

Branch

File No.

CORRESPONDENCE

19

Subject  
Correspondence with Central Provinces Inc.

III-41-1

From III-41-1

April 1946

to

August 1947

18. 8. 47

My dear Patil,

Your letter has disturbed me as I was all along under the impression that your Ministry was functioning as a team. You had given me no indication up to now about the feeling that was growing in your mind for some time past.

2. I do not know whether you have anything to say about Bhehasan's incident, nor do I know whether you have anything to say in his defence.

3. As a member of the Cabinet, it is your duty to speak to your Prime Minister first about your feelings and to try as far as possible to avoid what may be called a rupture. Afterall, a disruption of Ministry tends to discredit not only the Ministry, but also the great organisation to which we all have the honour to belong.

4. It is difficult for me to give you a blank cheque to resign at any moment. Before I can do so, I must take your Prime Minister into confidence and, therefore, it would be better if you let him know what your difficulties are and whether it is not possible to restore confidence and atmosphere for harmonious working.

5. In the new Governor, you will find a very good friend and he will be of immense help to you all in removing misunderstandings and creating good atmosphere for discharge of joint responsibility which is so essential for a successful working Ministry. I am not disclosing this matter



to anybody as you have written to me this letter which is personal, but I would suggest to you to break the ice softly with your Prime Minister. Perhaps you may as well take the assistance of your Governor. I hope no occasion for your resignation will arise.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble  
Mr. R. K. Patil,  
Minister, C. P. & Berar,  
Nagpur.

M.

Nagpur<sup>21</sup>

The: 14th, August, 47.

My dear Sardar Sahib,

..(1) I am writing this letter to you with a view to acquaint you with my feelings as they are likely to lead me to step with which you will be concerned as the person responsible for bringing me the CP cabinet. These feelings have not sprung up suddenly — they have been growing for some time. I say this so that you may not connect them with the.

+

31/8

Hasan episode It is con-  
evidence that the incident  
occured just at a time when  
my own feelings also indicate  
that it time I resigned  
from the cabinet and I am  
writing this to obtain your  
consent to the course which  
I propose to take

2 I am feeling that I  
am ineffectual in the cabinet  
except in so far as my own  
department concerned, and  
I find it impossible to conti-  
nue with this feeling involving

4  
as it does a loss of persona-  
lity and sense of crest-  
fallenness, due to ineffective  
opposition. And I am not made  
of the stuff which would always  
like things being relieved <sup>every time</sup> at  
the bayonet of resignation.

3. Unless therefore any par-  
ticular purpose likely to be  
served by my continuance, of  
which I am not aware, I would  
request you to let me have  
a standing permission to  
resign when I feel like it. I  
suppose this was implicit in

L/A

our talks in Bombay but I  
would like to make it clear

It may be that I am  
mistaken, but I do not think  
things are likely to change  
with new Swedish Cabinet  
responsibility will remain what  
it is and the conditions which  
I have referred to cannot ma-  
terially alter

I regret I have to en-  
trench on your very valuable  
time with this personal letter  
but I felt it wrong to take  
any step without representing  
you previously with it.

With regards  
yours sincerely  
21.8.41 J.G.D.

5  
ISN. 41214 अने व.

ही मध्ये काय

उत्तर 3. वापरासाठी

घेतले आहे

परम परम करणे

काम करणे

अ. मा. करणे

12.1.20

6

A note of HPM's talk with Lord and Lady Mountbatten on  
2nd May 1947 at the Viceroy's House.

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After lunch, Lord Mountbatten opened a talk with me by referring to the visit of Sir Mirza Ismail to Berar. I brought to his notice that when Sir Mirza Ismail had written to me about his visit to Berar, asking me whether I had any objection to his visit, he was informed that I had no objection but that it was presumed that his visit to Berar was as private as the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Shri Shivaji College at Amraoti. Ignoring this hint, Mirza Ismail Baig referred publicly in his speeches to the retrocession of Berar and asserted that Berar was an integral part of Nizam's Dominions in the past and would remain so in the future. I also brought to the notice of Lord Mountbatten that it was highly improper on the part of Sir Mirza Ismail Baig to invite a member of the C.P. Government for an informal conference at Hyderabad without the knowledge of and consultation with the Provincial Government. I also pointed out that the people of Berar as a whole were deadly against the retrocession and would not submit to it. Protests had already begun to come in, and the one result of his visit to Berar has been that the feelings between the Hindus and the Muslims have become bitter -- the Muslims supporting retrocession and the non-Muslims all opposing and declaring their determination to oppose such a step tooth and nail. I told him further that Lord Curzon had given the Nizam to understand definitely that Berar was to be held by the British Government for ever and was not to be returned to him. Lord Mountbatten said that Nizam has been allowed to hold his sovereignty over Berar, has been allowed to fly his flag, and the appointment of the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar is made in consultation with him. I told him this did not alter the fact that he was deprived of the possession of Berar for ever. This was perhaps only a consolation prize. In fact, the Government of India was paying him Rs.25 lakhs annually. With the termination

of British rule in India, the paramountcy would lapse and whatever may have been the rights of the Nizam over Berar, he could not claim or take possession of Berar which has become an integral part of the Central Provinces and whose representatives are members of the Constituent Assembly representing the whole province. He (Lord Mountbatten) then put it to me, "What would be your advice if you were in my place?" I told him the status quo must continue and the matter should be settled by negotiation with the Union Government when it comes into existence. Lord Mountbatten seemed to agree that the present position might continue, say, for five years or so, after which the whole situation might be reviewed. I said this might be a possible solution. I also brought to his notice that it would be detrimental to the interests of Nizam to take Berar and make it an autonomous sub-province with a constitutional Governor and an Cabinet whose decisions that Governor would not be able to over-rule. If this were to happen, I said, the other parts of Nizam's Dominions will claim the same status. There would be agitation and revolution and ultimately nothing will be left to the Nizam except perhaps the wealth he possesses. He agreed that there was this danger.

I also informed him that the Nizam had 12,000 well-trained troops and about 18,000 irregulars -- Arabs and Pathans -- who have settled down in villages in Hyderabad. There is no Arms Act and the Muslims in Nizam's territory have been arming themselves. It was reported that a military factory capable of manufacturing arms and ammunition has been made over to the Nizam by the military authorities. He was surprised at this information and remarked, "Not in my time". Then he asked his Deputy Private Secretary whether he knew anything about it. He also said he did not know it. The Viceroy asked him to make enquiries about it.

He then asked whether I expected the Nizam to invade Berar. I said it was possible but that if he did it, the province would



not take it lying down and the Union Government's armies would be there to repel such an attack. I said that I should think that if he did so, it would lead to the loss of his Dominions inasmuch as he would be declared hostile and may be compelled to abdicate. I told him that it is reported that the Prince of Berar is not very keen about the retrocession of Berar. Lord Mountbatten admitted that except the present Nizam, nobody appeared to be keen about it. So far as the question of Berar was concerned, it appeared to me from his talk that the British Government might declare that the Nizam had legal right to Berar but that the matter might be left over at that stage and reviewed after five years or so. It appears this suggestion has been made to him from some other quarters. From the Governor of my province I came to know what the Political Adviser has also suggested that the matter be left as it is at present for ten years, after which it might be settled by negotiation with the Union Government. This advice has also been given by the Governor of my province. The Governor has addressed a protest letter to the Viceroy about Sir Mirza Ismail's visit to Berar, in which he has also stated that the matter should be left over in its present state for ten years, when it might be considered and decided finally.

There was also talk about the Bastar State where the Nizam is allowed to build a railway and is taking the forest and mining leases from the present administration during the minority of the Raja. He expressed the view that the Regency was entitled to act on behalf of the Raja and there appeared to be nothing wrong about that. I brought to his notice that the G.P. Government was vitally interested in the Bastar State which has a very big waterfall capable of being utilized for hydro-electric works, and nothing should have been done without consultation with the G.P. Government.

During the lunch, I was sitting on the right of Lady Mountbatten. I enquired from her what her impressions were regarding the Frontier, the Punjab and the tribal areas. She

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appeared to think that the tribal people wanted to remain independent and were encouraged to do so by the British Government; but that they could come under the British rule. I told her that they were connected with the people of the Frontier Province in all possible ways and that the tribal areas would have become part and parcel of India, had the Britishers liked it. She appeared to think that perhaps it was a mistake to keep them separate. But she said the feelings between the two communities in the Frontier and the Punjab have become so bitter that partition was perhaps the only remedy. As regards the demonstration, she seemed to think that it was engineered. She praised Dr. Khan Sahab and said that even when the suggestion was made to him not to allow them to meet her husband, he refused to do so, and very generously allowed ~~my~~ her husband to meet the demonstrators. She said Dr. Khan Sahab was a nice man; she liked him for his frankness.



10  
Nagpur,  
8th August, 1947.

Dear Sardar Sahib,

I am grateful to you for your letter dated the 4th instant.

I am herewith enclosing copy of my letter dated the 4th August, containing my unqualified apology and handed over by me personally to Pandit Shuklaaji Shuklaaji at Raipur that very morning. I am also sending herewith copies of Panditji's letter dated the 7th August and my reply thereto of the same date.

You will see from the copies of letters attached that I have given the unqualified apology which Panditji asked me to tender to restore his confidence in me in his letter dated the 13th July, a copy of which is also attached herewith. Do you still feel that this is not enough?

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

*M. Hasan*

To

The Hon'ble Sardar  
Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.

11  
Raipur,  
4th August, 1947.

My dear Panditji,

I am very sorry I could not reply to your letter dated the 13th July as you were out.

I assure you with all sincerity that it was never my intention to hurt your feelings in any way, but as it seems that it has pained you I offer you my unqualified apology and request you to kindly accept it and bury the past. I have no doubt that henceforth our relations will be as cordial as ever before.

Please accept my sincere and heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of your 71st Birthday.

Wishing you long and happy life and with kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. S. M. Hasan.

7

12  
Nagpur,  
The 7th August, 1947.

Dear Doctor Hasan,

I understand that you have received a letter from Mahatma Gandhi which was delivered to you by Hon'ble Mr. Agnibhoj on the 2nd instant. Will you kindly send me a copy of it and oblige?

Yours sincerely,

Sd. R. S. Shukla.

To  
The Hon. Dr. S.M.Hasan,  
Minister for Medical and Public Health,  
Nagpur.

13  
Nagpur,  
7th August, 1947.

My dear Panditji,

I have received your letter of today's date. You will readily appreciate that ordinarily I would have hesitated before complying with such a request as you have made, as the letter is a personal one and coming from revered Bapu is for me of a sacrosanct character. The letter itself will bear out what personal relationship I have been fortunate enough to cultivate with revered Bapu. But as I do not want such hesitation as I have to aggravate misunderstandings that have unfortunately arisen or to let you feel that I am deliberately withholding some information from you, I am enclosing a copy of it.

It appears from revered Bapu's letter that you informed him of your loss of confidence in me and dear Bapu's letter has been written under the impression that this loss of confidence still persists. Allow me to say in all humility that I have never been able to understand why and how the present incident in itself should have induced this loss of confidence on your part. My action was unconstitutional and even incorrect, and I can understand that it has annoyed you and given you offence, *but* I am sure you will agree that confidence in a colleague should not be of such brittle stuff as to be shattered by a single false step or a single mistake. Therefore I sincerely trust that my tendering the unqualified apology demanded by you will serve to restore such confidence as I may have lost, due to this incident and I hereby repeat the request that it may be accepted. I have every hope that the memory of this incident will not be allowed in the way of our future relationship of confidence and cordiality.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*S. M. H. H.*

Nagpur.  
13.7.1947.  
11 A.M.

Dear Dr. Hasan,

Many thanks for your letter which I received only an hour ago.

Your letter to Mahatmaji may have been a 'personal' one, but it was about a public matter in which I was concerned as your Chief. I can therefore look upon it only as a complaint made against me behind my back. My reference to you personally was made humorously. The newspapers regarded it as such. Both Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel also regarded it similarly. But in your letter to Mahatmaji you have persisted in saying that it was made by me in all seriousness.

As regards my second allegation regarding your having given publicity to your unjust complaint against me you have admitted in your letter to Shri Rashtrapati that you had given once an interview to Hindustan Herald. Although you have neither confirmed nor denied the interview which the correspondent of the Times of India asserts to have got from you, you further admit that you spoke about the affair to some friends. All this is highly objectionable and you will agree with me that my confidence in you cannot be restored by your mere desire that I should close the chapter finally. I do not see any signs of repentance in your letter and I would be lacking in sincerity if I say that your letter is satisfactory. If you feel that you have acted wrongly you should offer an unqualified apology. This is the least that will satisfy me. I have made my position clear in my letter to the Parliamentary Board, a copy of which you have already received.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. R. S. Shukla.

Continuation  
EODD 25.1.15

15

R. M. Service Message.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

OFFICE STAMP.

Prefix. 3 D4/4.  
Class.  
Code.

Recd. from	Sent to
At H. M.	At H. M.
By	By

TO P.A. to the Honble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

1 Aurangzeb Road New Delhi.

\* Telegram No. 264/3 for Gandhiji-Pravara Shankar Shukla  
Prime Minister Rastriya (C.P) held due to station  
to not answering, will inform you again at its  
earliest disposal.

Signature of  
Sd/-  
(Not to be signed)

FROM 4/1/15 C. T. O. Delhi

RECEIVED





*File*

16

1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.  
29th July 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

Syt. Kripalaniji had called all the Premiers for dinner last night at his place. The question discussed was about the rush of immigrants from Pakistan area into our Dominion. The stories we heard have put us thinking as to what the possibilities are. It appears that it is becoming impossible for people to live in the Pakistan area. Many are leaving it and are unwilling to go back. It seems necessary that there should be an all-India policy regarding the immigrants.

Only those who are well-to-do and can afford to leave the province are coming out; the poor are left there at the mercy of the Pakistan Muslims. They, under coercion, threat, boycott and what not, will have no alternative but to get converted to the Muslim faith. It has therefore become imperative that we should have a settled plan of settlement in our Dominion of all immigrants and there should be a coordinated effort by someone in charge of this business in the Government of India. Three things seem to me to be necessary :

- (1) Rich people are no doubt leaving the Pakistan area, but it is better to protect the poor there. Whatever may be our professions as to the treatment of minorities, we must be able to offer an asylum more to the poor than to the rich if we want to save them. Therefore what I feel is that there should be planned migration from Pakistan area to the Indian Dominion and from the Indian Dominion to Pakistan. This is almost inevitable and cannot brook delay.
- (2) The other thing which is most important and which should be immediately taken in hand is the assessment of property of those who are leaving their home and hearth and their lands which they have occupied for centuries in Pakistan and are coming out here. An inventory of their property should be made and in the terms of settlement of partition, which is taking place between the two Dominions, there should be a clear provision that the property which

is left behind will be taken over by the Government and paid for by it in the settlement. That is to say, adjustments will have to be made about the value of their property which is left in the Pakistan area on which Pakistan Muslims will be settling, and the property of those who are leaving our Dominion and going to Pakistan area will be taken over by the Indian Dominion and given to the new settlers. Some such arrangement seems to be an absolute necessity. Therefore, there should be a special department of planned migration and evacuation to and from one Dominion to the other and claims for compensation should be set up as one of the terms of the agreement.

(3) If, however, no settlement is arrived at, the Muslims in the Dominion of India must be made to feel that it is inconvenient for them to live in this Dominion and they must go out of it. Steps shall have to be taken to bring this about, and Provinces should have liberty to do this.

As you are one of the members negotiating for partition, I hope these points will receive your serious consideration.

Yours sincerely,

*Johnkka*

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.

18  
NEW DELHI,  
9th Aug. 1947.

My dear Shuklaji,

Thank you for your letter  
of the 7th August 1947.

I have already sent to you  
a telegram intimating to you the  
action I have taken. I quite agree  
that Berar will put itself in the  
wrong by taking any independent  
action and will prejudice its own  
chances. I have explained this to  
Biyani, and I have asked him to come  
here. If he does, I shall try to put  
matters right.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Prime Minister, Govt. of Central  
Provinces & Berar,  
Secretariat, NAGPUR.



