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## Sanjay against probes into past regimes

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PATNA, April 15.

Mr. Sanjay Gandhi, MP, said here today that he was opposed to the idea of probing the goings-on during the Janata and Lok Dal regimes because that would mean getting bogged down in problems and neglecting progressive measures.

At a press conference that became a rambling affair, he had digs at the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh and Mr George Fernandes, declined to comment on the attempt on the life of the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi and maintained that foreigners and the RSS had a hand in Assam developments.

Replying to a question, Mr Gandhi hinted that his becoming a minister was not an immediate prospect because "the choice is not mine."

What, if it was offered? And he countered: "Who is offering it?"

He said no government action was necessary against the RSS because they were like "insects" and could be dealt with through "spraying of the Flit".

Asked to comment on the remark of Mr Fernandes that the economic situation had worsened during the last three months of Congress-I rule at the Centre, Mr Gandhi said that Mr Fernandes had more knowledge about "blowing up bridges" and "sabotaging trains" than about the functioning of the government.

He claimed that during the last three months relief work in drought-hit States had improved "tenfold" and if raids to dehoard foodgrains were not yielding "spectacular results", it was because of the presence of "pro-Janata men in the administration."

Asked why these pro-Janata men were not being weeded out, he said: "Ask the government".

He said he would go to Assam only if he felt convinced that the visit would do some good. For him no proof beyond the statements of Zail Singh, Union Home Minister, that the RSS and foreigners had a hand in the situation there was necessary to justify the allegation.

He also said that he had dropped family planning from his five-point programme because "the people do not want it". But, of course, he still thought it was good for the country, and answering a question, he said he was practising it himself.

Mr Gandhi was equally critical of prohibition. This encouraged corruption and bootlegging and endangered public health without any worthwhile achievement of aims, he added.