

Express Delivery

from 2 Tughlak Road,
New Delhi 11.

29th March, 1968

My dear Rajaji,

I had wanted very much to be able to consult you before announcing my resignation from the National Executive and the Central Parliamentary Board of the Party following on the Gujarat debacle but I found that this would take at least three days and that my action, for whatever little it may be worth, would lose a great deal of its spontaneity and value if it were to appear to be a somewhat coldblooded reaction to the unfortunate happenings in Ahmedabad yesterday. I feel that Bhailalbhai and Baria have done the right thing in resigning from their offices and that I should keep them company at the Centre as the person who had concurred in their pledge.

I should like to think that you may find the action I have taken not altogether devoid of some value. The alternative of carrying on the usual argument with our dear President and some others about the desirability of clean methods and on maintaining discipline was one which had been tried now for several years without conspicuous success. I may mention that I had told Dandekar of what I was proposing to do and he was good enough to see my point and not to raise any objection.

I shall be glad to have an early line giving me your comments on the whole incident. I think an expression of your distress at what some of our colleagues in Gujarat had done (in Swarajya) would not be without its value.

I would like very much to come and see you one of these days and talk things over. Our political life seems to be descending rapidly down a spiral and the demoralisation in one Party inevitably ~~tries to seek~~ *ellicits* response in others including our own. I shall try and take some time towards the end of April to come down to Madras for a couple of days with you.

Yours sincerely,

encl.

(M. R. MASANI)

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