19  
Nagpur,

7th August, 1947.

*My dear Girdhar Sahale*

I enclose herewith copy of a letter we have sent to the States Department with a copy to the Home Department on the subject of the future of Berar. You will notice that our friend Mr. Brijlal Biyani has now come <sup>out</sup> into the open and has signified his intention to boycott the Independence Day celebrations and to declare Berar independent on the 15th August. Willy as he is, I am sure that if he is now called upon to explain, he would say that the resolution was carried by the Free Berar Committee in spite of him but I know it for a fact that barring one or two persons, the members of the Berar Committee are his nominees and that he himself is the root cause of the mischief. I am also enclosing herewith copy of a letter from my colleague, Mr. Sahale. He himself has no hand in the matter but naturally finds himself in an

awkward position. May I request you to give us your clear-cut instructions so as to reach me not later than the 12th instant?

Yours sincerely  
Rohit

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.

P.S.

After the above had been written I received a communication from H.E. I am enclosing a copy herewith.

Rohit

21  
Nagpur,  
6th August, 1947.

My dear Prime Minister,

I have received a notice asking me to attend the Independence Day function at Yeotmal. I have nothing to say about this proposal in particular but I have to bring to your notice the proceedings of the Free Berar Committee held yesterday at Akola. Newspaper reports indicate that even direct action is proposed to be taken if Nizam's flag is allowed to be unfurled. It is also said that members of the Berar Congress Party in the Assembly will take no part in the Independence Day proceedings if that flag is allowed to be unfurled. At present in Berar at all places Union Jack and Nizam's flag are unfurled together and they exist side by side. It will be difficult, therefore, to conduct the proceedings if action in pursuance of the resolution passed at Akola is taken at these centres. I have no idea as to what the Congress High Command has decided about this all important issue. I would request you therefore earnestly to take up the matter along with the President of the Berar Provincial Congress Committee, Hon'ble Mr. Biyani to the higher quarters and have an early decision for the guidance of me and my friends. I am, of course, willing to act as you ask me to do but I thought it my duty to bring to your notice the facts as they have happened. Even newspapers have published this news in the morning. Mr. Bhagdari, who was, I believe, present at the meeting also acquainted me with the facts on the phone. I await your instructions and shall abide by them.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd. S.V. Gokhale.

Hon'ble Pandit Bhai Shankar Gokhale, M.L.A.,  
Hon'ble the Prime Minister,  
Central Provinces and Berar,  
Nagpur.

5th August 1947.

Subject:- The future of Berar.

My dear Menon,

I am desired to address you on the subject of the Nizam's flag in Berar, and to enclose in this connection copies of the following papers :-

- (1) a cutting from the HITAVADA of the 6th August reporting that "The Free Berar Committee has decided upon the boycott of the flag;
- (2) an extract from a report from the Commissioner, Berar, dated the 5th August 1947.
- (3) a handbill in Marathi issued by the joint auspices of the Yeotmal district 'Independent Berar' Committee and the Swayan Sewak Sangh, announcing a mass rally to take place on the 9th instant in order to "rid Berar" from the clutches of the Nizam.
- (4) a copy of wireless message from the District Superintendent of Police, Akola, to the D.I.G., Nagpur.

2. In this Government's Political and Military Department letter No. 804/Com dated the 7th July 1947 addressed to the Secretary to H.E. the Crown Representative, I gave an account of the state of affairs as it then existed in regard to the return of Berar to the Nizam. Our fortnightly confidential reports have endeavoured to keep the Government of India informed of the situation as it has developed.

3. The Nizam has since given an assurance that he would not have recourse to arms, but would abide by the result of the negotiations that are now in progress with the Centre. As far as we are aware, these negotiations are still in progress, and the consequent uncertainty, with the Independence Day fast approaching, has had the effect of making the political situation in Berar highly explosive. As few people know what is

going to happen, all kinds of wild rumours have found ready credence, and the various political elements have been encouraged to exploit it to their own party advantage. Let me premise by saying that the Muslim population of Berar is 8 per cent and the remaining 92 per cent are, with negligible exceptions, strongly opposed to the retention of the Nizam's connection, and they have all now joined in this agitation. First, the Free Berar Committee under the presidency of the Hon'ble Mr. Brijlal Biyani, contains all the non-Muslim Berar M.L.As. and practically all sections of non-Muslim political thought including the Hindu Mahasabha. On the night of the 5th, the Free Berar Committee is reported to have passed a resolution :

- (1) to boycott the Independence Day celebrations, and
- (2) to declare independence through public meetings held on and after the 15th, and require M.L.As. to retract their oaths of allegiance to the Nizam.

Latterly, the Hindustan Red Army, the Socialist Party and in fact all the leftist elements have joined the fray. The Hindustan Red Army under the leadership of Maganlal Bagdi and the Socialists under Mr. Dandekar have declared that in no circumstances would they allow the Nizam's flag to fly in Berar after the 15th. To achieve their object, they have started recruiting a body of a hundred thousand volunteers and arm and equip them by hook or by crook and to do all in their power to make Berar independent. The mass rally promised for the 9th is generally considered to be a test of their strength and is really a rehearsal of what is going to take place on the 15th and thereafter. The Provincial Government believes that the programme is such as would appeal to most non-Muslims and if, as is likely, these threats or a substantial proportion of them, are carried out, the repercussions on law and order in Berar, and indeed in the whole province, would be grave. The Provincial Government on its part has done all it can to bring the vital facts of the situation to the notice of the public, and in a recent speech at Akola, the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, (Pandit D.P. Mishra), has explained the position and told the public that in no circumstances



would Government allow Berar to go under the Nizam, that the entire resources of the Union Government and of the Provincial Government would be utilised in repelling an attack should one take place, that the Nizam had given an assurance that he would not cross the frontier and attempt to take Berar by force, and that the matter would be settled by peaceful negotiations. But unless an assurance is forthcoming that either the Nizam has acceded to the Union, or the Union Government have formally declared that the de jure sovereignty of the Nizam over Berar would cease after the 15th instant and that the Nizam would thereafter have no claim of any sort on Berar, the Provincial Government has little hope that the situation would improve. It is possible that a standstill agreement may be concluded with the Nizam by which the status quo would be maintained for a given period. The Provincial Government is convinced that this will not save the situation.

4. The Beraris feel that while the rest of India is going to be free from the 15th August, they alone are being forced to live under the sovereignty of the Nizam against their wishes and the Provincial Government fully sympathises with them. It would therefore urge upon the Government of India to do all in their power to remove the last vestige of the so-called de jure sovereignty of the Nizam over Berar. The Provincial Government will, of course, carry out to the best of its ability any settlement arrived at between the Centre and H.H.H. Nizam. But the feeling in the province on the subject is so intense that this Government has thought it its duty to place all the facts before the Government of India, so that the whole picture may be before them

25

Item

when the question is finally decided.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. P.S. Rau

To

V.P. Menon, Esqr., CSI., CIE., ICS.,  
Secretary to the Government of India,  
States Department,  
New Delhi.

No.

Dated Nagpur, the 7th August 1947.

Copy, with copies of the enclosures, is forwarded to R.N. Banerjee Esqr., CSI., CIE., ICS., Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, New Delhi, for information.

Sd. P.S. Rau

Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar,  
Political and Military Department.

26  
HITAVADA, dated the 6th August 47

**SETTLEMENT OF THE BERAR ISSUE,  
Action Committee warns India Government.**

**Boycott of Nizam's flag resolved upon.**

**Akola, August 5.-** The Free Berar Action and Executive Committees, after a four-hour session under the presidency of Mr. Brijlal Biyani last evening, unanimously resolved that any settlement between the India Government and the Nizam's Government over the Berar question, if it proved contrary to previous resolutions of the Committee and against the wishes of Berar public, would be "unacceptable and will be keenly resented by the people of Berar."

"This Committee wishes to reiterate its firm resolve not to accept the sovereignty of Nizam over Berar in any shape or form" the resolution added.

**Boycott of Nizam's flag.**

The resolution also directed all people of Berar to boycott any private or official function held after midnight of August 14 "at which the Nizam's flag is flown with the National flag." The resolution further requested members of C.P. Assembly "to withdraw their oath of allegiance to the Nizam on August 15 in public meetings and intimate the Speaker of the Assembly of his having done so."

**Resolutions text.**

It was further unanimously resolved that the Berar should hold meetings on August 14 and pass resolutions stating "We, the people of Berar henceforth owe no allegiance to the Nizam of Hyderabad and further that we are citizens of the Dominion of India."

The Berar members of the C.P. and Berar Congress Assembly Party are meeting here today to discuss the Berar question. The Vidharba Provincial Congress Committee is also meeting here to decide about their cooperation to the Free Berar Committee's resolution.

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27

Copy of wireless message from D.S.P., Akola, to D.I.G.  
and A.S.B., Nagpur, dated the 5th August 1947.

....

"Last night Free Berar Committee resolved (1) to boycott Independence Day celebrations, (2) to declare Berar independent through public meetings after the 15th and (3) M.L.As. to retract their oaths of allegiance to the Nizam."

....

25  
Extract copy of D.O.No. 228, dated the 5th August  
1947 from Commissioner, Berar Division, Amraoti.

...

It is, however, desirable that Government's policy  
in respect of the Nizam's flag should be decided as  
early as possible so that officers concerned with  
the maintenance of law and order might know what  
exactly they should do in dealing with any agitation  
against the flag.

\*\*\*\*\*

Immediate Code Telegram.

29<

Despatched New Delhi on 4-8-47 at 23-55 hrs.

Received Nagpur on 5-8-47 at 3-33 hrs.

From

To

Viceroy  
New Delhi

Governor,  
C.P.

No.3160-S.      The Nizam's Government state that demonstrations are being arranged in Berar with threats to remove Nizam's flags from buildings where they are flown. The Hyderabad government hope that action can be taken to prevent any movement calculated to create contempt or hatred against neighbouring state of Hyderabad, and particularly to prevent insults to Nizam's flag.

2.              Have you any information of such demonstrations?
3.              Negotiations with Hyderabad are now entering their last and most important and most difficult stage. Any incidents now might upset agreement being reached. Please do all you can to prevent ( ? )

Viceroy.

7

— आचार विरुद्ध जिवाकार —  
 कलकत्ता विज्ञान-संशोधन-संस्थान

स्वतंत्र वस्त्राङ्ग (मिनी) — यवतमाला  
 — तर्क —

विज्ञान विरोधी प्रचलित धर्म

समितिगत. १९४४ रोजी  
 मदतमान देखें मरणा

म. प्रोगी कुशलित (मजकरी जुवारी

मई मजकरी मरणा. १९४४ रोजी मई मजकरी  
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— पदम शास्त्रा व मलीमते जुवारी —  
 श्री. बाबा मरणा मरणा

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म. मजकरी विज्ञानी

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निम्न अक्षर आणवे

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32

1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

26th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I am enclosing herewith copies of three letters I have written to Sardar Baldev Singh. The one marked 'A' regarding posting of army in certain places in Berar was suggested by him, and I have written it on his suggestion.

Yours sincerely,

*Ashtakla*

The Hon. Shri  
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.

33

A

1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

25th July 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

The events in Berar are developing fast. Notwithstanding the fact that the Nizam may do nothing and enter into a stand-still agreement with the Government of India, the possibility of infiltration of irregulars is so great that it cannot be overlooked. Confidential information suggests that there may be trouble here and there in places in Berar. To guard against the same, it is necessary that in some places in Berar, army may be posted so as to create a feeling of security in the people and prevent miscreants from creating trouble. The places where and how many soldiers have to be posted may be settled in consultation with the Provincial Government.

Yours sincerely,

( R.S.Shukla )

The Hon.Sgt.Sardar Baldev Singh,  
Member for Defence, Govt.of India,  
New Delhi.

34  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

25th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

The Hon'ble the Premiers of various provinces desire to celebrate the Independence Day on the 15th of August next in a fitting manner. One of the important items of the proposed celebration is the holding of military parade wherever possible. In my province, Jubbulpore, Khamton and Nagpur are the most important places where this parade can be held; in fact, wherever there is military, the parade may be held. We suggest that ~~which~~ the same programme be observed as is proposed for the Centre. I shall be obliged if you kindly issue general instructions to the military authorities in my province that they do fix up a programme of the parade and other programmes in consultation with the Provincial Government.

Yours sincerely,

( R.S.Shukla )

The Hon. Sd. Sardar Baldev Singh,  
Member for Defence, Govt. of India,  
New Delhi.

35  
1, Gunning Lane,  
New Delhi.

25th July 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I may be allowed to draw your attention to a matter of vital importance to my province (C.P. & Berar). There is a historic fort of Sitabuldi in the city of Nagpur overlooking the Nagpur railway station and the old town on one side and the new rising town in the civil lines on the other. Last year there was a proposal to hand over this Fort to the C.P. Government, but for some reasons the matter was postponed. Perhaps now those reasons do not exist. The Army Headquarters are at Kemptee, about 2 miles from Nagpur, and it may or may not be necessary to locate a small force in that Fort. This question, however, may be decided later on. The immediate necessity is to permit the Provincial Government to celebrate the inauguration of the new independent Government in the Fort in a fitting manner and in the presence of the citizens of Nagpur and to have the National Flag hoisted on the Fort by the Prime Minister. I shall be thankful if you kindly issue instructions immediately to the Officer Commanding the Army at Kemptee and Sitabuldi Fort to permit the Provincial Government to make all arrangements in a fitting manner in the Fort for the celebration and have the National Flag hoisted as proposed. An early reply communicating the permission sought for will be highly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

( R.S.Shukla )

The Hon.Sgt.Sardar Baldev Singh,  
Member for Defence, Govt. of India,  
New Delhi.



1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

26th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I am enclosing herewith a number of reports I received from Nagpur regarding the Berar situation. You must have seen that the Free Berar Committee is carrying on its propaganda in favour of free Berar (free from Nizam's suzerainty). This is being taken advantage of by Socialists in my province, headed by Maganlal Bagdi, V.S. Dandekar, and others. There is in Nagpur the Hindustan Red Army organization, working under Dandekar and Maganlal Bagdi, and though they have kept their identity separate as Hindustan Red Army, they have made a common cause with the C.P. & Berar Socialist Party. They are reported to have seen Jai Prakash Narain, the Socialist leader, at Bombay and have now come to Berar and want to take advantage of the situation for strengthening their organizations. The report states that Maganlal Bagdi, announcing the policy of the All-India Socialist Party, said that the Socialist Party under the lead of Jai Prakash Narain has decided to win over the platform by fighting out the Berar's anti-retrocession movement with the help of the Hindustan Red Army. They want to collect about Rs.50,000. I do not know how far it is correct, but it is stated in this report that the Yeotmal District Free Berar Committee had promised to enrol about 15,000 volunteers and to collect Rs.25,000 from the Yeotmal District alone to facilitate the Hindustan Red Army to carry on the anti-retrocession campaign. Some persons, who belong to the Nizam's territory, are reported to have promised to supply the Hindustan Red Army with arms. How far these promises are likely to be fulfilled I cannot say. But one thing seems to me to be certain that these people, in the name of Socialist Party, are taking advantage of the situation, and at the psychological moment (they have chosen the 9th of August) they propose to employ revolutionary methods. The following programme is said to have been fixed by them :-

- (1) The Socialist Party and the Hindustan Red Army will start the movement on the 9th of August;
- (2) Rally of volunteers (one lakh) to be held at Yeotmal on 9th August. Jai Prakash Narain, Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali and Dr. Ram

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-2-

Manohar Lohia are expected to address the volunteers;

(3) Hindustan Red Army volunteers will go in batches in different districts of Berar and collect funds and enrol volunteers for the movement.

(4) Conveying of the decision of the Provincial Socialist Party and the Red Army Council to Swami Ramanand Tirth, President of the Hyderabad State Congress, and asking him to start a similar movement in the State on the 9th of August;

(5) All arms in the police stations, reserve lines, and in possession of private individuals were public property and to be used by the Hindustan Red Army in this movement. It was also disclosed by Dandekar that Red Army was in possession of arms, and it is reported that the Socialist workers who were recruited in the Bombay province military forces had secretly smuggled some arms.

