवित हैं, एक जांच आयोग गठित करने के लिये कोई अंतिम निर्णय कर लिया है ; (ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने उक्त आयोग सदस्यों के बारे में निर्णय कर लिया है ; और (ग) यदि हां, तो इसके बारे में कब तक घोषणा कर दिये जाने की सम्भावना है तथा उस आयोग के निर्देशपद क्या होंगे ?	(क), (ख), और (ग), सरकार ने एक सदस्यीय जांच आयोग नियुक्त करने का निश्चय किया है। आयोग का गठन तथा उसके विचारार्थ विषय विचाराधीन हैं।	सम्बद्ध सूचना इस प्रकार है:- 1945 में नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के लापता होने और इससे सम्बन्धित बाद की परिस्थितियों की छानबीन करने के लिए पंजाब उच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त मुख्य न्यायाधिपति श्री जी० डी० खोसला को एक सदस्यीय जांच आयोग के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है। भारत के राजपत्र के असाधारण अंक दिनांक 11-7-70 में प्रकाशित अधिसूचना सा० का० संख्या 2375 की एक प्रतिलिपि संलग्न है, जिसमें आयोग के विचारार्थ विषय निहित हैं।

---

(168) 167

भारत के राजपत्र असाधारण, भाग II, खण्ड 3,

उप-खण्ड (ii) में प्रकाशनार्थ

संख्या 25/14/70-पोल-II

भारत सरकार, गृह मंत्रालय

नई दिल्ली-1, दिनांक 11 जुलाई, 1970

अधिसूचना

स0आ0 2375 यत: शाहनवाज़ खां समिति जो नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के 16 अगस्त, 1945 के लगभग बैंकाक से प्रस्थान, एक विमान दुर्घटना के परिणामस्वरूप उनकी प्रतिवेदित मृत्यु से संबंधित परिस्थितियों तथा उसके संबंध में तत्पश्चात् सामने आने वाली बातों के विषय में जांच करने और भारत सरकार को उसकी रिपोर्ट देने के लिए भारत सरकार द्वारा अप्रैल, 1956 में नियुक्त की गई थी, इस परिणाम पर पहुंची थी कि नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस की मृत्यु एक विमान-घटना में हुई थी ;

और यत: जनता में यह भावना व्याप्त है कि नेताजी की मृत्यु संबंध सच्चाई का पता लगाने की समस्या अभी तक बनी हुई है ;

और यत: निरन्तर यह मांग रही है कि इस विषय में आगे जांच की जाए ;

और यत: केन्द्रीय सरकार की राय है कि निश्चय रूप से लोक महत्व के इस मामले में अर्थात्, 1945 में नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के गायब हो जाने के विषय में, जांच करने के प्रयोजन के लिए एक जांच आयोग नियुक्त करना आवश्यक है ;

--2

अतः, अब जांच आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 (1952 का 60) की धारा 3 द्वारा प्रदत्त शक्तियों का प्रयोग करते हुए केन्द्रीय सरकार एतद्द्वारा एक जांच आयोग नियुक्त करती है जिसके एकमात्र सदस्य पंजाब उच्च न्यायालय के सेवानिवृत्त मुख्य न्यायाधीश, श्री गोपाल दास खोसला होंगे।

2. आयोग, 1945 में नेताजी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के गायब हो जाने से संबंधित सभी तथ्यों और परिस्थितियों तथा उसके संबंध में तत्पश्चात् सामने आने वाली बातों के विषय में जांच करेगा और केन्द्रीय सरकार को अपनी रिपोर्ट देगा। आयोग से यह आशा की जाएगी कि वह 31 दिसम्बर, 1970 तक अपनी जांच पूरी करले और अपनी रिपोर्ट दे दे।

