

Bombay 22, 1975

2613

Dear Girishbhai,

I have received your letter. In the first place, I did not write to you so far, since there was nothing of special importance to report to you.

Early this week, we have received a few letters from Srikumar, which they were in reply to our previous letters you wrote to him before you left Bombay. The substance of these letters was in short, that the Tamil Nadu unit fully supports federal party and they passed a resolution at Tirunelveli session. Srikumar says that the BLD is practically broken down in Tamil Nadu, as could be expected. He wanted to know the probable outcome of the Gujarat Elections. Mr. Raju has replied to these. I did not think it worthwhile to send copies to you, except to give you some idea. Raju also felt so.

He has received the draft of the minutes of the meeting and also the final draft of the GS circular which I sent to him. He might have already posted the GS circular to all concerned.

In the Gujarat elections, the general impression seems to be neither the Janata group nor the Congress will get an absolute majority but it will be KMLP who will hold the balance. You might recollect Mr. Masani and Mr. Raju had been to Ahmedabad in the first week of this month when they met some people. However, it was before the actual election campaign started there. All the leaders are in Gujarat now, as you must have heard from the newspapers. I think the tempo is picking up.

Mr. Harihar Patel has acknowledged our letter regarding the minimum programme. He welcomes the points given by Mr. Sridhara Murthy of Bangalore.

Last week, two gentlemen from UP, one Navinkumar Wal of Lucknow and Prem Narain Saxena of Shahjahanpur called on us and met Mr. Raju. The former happens to be one who voted for dissolution at Delhi and the other is an anti-Bharati man. They claimed to have come all the way from UP to Bombay to discuss bringing up the party through their efforts. Raju was blunt and told them that they would be ~~welcome~~ welcome but initially, they should send us whatever list of members they have in their possession. We, in turn, would write to all such members to find out if they ~~xxx~~ are interested to be in the Swatantra Party and then we will move the matter. It seemed to us that they want to come to some position in the Party which Raju declined unless we are sure of their bonafides. After all, we cannot also ignore the possibility of their being sent to Bombay by Piloo or his men to damage whatever little is being done in UP by Vijaypal Singh and Bharati. More about it when you come back here.

There has been no reply to the solicitors' letter to Piloo and this is not surprising. I am told Piloo has been out of Delhi for some time. He was in Bombay for over a week and is now in Gujarat busy with election campaign. Raju has sent a copy of the notice to Patodia today. I have been in touch with Parmanandji who feels we should not do anything for sometime about this letter. He is also of the opinion that we should not write to Madhu Limave about the minimum programme he might have made, since he did not even send a reply to our letter.

I know you are very anxious to get the manifestos of other political parties. I am constantly trying to get them and in consultation with Raju I have written to different people. I am doubtful if I can send them to you at Matheran since I have not yet received any so far.

p.t.e.

-2-

We had a letter from the Presidency Post Master asking us to forward a certified copy of the Stay Order passed by the Madras High Court against the Election Commission. This is in pursuance of the visit of the inspector to us the other day. There seems to be a misunderstanding for him. In any case, I have asked Sri Kumar to send me a certified copy of the ex-parte decree passed by the Madras City Civil Court. When I receive it, I will send the same to the postal authorities. Meanwhile, mails are being delivered to us. The mails of course are mainly for White Star.

After frequent visits to Mr. Kamerkar, yesterday Mr. Kamath of BEST visited our office and was shown round the place and the installations. He is man from the legal department. According to him, our idea of getting two separate meters and get the line cut off for default of payment etc. is not workable. Raju was also present at that time. BEST cannot give two meters for one party for the same premises. He advised us to continue ~~how~~ we are till the monsoon. We will discuss the issue at more length in our meeting.

Yesterday, I briefed Parmanandji with all the details. The jeep issue is at a stand still. Raju is writing to you separately and he has actually dictated a letter to you in my presence which you will be receiving along with this.

Vijay has not yet come, He was to be back in Bombay on 17th. His sister's marriage was over on 16th. No news from him. His absence has naturally caused me a lot of inconvenience. However, I am keeping the key with me only. I open the office in the morning and lock ~~the~~ it in the evening.

I have not been able to meet Bhatia after you left. KH has replied to him regarding the delivery of mail to us, almost in line with the reply Raju has made of which you are aware.

I am sorry I did not write to you earlier. I shall write again next week.

With kind regards to you and other members of the family,

Yours sincerely

Shri. Girish Munshi
Matheran.