In the Topanga Canyon conversation, Tamal Krishna Goswami, shortly after having been removed as an initiating guru by the GBC, said on December 3, 1980:

"Actually, Prabhupada never appointed any gurus. He didn't appoint eleven gurus. He appointed eleven ritviks. He never appointed them gurus. Myself and the other GBC's have done the greatest disservice to this movement the last three years because we interpreted the appointment of ritviks as the appointment of gurus".