

S. V. RAJU

March 19, 1985

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Dear Mr. Sridhara Murthy,

Thank you for your letter of 1st March. I read what you say with interest and I do hope that you will give me your assistance in course of time when I have to deal with the Party work in Karnataka.

I have already written to Mr. N.K. Ganapaiah regarding the papers.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S. V. Raju)

Mr. P.S. Sridhara Murthy
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Basavanagudi
Bangalore-560 004.

Ref. No. : your circular letter dt 22/2/85.

Date : 1-3-1985

To Sri S. V. Raju,

Received your circular letter regarding your proposed thesis on the Swatantra party. I was no doubt an active worker of the party, but whatever material I have, I am afraid, will not be of any use to you, since the legislative wing of the party in this state was most inactive and irresponsible. We had about 17 MLAs and when a party workers meeting was called during Rajaji's stay in Bangalore (in connection with his daughter Late Smt. Lakshmi Devadas Gandhi's ailment), none of these MLAs cared to attend. To an extent this was a bad commentary on the organising ability of the state-level office bearers also.

In 1980 I published a 300 page Kannada biography of Rajaji and it was released as part of the Rajaji birth centenary celebrations by the Government here. I concentrated more on the 1942 movement, details of Rajaji's life, his ideals and policies. I devoted more to the study of Swatantra party's philosophy, futility of statist and socialist policies etc. In addition to this all that I have done is to furnish brief personality sketches of eminent Swatantrites like K M Munshi, MR Masani, Sir Homi Mody & VP Menon. I have given figures re: the number of seats won by Swa and few instances of Mr Masani's brilliant speeches as leader of the oppn. Beyond this I did not know and did not also require. I do not have any records or papers as I was not an office bearer at the state level.

My self and few others strongly opposed the dissolution cum merger with Lokdal ^{BLD} which more received a big support in this state under

Mr N. K. Gomapaiah. Mine after I lost touch with
the office which became ~~Public~~ ^{Public} property. So it is
only Mr N. K. Gomapaiah who may be of any help
to you in your present work. I wish you all success.
Yours truly P. Prithvi Narayan