

Pallav
Uchharang Nager
Rajkot-2
D - 31-3-68

4638

My dear Masani,

recd. your wire to-day.

I have, in consultation with Mr. Babubhai Shah - Jai Hind, written a letter to Rajaji and have send its copies to Prof. Ranga, Mr. Dandekar and yourself, through Raju. I send another copy of the letter along with this.

A few weeks back Bhaikata had told me to pay a sum of Rs - 3000/- to the party-fund. As I could not afford it he suggested that I should request you to pay up that sum on my behalf. I thought this to be a brainwave of Bhaikata and paid no attention to it - to the extent that I did not even inform you about this incident. I wrote to only one person about this and that was Maharaja Kumar Shivalbhadra-sinhji of Bhawanagar. He advised me not to take this demand seriously. But after-events have proved that Bhaikata never pardoned me for this lapse.

Dhrol Thakore Sahib, Mr. Natavarsinhji Solanki along with a few others were working openly against me. The rest - rather most of the rest had taken up an attitude of promising me everything, but doing nothing.

When I came to know that a secret propaganda was going on against me, I tried to get an opportunity to explain myself, but Mr. H.M. Patel and Bhaikata gave me none. I told them to show me a single instance when I propagated against Swatantra Party, but they were not interested in truth. Mr. Bhagwanji Patel was at Ahmedabad during these days.

An allegation was made that I helped Mr. Masani & none else. Mr. H. M. Patel told me he refuted this allegation in the party. Mr. Bhagwan Patel of Adsang alleged that I worked for Mr. Navin Rawani (P.S.P.), forgetting all the while that Mr. Rawani was contesting against Shivalbhadrasinhji. I was never given an opportunity to clear these doubts.

(P.T.O)

As for my ~~book~~ being a Communist only one member, Mr.

Chunibhai Patel - and that too on the last day - i.e. 28th morning - put me a straight question and I at once denied it. I never got the opportunity of denying this in a meeting of Swatantra Party M.L.A.s, although I was at Ahmedabad continuously for nineteen days.

No office-bearer of the party has directly helped me. Mr. H.M. Patel and Bhaitarka kept me at arm's length. Can you imagine a Party-Candidate not being given a chance to see his voters in meeting even once? That is exactly what happened. Bhaitarka and Mr. H.M. Patel told me that there was opposition against me, but they never gave me the points on which the members were opposing me. This attitude makes me think that they were interested in not giving me a chance to refute the allegations.

Mr. ~~Dr~~ Pravinsinhji Solanki was at Ahmedabad during these days for some days, but he did not care to see me, nor did he do anything to help me. We casually met on the Assembly premises, but never exchanged any views. He hurriedly tried to avoid any talk with me. I have heard he helped Mr. U.N. Mahida. His father Mr. Natarajsinhji Solanki told me on my face that he was working for Mr. U.N. Mahida.

Mr. Mahida had filed his nomination even before the decision of the Central Parliamentary Board. I drew Mr. H.M. Patel's attention to this. He said, "We shall take some action." But so far as I know, he took no action till the election day.

All this is nauseatingly sad.

Yours truly,
Babubhai P. Vaidya