3. केन्द्रीय सरकार की राय है कि की जाने वाली जांच और मामले की अन्य परिस्थितियों के स्वरूप को ध्यान में रखते हुए, आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 (1952 का 60) की धारा 5 की उपधारा (2), उपधारा (3), उपधारा (4) और उपधारा (5) के सभी उपबन्ध उक्त आयोग को लागू किए जाने चाहिए तथा केन्द्रीय सरकार उक्त धारा 5 की उपधारा (1) के अधीन एतद्द्वारा निदेश देती है कि उपर्युक्त सभी उपबंध उक्त आयोग को लागू होंगे।

ह० (टी० सी० ए० श्रीनिवासवर्द्धन)
संयुक्त सचिव, भारत सरकार

सेवा में,

प्रबंधक,
भारत सरकार मुद्रणालय,
मिन्टो रोड, नई दिल्ली।

Netaji's Ashes May Return To India

TOKYO, Aug. 8.—The ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, leader of the Indian Indepence movement during World War II, may return to India 25 years after his death, a source close to the Indian Embassy said today, reports AFP.

A special Indian team would come to Tokyo shortly to study the possibility of taking the ashes back, the source added.

WEST ASIA

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR NETAJI

20/8/7

JAPAN PAYS HOMAGE TO INDIAN HERO

166

TOKYO, Aug 19.—A memorial service for Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was held yesterday at the Rankoji temple in Tokyo suburbs where his ashes are kept, reports PTI.

In Japan yesterday was observed as the 25th anniversary of Netaji's death in an air crash in Taipeh.

Besides two representatives from the Japanese Foreign Office and another two from the Indian embassy here, a number of distinguished Japanese joined the service. Among them were the 80-year-old widow of General Tojo, war-time leader of Japan and General Fujiwara, who had close association with Netaji Bose during the war.

Also present at the ceremony was an American woman writer, who has just published a book on Netaji, in both English and Japanese. Her book "Jungle Alliance" is the product of an on-the-spot research on Netaji.

S.No 59

171 170 172 167 165

Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

New Delhi-11, dated the 11th July,1970.

NOTIFICATION

S.O. 2375 WHEREAS the Shah Nawaz Khan Committee appointed by the Government of India in April' 1956, to inquire into and to report to the Government of India on the circumstances concerning the departure of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose from Bongkok about the 16th Agust,1945,his reported death as a result of an aircraft accidnet,and subsequent developments connected therewith, had come to the conclusion that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose met his death in an air crash;

AND WHEREAS there is a widespread feeling amongst the public that the problem of finding the truth about Netaji's death still remains;

AND WHEREAS there has been a persistent demand for a further inquiry into the matter;

AND WHEREAS the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessar to appoint a Commission of Inquiry for the purpose of making an inquiry into a definite matter of public importance,namely,the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945;

NOW ,THEREFORE,in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act,1952(60 of 1952),the Central Government hereby appoints a Commission of Inquiry consisting of Shri G.D.Khosla, Retired Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court,as sole member.

2. The Commission shall inquire into all the facts and circumstances relating to the disappearance of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose in 1945 and the subsequent developments connected therewith and make its report to the Central Government.The Commission will be expected to complete its inquiry and make its report by the 31st December,1970.

3. The Central Government is of opinion that,having regard to the nature of the inquiry to be made and other circumstances of the case,all the provisions of sub-section(2) ,sub-section(3) and sub-section (4) and sub-section (5) of section 5 of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952(60 of 1952) should be made applicable to the said Commission and the Central Government hereby directs under sub-section(1) of the section 5 that all the provisions aforesaid shall apply to the said Commission.

JOINT SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

B.N. Tandon,
Joint Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Pers-18489

August 23, 1970

My dear Varadan,

On Friday I conveyed to you, the contents of a minute recorded by the Prime Minister after seeing a news-item that Netaji's ashes may return to India. A copy of the news item is enclosed for your information. P.M. desired that since there is to be an enquiry, the ashes should remain there and enquiry expedited. I presume you have taken action in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

(B.N. Tandon)

Shri T.C.A. Srinivasavaradan,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Home Affairs,
New Delhi.

