

New Delhi I.

July 28, 1970.

The Hon'ble Speaker,
Lok Sabha.

1265

Sir,

We understand that a petition signed by several members of the Lok Sabha proposing that Mr. Justice Shah of the Supreme Court be impeached has been presented to you. We write to request you to use the discretion which you possess under Article 3 of the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, and refuse to admit the petition.

The inspiration for this petition has come from one Shri O.P. Gupta, a former magistrate who was quite rightly dismissed from his office for misusing his office and committing heinous offences involving moral turpitude. The grounds on which Mr. Justice Shah is sought to be impeached are frivolous and malicious. We believe that any attempt in such circumstances at impeachment of a member of the Supreme Court of this country will not only be a unwarranted slur on our supreme judiciary, but will also adversely affect the prestige of Parliament itself.

We wish to bring to your notice the manner in which signatures of some Hon'ble Members have been obtained on this petition. No less than eight Members of our own party in the Lok Sabha were inveigled into signing this petition by Mr. Gupta visiting them at their homes, telling them a cock and bull story and getting their signatures without their having an adequate opportunity to read the petition and consider its merits. These members have later written to you withdrawing their signatures and trust have been done. It is likely, however, that several other Members of Parliament may have similarly signed the petition without appreciating its malicious nature and sinister implications.

For all these reasons we request you to desist from taking any action in furtherance of the petition which is a matter within your discretion.

Yours truly,

(N.G. Ranga)

(M.R. Masani)

Parliament House
New Delhi 11.

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