

SWATANTRA PARTY

ALLAHABAD

Ref.

5309

Allahabad Office :
209-G, Muthiganj.

September 19, 1959.

Mr. M.R. Masani, M.P.
148, Mahatma Gandhi Road,
Bombay 1.

Dear Mr. Masani,

Your letter of 9th September must have crossed my letter of 7th September. Anyhow by now you must have gone through its contents. Only a few weeks back I held to the view that tickets to party members were essential, if not to assembly elections or by-elections, but to local bodies elections. I thought that such issuance of tickets in local bodies elections was necessarily tackling ~~the~~ grass root. My motivating ~~idea~~ for such a stand purely rested on utilisation of the weapon of political psychology. A new force for the democratic good and welfare of the people has, at times, of necessity, to be tuned up with the new temper created by it. Those who work at the grass root have a better awareness of the static or changing moods of the people than those who merely look at the fine, soft grown up blade of the grass. At least, that is what I have been reading the political psychology of the people for the last 15 years. While I say this, I am equally aware of its dangerous aspect if fact of time and mood of the people are not proportionately matched and weighed. In such matters limitation is as essential as depression to bloated prosperity.

Political contests among parties to local bodies elections, like district boards, municipal boards and corporations, create working bases for growth, publicity, popularity and power of the parties. Nevertheless, when our party's great leaders like you and Rajaji think otherwise I must close my book of experience and adopt a different strategy to win seats and confidence of the people in the Corporation elections.

Mr. Masani, you will very kindly extend your forgiveness when I strike a personal note in this letter. Although your last letter suggested that my correspondence with Mr. Paliwal would be more valuable and line with the State supervision, but this matter must of necessity be put before you for consideration and approval. I am fighting elections to the Allahabad Municipal Corporation. I have two heavy burdens on my back. One is that of my responsibility to the Party as its Convener, and second, my contest to the Municipal Corporation. I have to divide my work in such a way as may lead me to victory in both the field. There is also a third responsibility which equally demands my time and attention. Some ten party candidates are standing as independents. I have also to cover their elections campaigns. My constituency will cost me something about Rs. 2000. I may be able to ~~cover~~ Rs. 800/-. I need another Rs. 600/- ~~to cover~~ which I expect you to arrange for this Rs. 600/ somehow or the other. In view of this heavy responsibility on my shoulders without this aid my back will break down, and in consequence I will fail everyone -- the party, the independents and myself. Hope you will do your best in order to strengthen my shoulders.

Thanks.

Yours truly
Simon Singh