

C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

4322

60, BAZLULLAH ROAD
TYAGARAYANAGAR
MADRAS - 17

28th July 1964

My dear Masani,

I am sending this letter of
Dahyabhai Patel in original to you.

I suppose the idea is to get
the Government to rule prices by ordinance
which would be absurd, projected from the
Swatantra party. We attribute the rise in
prices to Government policies in regard to
land, finance and production. We may go on
repeating that analysis. But how can we ask
for State interference by way of maximum
prices? I don't see any use or logic in it.
Then, what can a meeting of the G.C. or the
C.O.C. do? Of course the Parliamentary
party can meet, discuss and do what they think
is useful and consistent with our Party's stand.

Yours sincerely,

encl:1

C. Rajagopalachari

Sri M.R. Masani
143, Mahatma Gandhi Road
Bombay - 1

18, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road,
New Delhi-1

July 26, 1964.

My dear Rajaji,

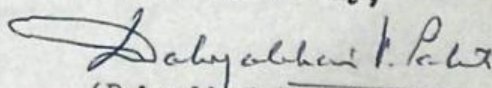
You are no doubt aware of the growing feeling in the country against the rising prices. Government has not been able to control the rise and any steps they take seem only to add to the confusion already created. I was sensing that something like this would develop in the situation that was bound to come up after the death of Pandit Nehru and when the hangover of eulogising him after his death, proposals for his memorials etc. were wearing off. It was for this reason that I had requested Prof. Ranga and Shri Masani to postpone the meeting called in Bombay on the 29th June, by a few weeks. One of the reasons I had advanced was, of course, that a few of us were going abroad and the Parliament was not meeting till September and a meeting later, after we understood better what the new Govt. was likely to be. But I was perhaps too small to make such a request or for it to take seriously. It is always possible to find some excuse for turning down a request if one does not want to agree, but events have shown that I was right and it would have been much better if we were meeting in a few days from now, i.e., one month after our meetings in Bombay on the 29th and 30th last. I now feel that there is the need for an urgent meeting of the Party, if not the whole General Council at least the C.O.C. and the Parliamentary Board for taking stock of the situation, particularly, the rising prices and giving directions to our members in Parliament and if necessary with the cooperation of other groups a No Confidence resolution should not be moved !

The action of the Bombay Unit in trying to stage a demonstration in front of the Bombay Docks against the export of rice was but a token, and raises only one small issue connected with the greater issue of rise in prices and the difficulties caused to an ordinary citizen or the common man. If we fail to take stock of the situation it will only give a chance to our opponents to call us a party of the rich and party of Rajas and Maharajas. I, therefore, suggest an urgent meeting of the Parliamentary Board or the C.O.C. is called to discuss the situation and give direction to the Party.

I have many other matters in my mind about which I will be writing to you in a few days.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Dahyabhai V. Patel)

Shri C. Rajagopalachari,
60, Bazlullah Road,
T'Nagar, MADRAS-17