

4616

from 2 Tughlak Road,
New Delhi 11.

10th April, 1968

My dear Ranga,

Thank you for your letter of 9th April.

In my letter of resignation of March 29 I had stated clearly that I would not be attending the meetings in Delhi on 13th and 14th. I have since made engagements in my constituency on those days and am leaving Delhi on the 12th for the purpose. I would nonetheless have considered cancelling my Rajkot visit in deference to your kind invitation to participate in these meetings if I had thought this would be in the Party's interest.

Unfortunately, there appears to be a misconception in some quarters in our Party that my resignation was intended to exercise pressure on the National Executive and Central Parliamentary Board to take a certain line in regard to the debacle in Gujarat. Nothing could have been farther from my mind. In my view, it is desirable that whatever decisions are taken should be on the merits and in the Party's abiding interest and should not in any way be influenced by my action. You will appreciate that my participating in these discussions would defeat that objective. You will kindly, therefore, forgive me for not responding to your request.

For the same reason, the question of my withdrawing my resignation in the light of the decisions that may be taken this weekend, as desired by certain esteemed colleagues of ours, should be ruled out.

I would request that my resignations be accepted and that from the National Executive be reported, along with the reasons, to the General Council, 101 out of 110 members of which were good enough to vote for my election to the National Executive. I assume that my seat which is now vacated will need to be filled by election on the part of the General Council at its next meeting in Bhubaneswar at the end of May.

Will you kindly place this letter before the meetings of the C.P.B. and National Executive during the coming weekend?

Yours sincerely,

Professor N.G. Ranga,
President,
Swatantra Party,
New Delhi.

(M. R. MASANI)

Cc N. Dandekar