

4593

Zorach
A-54, Tilak Nagar
Jaipur
March 30, 1968

My dear Sir,

The events in Gujrat have shocked me and a number of my colleagues in the Party here. The news of your resignation from the National Executive and the Central Parliamentary Board have made us very sad. We feel ashamed that because of the sins of a handful of us great leaders like you have to atone.

Sir, I feel quite depressed today. We have been working hard day in and day out to make this Party really strong and disciplined. In this gigantic task we have always derived inspiration from you. Like me there are a number of dedicated workers throughout the country who are there in the Party only because of you. I know you have great affection for us and you value our work. This is a great source of strength to me and my friends. But today I find that all our good work stands defeated at the hands of the misdeeds of a few in Gujrat. I wonder whether all our hard work is to be put at the mercy of a few rebels. If this trend is allowed to continue I do not know as to where it will lead our Party to.

As I see it there are two trends clearly visible at present in our Party. A large number of workers are no doubt sweating to make it a disciplined organisation capable of providing a sound alternative to the ruling Congress Party. But at the same time there are a few individuals and groups in several states who for their own selfish ends do not hesitate to flout the discipline of the Party and thus bring it a bad name. Your presence at the helm of the affairs in the Party provided a lot of strength to the former and I have no doubt that with your blessings and guidance we would definitely succeed. Would you kindly consider this unanimous request of a large majority of loyal workers throughout the country?

The polling for Rajya Sabha elections here will take place tomorrow. As you are aware we had to face some initial difficulties from within our Party and more so because of the uncertain attitude of the Jan Sangh which unfortunately is not very clear even now. But we are quite vigilant especially after the Gujrat debacle. I am confident we will see it through tomorrow.

Prof. Ranga was here from 26th to 28th along with the Parliamentary Committee on Land Acquisition, before which we produced evidence to press our Party's point of view. Because of this I could not leave for the place where Mrs. Masani wanted me to go on the 26th. Till tomorrow I will have to be here for Rajya Sabha elections and thereafter we have our State Parliamentary Board meeting for Dausa. Now I would go to that place on the 6th after getting the nomination papers for Dausa and Chomu filed on the 5th. Would you kindly communicate this to Mrs. Masani?

I intend to come to Delhi ~~next week~~ in the second week of the next month (April). I hope I would be able to have the benefit of your guidance on many points at that time.

With respects to self and Mrs. Masani,

Yours sincerely,

J. S. Bhargava
(I.S. Bhargava)