(6) To open fighting base of Hindustan Red Army at Yeotmal and some selected bordering places.

(7) All members vowed to fight to the last till they wiped out the Nizam's forces and the Nizam's flags from Berar;

(8) They also declared that there would be a free Berar parallel Government after the 15th of August in Berar if the present Government failed to sympathise with their movement.

I feel that some prompt action is necessary to nip the mischief in the bud. It cannot be denied that Berar people have got their sympathy with them. People ordinarily do not think whether these men are capable of doing anything but they are led away by their high-sounding professions and exhortations. Their arrest and detention may cause resentment and criticism, but, to me, seems inevitable. One of their acts, viz., the pulling down of Nizam's flag on the 15th of August from all buildings wherever it is hoisted, will receive universal sympathy from all persons. The C.P. members of the Constituent Assembly have also passed a resolution, a copy of which has been sent to you, requesting that the suzerainty of Nizam over Berar should be ended forthwith. I seek your advice and instruction in this matter. If I get my reservation in train, I would go to Lucknow tonight, and on return from there, I hope to get your instructions to

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be communicated to Nagpur for necessary action in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

*R.S. Shukla*

( R.S. Shukla )

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

39  
Secret.

Copy of Area Officer Akola's report dated, Camp Basim, the 17th July 1947.

1. I proceeded to Jalna on the 14th with the source, collected intelligence and at Hyderabad on the 15th and 16th. I arrived at Basim on the 17th with the source, who is being sent back to Buldana today. I could not submit any report from Hyderabad, for want of suitable place, besides it was noticed that outsiders in the hotels etc. are strictly under police watch. The source contacted the President, Secretary etc. of the Ittehadul-e-Muslamin whom he knew and I contacted the Arya Samaj and State Congress workers with a man from Hyderabad. The details of the information collected are as follows :-

2. The Ittehadul-e-Muslamin is an organisation which takes its cues from the All-India Muslim League. Syed Kasim Ali Rizvi and Mohd. Yamin Zuberi both of Hyderabad are the President and Secretary respectively of the organisation. The organisation is looked upon by the Hindus of Hyderabad as the second eye of H.E.H. the Nizam. The Secretary has been known to be visiting Mr. M.A. Jinnah occasionally and both the President and Secretary call on H.E.H. the Nizam practically every day. The programme is said to consist of the following points (a) collection of funds for the State of Pakistan by resorting to "Goondaism" if necessary, (b) Conversion of Hindus to Muslims religion, (c) Killing the Hindus during riots with a view to decrease their population. In this connection it is said that females as far as possible should be saved, converted and kept in the keeping with a view to increase the Muslim population, (d) To popularise the Hyderabad Administration by saying that the State has everything in plenty and obtainable at moderately cheap rates. They are known to have sent about 1000 volunteers all over the Dominion of Hyderabad including Berar for propagating the above principles. G. Allauddin, a contractor and a millionaire, is said to be the king of these hirelings "Gundas". He is recently said to have purchased 50 jeeps (military cars) with a view to remove the wealth and men from one place to the other. H.E.H. the Nizam is said to be financing the movement along with the aforesaid Allauddin from their personal funds. "Habib Bank" whose head office is at Bombay is said to be the depository of the fund and money so collected. It was learnt that on the last "Bakar-Id" Day the house of the said Allauddin was searched in the times of Sir Mirza Ismail since the riot was apprehended and weapons were found at his place. Sir Mirza Ismail for whom Hindus have a soft corner has resigned and the aforesaid G. Allauddin is again considered to be a terror. The son of Allauddin is an editor of a paper "Nizam" which is a Muslim League organ. There are other papers namely Nizam Gazette (daily), Rahbar Deccan (daily), Tanzim (daily) and Wakht (daily) who also indulge in Muslim League propaganda. It is said amongst the Hindus at Hyderabad that by the 15th of Aug. when there will be transference of power this organisation will have infiltrated the "Goonda" element in Berar with a view to create panic in the minds of the Berar Hindus so as to compel the residents of Berar to acknowledge the suzerainty of the Nizam. There is a section amongst Hindus who consider the possibility of an invasion over Berar if the Berar issue is not amicably settled but the intelligentsia does not think in that strain since the Nizam is not considered to be sufficiently powerful as to overthrow the power of the Indian Government. I contacted one Mr. Vincent V.C.O. who is a resident of Hyderabad. He opined that the so-called invasion over Berar is not possible since the Nizam has to depend for things like petrol and others on the Indian Government. The present military strength according to him is not more than 50000 which are stationed at Hyderabad, Aurangabad etc. He was, however, saying that according to the present policy of the State, "Goondaism" is a possibility. He believed that the military might help instead of quelling the "Goondas". The recruitment of Pathans and Arabs in the State forces is going on rapidly. It is said amongst the Hindus that "Gundas" are already active in the State



and every day some report or the other is being received. The Police has a large majority of Muslims and are said to connive at such things. It is also said that new Pathans are noticed on the border towns of Berar and it is considered that they would create disturbances at any time. The general question put up by the Hindus is "What steps the Congress is taking in the Province of C.P. & Berar to check this nuisance?" Pandit Narendraj of the Arya Samaj, a revolutionary type propagandist, is arranging tour to Berar to caution the Hindu public to prepare themselves to meet the coming eventuality. Hon. Venkat Rama Reddi is a depressed class Minister in the State. Through him the Harijans are advised to be with the Government and he has succeeded in this to a great extent.

3. The source went to the inner circle of the Ittehadul-e-Musalmin where he found Sarfarazkhan, Head Master, Anjuman High School, Khamgaon, also sitting. The source talked in their strain and noticed that these people emphasised their demand over Berar. They expressed discontent over the statement of Lord Mountbatten, the Viceroy of India, "that under no circumstances the administration could be handed over to the State". Sarfarazkhan of Khamgaon remarked that had the "Free Berar Committee" accepted the suzerainty of the Nizam over Berar and demanded separate unit of Berar to have a free choice in her administration, the Muslims of Berar would have joined with them and compelled the Nizam to grant the same but in view of their stand of complete independence from the Nizam they have unnecessarily worsened the situation and it is difficult to say at this stage what turn the whole thing would take. The President of the Anjuman Ittehadul-e-Musalmin remarked that they would as far as possible try to avoid blood-shed. When questioned about the likely invasion over Berar, he remarked that it is the concern of the Nizam who would decide.

4. The persons known to be visiting Hyderabad are (1) Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh of Amraoti, (2) Abdul Rehman Khan of Khamgaon, (3) Sarfarazkhan of Khamgaon, Kutubuddin or Basim, (4) Kazi Karimuddin of Yeotmal. As regards Ganariwala Marwadi of Walgaon (Amraoti) it was learnt from Swami Narendraj that he was favouring Sir Mirza Ismail not out of any bad motive but to exploit his good wishes to suppress the "Goonda" element in the State, since it was said that he was fairly balanced minded in administration. The names of Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh and Swamy pleader from Chanda are being prominently uttered by the Hindus at Hyderabad as being the puppets of the State Government with selfish motives. No names of any individuals being financed by the Nizam amongst Hindus in Berar could be known. It is said that grant of donations to Hindu and Harijan institutions in Berar is a bait to exploit the public opinion.

5. Hyderabad produces few arms at Bid and Wazirabad but they are not the factories to produce armaments of modern warfare. The Sikhs at Nanded are said to be expert in preparing country guns and revolvers. Many Muslims in the State are said to be in possession of unlicensed guns and revolvers. The Hindus too are progressing in that respect. Narendraj is said to be able to procure arms for the Hindus while the aforesaid G. Allauddin supplies to the Muslims. He is also said to have sent such goods secretly in Berar by hand or parcels for the use of Muslims.

6. I could not come across any instance wherein money or instructions were sent by post though I contacted a postal employee. The propaganda is said to consist of verbal instructions to the paid propagandists and money is also said to be likewise given either personally or through the Muslim League organisations in Berar through the agency of "Habib Bank".

7. The Hindus in general appear to be panicky over their future and the businessmen are trying to remove their capital to the Indian Union. The Hindus seem to be wholeheartedly in favour of the Berar's independence from the Nizam and are prepared to help to any extent if need be. A big official of the State whom I came across in the train deprecated the hoodliganism on the part of the

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Muslims in the State in very strong words. On the contrary the source heard in the train some Muslim riff-raff element talking that they would shed their blood for the desire of the Nizam to take back Berar. They claimed that they had a force of 3 lacs of Muslims by their side including that of the State forces.

8. At Jalna it was learnt that one Abdul Rahim (a brick contractor) has with him bundles of lathis. Kalandarkhan and Alam Khan, owners of cinema talkies at Jalna, have with them few unlicensed guns. Karimuddin Nandediwala of Jalna is said to be the treasurer of the funds for the supply of arms. At a Muslim house in Morandi Mohalla, a technician from Bid, was brought who is known to have prepared spears, swords, daggers etc. Kasam Ali Kachhi @ Kansai & Haji Seth of Deolgaon Raja who have business at Jalna are known to be securing arms on payment to be distributed. It was also learnt that at a Muslim house in Moholla Kadarabad (Jalna) experiments to prepare country bombs were made. These are the few instances which I could come across to justify the fears of the Hindus specially at Berar border to be the likely victims of "Goondaism". Jalna is only 14 miles from Deolgaon Raja. Attempts to find out such cases at Kanergaon and Hingoli on the border of Basim were made but nothing could be known for want of good contacts.

I am trying to collect intelligence at Basim. Tomorrow I shall proceed to Akola.

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"121. General :

Vigorous recruitment of Pathans is in progress in the Nizam's State. In the Grand Trunk Express of the 5th instant a bogie packed up with Pathans who were despatched from Delhi for Hyderabad for recruitment in the force passed through Chanda. It is learnt that these Pathans are being collected and despatched from Delhi by some one deputed by the Nizam Government for the purpose."

Dated 13-7-47.

I. Following propaganda is being carried out in Nizam State:-

(1) Free distribution of cloth and grain is made within the border of the State and near about in vicinity specially Berar border. This is done to make the people believe that Nizam Dominion is better than the rest.

(2) Muslim League branches have recently been opened and are opening in various places in order to carry out propaganda and to give training (military) to Muslims. These branches are started specially at Chinchama (Tah. Basim) Miura (Tah. Pusad). Free distribution of arms to Muslims is made by the State through these branches.

(3) Money is being paid through these branches to the persons and organisations who carry propaganda in favour of Nizam viz. Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh from Amraoti and group. Paid Muslim League workers are organising Muslim League branches specially in such villages where Muslim population forms the influential part of population.

II. Reactions : Muslims have begun to think that they are the masters of Berar. Muslims do certain actions to bring Hindus in trouble and when any complaint is made against them no action is taken by the Police. On the other hand they are pressing the Government to disarm the Hindus saying that "Islam is in danger". They are carrying arms with them without any restriction and are threatening the other community. This feeling has gained ground more on account of the fact that recently the Provincial Government has taken away arms from all the people in Berar. These arms are the only means of protection and self defence with rich and influential people among the Hindus. The fear of law is more with the law abiding people than with the Goondas. These goondas are generally to be found among the Muslims only. This is the experience of all.

The Rajgaon market which is on the border (Basim Taluqa) has been closed on account of the various mischiefs of Muslims from the interior of the State. Some military people from Nizam visit the market places and villages in the guise of merchants to create panic among the people there. Villages are guarded by Pathans with the idea of suppressing the uprisings, if any. These Pathans are well-equipped with arms, military being apart from this.

The people are panic-stricken and are at a loss to know what to do and are solely dependant on the Government help which is nil at present.

The last but not the least important matter is that the Nizam Muslim League has distributed pamphlets to the effect that the Muslims should destroy the property of the Hindus, should kidnap Hindu girls and children, destroy temples within and without the State.

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A.O. Akola's Periodical Report No.251/47, d/- 3.7.47.

"104(2) :

The Yeotmal source has reported that of late knives which once opened cannot be roided without pressing the button are being noticed. He says that they are being sold by a Muslim shop-keeper in Bhaji Bazar. The sale according to him are mostly amongst the Muslims. He has further reported that one Mir Amjat-khan Rohilla of v.Pattan (Hyderabad) occasionally visits Yeotmal and puts up one Hajisaheb Tobacco merchant. The source reports that the aforesaid Rohilla brings with him cartridges and gives them to Haji Saheb. He has also reported that one Shankarlal Motilal Patel of Chichburdi (Yeotmal) is in possession of a muzzle loading country pistol which he has brought from his relation in Maniknagar (Hyderabad). He has further reported that one Hamidshah Musalman Patel of v.Gondwaki (S.H.Pandharkasda) is in possession of a machine to prepare cartridges which he sells. I am personally looking up into these reports when I go to ~~Yeotmal~~ Yeotmal."

A.O. Akola's Periodical Report No.251/47, d/- 3.7.47.

"102(4) : There is a widespread talk amongst the Hindus that the Muslims in general are collecting arms secretly. A report in 'Matribhumi' about the formation of 'Hatya Rasani' committee in Berar whose object is to supply arms to the Muslims has added to this belief. The Buldana source had reported about the formation of this committee which was included in my report, d/- the 18th May. Since then the enquiries about the details of the committee are being made but so far nothing definite could be known. There are vague reports of the arms being smuggled from Hyderabad State."

Secret.

44  
Area Office, Camp.  
Deolgaon Raja, d/- 13.7.47.

A.S.B.

(1) In continuation of my report of the 12th instant from Buldana, it is submitted that at Buldana it was learnt that about a week ago few weapons, swords, spears, daggers etc. were received by one Abdul Jabbar s/o Mohd. Ibrahim, a Muslim Leaguer. The weapons are known to have come from Jalna side. It is said that a secret branch for the purpose of the Muslim Leaguers functions at Buldana of which Abdul Jabbar, a shoe merchant, K.S. (a Ibrahim Ali Khan, Pleader, and Abdul Razzak, Pleader, are member. The services of "Deccan Motor Service Co. Ltd." of Deolgaon Raja whose managing Director is Mirza Karamatullah Khan of Deolgaon Raja are said to be utilised for this purpose. The letters or correspondence is also said to be conveyed through the reliable Muslim drivers of this company who go up to Wagrul and at times even beyond that. The father of Abdul Jabbar is a physician and the correspondence is in the name of the hospital. The aforesaid Abdul Jabbar Pleader is the legal adviser of this company.

(2) At Deolgaon Raja I contacted few persons both Hindus and Muslims. The Hindus claim that the Muslims receive the arms from the Nizam's Dominions secretly which are later on sent to Buldana, Khamgaon, etc. The grounds for the same are as follows:-

(a) It is learnt that (1) Mirza Karamatullah Khan, (2) Ibrahim Sk. Lal Patel, (3) Mohd. Khan Hussain Khan and (4) Haji Seth form the secret nucleus of the Muslim League Organisation who are believed to be the recipients of the arms from the State Muslim Organisation (Ittehadul-e-Musalmin).

(b) Mirza Karamatullah Khan has been noticed getting arms from Jafferabad side - via Satephal - cart tract through his brother-in-law Mirza Bismilla Beg in closed carts. The neighbour of the aforesaid Karamatullah Khan is one Narayan Asaram carpenter. Mirza He has told me that he himself has seen such carts loaded with boxes with weapons coming to Mirza's house at least 3 times in the month of June. They come either at night or early in the morning. The aforesaid Narayan saw once some swords falling from within the box when accidentally the box broke. He was going to ease himself and saw them from fairly close quarters.

(c) Mohd. Khan Hussain Khan haakix his relatives at Jalna from where he is said to get the arms.

(d) Mohd. Ibrahim is said to be receiving the arms through one Kalandarkhan, a Muslim gunda at Jalna. There is no direct evidence for this.

(e) Haji Seth is said to be the treasurer of the funds that are collected in the mosque on every Friday. He is said to have sent the amount to Jalna, where he has a branch shop. One Satter Pahlawan of Jalna is also known to help in the supply of these arms.

