

April 26, 1967

1330
My dear Piloo,

Thank you for your letter of April 21 which certainly explains the basis on which the houses have been allocated and I entirely agree that on that basis we could not have done better.

My own thinking however is that ^{the} better approach would have been to divide the bungalows between the Congress Party and the Opposition pro rata, which would have come to 75 to the Congress Party and 65 to the Opposition. Then, if the Opposition bungalows had been allocated pro rata, the Swatantra Party's share would have been 12 bungalows and not only 7. I am afraid that it is at this point that the Congress Party stole a march over us by appropriating 51 bungalows for Ministers to start with.

* I enclose a copy of a letter I have just received from Mr. Bhagwati, Chairman of the House Committee. You will see that for no reason that he has mentioned, he has cut down further the number of bungalows to be allotted to us from 7 to 5. Would you kindly send me a draft of a letter I should write to him in reply lodging the protest? I think you too should write direct as a member of the Sub-Committee in question. We cannot allow two houses to be taken away from us in this manner.

Yours sincerely,

(M. R. Masani)

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Encl : *

MRM:ri