23/8

Pl. see note below

174

~~169~~

There seems to be
some confusion. If
since there is to
be an enquiry, the
costs should remain
there & enquiry
expedited.

Hy 21.8.21

Political Section

~~170~~ (179)

Reference Sl. No. 60 in the file below.

2. It is not known whether a reply has been received from the Joint Secretary Ministry of Home Affairs. P.A. to J.S (II) may please see.

SSA
3/9

SN Verma
3.9.70

PA to JS(II)

JS (Pol) MHA spoke to JS-II. No reminder need be sent.

DS Rai
PA to JS-II
8/9/70.

SO (Pol).

S.No 61

Netaji—Zindabad.

ALL INDIA FORWARD BLOC

[*Founder President Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose*]

अखिल हिन्द अग्रगामी दल

PHONE NO. 109

Hemant Kumar Bose, M. L. A.
Chairman

R. K. Haldulkar
General Secretary

CHHINDWARA (M. P.)
Camp: New Delhi.

Ref....GS/CC-011/70

Dated..26-8-70.....*19*

To

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

Subject :- National Honour to Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

Dear Sir,

We would like to draw your attention to the following suggestions made in a resolution passed by the 9th Plenary Session of our Party held in Calcutta in February last which demands of the Government of India to confer National Honour on Netaji by declaring 23rd January, the birthday of Netaji and 21st October, the Foundation Day of the setting up of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind by Netaji in Singapore in 1943, as National Holidays, by installing life-size statue of Netaji in front of the Red Fort at Delhi, by display of Netaji's Photos in all Government Offices and Military Establishments, by publishing authentic history of Azad Hind Fouz and Azad Hind Government and making it a text book in all schools and colleges in India and by setting up a fresh Netaji Enquiry Commission to probe into the whereabouts of Netaji after his disappearance from India in 1941. The party has further decided that if the above demands are not fulfilled by the Government of India by 21st October 1970, the party will launch a country-wide movement to get them fulfilled.

Ramesh Rajgundar for 15th holiday?

We hope that the Government of India will take necessary steps to give National Honour to Netaji by implementing our above suggestions. It is a matter of satisfaction that the Government of India has set up a one-man commission to probe into the whereabouts of Netaji and we hope that adequate facilities will be given to our party to represent its case before the said Enquiry Commission.

With best regards.

Yours faithfully

Chitta Basu

(Chitta Basu M.P.)
Secretary

R.K. Haldulkar

(R.K.Haldulkar)
General Secretary
All India Forward Bloc

N-p-20

S.No 62

S.No 30 Vol. V

177 ~~176~~

Funds Section.

Reference the attached papers.

The papers regarding Netaji's ashes and the Inquiry Commission are in Political Section. These papers may, therefore, be kept by that Section.

RS
29/8

N. M. Jotha
29-8-70

S.D. Khanna
29.8.70

DS(A)
Pol. Sect
DS(Pol)

29/8

S.No 62

(178) urgent (177) 173

S.No 61

August 30, 1970.

Sub:- Steps to commemorate the Memory of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose -

A copy of a letter dated 26th August 1970 from S/Shri Chitta Basu, M.P., and R.K.Haldulkar, General Secretary, All India Forward Block, on the subject noted above, is enclosed for such action as is considered appropriate.

30/8

(V.P.Marwaha)
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister.

Ministry of Home Affairs
P.M. Sectt. u.o. No. PMS-1 9161 dt. 30/8

(WE)

30/8

Pol III

2(64)

SECRET/IMMEDIATE

No.29/52/68-Poll.II

भारत सरकार
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
गृह मन्त्रालय
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

R. VASUDEVAN
DEPUTY SECRETARY

NEW DELHI
SEPTEMBER 15, 1970.

