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from 2 Tughlak Road,
New Delhi 11.

13th March, 1968

My dear Raj Ballabh Babu,

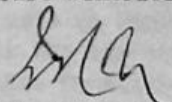
I enclose herewith a copy of a letter I have written today to Maharaja Sahab R.N.Singh Deo as also of my speech on the Budget in Parliament which deal with agricultural policy from pages 6 to 9.

I do hope you will plan to come up to Delhi with the Chief Minister at the time of the meetings of the Parliamentary Board and National Executive on April 13 and 14. Do please drop me a line to confirm that you will be coming.

With kind regards,

Mt. Raj Ballabh Mishra,
Minister of Agriculture,
Government of Orissa,
BHUBANESHWAR

Yours sincerely,


(M. R. MASANI)

encls.

mrn;rka

from 2 Tughlak Road,
New Delhi 11

13th March, 1968

My dear Maharaja Sahab,

When I was in Orissa, Raj Ballabh Mishra had spoken to me and subsequently written a letter to me suggesting that the Punjab National Bank and the United Commercial Bank should take interest in advancing loans to farmers for agricultural projects in Orissa. I spoke to Mr. Shah, the Manager of the United Commercial Bank in Calcutta, and introduced Mr. Raj Ballabh Mishra to him. Dandeker has already taken steps in regard to the Punjab National Bank and has written to Mr. Mishra on 9th March in this connection.

In the light of this, I thought I would find out from Dr. Douglas Ensinger of the Ford Foundation in regard to the possibility of the Foundation assisting your Government to develop realistic plans on the agricultural front and I had the pleasure of discussing this with him a couple of days back.

Dr. Ensinger informed me that the Planning Commission has taken a decision to set up a Unit within the Planning Commission on State Planning. It will be the function of this new unit on State Planning to provide assistance to the States - which wish for assistance - in developing State competence to draw up State plans consisting of well defined projects, carefully scrutinised and tested to determine their appropriateness for attaining financial support from whatever sources were available. The point is that State plans should in the future be based on carefully developed projects which have been put through feasibility and project analysis to insure that they will provide a basis for sound investment.

With Orissa's known rich mineral resources, one can assume that the development of a shelf of projects is the assured way to attract necessary investment capital, be it foreign or Indian, Governmental or private.

Dr. Ensinger assumes that your Planning Secretary reiterated your Government's keenness to obtain Ford Foundation assistance when he was in Delhi on the 29th February attending the Planning Commission meeting of State Planning Secretaries, and that the Planning Commission will now give its approval for the Foundation to assign three or four top planners to Orissa to work with your planners in formulating projects for investment and development.

Let me now turn to another matter with which Dr. Ensinger acquainted me when I met him. It pertains to your Agricultural University.

Dr. Ensinger advised me that there is a very great possibility that the University of Missouri will be forced to withdraw from further association with your Agricultural University unless: (1) you are able to quickly resolve

the leadership crisis, (namely, the early appointment of a top Vice Chancellor); (2) ensure that the University's administrative structure is strengthened; (3) transfer all agriculture research to the University; (4) free the operation of the University from Government, and (5) assure it minimum essential finances to carry on.

I agree with Dr. Enslinger's concern about the possible ^{repercussions} ramifications, both within and outside India, if the University of Missouri withdraws. Among other things that he fears, if the University withdraws, his own top people as well as the Planning Commission might say that the Foundation's planning assistance should go only to a State with assured strong State leadership.

I shall be glad to do anything I can to help in sorting out the Agriculture University's problems and in this way to help in ensuring the continued association of the University of Missouri. I do not know whether you have any plans to visit Delhi earlier than 13th and 14th April when our National Executive and Parliamentary Board meet but I do hope you will in any event make it possible to be present in Delhi then both because your presence is essential in so far as the Party's affairs are concerned and also because your visit to Delhi will give a welcome opportunity for us to talk to Dr. Enslinger about this and other matters. It will also be helpful if you bring with you Raj Ballabh Mishra as his participation would be very useful.

I am sending him a copy of this letter and requesting him to accompany you to Delhi at that time.

Dr. Enslinger would like Dr. Wendell McKinsey, Leader of the University of Missouri team to join us for the talk on the University's problems so that a formula may be evolved for solving the problem on a high priority basis.

I suggest, therefore, that you come to Delhi a day or two in advance of the 13th April or spend a couple of days after the conclusion of the Party meetings so that these discussions can take place. Do please let me have a line in reply so that I can arrange a time for these discussions.

