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17 July 1975

My dear Tarkunde

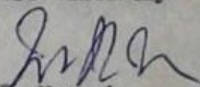
We liked your article on the "Scope of the Censorship Order" so much that we put it on the front page of our next issue of Freedom First and submitted it to the local censor. He not only ruled out the whole of your article but also the appeal of the Maharashtra Bar Council to the President to revoke the Emergency and the summary of the Swarajya case reprinted from the Financial Express. Since we think that the censors have grossly misused their position, we have filed a writ petition which is due for admission tomorrow.

I am glad to know from your letter of 11th July to Karnik that you propose to take similar action at your end.

The Maharashtra order is an omnibus one and wider than the Delhi one and much of what you say in your article does not, unfortunately, apply to us in Bombay.

I shall add a postscript to this letter after tomorrow's developments in the Bombay High Court.

Yours sincerely


M.R. Masani

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PS: I have just come back from the High Court which has admitted our petition impugning the Maharashtra Censorship Order and the action of the censor in prohibiting publication of your article and other material mentioned in my letter. The Court has fixed August 29 for placing the matter on Board. We have decided that till then Freedom First will not appear.

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