Dear Shri Tandon,

Please refer to your d.o.letter no. PMS-18489, dated the 23rd August, 1970, to Shri Srinivasavaradan regarding the news-item that Netaji's ashes are being brought to India. In this connection we have been told by the Ministry of External Affairs that the news item is without any foundation. This was also discussed in the Lok Sabha on 28.8.1970 in connection with a Call Attention Notice, where the Foreign Minister informed the House that Government have taken no such decision.

Yours sincerely,

(R. VASUDEVAN)

Shri B.N. Tandon,
Joint Secretary to the
Prime Minister,
Prime Minister's Secretariat,
New Delhi.

S.No. 64

179 180

175

IMMEDIATE

No.25/38/70-Poll.II
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS.

...

New Delhi-1, the 22nd September, 1970
31 Bhadra, 1892.

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Netaji Inquiry Commission - Communications intended for -

---

The undersigned is directed to say that the Government of India in the M.H.A. have under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952, constituted a one-man Commission of Inquiry consisting of Shri G.D.Khosla, retired Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court, for the purpose of making inquiry into the disappearance of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose in 1945 and subsequent developments connected therewith. The Commission's office is housed in Room Nos. 1 & 2, Second Floor, Reserve Bank Building, Parliament Street, New Delhi. Communications, if any, may be sent to them at the above address.

Sd/- T.R. AGNANI
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

To

All Ministries/Departments etc. etc. of the Government of India(as per standard list)

Authorised for issue.

(S.L. SEHGAL)
Section Officer.

No.25/38/70-Poll.II dated the 22nd September, 1970
31 Bhadra, 1892.

Copy to:

Secretary, Netaji Inquiry Commission.

Sd/- T.R. AGNANI
UNDER SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

---

soren/

2(64)

S.No65

भारत के राष्ट्रपति का सचिव,
राष्ट्रपति भवन,
नई दिल्ली-4

JOINT SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN,
NEW DELHI-4.

Secy. to P. M.
No. 7344/2.
Date 21/10

No. 5150-0/70

October 17, 1970.

Dear Shri Haksar,

I send herewith copy of a letter which the President has received from Shri M.L. Sondhi, M.P. This may kindly be brought to the notice of the Prime Minister.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.N. Krishna Mani)

Shri P.N. Haksar,
Secretary to the Prime Minister,
New Delhi.

Copies may be sent to MHA and MEA

S.No. 66

Ramnath
21.x.70

Ps(s)

M.L. Sondhi
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

C-I/6, Lodi Gardens,
New Delhi-3.

15th October, 1970.

Respected Rashtrapati ji,

Please permit me to draw your attention to a reference to Netaji's death which was published in the American version of Goebbel's Diary in its first edition. As you will notice in the enclosed copy of a page of this book, it has been mentioned in the explanatory note that Netaji was arrested and shot by the American troops. This American edition of Goebbel's Diary was withdrawn from circulation by the American Government, but we have been able to trace a copy of this book and I am drawing your attention to this paricular matter because of the Netaji Inquiry Commission (1970) the Government have formed with Justice G.D. Khosla as its Chairman.

2. We are all very thankful to,you for having agreed to make another effort to clear the mystery of Netaji's death, but in my view this mystery is surrounded with so much secrecy that unless this Committee of Enquiry has also some members from other countries, the Committee will not be able to achieve anything very substantial. In the first place, Government of India should request the State Department of the U.S. Government to release from its archives all the secret files in connection with Netaji's death and the same approach should also be made to the Japanese and other Governments.

3. May I, therefore, suggest that you should kindly review the composition of the Enquiry Committee and include in it some internationally well-known jurists and ensure that the injustice done by the Shah Nawaz Commission of 1956 is not repeated.

4. I have to draw your attention to a related matter which is the Verdict of the Tokyo Trial vis-a-vis Netaji. The consistent position taken by our informed citizens is that the Tokyo Trial was a grave injustice to the Japanese people and to Netaji. There is a popular demand among Indian intellectuals that the Government of India should take concrete steps to undo the Verdict of the Tokyo Trial. It is a matter of some comfort that the renowned Indian judge Radha Binod Pal in his dissenting judgement exposed by implication the malafides of the other Allied judges on the Tokyo tribunal.

