

17th June, 1963.

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My dear Kripalaniji,

I have received your letter of June 11 which seems to have crossed my letter to you of 8th June addressed to your Lucknow address since you do not make any reference to it. I attach a copy for easy reference.

In so far as the amplification of your minimum programme is concerned, I find it generally acceptable with one exception which is in regard to the nature of controls of private enterprises which you mention on page 12 of your note. For the rest of the programme I am happy to find myself in broad agreement with your approach. My point, however, remains that I do not agree that an electoral understanding can only be achieved on an agreed minimum programme and that for this purpose an establishment of a common permanent secretariat is necessary.

As you will see I have in my letter of 8th June argued (a) that the attempt to evolve a minimum programme is not likely to yield any helpful results and (b) that in consequence the idea of a summit meeting is not worth pursuing since it will do more harm than good as a result of failure to achieve anything.

I can only reiterate the view in reply to your latest letter. Now that the PSP and the S.P. have turned down the idea and even the Jan Sangh, I understand, prefers continuing on the present path of unity in action on specific issues, I wonder if you still think it worth while moving in this direction you had in mind? I may mention that Rajaji and Professor Ranga also seem to share my general approach. However, as I mentioned in my earlier letter, the Swatantra Party's position can only be defined after our Parliamentary Board meets, which we plan some time in the beginning of August. As I mentioned in my earlier letter if you want to have a small informal meeting between the three or four of us which you had in mind, I am entirely at your disposal but I am against a summit between the leaders of opposition parties.

I shall be glad to have your comments after you have read my earlier letter of June 8.

With kind regards,

Encl:

Yours sincerely,

Acharya J.B. Kripalani
11 Gautam Pally
Lucknow.

(M. R. Nanani)