(f) It is also learnt that about a month back a lorry No. 110 belonging to Deccan Motor Service went straight to Bid (where there is an arms factory) and from there the presumption is that some arms were brought and were immediately sent to Buldana and Khamgaon.

(g) One Sadashil Halwai of Deolgaon Raja, who is employed in the military at Jalna regularly visits this place on Saturday. He told some people that about a week ago on his way he noticed one Muslim servant of Kalandarkhan of Jalna in the bus. On arrival the said servant delivered a chit with three boxes to Mirza Karamatullah Khan whereupon these boxes are known to have been immediately shifted in special bus to Chikhli.

(h) From what I have learnt at Deolgaon Raja, there is a reasonable presumption to believe that this place is being used as a gateway

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for the supply of arms to Muslims in West Berar. There is a direct evidence against Mirza Karamatullah Khan and reasonable presumption against others. The bullock carts are the chief means of carrying these arms up to Deolgaon Raja and thereafter the services of Deccan Motor Service seem to be used.

(3) There are various reports about Muslim meetings at mosques and also it is learnt that a man from Jalna regularly comes on Friday and visits mosques and presumably gives instructions. I have set up men to find out the details of such meetings and report to me at Akola.

(4) The Hindus at Deolgaon Raja are found to be nervous, not so much, on account of any likely invasion by the Nizam but more on account of "Goondalism" that might be created in the interest of the Nizam Government. It was noticed here that since about a fortnight stone throwing on different Hindu localities has become very common and in spite of the vigilance of the police the mischief-mongers could not be located. On the night of 12th, I also casually took a round and noticed that stones are really thrown. There was only one Muslim house (a big one) in this locality from where the people suspected the stones to be coming. When the police called him out, the stone throwing stopped. The Hindus suspect that the Muslims are instigating the Muslim gundas to create disturbances or spread panic and their suspicion appears true.

(5) A company of State Forces was halting at v. Waghurul and its strength was about 130 excluding officers. It was equally distributed at Waghurul, Suwangi and Paradh all on this district border. The officers and soldiers used to visit Deolgaon Raja, Buldana, Dhad, etc. the purpose given out by them was that of "shikar". They gave out that they were placed at strategic points to guard the smuggling of grain etc. from the State. I noticed in the bazar that grain smuggled was for sale and the purpose given out by them cannot so far be disbelieved. It is learnt that on the advent of rains the military from these places has been withdrawn and sent back to Hyderabad. The fear of the Hindus that this military was posted to invade Berar, from the enquiry so far made, appears to be baseless.

(6) It is learnt here that instructions were given by the Ittehad-ul-Muslim League organisation in Hyderabad to foment disturbances on the Berar border just to ease the matters of the State to take possession of Berar if necessary. This is only a talk, of few men who came to this side about a month back who also gave out that few "Urdu" posters to that effect were also pasted in mosques. I shall enquire about that at Jalna.

(7) Nothing could be known from contacts in the post office, if any money was being regularly received from any organisation or person in Hyderabad.

(8) A Muslim League car is noticed plying between Khamgaon and Jalna. The car is said to be moving in suspicious circumstances. Its number as far as the source could remember is "Aurangabad 58". The colour of the car is said to be yellowish.

Sd. H.G. Linsay.

A.O., Akola.

Secret

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Area Office, Akola,  
D/- the 14th July 1947.

A.S.B.

(1) On the night of 13th few stones again were thrown on the Hindu locality. The police having sent for some Muslim gundas sitting in a house, the stones stopped.

(2) It is learnt that some Muslims sit in the house close to Champalal Motisa Jain where they talk about the "Goondalism" that they are supposed to create in the interest of Nizam's Government who is to take possession of Berar. Champalal Motisa heard all such talks.

(3) It appears that the Anjuman-e-Ittehadul Mussalmin, the organisation in the Hyderabad territories, are having instigating the 'gundas' to resort to such things with a view to terrorise the Hindu population. The exact programme of the aforesaid organisation could not be known for which I am proceeding to Jaina and even further if necessary.

(4) The Muslim youths of this place are known to be troubling the Hindu girls while they go out to fetch water and other purposes. On confidential enquiry there appears some truth in the allegations.

(5) The instructions are known to be carried verbally or through messengers from adjoining Hyderabad State and the Hindus appear to be panicky on this account. I am trying to get hold of some definite programme chalked out by the aforesaid Muslim organisation.

(6) The S.I., Deolgaon Raja, is informed about the details of such things and one Mareyan Wadhi was also confronted before him who admitted that he saw the swords etc. coming to this place as reported by me yesterday. The police is alert.

Sd. H.G.Limsay.

Camp-Deolgaon Raja.

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14th, 15th and 16th July 1947.

Propaganda and views of Nizam State public.

There is no propaganda in favour of Berar by any party from within or without the State, but some of the groups specially Hindus do not wish Berar to be included in Nizam Dominion because they themselves are suffering a lot and hence do not wish their brothers in Berar to suffer also.

On the other hand the Nizam Government and Muslim League and other Musalmans and some Harijans are in favour of including Berar in the Nizam Dominions.

Move from Nizam Government.

A committee has been appointed to have negotiations in this respect with the Government of India and Provincial Govts concerned. Constitutional adviser of Hyderabad State has advised the Nizam to be independent so that automatically Berar will come to Nizam by taking the advantage of treaty of 1853 in which it was decided that the Nizam should have the control over Berar and have his administration there (Treaties and Agreement). Sir Mirza Ismail had proposed to Nizam to enter the Constituent Assembly and then press for the question of Berar but it was not accepted by the Anjuman Ittehadul Musalmin and they further advised the Nizam Govt. to be independent. The motto of the Nizam Govt. will testify; it runs as follows :-

जुगल दारा न दखनी कबिले गरदन अदनी.

This sentence is one of those which were told by Aurangzeb at the time of his death to Nizamulmulk.

Visitors and their activities.

On 14-7-47 the Headmaster of Anjuman High School, Khangaon, visited some of the officials of the State and Muslim League workers with whom he had a talk for about 3 hours. He is a staunch Muslim Leaguer and probably a president of Berar Muslim League. It is known from reliable sources that he was here to ask the Muslims of this place and H.E.H. the Nizam to take speedy action regarding retrocession of Berar and that Berar Muslims are prepared to do any kind of activities for seeing Berar in the Nizam State. If Nizam State invades Berar, Muslims of that place will clear the path for them and do any service for the cause of Nizam.

To terrorise the Hindus of the State so that they may not be of any use in the struggle of Berar against Nizam they are doing all sorts of atrocities on them e.g. in Beedar, a place in Nizam, properties of Hindu merchants were looted during the night by breaking open the locks of the shops under the very nose of police officials. At that time the shopkeepers were asleep in their respective houses. After looting the shops were burnt. Though this was in view the press conference called by the Congress on 15-7-47 a question was put by one of the press representatives as to what action State Congress people are going to take in case of Berar. The reply given was that the Bazaris should manage and decide their question and is none of their business and responsibility.

Beth Cancellor from Hyderabad has so far requested the Nizam Government that the Nizam Government should not believe in the sweet words of Mr. Punjabrao Deshmukh and his party as he is a representative of all party conference because he is supposed to be an impartial. Today he will show that he is in favour of Nizam tomorrow he will side against. For propaganda in Berar Mr. P. Deshmukh, some Harijan, Muslim Organisation in Berar get financial help in large amount always.

On 15-7-47 one procession was being conducted by Muslim League in Hingoli and it terminated near the motor stand where a meeting was held in which the speeches were delivered saying that they are



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independent and Berar is theirs and they will take by even force if necessary. According to the ~~case~~ of M.L., destruction, looting, kidnapping and even killing the Hindu property and lives is the main theme of the speeches delivered. In one village between Umarhed and Hatgaon nearly 400 ~~xxx~~ houses were looted and destroyed and burnt by the organised goondas from the Nizam State. Troops have been posted on the border of Berar which begins from Painganga river and near about Manded, Pusad border, Risod, Kanhergaon on Basim border, Deolgaon in Buldana and others.

The standing army on the border is estimated to be about 15000 scattered throughout the border. They comprise of Arabs, Pathans, Moplas and Rohilas. Their irregular forces also are working in the interior of the State; besides this there is regular recruitment from amongst the Muslim goondas and Pathans to the military and Police Department. In these recruitments none except Muslims are admitted. Some people tried to enlist themselves but they were refused admission on one pretext or the other.

#### Arrangements.

Transport. All the railways and road transport is under State control. New buses, trucks, jeep cars and other vehicles are either purchased by the State or Muslims of the State. Hindus are not given licence for plying public services and they are not getting these cars from the Govt. They cannot purchase vehicles. This is done to get petrol stocked for the State and the Muslims in sufficient quantity. In case of emergency such as struggle with other State or Govt. these services will automatically be converted for military use and public traffic will be totally stopped. Bren Gun factory has been purchased by Khan Bahadur Allauddin a staunch Muslim Leaguer and arms and ammunitions are freely distributed amongst the Muslim population.

Nearly 500 tanks are stationed at a military station near Secunderabad and many more are said to have been sent to different places in the Dominion.

The Hyderabad Government in this way is fully prepared with arms and ammunition and forces to take possession of Berar at any cost.

Muslims also freely talking of the strength and views in and outside the State.

#### Views and activities of Hindu public.

In case this State is economically boycotted by the Hindustan Government it is highly probable that the Hindu public in State will not get their ration on the pretext that their people do not provide with ration etc. as the ration in the State is insufficient.

At present the State Government has a stock of food and other articles which will last for about 5 years to some. This stock is likely to be utilized for military and Muslim public use.

The Hindu public is however alive to the fact that their existence is in danger and are making preparation for any eventuality and they are ready to face.

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Provincial Fouji Council of the Hindustan Red Army in session.

The annual session of the Provincial Fouji Council of the Hindustan Red Army was held at Yeotmal on the 15th, 16th and 17th July, about 150 persons including Fouji Councillors, Socialist Party members and volunteers of the HRA from Akola, Amraoti, Gondia, Tumsar, Balaghat, Bhandara, Yeotmal and Nagpur attending. Some of the most prominent Socialists present in the session were Maganlal Bagdi, V.S.Dandekar, M.N.Gurao, Bappulal Bawaria, Pathade, Bhaskar Choure, Manchhalwar, Hari Krishna Varma, Vasant Deshpande, Prabhakar Rohanker, Madhavarao Warkhedkar, Baliram Jadhao, Madhavarao Randale, Mahadeo Pd. Gupta, Sharma (Khapa), Professor Ranjan and Mrs.Durgatai Joshi.

2. Lodging and Boarding.

Lodging and boarding arrangements were made by Mandkumar Agrawal at Mor Bhuwan while Sinha (Bihar) was in charge of the session arrangements which were made in Mahajan Wadi. I would like to make a mention here that Sinha, whose full particulars are lacking, belongs to the Bihar revolutionary party and has been specially deputed to this province to organise a branch of the Party at C.P. and Berar.

15th July.

3. Since Maganlal Bagdi, who had been to Bombay directly from Nagpur to see Jai Prakash Narayan, could not arrive at Yeotmal at the scheduled time, the session had to be postponed for a day. However, the day was utilised for military demonstrations. Madhukar Retar, who wanted to hold parades and take out route marches on the 15th July failed in his attempts, the weather being unfavourable.

16th July.

4. Maganlal Bagdi, who arrived at Yeotmal from Bombay on 16th July went in a conference with V.S.Dandekar, M.N.Gurao and Sinha. He narrated the talks he had at Bombay with Jai Prakash Narayan. He emphasised the importance of retaining Berar in the Indian Union and pointed out that Chhattisgarh and Bastar State would be the best centres to give a fight to the Nizam in case attempts were made for the return of Berar to E.H.H. the Nizam. Bagdi disclosed that he has studied the situation of Bastar State and added that the jungles would provide better facilities to the Socialists for a guerilla warfare with the Nizam. He then stressed the importance of strengthening the Gondia, Tumsar and Chhattisgarh branches of the H.R.A. since according to him volunteers could be easily inserted in the Bastar State jungles from these places.

General Meeting of Fouji Council.

5. After the conference, the Fouji Council started its general session under the presidency of Maganlal Bagdi. Since the general meeting was permitted to discuss and put forth proposals for acceptance by the Fouji Council, no resolution would be passed. The annual report with the Party's economical position was read out, members were further instructed to hurry up with the collection of Jai Prakash Narayan Fourse Fund; councillors of the old Fouji Council were congratulated, undesirable ousted and more efficient persons were taken up in the existing vacancies. Kisan Bhute, Pathade, Mahadeo Agrawal and Mahadeo Pawar who were removed from the Fouji Council were replaced by Balaram Jadhao, Madhukar Retar, Sinha and Professor Ranjan.

Fouji Council's Meeting.

6. After these formalities, Maganlal Bagdi delivered his speech to the councillors of the Fouji Council narrating the future of Berar and explaining the policy of the HRA in relation to Berar's position. When Bagdi tried to obtain opinions of the Berar Volunteers on Berar's future, Mandkumar Agrawal suggested that the

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question of Berar should be settled amicably with legal negotiations with the Nizam. Sinha who had studied the Berar border situation intervened and pointed out that the Nizam has fortified the boundary by keeping his forces ready to take over possession of Berar. He added that in case Nizam invades Berar at a surprise the Party position would be critical. In this connection he described the hostile attitude of the Congress Govt towards the Socialist Party and said that the Govt would never assist the Party in its motive of retaining Berar in the Indian Union. The Hon'ble Pandit D.P. Mishra was condemned for the seizure of firearms from the Hindus and described his policy as a suicidal one. Hari Krishna Varma intervened and in his emotional speech appealed to the audience not to become obstacles in the Party's policy over Berar's question.

The Fouji Council endorsed the suggestions made in the general meeting. Endorsing the suggestions the Fouji Council adopted an important resolution deciding to start guerilla warfare with the Nizam as early as possible. The Council in the same resolution decided to paralyse all attempts of the Nizam in taking over possession of Berar by dislocating the lines of communication and by sponsoring sabotage programme, in Nizam's dominions. Cutting of railway lines, telegraph and telephone connection, destroying railway and road bridges, burning the post offices and police stations and looting the State banks were included in the forthcoming programme of the guerilla warfare with the Nizam. The meeting ordered members to start collection of arms and ammunition for the fight. It was also thought necessary to store sword sticks and similar weapons which could be easily carried through umbrellas and cycle pumps. The councillors were further instructed to collect men of confidence to enter the Nizam's dominions for the warfare. They, according to the Fouji Council, would be inserted in Muslim dresses and would pose as umbrella repairers. These men, it was suggested, should after their entry in the dominions ~~start~~ start killing of Muslims at the first chance and thus to create a chaos.

It would be obligatory for the head office to convey instructions to the fighters from time to time. It was pointed out that V.S. Dandekar would work over ground while Meganalal Bagdi, Gurao, Retar and Rohankar should start work underground immediately.

Attempts of the Free Berar Committee were appreciated but no confidence was shown in the attitude of Mr. Biyani and Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh who were described as enemy No.1 of Berar.

The Fouji Council closed its session after instructing members to comply with the programme to report developments by the 1st of August. The undergrounders would minutely study the situation in the Nizam's dominions up till the 1st August and would start the fight with the Nizam from the 15th August if he tried to take over possession of Berar.

#### 17th July.

7. On the 17th July members of the Fouji Council and Socialists were advised to go to their respective places to obtain the assents of the progressive groups towards the programme of the Fouji Council. The members were asked to cooperate with them only on condition that they would work with the Party.

#### Conclusion.

8. Since the policy of the Socialist Party saw the day's light and since they have taken a very important decision at this session it has its own significance. The session, it is said, was a great success.

