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22nd March 1963.

My dear Rajaji,

Thank you for your letter of March 1 regarding the F.I.C.C.I proceedings. You are quite right in feeling indignant as you do. The real point is that we are not here to oblige these people but to further the national interest.

I have shown ~~their~~ letter and also your letter to Arvind Mafatlal to some of our business friends and told them how you feel about it. They insist they have not asked for relief but are opposing the S.P. Tax. Their memorandum, of which I have seen a copy, certainly supports this claim.

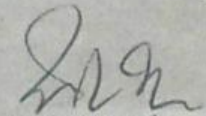
Incidentally, the Delhi Party is doing good work. They have plastered New Delhi with copies of your appeal and the text of the General Council Resolution which we advertised in the Press. A copy is attached for you to see.

It is only on returning to Bombay after seeing you that I saw your two letters of March 12 and 13 in regard to the Belgaum constituency. I had no idea when I saw you that you were so keen about it. This must have made the news about our difficulties that I brought with me even more disappointing to you. I am sorry.

I have since received your letter of 19th March along with your correspondence with Katti. It would appear from this that Ranga was pushing an open door when he was pressing Katti not to stand. There is nothing we can do to encourage him any further. My statement which appeared in the Sunday Standard (clipping attached) has been widely appreciated.

I have written to Mariswamy agreeing to attend the Trichy District Convention on April 21 and shall look forward to seeing you at that time.

Yours sincerely,


(M.R. Masani)

Enc: 2

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