M.L. Sondhi
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

C-I/6, Lodi Gardens,
New Delhi-3.

177A
183

15th October, 1970.

Reflecting the wishes of the overwhelming majority of millions of our countrymen who respect and admire the cooperation of Subhas Chandra Bose and the Japanese people, I propose to bring in the next session of Parliament a motion placing on record the heartfelt thanks of the Indian people to the Japanese people and calling upon the Government of India to take steps to get the Tokyo Verdict vacated by all diplomatic means at its disposal.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

M.L. Sondhi.

(M.L. SONDHI)

Shri V.V. Giri,
President of India,
New Delhi.

Encl: One

EXTRACT FROM

First American Edition of

The Goebbels Diaries

Translated and edited by

Louis P. Lochner

page 107 - March 1942

The Indian crisis is on the upgrade. We have succeeded in prevailing upon the Indian nationalist leader, Bose, to issue an imposing declaration of war against England. It will be published most prominently in the German press and commented upon. In that way we shall now begin our official fight on behalf of India, even though we don't as yet admit it openly.

(Subhas Chandra Bose was head of the Zentrale freies Indien (Central Bureau for a Free India), which had its Berlin office at No. 2 Lichtenstein Allee. With Pandit K.A. Bhatta as editor, he brought out a monthly magazine, Azad Hind, with Nazi money. It was published with the English text on the right side, the German on the left. Later he left for Japan and, according to reports, was seized there by the Americans, tried and executed for treason.)

We have held back for a very long time, for the simple reason that things had not advanced far enough as yet in India and that one must not waste one's powder as long as the enemy is near.

N.B. Dr. Louis P. Lochner was for 20 years Chief of Bureau of the Associated Press and he was President of the Foreign Press Association in Berlin.

S.No66

(184) (185)

179

October 22, 1970.

S.No65

A copy of a letter dated October 15, 1970 addressed to the President by Shri M.L.Sondhi,M.P., together with a copy of the covering letter from the President's Secretariat, regarding Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, is forwarded herewith for such action as is considered appropriate.

22/x

(V.P.Marwha)
Private Secretary to the
Prime Minister.

(Separate copies)

Ministry of Home Affairs
Ministry of External Affairs
P.M. Sectt. u.o. No. 2/64/56-70 bm

(cvl)

PSOL 141

22/x

कंवर लाल गुप्ता
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)

7, डुप्ले रोड़,
नई दिल्ली।

दिनांक, 16 अक्टूबर, 1970

आदरणीय इन्दिरा जी,

पिछले मास मुझे ताइपे जाने का अवसर प्राप्त हुआ था और मैं वहां लगभग एक सप्ताह ठहरा था। यह कहा जाता है कि ताइपेय में जो फारमूसा सरकार की राजधानी है नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस का हवाई जहाज़ गिरा था और उनकी मृत्यु हो गई। इस सम्बन्ध में मैंने वहां पर अनेक लोगों से बात की है। जहां यह हवाई जहाज़ टूटा बताया जाता है वहां पर अब एक होटल बन गया है और बहुत लोग जो पहले हवाई अड्डे के पास रहते थे अब दूर अब दूर जाकर बस गए है। मैंने निकाल कर उनमें से कुछ लोगों से बातचीत की थी, उनमें से कुछ लोगों का कहना था कि जो हवाई जहाज़ गिरा वह नेता जी का हवाई जहाज नहीं था, परन्तु दूसरे कई का कहना था कि यह हवाई जहाज नेता जी का ही था।

मेरी राय में इस बात की पूरी तरह जांच होनी ज़रूरी है और जब तक जांच आयोग या भारत सरकार के अधिकारी ताइपेय जाकर जांच नहीं करें तब तक ठीक तथ्य सामने नहीं आसकते और इस कार्य में फारमूसा सरकार की सहायता की भी आवश्यकता होगी।