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Representatives from Akola, Amraoti, Wardha, Gondia, Hingnaghat, Chhindwara, Jubbulpore, Khandwa and Raipur districts Socialist Party attended the meeting of the C.P. & Berar Socialist Party and the Hindustan Red Army Council at Yeotmal on the 16th and 17th held under the presidentship of Maganlal Bagdi. The prominent who attended the meeting as reported by the source were Achutrao Deshpande of Akola, Abooj Pleadar of Basim, V.S. Dandekar Shammurayan Kashmiri, Dr. Gour, Sanghai, Ramdheke, Shamlal Varma and 83 volunteers of the H.R.A. of the Nagpur district. Senade of Hingnaghat, Raghunath Anand Deshmukh and Prof. Rajan of Bombay, Maganlal Bagdi, V.S. Dandekar and Shammurayan Kashmiri came to Yeotmal on the 16th from Bombay after having a full discussion and clear directive from Jai Prakash Narayan, the Socialist leader. After Bagdi's arrival, he called a meeting of the Yeotmal Dist. Free Berar Committee attended by Dr. S.K. Kane (HMS), M.P. Kolhe (Nationalist) and other members, including the two M.L.As., Daulat Laxman Khadse and Godaji Sakharam Mukhare of Pusad. Mrs. Durgatal Joshi of Akola and Pandharinath Patil of Buldana also attended the meeting. Bagdi acquainted himself with the Berar's situation and the ~~Berar~~ Beraris' preparation to face the retrocession of the Nizam. During the discussion, M.P. Kolhe expressed that there was no substantial programme before the Free Berar Committee and hence the people have been demoralised due to the discouraging news appearing in press and the currency of rumours. Bagdi after carefully studying the minds and balancing the general opinion disclosed that the Socialist Party of the province would take the lead to fight out the Berar's issue provided the Beraris help them wholeheartedly with men and money. Replying, Godaji Sakharam Mukhare is reported to have promised to collect at least Rs. 5,000/- from the Pusad Taluq and the Yeotmal district Free Berar Committee had promised to enrol about 15000 volunteers and to collect Rs. 25000/- from this district to facilitate the H.R.A. to carry on the anti-retrocession campaign. Vasant Krishnappa Kanti of Arni and Appa Saheb Deshmukh of v. Goul, P.S. Jaolhave promised to supply the H.R.A. with arms from the Nizam State. (I would like to point out here that the Sikhlikars of the Nizam State who are suspected to be preparing country made pistols and selling to the people of Goul are being carefully watched by the C.I. Pusad.) Maganlal Bagdi announcing the policy of the A.I.S.P. said that the Socialist Party under the lead of J.P. Narayan has decided to win over the platform by fighting out the Berar's anti-retrocession movement with the help of the H.R.A. He expressed the desire that at least 50000 volunteers must be enrolled before the 8th August from Berar and the equal amount of rupees should be collected to face the Nizam's menace. Replying to the question put forth by Pralhad Ramchandra Ballal pleader as to how the H.R.A. could face the well armed Nizam's forces if the latter invaded Berar after the 15th August, Bagdi assured them that they were in possession of arms and would secure some more arms as they did during the 1942 movement to equip their army. After this meeting Bagdi declared to have opened the first office of the H.R.A. Council at Yeotmal.

(2) In the night a meeting of the C.P. & Berar H.R.A. Council was held in a camera till late hours. Maganlal Bagdi has explained the talk he had with J.P. Narayan at Bombay concerning the Berar's issue. J.P. Narayan he said was minutely studying the Berar's issue, the activities of the Nizam's delegation at New Delhi and the reactions of the Congress High Command and the British Government's policy to decide the Berar's fate. He continued that the Socialist Party, as long desired, had the chance now to win over the platform and come in power by fighting the Berar's issue when the people had lost their faith in Congress and were tired of Gandhian ideologies. He assured the members that India's present politics required a revolutionary change and this was the most opportune time for them to sacrifice. Therefore J.P. Narayan and others of the party had decided to fight out the anti-retrocession campaign by revolutionary methods with the help of the H.R.A. who had successfully faced the British forces during the 1942 movement in spite of the facts

that the surrounding atmosphere of the Government officers and the people was adverse. He therefore put his decision to launch the anti-retrocession movement by revolutionary methods before the members for vote and it was unanimously passed. The members further chalked out their plans as directed by J.P. Narayan, the summary is given below :-

- (1) The Socialist Party and the H.R.A. will start its movement on the 9th August, the auspicious and inspiring day when the people of this country in 1942 had started their fight for independence.
- (2) A rally of about at least one lakh of volunteers including the H.R.A. and the members of the Free Berar Committee be held at Yeotmal on the 9th August. This will be addressed by J.P. Narayan, Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali and Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia.
- (3) The members of the H.R.A. should move in different districts in batches and collect funds and enrol volunteers for the anti-retrocession movement in Berar.
- (4) To convey the decision of the Provincial Socialist Party and the Army Council to Swami Mamanand Tirth, president of the Hyderabad State Congress, with a view that he should start a similar movement in the State on the 9th August. The Socialists of Madras and Andhra from the Deccan and Mr. Gore from Maharashtra will simultaneously start the anti-retrocession movement from outside and inside the N.S. This step would compel the Nizam not only to abstain from retroceding Berar to his dominion but would be difficult for him to pacify the revolutionary masses of his own State.
- (5) All arms in the police stations, reserve lines and in possession of the private individuals were the public property and to be used by the H.R.A. in this movement - proposed by V.S. Dandekar. It is also disclosed by Dandekar that the Red Army was in possession of arms and a source has reported that the Socialist workers who were recruited in the Bombay province military forces had secretly smuggled some arms.
- (6) To open the fighting base of the H.R.A. at Yeotmal and some selected bordering places.
- (7) All the members vowed to fight to the last till they wiped out the Nizam's forces and the Nizam's flag from Berar.

2. Addressing a meeting of about 5000 persons at Yeotmal on the night of the 17th, Maganlal Bagdi delivered an impressive speech, exhorting the audience that the Beraris had sufficiently sacrificed in several past movements for independence for India but now when the British were really quitting India, and independence was being achieved, Berar was to remain under the Nizam's suzerainty. Various statements of the Congress top-ranking leaders and the British Government's decision in the House of Commons to retrocede Berar to the Nizam after the British paramountcy lapsed, the Beraris were completely demoralised and had no confidence over their Congress leaders who chose British Governor-General instead of Indian. Therefore the Provincial Socialist Party and the H.R.A. Council has taken up the decision on the 10th night at Yeotmal to launch the anti-retrocession movement by revolutionary methods on the lines they did during the 1942 movement from the 9th August, the first step in this direction would be to remove the Nizam's flag from Berar after the 15th August. He assured the audience that he was speaking from this platform on behalf of the A.I.S.P. and on assurance given to them by the Beraris to help the H.R.A. by men and money. Commenting on the 1942 movement, he said that the Socialist Party and the H.R.A. could force the armed and organised British forces when the local Government machinery were not in favour of them but now they had their own Government they had their experienced army, arms etc. and could easily face the Nizam and would see that not an inch of Berar's land was retroceded to the Nizam till the last man of the H.R.A. was alive. He asked every one of them to be ready for sacrifices and help them with men and money. V.S. Dandekar who spoke next supported the decision of the H.R.A. Council as announced by Maganlal Bagdi and said that representatives of the Kisans and labourers were only scrutinising the century old documents and were accordingly deciding the fate of Berar in favour of the Nizam without the consent of the Beraris.

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and therefore he warned all these top-ranking Congress leaders and the British Government that any decision taken by them regarding the possession of Berar in favour of the Nizam without the Berars' consent either at Delhi or in the House of Commons, through delegation or India Independence Bill would not be binding on the Beraris, against which they would launch the anti-retrocession movement as decided. In spite of the sacrifices of the Beraris who had faced bullets and lathis for the India's independence in the past movements, Berar was to be ruled by the Imperialistic power of the Nizam's Government when other provinces would achieve independence after the 15th August. He referred to the recent speeches of Mahatma Gandhi and said that the people in general and Mahatma Gandhi in particular were not eager to celebrate the Independence day on the 15th August as they achieved the independence by vivisectioning India and when the fate of Berar and other States was undecided. He therefore declared that the A.I.S.P. will launch the final revolutionary movement on the whole India by first winning over the Berar's platform and would celebrate the independence day when they would achieve what they wanted. He asked the audience to be confident and be prepared and help the H.R.A. with men and money and to make a vigorous propaganda to make the rally of the H.R.A. successful on the 9th August. He also expressed that there would be a free Berar parallel Government after the 15th August in Berar if the present Government failed to sympathise their movement. He urged all Beraris of different political shades, irrespective of caste and creed to cooperate with them and rally round the banner of the H.R.A. to achieve Berar's independence. (The public expressed their confidence in Red Army's movement by cheers).

3. Maganlal Bagdi, Dr. Gour, Sanghai and Ramdheke left for Digras, Pusad and Umardhed to address meetings while the rest had left for their respective places on the 15th.

Secret.

No. Q/47.

A.S.B.

Area Office, Akola,  
Dated the 19th July 1947.

In continuation to my report from Basim, I beg to submit that I collected information at Basim and Malegaon and returned to Akola on the night of the 18th. The details are as follows:-

2. It was learnt at Basim that a secret cell of the Muslim League is organised under the leadership of Hajikhan s/o Subhan-khan a partner of a Muslim owned General Motor Service of which he is the managing director also. One Yahia pleader from Basim, a Muslim League worker, is the brain behind. Every Friday meetings are held in Nagina mosque and money is collected. Muslim goondas are at their service.
3. No instance of any letter or money orders being regularly or frequently at Basim from Hyderabad or any part of the State came to notice.
4. Two Muslims came to notice who were the residents of Hyderabad State who had come to Basim for propaganda purposes during the month. One gave out his name as Mohd. Ansar Hussain s/o Munshi Inayatulla and gave Aurangabad as his place of residence. His roll was sent but no reply is received yet. He had hired a room on the Muslim motor stand but disappeared as soon as his roll was sent. He gave out that he is a physician but he was in possession of no medicine. One said to be of Nanded came about a fortnight back. He put up with Abdul Haque s/o Sk. Malang a partner of the G.M.O. Association Service. He had come as alleged by him for motor business but the S.I. on verification is known to have learnt that he gathered some information about the Basim town. He disappeared before S.I. could take any action.
5. The following are said to be the frequent visitors to Hyderabad from Basim. 1. Kutubuddin s/o Masiuddin, 2. Khan-Sikandar Ali Shah.
6. There is strong rumour at Basim that arms are being smuggled from the Hyderabad State but I could not come across any direct evidence, though I have set up my men to gather the information. The aforesaid General Motor Owners Association service which is managed by the Muslims and of which the drivers are the Muslim goondas is said to be the agency through which transport is made. A letter was received by one Mr. Deshpande pleader of Basim from his friend at Pusad on the 15th of this month in which it was mentioned that one C.P.K. Truck No. 116 of which Razzak is the driver starts from Basim so as to reach Pusad by night time and brings with it bundles of arms. This bus before start stops at the house of Shah pleader to take the box containing arms. I have personally read the letter. The police is locating the truck and it is known that a guard is also being posted on Basim Pusad Road for checking the trucks. One Mazar Ali a licensee in arms repairing is known to be well versed in the preparation of arms, one such 'gupti' prepared by him was seen by me also. On enquiry he is known to have gone to U.P. his native place. The S.I. is further verifying as to the exact place where he has gone. Wajidkhan ex-constable and Khudabux s/o Pirbux who has no ostensible means of subsistence are said to be employed for this purpose. Their movements are being watched. It was learnt from a contact that about a week before two pathan pathans from Nizam territories brought with them 2 swords at V. Vyad on the Basim Rised Road in the interior. The arms were deposited with one Muslim Dastkh known as Dewan Sahab. The police is enquiring about these Pathans and if it is a fact.
7. A few discharged soldiers of the Hyderabad military are at Basim and Rised. The military was stationed at Kharbaram 10 miles from Basim, at Jaipur 6 miles from Rised and V. Kachhale Umarched (Yectmal border). They were about 150 equally distributed amongst 5 centres. The purpose for their posting as given out by

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then was to check smuggling and nothing was found to disbelieve that report. The military men from Rised tried to enlist some Muslims in the Hyderabad military besides that nothing is known about their activities worth mentioning. The military at the advent of rains has been recalled to Aurangabad, their headquarters. There is a rumour at Basim as at the bordering places in the Nizam's territories that the State Govt. is intending to place military at Berar bordering places. Nothing definite in this respect could be known at Hyderabad.

8. Dr. Yusuf Khan, Assistant Surgeon, at Basim has been recently transferred to that place and prominent Muslims of Basim are known to visit his place every night and discuss the local affairs. He is known to be the resident of Khangaon and has good contacts with the local Muslim public.

9. I came to notice a following type-written circular undated and unsigned with a contact who said that few months back it was picked up by his friend in a train when it fell out from the pocket of a Muslim. The copy is as below :-

"Nothing is impossible for the strong, so let us concentrate our power to accumulate strength of two types, i.e. number and intensity. Make each Muslim student your friend. Your friend, a Khaksar and a true Khaksar but do not forget that you cannot overcome Hindus by mere physical strength. If his sense of pride is touched, if his anger is roused and if he is furious none can face him. Lions are not captured by hand to hand fight. Make a trap and it is that you are his friend. Let a soft corner for you be created in his heart by your sweet tongue and captivating manners. Give him a feeling of safety while you prepare. That is the way of success."

.... Amin."

This contact also gave out that about a week back few Sikhs representing Kali Kamliwale Baba medical firm Hariwar sold some medicine in the town. They enquired of the contact, if the Hindus or the Congressmen in Berar are going to hoist their flag and pull out that of Nizam on the 15th; when remarked that this is likely, the Sikhs remarked that it is no good resorting to this as it would involve loss of life and properties of men like you. These people moved about the Nizam State as well and it is likely that they were voicing the Muslim feelings in the State. This contact further gave out that he had the information of two Nizam's propagandists to have come to v. Hiwra in Pusad Taluk about a fortnight back. Two "Dindars" are at Basim. The name of one is Faiyaz Ali and the other is Ibrahim Khan Rassolkhan Pinjara of Basim. They propagate that the administration at Hyderabad is excellent. They at times wear green "saafa" and "Bhagwa" shirt to signify their Hindu Muslim unity plank.

10. It was learnt from a contact that few leaflets giving the programme of Muslim League have recently come to notice at v. Malegaon. The details he did not know. I immediately proceeded to that village along with him and got a copy attached herewith. They are being distributed by the R.S.S. Sangh workers by hand amongst them. It is a old copy and appears to have propaganda value to infuse spirit in the Hindus.

11. It was learnt at Malegaon that about 4 or 5 days back 2 men from Hyderabad territory came and went to the house of Muz Mohammed Kachhi Muslim League organizer and a moneyed man. Immediately a secret meeting was called at the closed compound of the house of Ahmed Yusuf Kachhi. Both these visitors went away immediately. The men were considered to be from the Nizam territory from their dress. I have asked the informant to ascertain about the details of the meeting. They went towards Mankar Side.

12. At Malegaon there is an old ginning factory owned by one Mangoo Teli (a marwadi musliman). There is much scrap iron with him. In his compound, it is learnt that weapons like spear, daggers etc. are prepared by one Gulab and a Muslim ishar. It is rumoured here



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that some parcels containing weapons are received by one Syed Mohammad Rohilla through whom they are further distributed. This Rohilla is the resident of Sirpur but has recently took his residence at Malegaon at the road side. He has no means of livelihood. It was learnt that last year Sikhs who were halting at this place prepared some swords on an order from one local Muslim 'kasab'.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Nagpur,

19th July 1947.

My dear Shuklaji,

Before coming to the point of this letter, let me recapitulate the position as it was when you left Nagpur for Delhi.

