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Office Note to Dr. R.C.Cooper

As suggested at the meeting of the National Executive on 17th February, 1970, I invited Mr. C.C.Desai for a talk and he has just left after his visit. Mr. D.N.Patodia, a member of our National Executive, was present at the discussion.

I mentioned to Mr. Desai that the National Executive had taken a decision of that nature and said that I had offered to have a quiet word with him to find out if he was prepared to give an assurance that he would from now on at least behave in a completely disciplined and loyal manner.

Mr. Desai said that he felt that everything he had done was thoroughly justified "and more". When I asked him what that meant he said that he was himself very slow in giving expression to his views. He felt he had not acted against Party discipline and was prepared to justify his conduct. He would like to see what the case against him was.

I told Mr. Desai that, if he found himself in such violent disagreement with the Party on certain basic matters of policy, perhaps the right thing for him to do was to resign from the Party but he said that he much preferred that the Party take action against him.

I told Mr. Desai that I was sorry he was not prepared to reconsider his position but, in the light of his attitude, there was nothing left for me to do but hand over the letter from the General Secretary which I did. I told Mr. Desai that we had been very careful to see that the nature of the action we had taken was not published in the press and we would now await his explanation.

(M.R.Masani)
President.

21st February, 1970