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Press Release

Madras, 2nd June.

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In the General
Council

The decisions of the National Executive in Madras adhere to the attitude of surrendering to considerations of short-term expediency which had characterised the decisions of the last meeting in Delhi in April. Vigorous efforts were made to rectify matters in the form of two resolutions but they were rejected by a majority. In these circumstances, there was clearly no alternative left open to me but to decline the offer of re-election to the seat and the Executive vacated by me.

I believe that the decisions taken by the Party will unfortunately not help it to grow but are likely to recoil on the Party and harm it. What is one to do to save the Party in such a situation? I believe the task of those who, like Dr. K.M. Munshi, our Vice President, myself and many others who believe in ethical and disciplined methods is to educate and arouse members of the Party and to appeal to the considerable fund of idealism that exists within the Party's ranks so that this demoralisation that has crept in can be eliminated. This can be done more effectively by those who are not trammelled by the responsibility of administering the Party's affairs.

The recent succession of electoral reverses suffered by us in Haryana, the Dausa by-election in Rajasthan and the Panchayat elections in Gujarat provide a warning. If the Party does not awaken to the need for putting its house in order and restoring its credibility, I fear the outlook for the future of the Party is a bleak one. I shall try with all my strength to prevent such a catastrophe.

(M.R. Masani)

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