2. As soon as it was decided that the British were to quit from about the middle of August 1947, the question of the future of Berar leapt into great prominence. The intentions of the Nizam were the subject of much speculation. It was freely rumoured that he had trained and fully equipped several mechanised divisions for the express purpose of taking Berar by force immediately after the transfer of power. It was said that the Hyderabad State had massed troops on their side of the border ready at a moment's notice to sweep down upon Berar. It was also widely believed that large bands of armed irregulars, mostly Arabs, were told to be ready to take part in the proposed expedition. (Due to the efforts of the State's Department of the Government of India, the question of actual invasion might have receded into background, but the problem of irregulars crossing over the border into Berar still remains.) The attitude of the Muslims of the province, particularly those of Berar, gave much cause for anxiety. They made no secret of their sympathy with the claim of the Nizam and it was freely given out that at least the Muslims of Berar would rise as one man in support of the invader against their own Government. The Nizam's Government was alleged to have established an elaborate system of espionage throughout Berar and is actively engaged in trying to seduce the population from their allegiance to the Provincial Government. There was much tension and nerves were frayed. The Hindus on their part firmly believed that there would be trouble and had been clamouring for help, military, police and other. In this atmosphere, the Muslim members of the Legislative Assembly issued a statement saying that in their opinion Berar over which the Nizam's sovereignty had always been recognised by the British Government, would, on the withdrawal of the British power, form an integral part of the Nizam's Dominions, and that Berar would thereafter revert to the Nizam's rule. They went further. Alleging that Berar had been restored to the Nizam by the British Government, they held a public meeting in a Khamgaon mosque after prayers and passed resolutions congratulating the Nizam on the inclusion of Berar in his Dominions, and sent telegrams to His Exalted Highness accordingly. An extract from the copy of the weekly confidential report submitted by the C.I. Police, Hinganghat, for the week ending the 10th July says that the prominent leaders of the Muslim League attended a public meeting and expressed the view that "military preparation had been commenced by the Nizam and that Berar would be taken by Nizam without any difficulty." Another report says that in a public meeting held in a mosque at Basim (Akola district), the Nizam was assured that the Muslims were ready "to shed the last drop of blood for the integrity of the Hyderabad State."

3. All these circumstances gave much cause for anxiety to the Provincial Government, whose primary function has been and will be to maintain the public peace. As it was clear that it would be dangerous in the circumstances described above to leave the general population with their fire arms, orders were issued requiring every licensee to surrender his weapons to the nearest police station. Government servants and a few others were exempted. These orders gave rise to many protests; and while explaining that they were purely temporary and were intended to meet an emergency, we directed the District Magistrates to return their arms to all Hindu licensees against whom there was nothing. As regards the Muslims we asked for the statements; one of those who could be safely entrusted, and the second of those who could not be so entrusted, with fire-arms. The Provincial Government were themselves to pass orders on the statements. These have not yet been received, but

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telegrams are being issued for their quick submission. These orders which seem to discriminate against Muslims have not un-naturally given them offence, and Syed Abdur Rauf Shah, M.L.A., the Provincial League chief, came to see me yesterday in this connection. I explained to him the background of the orders and had full and frank talk with him. I asked him for a clear state-ment of the position of the Muslims. What their attitude is going to be in case the Nizam should assert his claim to Berar? Are they with their Government by law established or will they join the mischief-mongers from the Hyderabad State? I pointed out to him that the first requisite of citizenship in any State is loyalty to the State. This has been emphasised by Mr. Jinnah himself in his recent press conference. While discussing the question of minorities, Mr. Jinnah stated in no uncertain terms that they would get all the rights and privileges of citizenship only so long as they remained loyal to the State. This applies both to the minorities in Pakistan and in the Union of India and is indeed a self-evident proposition. Mr. Abdur Rauf Shah had no reply to this argument. He could not dispute it and yet he could not admit it. Finally, he said he would consult his colleagues and let me know.

4. I made it quite clear to him that if on the 15th of August 1947 the Union Government should declare - as I have no doubt they would declare - that Berar is, and has always been an integral part of the Indian Union, no citizen of the Union, be he Hindu or Muslim, can assist the ruler of an independent State in designs against his own country without laying himself open to the charge of treason. After that he left.

5. All over India the Leaguers are being suspected, and I think justly, of being fifth columnists. But except in this province the question is an academic one. Here the Leaguers have got to make their position clear. If they are bent upon shedding every drop of their blood for the Nizam, they cannot be trusted with fire-arms. This being the position, I would request you to acquaint the Sarder with the position facing us and get clear instructions from him. We will be called upon any day to state our case publicly for not giving arms to the Muslims and, therefore, our decision must be a clear-cut one.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. D.P. Mishra.

The Hon'ble Pandit R.S. Shukla,  
Prime Minister, C.P. & Berar,  
New Delhi.

P.S. After the above had been written, I got the following note from H.E. :-

"I had a talk with the Hyderabad Agent, Nawab Mehdi Nawas Jung Bahadur, this afternoon. We discussed the prevailing anxiety in Berar as expressed in the press and on the platform and he said that if it would be of any assistance to the Ministry in the province, he was in a position to assure them that anything in the way of forcible occupation of Berar or even of the toleration of frontier incidents was as far as could be from the intentions of the H.E.H. The future of Berar is to be and is now being settled by negotiations at the highest level and H.E.H. is content to abide by the decision arrived at in these negotiations, whatever it may be, and in the meanwhile neither he nor his subjects have any intentions of resorting to direct action."

This is all right as far as it goes. But in my opinion, this question is being discussed on an All India level and whatever assurance has to be given by the Nizam must be given to the Crown Representative and the States Department of the Government of India.

Sd. D.P. Mishra.

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Extract copy of weekly confidential report submitted by  
C.I. Police, Hinganghat, for the week ending the 10th July  
1947, from Deputy Commissioner, Wardha.

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\* \* \*

Muslim League.-- Abdul Rahman, M.L.A. (Muslim League),  
Khamgaon, visited K.S. Syed Yasin, Pleader (Hinganghat), where  
the leading M.L.As of Wardha district had attended. They all  
the time criticised the congress ministry, and Mr. Ansari,  
pleader, apprised the gathering of the assurance given by  
Mr. M.A. Jinnah when he had visited Delhi last and stated that  
he would not feel contented until the Muslims of C.P. and Berar  
do not establish the same rights of Pakistan in the C.P. They  
also apprised of the military preparation commenced by the  
Nizam without any difficulty as Mahars are prepared to go under  
Berar.

\* \* \*

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Extract from the fortnightly confidential report for the  
first fortnight of July 1947 (14-7-1947) for the Berar Division  
received from the Commissioner under No.177 dated the 14th  
July 1947.

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POLITICAL.

\* \* \*

Addressing a prayer gathering of about 300 Muslims  
in a mosque at Basim on the 27th June one Khwaja Karimuddin  
a/o Khwaja Asimuddin prayed for the long life of Mr. Jinnah  
and H.E.H. the Nizam. In connection with the celebration of  
the Nizam's Independence Day, the Muslims of Basim sent a  
message of congratulation to H.E.H. the Nizam and assured him  
of shedding the last drop of blood for the integrity of the  
State.

\* \* \*

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Interception Report.(The secrecy of the interception may kindly be safeguarded.)

1. Post Office of interception : Head Post Office, Jubbulpore.
2. Date of censorship : 15-6-47.
3. Sender's name and address : M. Haroon, Office of Provl. M.L., Akola.
4. Post mark and date : Akola, 13-6-47.
5. Date of letter : 21-5-47.
6. Language of letter : English.
7. Address's name and address : Maulana Burhanul Haq, M.L.A., President, Jubb. Muslim League, Jubbulpore.
8. Whether withheld or delivered: Delivered.
9. If delivered, copy kept or not: Copy kept.
10. Name of censoring officer : S.I. B.P. Sharma, L.I.B., Jubbulpore.

Contents

"That on 25-12-46, the Working Committee of C.P. and Berar Provincial M.L. constituted a committee consisting of Seth Mohammad Haroon, Mr. Usman Faruqi and S.G. Kazi, Pleader, Akola. The committee was asked to examine the reports submitted by the Dist. M.L. and hear the District Secretaries and the Presidents assembled at Jubbulpore to acquaint the committee with the condition existing in their respective districts, and to suggest remedies.

2. We, the three members, very carefully examined the written report and heard very closely the Secretaries and the Presidents for two days; and questioned them in detail.

3. The points which we found common are as follows:

- (a) That the communal situation in each district of C.P. & Berar is disturbed.
- (b) There is love lost between both the communities, Hindus and Muslims.
- (c) All over the Province, there is no sense of security. The majority community is affected by the incidents in other provinces; and is in a mood to retaliate.
- (d) Apparently, there is a lull but it foretells of coming storms.
- (e) Organizations on the lines of private armies are being raised with an avowed intention of having "Razra"; and Rashtriya Swayam Sewak is playing a havoc in this connection.
- (f) As far as the official aspect of the question is concerned, the various Congress committees have become the part and parcel of the Government; and the Provl. Congress Ministry is acting according to their whims and caprices.
- (g) The local Congress Committees have their own prejudices and even the Official organization on that account is affected by the favouritism and nepotism. The Congress committees as far as possible try to put down the League Organization in public life and so also in the official working; as they are diametrically opposed in principles. And by sheer weight of their strength, they try to ridicule the opposition instead of examining the question on merits.

- 2- 6)
- (h) In all the activities, Congress, Sewak Sangh, Maha Sabha and other communal organisations make a common cause against the Mohammadians.

4. The cumulative effect of all these instances is that in public life, the Congress with its official support is moving on like a roller to crush completely whatever comes in its way. The result is that in every walk of life Mohammadians of this province are aggrieved and they feel convinced that there is no tribunal to remedy this wrong. A President of some district has very aptly put the whole situation in a couplet of some renowned poet who says:

" Ham Ne Chaha Tha Ke Hakim Se Kareenge Paryad  
" On Bhi Kambhakhta Tera Chahnewala Nikla "

The reasons which brought about this situation are as follows :

(a) That nearly all the Mussalmans of the Province are Leaguers; and all Hindus except ~~xx~~ scheduled caste are anti-leaguers. They don't tolerate a leaguer in any walk of life. The Provl. Govt. at the top is manned by the Congress people who are the deadliest enemy of the League. They are in comfortable majority and have no fear of any opposition. They have set up a number of committees, such as Advisory Committees, Village Panchayat Committees etc., in a manner that the will of that party should dominate over others. The Local Self Govt. Organisation, being based on joint electorate and without there being any reservation of power, is also ruining the future of Mussalmans. The officials being subordinate to the Congress Govt. have to obey their directions even in day to day administration. The result is that in all matters, commercial, political, social, religious, the Mohammadians are neglected with contempt. The moment the Ministry came in power, the whole congress organisation is intoxicated with an idea that they can do anything they like to achieve their object.

5. It is a matter of common knowledge that communal organisations are carrying on vigorous propaganda against Mohammadians in the farthest corner of the province. Mohammadians are economically and socially boycotted. In commerce and trade, they are being excluded. Their person and property in the interior of the province is always in danger. We have learnt of number of instances where even the question of music before mosque and slaughter of animals is being taken up with vengeance, after the Congress came in power. For all the wrongs, as mentioned above, some concrete proposals were made by the Secretaries and the Presidents. The proposals were as follows :-

- (a) That arrangements should be made for all those Mohammadians who want to migrate from this province to some Muslim majority province, so that they may live peacefully and with comforts, or
- (b) That the Muslim League should devise ways and means to protect these 8 lakhs of people from the imminent danger. All Secretaries and Presidents were unanimous that Muslims should be armed, so that if and when it is necessary, they should defend themselves; and secondly the Mohammadians who are in the interior and are unsafe should be brought over to the cities or to the places where there is a substantial population of Muslims. All organisations, who have their slogans of creating their Ram Raj should be banned and dismembered.

6. We have given our very anxious consideration to the present situation in the province; and have also examined the remedies suggested by the representatives. We agree that the situation in the province is very tense. We have also come to the conclusion that the Mohammadians of this province are passing through a very critical stage; and time is fast approaching when if no steps are taken they will be wiped out. The other

communities are furiously preparing both openly and secretly and there is a likelihood of Bihar being repeated in this province. The question of migration should come only as a last resort. We consider it impractical at this stage. Since the whole population cannot be taken to any other province, the transfer of few persons from the province will create more difficulties and is fraught with dangers. As far as the question of organisation is concerned, we are of opinion that in case we have an effective organisation we can certainly live here. The Musslman of this contingency should rise like one man and there should be no disruption in their own ranks and files. Such an organisation should be based on one principle alone that the Muslims live not for themselves but they have to sacrifice all that is near and dear to them in the way of GOD. All sacrifices that they need will bring a reward in return. Their lives and property are not theirs but of GOD. There should be an enrolment of persons who are imbued with this idea. If this atmosphere is created, we are positively of the opinion that no Government or community whatever its number can wipe away 8 lakhs of souls who have dedicated their lives to GOD.

7. We find that the C.P. and Berar is divided into various zones; and responsible persons have been put in charge of these zones; that was the step in the right direction. It is a pity that nothing has been done to achieve this object. Better late than never; this scheme should now be taken up.

8. As far as the question of providing arms to the Musslman is concerned, Provincial Government should be moved in this matter. It is also the duty of Government to give facilities to the Musslman, who want to shift from one place to the other. A representation to this effect after full enquiry should also be made to the Provincial Government. The last thing which we want to emphasize is that all these things require finances. We suggest that we should start a Department for realising Zakats from the Musslman or a Bill should be moved in the Provincial Assembly that the Mohammadans should be further taxed and the amount be realized through Income-tax Department and Revenue Agencies as is done in the case of Waqf property. The details of this scheme can be worked out by a Sub-Committee that may be appointed from the members of the Assembly Party.

Sd. Qasi Syed Ghyasuddin,  
 Pleader, Genl. Secy., P.M.L.,  
 Akola.

Sd. M. Haroon.

Sd. Mohammad Usman Faruqui, Akola

Dated the 21st May 1947.

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**Meeting of the Provincial Muslim League Working Committee held at Nagpur on the 13th July 1947.**

A private meeting of the Provincial Muslim League Working Committee was held at Nagpur on the 13th July 47 at the residence of Abbas Ali Kamal, a member of the Working Committee. Only 15 members (See Appendix A) out of 20 were attending.

A copy of the agenda that was considered at the meeting is attached as Appendix B, and the result of the discussions are given below serially.

**Item No.1. (Mohammed Asghar's case).**

It may be recalled that Mohammed Asghar, a pleader of Burhanpur (Khandwa), rebelled against the League and sought his election independently to the C.E. Assembly, and was successful against the League Nominee Khan Bahadur Hifazat Ali of Khandwa. Disciplinary action was taken against him by the Provincial League. Khan Bahadur Hifazat Ali having filed an election petition against Mohammed Asghar was declared by the Tribunal as duly elected. Mohammed Asghar's application for rejoining the League was considered by the Committee and it was decided to take him in the League again.

**Item Nos.2 & 9. (Scheme).**

Items 2 & 9 were jointly considered. The following decisions were taken on the proposals made by the members, Syed Hifazat Ali, M.L.A., Khandwa, and Abdul Sattar Farouqui, Advocate, Nagpur, and others:

(a) **Protection of Mother Tongue.** - In order to protect their mother tongue Urdu educational institutions should be established in the province by private funds, as they do not expect that the Congress Provincial Government will aid them in this respect. A petition to the Local Government is being prepared requesting that the Urdu schools of Saugar and Damoh closed by the educational department may be reopened.

(b) **Information Bureaux.** - A League Provincial bureau should be opened to collect and communicate to the League High Command information regarding cases of victimisation of Muslims in services, highhandedness, oppression, injustice, encroachment of civil liberties, and representation in public services etc. The expenditure incurred in maintaining Information Bureaux in the districts and the province is to be made by funds that may be collected from capitalist Muslim class.

(c) **Census.** - Census of the Muslim population in the province both in the urban and the rural areas should be taken separately and information collected in the form as shown in Appendix C. The Muslims willing to migrate having nothing to stake here will be listed and the Muslim High Command informed accordingly. The idea is to provide the poor in the Pakistan State.

(d) **Handloom Industry.** - A Muslim chamber of commerce and co-operative societies should be established to encourage and provide with means of livelihood to the Muslim masses. For this purpose, finances should be found with the Muslim capitalist class. The chamber of commerce and the co-operative societies should find suitable markets of the sale of handloom products and the Muslims in general should be encouraged to buy and to popularise the same.

**Item No.3. (Appellate Tribunal).**

An appellate tribunal consisting of three members namely 1. Mohibul Haque, M.L.A., 2. Abdul Sattar Khan, M.L.A., and 3. Seth Mohammad Haroon, M.L.A., all residents of Akola, was



appointed by the Working Committee to settle all disputes, arising out of local politics, internecine quarrels, party differences and local elections etc. in the whole of the province.