मैंने इस बारे में फारमूसा सरकार के विदेश मंत्री महोदय से भी बातचीत की थी और उन्हें मैंने बताया कि किस प्रकार से प्रत्येक भारतवासी इस मामले में चिन्तित है। उन्होंने यह वायदा किया कि यदि भारत सरकार इस बारे में उन्हें लिखे तो वे जांच कराने में पूरी सहायता देंगे। और जांच करने वाले अधिकारियों को पूरी सुविधाएं भी प्रदान की जावेंगी।

मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि इस सम्बन्ध में आप फारमूसा सरकार को लिखवाएं और भारत सरकार के कुछ अधिकारी वहां जांच के लिए जावें या आप जांच आयोग से कहें कि वह वहां जाकर इस बारे में पड़ताल करे। आशा है आप मेरे इस सुझाव पर ध्यान-पूर्वक विचार करेंगी। कृपया मुझे बताएं कि इस सम्बन्ध में आप क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती हैं।

सादर,

आपका,
(कंवर लाल गुप्ता)

श्रीमति इन्दिरा गांधी,
प्रधान मंत्री, भारत सरकार,
नई दिल्ली।

S.No.68

(186) (187)
~~181~~

PMS 24225

21 अक्टूबर, 1970

प्रिय महोदय,

मुझे आदेश हुआ है कि नेता जी सुभाष चन्द्र बोस के बारे में प्रधान मंत्री जी को सम्बोधित आप के पत्र दिनांक 16 अक्टूबर, 1970 के मिलने की सूचना दूं ।

S.No. 67

भवदीय,

ह०:-

(वेद प्रकाश मर्वाहा)
प्रधान मंत्री जी के निजी सचिव

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्ता,
संसद सदस्य,
7, डुप्ले रोड,
नई दिल्ली ।

प्रतिलिपि, ज्ञापित पत्र की प्रतिलिपि सहित गृह मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली (श्री श्रीनिवासवर्धन, संयुक्त सचिव) को उचित कार्यवाही हेतु प्रेषित । यह सचिवालय आभारी होगा यदि गृह मंत्रालय श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त को उपयुक्त उत्तर भेजने पर विचार करे ।

वे०प्र०म०
(वेद प्रकाश मर्वाहा)
प्रधान मंत्री जी के निजी सचिव

2(64)

कपूर
21-10-70

(we)

Pl 14

Prime Minister's Secretariat

JS(Pak) may kindly file the letter PM has received from Dr. Sisir K. Bose, Executive Director, Netaji Research Bureau, Calcutta. Could he kindly advise PM in the matter?

sd/-
(K. Natwar Singh)
23- 4- 1968

JS(Pak)- Shri P.R.S. Mani

P. M's Secrt. u. o. No. PMS-6813
dt. 23-4-68

Issued
Initial
and date 23/4

New Delhi,
Dated:

The President,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi.

188
183
189

Dear President,

We, along with millions of Indians, regard Netaji as not only one of the greatest patriots but also as one of the top-ranking leaders thrown up by India's struggle for freedom whose contributio to its historic termination is no less important than that of any other leader. For it is now being realised by a gradually increasin section of Indians and foreigners that Britain would not have relinquished formation of the Azad Hind Fauj (I.N.A.) by Netaji. For it demonstrated that the british Government could no longer rely upon the Indian sepoys with whose help alone she had conquered India and so long maintained her authority over the vast population of an extensive country like India. It may be recalled in this connection that the British Government had successfully put down the last non-violent Civil Disobedience campaign of Mahatma Gandhi as well as the last violent rebellion of 1942; she had refused to grant freedom to India even when the victorious Japanese army had overrun Burma and was at the very gates of India, and the President of U.S.A. made earnest appeals to Churchill to conciliate India. Yet almost immediately after the great and complete triumph over Germany and her allies Britain voluntarily withdrew her political control over India. This can only be explained by the realization on the part of Britain of the grim fact that the Indian sepoys could not longer be relied upon to fight Britain's battle in India, and her resources in men and money were too exhausted by the war to carry on successful efforts to keep down resurgent India by force.