I enclose a copy of my speech on the Budget in the Lok Sabha on the 8th which was very well received not only by members of our Party but by a large number of Congressmen who applauded my plea for the relaxation of rationing and other food controls. On pages 6 to 9 you will see the line that I took in regard to Government's agricultural policy with particular reference to zonal barriers and monopoly procurement. I think we should discuss this matter both in general and in regard to Orissa at the time of the National Executive next month.

I am sorry to inform you that Professor Raj Krishna, to whom I had written immediately on my return from Orissa, is away in Washington and, therefore, the question of his visit to Orissa in the near future does not arise.

With kind regards,

Mr. R. N. Singh Deo,
Chief Minister,
BHUBANESHWAR.

Yours sincerely,

(M. R. MASANI)

encl. *

c.c. Mr. Raj Ballabh Mishra,
Minister for Agriculture, Orissa.

Purand

from 2 Tughlak Road,
New Delhi 11

13th March, 1968

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Mr. R. N. Singh Deo,
Chief Minister,
BHUBANESHWAR.

Yours sincerely,

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c.c. Mr. Raj Ballabh Mishra,
Minister for Agriculture, Orissa.

(M. R. NASANI)

Draft letter

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

My dear Mr. Minister:

Since I wanted to update myself on your request to the Deputy Prime Minister seeking approval for the Ford Foundation to assist your Government develop realistic state plans, I recently rang up the Ford Foundation's office and went by to visit with Dr. Douglas Ensminger whom you know. Dr. Ensminger informed me the Planning Commission has taken a decision to set up a Unit within the Planning Commission on State Planning. It will be the function of this new Unit on State Planning to provide assistance to the States - which wish assistance - in developing State competence to draw up State plans consisting of well defined projects, carefully scrutinised and tested to determine their appropriateness for attaining financial support from whatever sources ^{were} available. The point is that State plans ^{should} ~~must~~ in the future be based on carefully developed projects which have been put through feasibility and project analysis to insure that they will provide the basis for sound investments.

With Orissa's known rich mineral resources, one can assume that the development of a shelf of projects is the assured way to attract necessary investment capital - be it foreign or Indian, Government or private.

Dr. Ensminger assumes that your Planning Secretary ~~reiterated~~ ^{also} your Government's keenness to obtain Ford Foundation assistance when he was in Delhi on the 29th of February attending the Planning Commission meeting of State Planning Secretaries, and that the Planning Commission will now give its approval for the Foundation to assign three or four top planners to Orissa to work with your planners in formulating projects for investment and development.

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So that I might help you sort out the Agricultural University's problems in any way I can and help assure the continued association of the University of Missouri, I hope you and Minister Misra will be here when the Minister of Food and Agriculture Mr. Jagjivan Ram convenes a meeting of Chief Ministers to discuss agriculture matters.

In addition to my meeting with you and Minister Misra, I would like both Dr. Ensminger and Dr. Wendell McKinsey, Leader of the University of Missouri team to join us for a talk on the University's problems so that hopefully we can evolve a formula for solving this problem on a high priority basis.

Sincerely,

M.R. Masani



Ref: SPC-P(0)

9th March, 1968

My dear Minister,

AGRICULTURAL LOANS.

Your letter to Mr. Masani, suggesting that the Punjab National Bank Ltd. (of which I am a Director) should take interest in advancing loans to farmers in Orissa, was passed on to me.

2. I have discussed the matter with the Chairman of the Bank and made over the letter to him. I may say he is definitely interested. I explained to him

- (1) that the loans would be for certain specified purposes e.g. the purchase of agricultural implements, fertilisers, pesticides, pumps etc.;
- (2) that the loans would be guaranteed by the Government of Orissa.

3. There are certain procedural matters which will need to be worked out to ensure that the loans ^{made} are for "approved" purposes and to "approved" parties because, presumably, it would be only loans so approved to which the Government would extend its guarantee.

4. Another difficulty is that the Bank may have to open more branches for this purpose in several important centres in Orissa where it does not operate at present. I have no doubt the Government of Orissa will extend full cooperation to the Bank in these matters.

5. I am endorsing a copy of this letter to the Chairman of the Bank, so that further correspondence may be undertaken direct between the Bank and the Secretary of your Department.

6. I am sure you will ^{also} continue to take personal interest in the matter because this development, if it materialises, will be of great interest to Orissa and may become a "Pilot Project" to be tried in other economically backward States.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

L.S.

Hon'ble Shri R.B. Mishra,
Minister for Agriculture,
Government of Orissa,
BHUBANESHWAR.

Copy to: Pandit S.C. Trikha, Chairman, Punjab National Bank Ltd., New Delhi
Mr. M.R. Masani, M.P., New Delhi *L.S.*
Mr. Sundarmani Patel, M.P., New Delhi.
H.H. Maharaja Shri P.K. Deo, M.P., New Delhi.