Item No.4. (Affiliation).

In the absence of a District Muslim League, the town or the village League Committees should be affiliated to the district nearest to them.

Item No.5. (Election of delegates).

The President, Provincial Muslim League, was invested with the powers by the Working Committee to select sixty delegates from the province for the ensuing session of the All-India Muslim League Council, as the time for election is short and the election process is laborious and costly.

Item Nos.6 & 10. (Music before mosques and arms licences).

It was decided to send a deputation of 2 members namely Abdul Rauf Shah, the President of the Provincial Muslim League, and Zamiruddin, advocate of Saugar, to wait on Hon. the Prime Minister, requesting him to :-

- (a) that the fire arms seized from the Muslims should be restored to them as has been done in cases of non-Muslims, for the reason that the country is passing through a critical period and the Muslim community should not be deprived of means of protection.
- (b) that the playing of music before the mosques may kindly be stopped during prayer hours in the whole of the province by an order of the Government.

Item No.7. (Return of election fund).

It was decided by the Working Committee to return the amount to Mohammad Usman, President, Itarsi Muslim League, collected there for election propaganda. Mohammad Usman was directed to utilize this remaining amount of election fund for strengthening the Muslim League branch at Itarsi.

Item No.8. (Budget).

The annual budget of the last year was passed. Fresh budget for the current year was considered by the Working Committee and accepted after the discussion and certain amendments.

After the consideration of the official agenda there was general and mutual discussion amongst the working committee members and the following policy and points were agreed upon for future guidance and well being of the community.

- (a) The Muslims in general should behave smoothly and maintain peaceful and good relations with major community and cooperate with Government in maintaining the communal peace and order in the province.
- (b) Provocative or irresponsible speeches or statements likely to cause resentment or disturb the serene communal atmosphere should be avoided and not to retaliate even under provocation by the major community.
- (c) Redress of the Muslim grievances, complaints of wrongs done to them should be sought by petitions and personal negotiations in an amicable manner with the Government or the organizations concerned.

Sd. Illegible.

Inspector, L.I.E., Nagpur.

D/- 14th July 47.

## Appendix A.

### Names of Working Committee members attending the meeting.

1. Sayeed Hayat, Advocate, Nagpur.
2. Ibrahim Khan, the President of City Muslim League, Nagpur.
3. Abbas Ali Kamal, merchant, Nagpur.
4. Abdul Rauf Shah, President, Provi Muslim League, Yeshmal.
5. Abdul Sattar Farouqui, M.L.A., Akola.
6. Seth Mohammed Haroon, M.L.A., Akola.
7. Mohibul Haque, M.L.A., Akola.
8. Zamiruddin, Advocate, Sangur.
9. Moulana Burhanul Haque, Jubbulpore.
10. Mohammed Usman, Itarsi.  
and others.

## Appendix B.

### The copy of the agenda for the Provincial Muslim League Working Committee.

1. To consider the question of Mr.M.Asghar.
2. To consider the proposals of Messrs.Khan Bahadur Hifazat Ali, M.L.A., and Abdul Salam Farouqui, Advocate, Nagpur.
3. To consider the question of the appointment of Appellate Tribunal.
4. To affiliate the Leagues of the districts, where the Distt. League are not formed.
5. To elect 60 delegates for All India Muslim League Session.
6. To consider the question of playing music before mosques.
7. To return the election fund amount to Mr.Mohammad Usman, President, District Muslim League, Itarsi.
8. To consider the budget for the current year.
9. To consider the scheme for the uplift and betterment of the Musalmans of C.P. & Berar.
10. To consider Government order regarding licensed arms.

Any other subject with permission of the President.

## Appendix C.

1	2	3	4	5
Name of the town or village	Number of Muslims.	No. of Muslims owning property including cattle with value.	Number of persons unemployed or propertyless.	No. of persons willing to migrate to Pakistan.
-----				
	(a) Males.			
	(b) Females.			
	(c) Children.			

ENGLISH

No. .... Extract from the

Hitavada

29th Dec 1947

dated

# LEADERS PLEAD NIZAM'S CAUSE Berar Must Go Back To Him

## C. P. M. L. AS. "APPEAL" TO MUHAMMAD AND GOVERNMENT

(from Our Correspondent.)

AKOLA, May 29.—Messrs. Syed Akbar Raut Shah, Syed Kazim, Abdur Rehman Khan, Hidayat Ali, Mohammad, Haroon and Abdur Sattar Khan have issued the following statement on the question of retrocession of Berar in view of the propaganda which the so-called "Freedom Committee" is conducting through press and platform regarding retrocession of Berar to the Nizam:

"We are of the opinion that a stage has come when it is necessary to express the Muslim public opinion on this important affair. The fact that Berar is a territory of H.E.H. the Nizam cannot be doubted and challenged. The sovereignty of Nizam over Berar has been acknowledged and recognised by His Majesty's Government in the agreement of 1930, when Paramountcy lapsed in June 1937. Earlier, Berar is a part of the Nizam's dominions bound to revert to the Nizam at the time of transference of power in keeping with the declaration of the Prime Minister in the British Government. There is no alternative ground. There is an alternative to hand over Berar to its real sovereign from whom it was taken for administrative purposes. A considerable section of the population of Berar consisting of Muslims, Marathas and Mahads is not moved by the present agitation engineered by the Congress and particularly by the Brahmins. When it is the declared policy of the Indian National Congress as pronounced by its elected leaders like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel not to abolish the princely rule and when they have assured the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Indian states it does not lie in the mouth of the Congressmen in Berar to repudiate the sovereignty of Nizam over Berar. The statements of Messrs. Shankar

Deo and Patil in this behalf are highly regrettable. We are constrained to note that many speeches and writings of Hindu leaders on this question including those of the responsible ministers of the C.P. Government are to be greatly deplored. The organised campaign started by some Hindu associations and individuals against the rendition of Berar is likely to embitter communal relations. We therefore earnestly request the Government of the Province to issue immediate instructions to the quarters concerned not to allow mischievous activities likely to rouse communal passions resulting in adversely affecting the present peaceful atmosphere. We also make a fervent appeal to the Muslims of Berar not to be excited by the propaganda of the nature referred to above. We are confident that in spite of all provocation they will endeavour to be calm and peaceful as the question of the future of Berar is a highly constitutional problem to be decided between His Majesty's Government and the Nizam."

67-8  
**TELEGRAM**

**STATE**

**EXPRESS**

**HONOURABLE PANDIT SHUKLA**

**PRIME MINISTER**

**NAGPUR**

**YOUR LETTER STOP ON FIFTEENTH AUGUST NATIONAL FLAG ALONE  
REPEAT ALONE WILL BE FLOWN EVERYWHERE CONSEQUENTLY NO  
DIFFICULTY OR CONFLICT BUT HAVE ADVISED BIXANI NOT TAKE  
ANY INDEPENDENT ACTION ABOUT HERAR WITHOUT CONSULTING ME**

**VALLABHBHAI**

**Not to be telegraphed:**

**Signature:**

**Address : Hon. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1 Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.**

**Dated 8th August 1947.**

7  
Done  
Confirmation copy to Sark  
82  
878

D 68  
IMMEDIATE.

State.

Pandit Ravishanker Shukla  
Prime Minister  
Raipur (C.P.)

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes  
birthday stop May you continue render further  
distinguished service to your province and country

Vallabhbhai

---

Note to be telegraphed:-

Personal Assistant to the  
Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

The 3rd August, 1947.

B. I. B.

69 2352

No.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

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~~RAGHUNATH KARNANI DI SARDAR PATEL DI.~~

**PREMIER SHUKLA BIRTHDAY SEND MESSAGE SPECIAL**

ISSUE THIRD AUGUST .

**MAHAKOSAL RAIPUR.**

Ph. Art Press, Lahore—5/179—40,000 Rs.

70  
NEW DELHI,  
4th August 1947.

Dear Dr. Hasan,

I had received your letter of the 13th July along with its enclosures. As your Prime Minister was here engaged in the Constituent Assembly, I had not written to you earlier, but now that he has returned, I take the earliest opportunity of writing to you.

I understand Gandhiji has already written to you, and I can only say that unless you are able to regain the lost confidence, you cannot continue in the Ministry. The Ministry can function only if the Ministers enjoy the confidence of the Prime Minister. They have to work in joint responsibility, and therefore it is absolutely essential that they must have his confidence. It is up to you, therefore, to fulfil this condition if you want to continue in the Ministry.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Dr. S. N. Hassan,  
Minister,  
Govt. of C.P. & Berar,  
NAGPUR.

Copy forwarded to the Hon. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla, Prime Minister, Govt. of C.P. & Berar, Nagpur, for information.

71  
Nagpur,  
13th July, 1947.

Dear Sardar Sahib,

I am very much obliged to you for your kind letter of the 6th July. I regret that I could not reply to it earlier as I was ill and also because I wanted to talk over the matter with the Hon'ble the Prime Minister.

I herewith enclose a copy of my letter dated the 30th June to Shri Acharya Kirpalaniji in which I have stated my point of view in full. In short I may here point out that I had no hand in the press propaganda because I was out on tour in the interior from the early morning of the 6th to the night of the 10th June. On the 11th June I saw Hon'ble the Premier when I expected him to make some reference to his speech in question and the press propaganda that was going on in my absence on tour. As no reference whatsoever was made by him in this my first interview after the delivery of the speech in question I felt very much disappointed. After thinking over the matter for three days and finding no way out of uneasiness of my mind I wrote to revered Mahatmajī only with a view to seek his advice for a way out of my uneasiness of mind. The letter that I wrote to him was not at all in the nature of a complaint seeking any redress of my grievances against anybody. As my relations with revered Mahatmajī are like that of father and son I thought I was entitled to seek such an advice from him. I, therefore, wrote to him on the 14th, copy of which is herewith enclosed.

My letter reached him on the 16th June in the morning and he made a reference to the Hon'ble the Premier's speech that very evening in the post prayer speech. It is after



this post prayer speech that the newspapers raised all sorts of canards including that of my resignation. The report of my alleged resignation appeared in the newspapers in the morning of the 17th June and immediately that very morning I authorized the Chief Secretary to contradict the canard as absolutely false. The newspapers had also inferred that I must have written to Mahatmajī and they even went the length of imagining that that letter must have contained my resignation. It is after this wild and reckless press propaganda that I did tell some of my close friends who had come to see me in this connection, that I had written a personal letter to Mahatmajī and that I had received a reply in Urdu. I neither disclosed the contents of my letter to Mahatmajī nor did I disclose the contents of his reply. I had given interview on the 19th June to only one correspondent, viz. of the Hindustan Herald, which I have mentioned in my letter dated the 30th June to Shri Kripalanijī. The interview is of four lines and cannot be regarded as press propaganda. In fact, it was meant to stop any further press propaganda.

I, therefore, submit that I had done no press propaganda in this connection.

I am glad to know that you and Shri Kripalanijī do not find fault with my action in writing to revered Mahatmajī but unfortunately my Chief makes it a major point of grievance against me.

In accordance to the advice given to me by you and Shri Kripalanijī I did open the talk with the Chief Yesterday with a view to straighten the matter with him, but he asked me to give in writing whatever I had to say in the matter, which I have this morning done. I herewith enclose a copy of my letter to him and also a copy of his

3.

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reply. My Chief left for Delhi this afternoon. I shall be obliged if I am allowed to talk over the matter with him in your and Shri Kripalaniji's presence.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Shri Haran*

To The Hon'ble

Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.

126  
Nagpur,  
30th June, 1947.

Dear Sir,

Thanks very much for your letter dated the 25th June, 1947, with the enclosure, thus affording me an opportunity to express my point of view in the matter.

The Hon'ble Pandit Shukla's letter raises two points, viz. (1) that I approached the revered Mahatmaji, behind the back of my Chief and (2) that I had a hand in the press propaganda that followed the delivery of the speech in question.

After the delivery of the speech by the Hon'ble the Premier on the 5th evening, I went on a pre-arranged tour in the interior of the backward tract of Balaghat, Mandla and Bilaspur districts. I left Nagpur on the early morning of the 6th June and returned on the 10th night. After I returned to Nagpur I came to know of the notice taken by the press within and without the Province of the speech delivered by the Hon'ble the Premier. This will show that I had absolutely no hand in this press propaganda which was going on from the 6th June till the 10th June.

The Hon'ble the Prime Minister was in Nagpur from the 6th till the 12th, and it is significant that he issued no contradiction to press reports of his speech which had appeared from the 6th to the 11th. In fact he had issued no official contradiction till now.

After I returned to Nagpur I saw the Hon'ble the Premier at his bungalow on the 11th — and this was the only meeting before he went out on the 12th — but to my surprise he made no reference to the press reports that were appearing in newspapers. In fact I expected that he would at least say to me "well Dr. Hasan don't mind these press reports. I never meant to say what is alleged in the press."

report, and that the reference to you in the meeting was only by way of an illustration made with good intention". It was not for me to ask my Chief anything with regard to this incident. Similarly, I could not have made a public protest in the gathering against the speech and the reference to me, even though I felt uneasy and awkward when the reference was made to me. I believe it will be agreed on all hands, that my abstention from making any comment in the gathering against my Chief was in the best interest of all concerned. I am surprised that this abstention has been taken as a point against me.

After I saw the Hon'ble the Premier on the 11th I felt very much that he did not make any reference to me to press propaganda that was already going on during my absence. At the gathering I did feel the pinch of the reference in the speech to me, and without taking any hasty action I tried to forget it in my tour, but on returning to Nagpur and failing to get even a small consolation from my Chief, my attempts to forget it failed. As I was in feeling uneasy, I thought I could open my heart to the one person whose relation with me has been like father and son, and to whom before I became a Minister I used to carry my troubles and afflictions, whenever I felt like doing it without any formality and restraint. It is under these circumstances that I wrote a personal letter to the revered Mahatmaji, which is not in the nature of an official complaint, nor does it contain any demand for an enquiry. In fact the letter seeks from Mahatmaji a ray out of my mental uneasiness. I received a letter from the revered Mahatmaji that put my mind at ease. The same day, i.e. the 16th, the revered Mahatmaji received my letter he made a reference to the Hon'ble the Premier's speech in his post prayer address, and it was

broadcasted the same day by the All India Radio. It appeared the next day in the newspapers. After this post prayer address the press on the 17th of its own accord without consulting me inferred that I must have been the person who had thus approached him, and to create a sensation, they made out a story that I had sent my resignation to the revered Mahatmaji. The Chief Secretary immediately on the 17th morning enquired from me if the press reports about my resignation were true. I said that these press reports about my resignation were false, and I authorized him immediately to contradict them officially in the press. I had thus got contradicted the false report about my resignation before the Hon'ble the Premier returned to Nagpur. The Hon'ble the Premier also enquired from me over the phone on the 17th night as to whether I had resigned. I told him that I had not resigned, and the press reports were false and that I had already authorized the Chief Secretary in the morning to contradict this false story of my resignation and also added that I wrote a personal letter to the revered Mahatmaji. He enquired whether I had a copy of that letter and if I would send it to him in the morning. I said that I would do so with pleasure and accordingly I sent it on the next morning, i.e. 18th June. This clearly shows that I had no hand absolutely in the press propaganda that was going on of its own accord with a view to create sensation. I may here also point out that I made no reference about my alleged resignation to anybody or at any place. A perusal of my letter to the revered Mahatmaji will also show that there was no mention whatsoever of my intention to resign. It was a mischievous canard on the part of the press. After the publication of the revered Mahatmaji's post war address, some friends did enquire

from me if I had written to the revered Mahatmaji in this connection and I told them that I had sent a personal letter to the revered Mahatmaji and that I also received a reply in Urdu. I had not given any press interview to any correspondent except that of the Hindustan Herald. That interview was published in that paper of the 19th June and it was begun from the words "interviewed Dr. Hasan" and ended with the words "Chapter was closed". The rest of the news in the Hindustan Herald of the same date was not given by me to any newspaper correspondent. It seems that it gathered the rest of the news from some friends of mine to whom I had spoken as stated above. It will thus be seen that the press propaganda after the post prayer address of the revered Mahatmaji was not at all at my instance; and the correspondents after getting a few bits of information here and there have drawn largely on their own imagination. It is therefore incorrect to say that I had done any propaganda against my Chief.

