



Digbhuwan Palace,

Limbdi.

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My dear Dinoo,

Herewith a note for your
interest and personal knowledge only.

Yours sincerely,

Paghuji m

Diary Note

Confidential report of discussion between
Shri Bhailal Patel, H.M. Patel, and HH of Dhrangadhra
on 5 April 1968 at Ahmedabad

Arrived in Ahmedabad by 10.45 a.m. plane.
Bhailalbhai Patel and HM Patel were to leave Vallabh Vidyanagar
at 11 a.m. and were to call on me at 1 p.m. I left at 1.45 p.m.
as I had a tight-scheduled tour programme.

2. En route I called at the hospital to visit Shri
Babubhai Jashbhai Patel, P.W.D. & Civil Supplies Minister, Govt.
of Gujarat, who had been badly injured in an assault made on
him three days ago. As we came down in the lift I met BP and HMP.

3. Three of us talked in the car en route to Sasta
Sahitya Mandal Bldg. BP asked my advice on the best course of
action in light of the developments in the Swatantra Party. I
asked his views. He said he felt that stern action was neces-
sary and that the four, who had supported Mahida should be
expelled. He added that this would mean losing a few more but
that this did not matter. I asked HMP's opinion. It was much
the same. I asked what was HH Baria's opinion? HMP said that he was
anxious that the Party should not be injured and that only M
should be expelled. HMP said that this would be illogical as
the real culprits were other than M.

4. BP asked my opinion. I said that if they now
failed to act it would be the end of the Party in Gujarat. They
looked at each other and nodded and seemed to have reached a
decision. I said that at the time of elections one was not very
discriminating in enrolling supporters, especially when there
was the prospect of forming the Govt. (BP said, Yes, and we are
now suffering the consequences.) I said that no Party could
survive unless it discovered a common purpose and had a soul
and unless the leadership acted on recognised principals. This
seemed to confirm their own views.

5. We now arrived at Sasta Sahitya Mandal Bldg and
continued the discussion. RR Harisinghji (my Aide) and Mr.
J.M. Raval (HMP's Secy) were also present. Much of the conver-
sation was repeated. In the course of it I asked if any money
had been demanded from Mr Vaidya. They said, No. I said that
there was an impression in Delhi that it had. HMP said, 'By whom?'
I pointed at him and said Rupees Two Thousand. He said it was
not at all true, but that the matter was discussed in the
executive that all MPs had to pay such an amount and would it be
demanded from V. HMP had said clearly that this was no longer
in practice.

6. I also inquired if a condition had been asked or
proposed that V should join the Party after his election as
this was also an impression in Delhi. They said that this was
another thing discussed in the executive but that it had been
made categorically clear that there was no question of imposing
a condition. They said that Party had already enjoyed the benefit
of the agreement and it was simply a matter of carrying out
their side of it.

7. I was left with a impression that they had come
to a sticking point so far as action was concerned. Also that
they wholly supported Minoo Masani in his resignation from the
Party posts on the issue.