Without therefore denying in the least the great importance of the contribution made by Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders to the moral and political uplift of the Indian nation which urged and prepared them for a relentless fight for freedom to the last, we venture to hold that but for Netaji's I.N.A., India would not have gained her freedom so soon after the great victory of Britain in the Second World War. We may further urge that the events culminating in the formation of I.N.A. by Netaji have demonstrated his superb statesmanship, marvellous far-seeing prescience and prodigio talent for military organisation. It is needless for us to recall that it was the I.N.A. under the inspiring leadership of Netaji, that liberated Indian territory from British bondage and hoisted banner of India's independence almost three years before it was unfurled over the Delhi Red Fort. Netaji was in fact the first President of Free India.

We, however, regret to say that the Government has singally failed to accord due honour and recognition to the unique personali and leadership of Netaji or to his historic role in our freedom struggle.

We, therefore, urge our Government to take the following ste without delay:

1. To place his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament and all officers of the Government;

2. To erect a statue of Netaji on a prominent site in New Delhi, preferably at India Gate;

3. To devise suitable means to accord national recognition to military genius of Netaji;

4. To observe his birthday every year with due solemnity;

5. To erect suitable memorials at Kohima and Imphal in honour of I.N.A. heroes who sacrificed their lives in the liberation Struglle under the leadership of Netaji.

6. To publich the ~~Xxxx~~ Volume on I.N.A., already written for the "History of Indian Army During the Second War", published by the Government;

7. To give him his due place in the "History of the Freedom Movement"(planned by Government of India). (For this it is necessary to take expert advice on the portion of the manuscript relating to him before it is finally approved for the press).

8. To arrange publication of Netaji's writings and speeches.

We further beg to bring to your notice that the alleged death of Netaji in a plance-crash on 18th August, 1945, is not believed by a large section of Indian public in spite of the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee. Even the late Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, had to admit in a letter, dated 13 May, 1962, written to Shri Suresh Bose, elder brother of Netaji, that there was no"precise and direct proff" of the death of Netaji. On the other hand, Reuter reported on 2nd September, 1945, on the authority of the New Delhi correspondent of the Sunday Observer, London, that 'neither the British nor the American War correspondent believes the news of Netaji's death and there is enough evidence of his presence in Saigon a few days after the reported plane-crash'. A correspondent of an American paper also told Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 20th August, 1945, that Subhash was not dead but still alive and was possibly at Saigon. There are also published reports of Radio Broadcast by Netaji in December, 1945, and January, 1946. The value of the Shah Nawaz Committee is considerably diminished by the fact that no investigation was made into the above reports and that no member of the Committee visited the actual spot of the accident and made any local inquiry. We, therefore, venture to suggest that a further inquiry be made with the collaboration of the Governments of Japan and Taiwan (where the plane-crash took place) by a small independent committee consisting of a Judge of the Supreme Court and two or three public men in whose integrity and capacity to conduct such an inquiry the public has full confidence. Nothing but such an inquiry will satisfy public opinion by removing the mystery that hangs around Netaji. Even though it is already very late, still such an inquiry may yet be fruitful, but if such a step be not taken without delay posterity will never forgive the Government and people of India for their neglect and indifference to ascertain the actual facts about one of the greatest leaders in the struggle for India's freedom. We, therefore, appeal to you to appoint such a Committee of Inquiry and and take suitable steps to accord honour to Netaji whom our country and our people regard as one of the greatest patriots and political leaders and one of the mightiest architects of India's liberation.

We are confident that our appeal will not be in vein.

Yours sincerely,
Randhir Singh, Samar Guha & several M.Ps