

Confidential

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from 2 Tughlak Road,
New Delhi 11

1st April, 1968

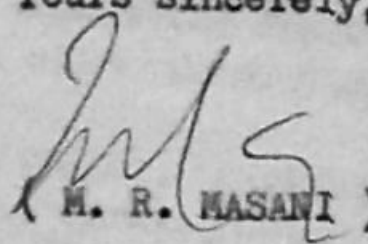
My dear V.T.,

I have just received your Confidential letter of 30th March. I am very much in agreement with you that "it is preferable to have ten M.L.As. who have character than 50 whom are men of straw." Unfortunately, that is the very issue over which I have found it necessary to tender my resignation from the National Executive and the Central Parliamentary Board of our Party, because our President and the majority of our colleagues do not ^{appear to} share your view and mine. If they did, the Gujarat debacle would not have taken place. I thought that the best thing I ^{could} do to strengthen Dandekar's hands as General Secretary was to take this Gandhian step in an attempt to stimulate the conscience of our Party. That is my answer to the question what purpose would be served by my resignation. If the Party does not react to this challenge to its conscience, then I fear whether I am in the Executive or outside will not make much difference. The ball is very much in the court of people like yourself and it is time that you made your point of view felt by the Executive.

I am afraid you misunderstood my letter sent to you through Shivappa. That letter was sent to you, K.H. and Patil only as a precaution against any misunderstanding that might be created by Shivappa giving himself airs. It seems that my letter failed in its purpose since you were led to believe that he was acting as our "advisor" on Mysore affairs! Since he was going to Bangalore and Bijapur and we had an impression that he would misquote us and cause misunderstanding between you people and us, I wrote these letters as a kind of caution against taking seriously anything that was said beyond the terms of my letter. So please put these fears out of your mind.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(M. R. MASANI)

encl.

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