

# EDITORIAL

Nine months have elapsed since Consul General Mohammad Yunus, like his several predecessors, promise immediate delivery of the Gadar Party Memorial at 5 Wood Street, San Francisco. The promise was solemnly made at a public meeting in his office on October 16, 1966. So far, like the promises of his predecessors, it has turned out to be sterile.

To the Hindustan Gadar Party Memorial Committee these promises smell like rotten eggs, because after some fifteen years of official incubation, the Government of India has failed to hatch them. Meanwhile, California Indians have donated almost two hundred thousand dollars through the Sikh Temple Stockton, in reliefs of various sorts, to the Government of India. With this amount, we could have raised more than one Memorial Hall on the Gadar Party lots, turned over to the Government for one token dollar.

Unless and until the Government of India raises the promised Gadar Party Memorial at 5 Wood Street, San Francisco, we cannot help feeling that it obtained title to our valuable and hallowed site for one token dollar under false pretenses.

Unless and until the Government of India fulfills its solemn pledges about 5 Wood St., we cannot help the feeling that when the Government of India demolished our historic building instead of using our donated funds for renovations as originally pledged, they had no honest intention of replacing our patriotic home.

Delay is the deadliest form of denial, it is said; and justice delayed is justice denied. The Government of India has been playing this dangerous dilatory game for almost twenty years. Some of our contacts in New Delhi have even told us that the Congressite regime can afford to wait out the deaths of the aging members of the Gadar Party and then forget about the whole thing.

We of the Hindustan Gadar Party Memorial Committee are still hoping that reason, common sense, decency and justice would prevail. Either the Government should establish the promised Memorial or return our land along with donated funds so that we can proceed with the job ourselves. For the beggars we have alms, but for the tricksters, we have law courts.

With our repeated reminders, we are only acting as the conscience of our country, desperately trying to save the soul of the Government of India from the ignominy of broken pledges. Continued delay, inexcusable delay, coupled with official trickery and bureaucratic shenanigans will eventually leave no alternative but redress in an American Court of Law.

## WHERE CORRUPTION IS KING ...

During the course of a dinner party, held at the Yuba City home of Paritem S. Poonian, President Sikh Temple Stockton, California, on January 19, the Temple Priest Avtar Singh asked the guest of honor, S. Gopal Singh M.P. if the Cabinet knew about the graft and corruption in India, and if they were doing anything to clean it up. The M.P. replied, "Yes, it is known, but eradicating official corruption is tantamount to dethroning God Almighty Himself."

Impressed by this analogy between God and Corruption advanced by the translator of the Sikh Holy Granth, the Priest commented that the Communists have denied the existence of God, which is dethronement. The M.P. replied, "Yes, we can also deny the existence of corruption verbally, but actually it is there."

California Indians wish their motherland of India all the strength and prosperity, and the greatest degree of freedom from corruption, which lends strength and efficiency to any Government. For this reason, the exchange between the head priest of Sikh Temple Stockton and the M.P. was considered so significant that it was announced on Sunday, January 29, 1967, at the Yuba City Fairgrounds, when the public had assembled to observe the Indian Independence Day.