

2643

20th June, 1968

My dear Harihar Patel,

Since this matter comes under your department, I thought I would send a copy of my letter to the Chief Minister for your kind consideration.

Yours sincerely,

encl.

(M. R. MASANI)

Mr. Harihar Patel,
Minister of Commerce, Home and
Education (Text Book Press),
Government of Orissa,
BHUBANESHWAR.

mrn;rka

encl.

Mr. B. B. Singh Esq.,
Chief Minister,
Department of Defence,
Bhubaneswar.

Yours sincerely,

(M. R. MASANI)

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20th June, 1968

Recently I received a letter from Pathya Pustak Prakasak Samiti, Binodbehari, Cuttack 2, signed by their President, Mr. S. Mahapatra, who is also the Working President of the Orissa Printers Association. They have forwarded to me a copy of an appeal submitted to you and the Minister of Education on behalf of the Printers and Publishers of Orissa. As you will have seen a copy of the appeal, which is printed in the form of a booklet with a yellow cover, I am not sending you the text but, briefly speaking, it is a plea for ending the monopoly of textbook publication at present enjoyed by the Orissa Government and undoing the so-called 'nationalisation' of textbooks.

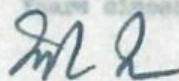
I am sure that this system is a legacy of the previous government in Orissa. All the same its discontinuance would be in line with the policy of our own Party which has attacked Government publication of text books both in Parliament and outside. A copy of a Resolution adopted by the General Council in May 1966 and a booklet on the subject which carries the text of my speech are attached. I would like to think that with your goodwill the Minister of Education would work out a policy to end this State monopoly and allow the normal process of printing and publishing text books to operate, as the experiment of State monopoly in this field has proved to be an undoubted failure throughout India.

I understand that the syllabus and, in consequence, the text books will change next year, that is, 1969. Would that not provide a good opportunity to make a change in policy next year?

I shall be glad to hear from you on this subject in due course.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(M. R. MASANI)

encl.

Mr. R. N. Singh Deo,
Chief Minister,
Government of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar.

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