I think I have met to the best of my ability the two points raised by the Hon'ble the Premier in his letter. My personal letter to the revered Mahatmaji was not in the nature of any complaint, and secondly I had no hand in any propaganda against my Chief. I have already explained above that in my humble opinion the Hon'ble the Premier should have spoken to me about his speech when I met him on the 11th, June. It cannot therefore be said that I am in fault in not speaking to him first.

As already stated above my uneasiness of mind was relieved after I had received the revered Mahatmaji's letter, and I had no intention of carrying this matter any further. In fact I treated the chapter as closed. It was never my intention either to create a quarrel with my Chief or to get his action enquired into by the Parliamentary Board. The Hon'ble the Premier has unfortunately

18

misconstrued my personal letter to the revered Mahatmaji. Even after this incident I have kept the same cordial relation, and feelings with him and with other colleagues as before. Yesterday there <sup>was</sup> an informal Cabinet meeting at the Hon'ble the Premier's residence for about four hours in an atmosphere of complete amity and understanding and everything went on smoothly as if nothing had happened. I never lost my confidence in and respect for my Chief; and I do not doubt that there would be any hitch in the smooth working of the Cabinet. I assure you with all the sincerity at my command that my humble services are always at the disposal of this great National Organisation, which I have been serving in my own humble way for the last 25 years.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

S/- S. M. Hasan

Enclosures:-

- (1) Front page of the New India, dated 23.6.1947, editorial comment, under head "A speech and its Sequel".
- (2) Cutting from the Nagpur Times, dated June 18th.
- (3) Copy of the tour programme from the 6th to the 10th June.

79  
Nagpur Times, dated 18th June, 1947.

.....  
DR. HASAN NOT RESIGNING.

.....  
Were Mischievous Propaganda.  
....

Enquiries in authoritative circles in Nagpur reveal that the report circulated by the United Press of India that Dr. Hasan, Minister for Health, (according to rumours current in certain circles) had sent his resignation letter to Mahatma Gandhi as a protest against the Prime Minister, Pt. Shukla's recent speech at the Hindustani Seva Dal meeting, is all canard and a mischievous piece of propaganda by some interest parties.

*Enquiry on phone.*  
APPROACHED BY THE NAGPUR TIMES, DR. HASAN SAID THAT IT WAS ALL FALSE AND HAD NO FOUNDATION WHATSOEVER.

Responsible circles in the city were indignant that a responsible news agency should have circulated such an absurd story without proper verification just depending upon rumours "in what is described in "certain political circles".

It is expected that the Prime Minister, on his return from Delhi, will himself clarify the matter. He was greatly disturbed at the obvious and harmful distortion of his speech in the larger section of the provincial as well as all-India press.

(The City Editor)



80  
NEW INDIA.

Nagpur, Monday, June 23rd, 1947.

X X X X X

A SPEECH AND ITS SEQUEL: "Unfortunate" - that was how Gandhiji characterised Shuklaji's speech at the Hindustan Sewa Dal Camp function where he dealt with the question of minorities. Closely following Gandhiji's reference to the speech, appeared the report that the Hon. Dr. Hasan has sent in his resignation to Gandhiji as a protest against Shuklaji's speech. Then came a contradiction that the report was false and malicious. The public who were left wondering whether after all there was some truth in all this, was relieved to learn that Dr. Hasan has not resigned. This province, cannot in view of the difficult problems staring it in the face, afford to go through the convulsion of a ministerial crisis, which often is an ill-wind that blows nobody good. Much less can we afford to lose a straight-forward hardworking man of the calibre of Dr. Hasan who has so many public health projects up his sleeve. The resignation of the Muslim Minister will have a great disturbing effect and repercussions outside the province also. We are sure that Shuklaji did not intend or imply any retaliatory treatment of minorities. His discussion was merely to illustrate a hypothetical case. On reading the report, Gandhiji described it as 'unfortunate'. Others called it "regrettable". Yet others characterized it as "extravagant and mischievous". Persons in high authority pay heavy price for indiscreet utterances. Gandhiji referred to Dr. Hasan's complaint to Shuklaji who is understood to have replied that the report was inaccurate and that he would send him a correct version. As Dr. Hasan himself has expressed the desire, this chapter must now be closed.

81  
BY AIR MAIL.

Nagpur,  
14th June, 1947.

Revered Bapu,

I am herewith sending a cutting from the Hitavada of Nagpur containing the indiscreet speech of my Premier flung in my gr very face as I was present next to him in the meeting. The reporting in the Hitavada is quite correct and faithful except that it was in a serious strain and not in a lighter vein. It has its own repercussions not only in this province, but the whole of India, and every Hindu friend of mine, who knows me from my boyhood, is vehemently resenting against it.

It has pained me terribly as I feel it has made my position very awkward as of any other Nationalist Muslim who has been in the Congress fold long before 1921.

I leave it to you to realize my position without any further comment from me.

With respects,

Ever yours,

sd/- Hasan.

82  
Nagpur,  
13th July, 1947.

My dear Panditji,

I wanted to have a heart to heart talk with you yesterday over the matter which has caused much misunderstanding, but as you wanted that I should give in writing what I had to say, I submit as under:-

I assure you with all the sincerity at my command that my letter to the revered Mahatmajji was of a personal nature and was not in the nature of a complaint. If I wanted to make any official complaint I would certainly have adopted the parliamentary procedure. I assure you further that I had no hand whatsoever in the propaganda that was carried on in the press. I never thought that the matter would go to such a length. I regret very much the misunderstanding caused, and I am sincerely sorry for the same. I assure you sincerely that I will fully cooperate with you in the administration of the province without any mental reservation, and I have every hope that you will accept this sincere assurance of mine and close the chapter finally.

Yours sincerely,

*S/- S. N. Hasan*

*The Minister*

*Pandit R. S. Shukla*

*Prime Minister*

CS

Nagpur,  
13.7.1947.

11 A.M.

Dear Dr. Hasan,

Many thanks for your letter which I received only an hour ago.

Your letter to Mahatmaji may have been a 'personal' one, but it was about a public matter in which I was concerned as your Chief. I can therefore look upon it only as a complaint made against me behind my back. My reference to you personally was made humorously. The newspapers regarded it as such. <sup>But</sup> Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Patel also regarded it similarly. But in your letter to Mahatmaji you have persisted in saying that it was made by me in all seriousness.

As regards my second allegation regarding your having given publicity to your unjust complaint against me you have admitted in your letter to Shri Rashtrapati that you had given once an interview to Hindustan News Herald. Although you have neither confirmed nor <sup>denied</sup> ~~admitted~~ the interview which the correspondent of the Times of India asserts to have got from you, you further admit that you spoke about the affair to some friends. All this is highly objectionable and you will agree with me that my confidence in you cannot be restored by your mere desire that I should close the chapter finally. I do not see any signs of repentance in your letter and I would be lacking in sincerity if I stated that your letter is satisfactory. If you feel that you acted wrongly you should offer an unqualified apology. This is the least that will satisfy me. I have no position clear in my letter to the Parliamentary Commission of which you have already received.

Yours sincerely,

Ed. R. S. Shukla.



84

1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

15th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I was just on the point of sending you a copy of Dr. Hasan's letter to me and my reply thereto. But just as I was about to do so after my return from the Party Meeting, I received a letter from Dr. Hasan sending me copies of his letter to you and to Shri Kripalaniji, in which he says he has enclosed a copy of my letter to him and also a copy of his reply to me. It has, therefore, become unnecessary for me to send copies now, as desired by you yesterday.

P.S. I feel the suggestion he has made of coming here will again give prominence and undue publicity to the affair, and you may speak to Kripalaniji about it so that he may not independently write to him to come down here.

Yours sincerely,

*Prabhu*

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs, Govt. of India,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, NEW DELHI.



65  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

15th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I herewith enclose copies of reports received from the C.I.D. Special Branch regarding the activities of the Muslim League M.E.As. of the Central Provinces and Berar. Mr. Kazi is a member of the provincial Assembly and is also now their representative in the Constituent Assembly here.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs, G. of India,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

A.I.-G., S.B.

86

Nothing is known about the said scheme at Jubbulpore. It seems the scheme is still on the anvil and not finalised as yet.

2. A meeting of the Provincial M.L. Working Committee is scheduled to be held at Nagpur on the 13th instant. It is said that the scheme may be discussed and given proper shape in this meeting.

3. I am making further efforts and will put up my report on Monday next.

Camp Jubbulpore,

11-7-47.

Sd. C.L.Varma.

Inspector, S.B., Nagpur.

87

Copy of an interception report by S.I. K.L.Kapeor, L.I.B., Nagpur, of a letter, dated 24th June 1947, from S.G.Kazi, General Secretary, Provincial Muslim League, C.P. & Berar, Akola, to Ibrahim Khan Fana, Bada Nalsahabpura, Nagpur.

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I am sure that you are well aware of the swift changes that are taking place in the political world and specially in our province. It is necessary that we should take up the question of peace and order in right earnest. Our community is not at all prepared to cope with the changed conditions. The organisational work from political and other point of view requires extensive and intensive efforts. We find that everybody is sleeping in ignorance and very few know what is likely to come. There are number of complicated questions which in the nature of things itself will command an earnest consideration and also an action on our part. Very comprehensive schemes are being prepared and to make it successful, it will require all your time and energy. It is not necessary to write that the present time is the most critical one; and to remain inactive now, is to commit suicide. The MILLAT wants that at least once in our life for about a month and a half, we should devote our time (all 24 hours) in the work of our community. You may be required to take charge of your District. The local League organisation will be instructed to co-operate with you. The work can't be delayed any further. Can you in the interest of our community devote all your time for a month and a half? and complete the working of the scheme. Kindly send the reply at your earliest convenience. Such a letter is being addressed to all Councillors in our province.



588

Copy of a communication No.ADG (PS)-5/47, dated New Delhi, the 15th January 1947, from the Deputy Director General, Postal Services, to all Heads of Circles, including Addl.P.M.G., Cuttack.

The following further instructions are issued for the information and guidance of all concerned and must be scrupulously observed :-

Each delivery office should prepare in the following form a list in duplicate of all orders relating to the censorship or interception of mails passed either by the Central or a Provincial Government and extant on the 2nd of January 1947. One copy of the statement may be retained in the office itself and the duplicate sent through the controlling officer of the office to the Head of the Circle :-

- (1) Date of the order.
- (2) Authority passing the order.
- (3) Name of individual or institution with address in brief covered by the order.
- (4) Period of currency of the order.

Any additions and alterations in the orders made after the 2nd January will be reported in the same form and in the same manner to the Head of the Circle on the 15th of January 1947 and every fortnight thereafter.

Express letter.

Confidential.

No.Con-War 20/Suppl.

Dated Nagpur, the 25th Jan.1947.

Copy forwarded to -

1. All Superintendents of Post Offices in the Central Circle,
  2. The First Class Postmasters, Nagpur and Jubbulpore,
- for information, careful guidance and favour of necessary action.

The Superintendents of Post Offices and the 1st class Postmaster, Nagpur and Jubbulpore, will forward all such lists in duplicate to the Postmaster-General, by name in sealed covers clearly marked confidential.

Sd. Illegible.

for Postmaster-General,  
Central Circle.

84  
Top Secret & Personal.

Special Branch, C.P. & Berar.

No.5/Int/42.

Nagpur, the 11th July 1947.

My dear Kao,

Reference your D.O. letter No.SA/248(X) dated 2-7-47.

I send herewith a copy of orders issued by the Postmaster-General, Central Circle, in this connection. It will be seen that these orders emanated from the Deputy Director-General, Postal Services, and were issued to all Postmasters General.

Yours sincerely,

Sd.J.K.Thakur.

R.N. Kao, Esq., I.P.,  
Asstt: Director (S),  
I.B., Home Department,  
G. of India, New Delhi.



90  
Western Court,  
Camp New-Delhi.  
The 31st July 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahib,

I came to Delhi for one day in connection with the All India Scheduled Castes Scholarship Board's meeting and wanted to pay my respects to you, but in the absence of any previous engagement, I restrained myself from troubling you. I am therefore paying my respects through this.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Sardar Patel,  
Home Member,  
Government of India,  
New-Delhi.



9/1  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

20th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I am sorry the telephone is non-cooperating with us and we are not able to use it. I am, therefore, writing to inform you that Pandit Mishra has written me about Berar and I should like to talk the matter over with you at your convenient time today. The Chief Secretary, Mr. Rau, has also come in connection with Berar and other affairs, and unless required to stay, he might leave for Nagpur tomorrow morning. I shall be thankful if you kindly let me know when we can meet today either before the Working Committee meeting or after it according to your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

*Abdur Kadir*

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.



*211 in the presence*  
*60*  
*21/7*

92

1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

19th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

The Chief Secretary of my province has forwarded to me a copy of a letter which Mr. B.A. Bambawale, Commissioner, Nagpur Division, has addressed to the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, on the 13th July 1947. A copy of that copy of the letter is enclosed for ready reference.

At a time when you are extremely busy in important affairs, it is not proper to tell you all about this officer. All that I should like to let you know at this time is that he was being proposed to be sent to Berar as Commissioner in place of Mr. Lillie, who was being sent by us as Governor's Secretary and who is now retiring on the 15th of August. It was an office of responsibility to which we were sending Mr. Bambawale. But perhaps he found himself unequal to the task and gave various reasons for not going there. His ambition is to get into the Nagpur Secretariat or be raised to the status and position of a Secretary to the Government of India. I do not know what he has written in his letter dated the 25th June last. But I may say only this much that if ever the Government of India thinks to elevate him to the position of Secretary, the C.P. Government may be consulted. If necessary, I shall say more hereafter.

Yours sincerely,

*Ashtu Saha*

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs, G. of I.,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

Mo.9/CC.

B.A. Bombawale, Esq., M.A. (Cantab), I.C.S.,  
Commissioner, Nagpur Division,  
"Sunnydale", Civil Lines,  
Nagpur, Central Provinces.

12/13th July, 1947.

To

The Joint Secretary to the Government of India,  
Home Department,  
New Delhi.

Sir,

Please refer to paragraph 3 of my letter dated the 25th of June, which I sent in reply to your No.160/47-R.R. dated the 18th of June 1947. I regret I am compelled to write to you again in view of certain developments.

2. Yesterday (11th), the Honourable the Prime Minister called me to ascertain what my personal wishes were with regard to my proposed transfer from Nagpur Division to some other place. He was keen that I should give my views before a meeting of the Honourable the Ministers. The names of the Honourable the Ministers present at the meeting are given in the margin. I stated that I would not at present myself like a transfer from this Division as (a) I have been here for less than 3 months, and (b) I have already had too many changes during the last two years. I, however, agreed to carry out promptly such orders as Government may be pleased to pass. I also added that possibly in view of my request to the Government of India for a transfer from this province, it would not be desirable to send me to a new charge just at this time. The Honourable the Prime Minister seems to have got annoyed at this and among other things said that I should now sit at home and retire. This has created a very precarious and difficult situation for me. It seems certain that the Provincial Government does not want to continue me in their service after the 15th of August 1947. The request that I have already made for a transfer from this province thus now becomes extremely urgent and important. In this connection, I would like to submit the following alternative proposals for the consideration and orders of the Government of India: (a) As already stated in paragraph 3 of my letter dated the 25th June 1947, I may please be transferred to a post in the Secretariat at New Delhi in any Department of the Government of India. I have no doubt I shall be given a post according to my seniority. (b) Failing (a), I may be given a suitable (according to my seniority) administrative post under the Government of India either at New Delhi or at Bombay, such as (i) Chief Commissioner of New Delhi, (ii) Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust, etc. etc. (c) Failing (a) and (b), I may please be transferred to the regular Bombay Presidency cadre. Here also, my first request would be for a suitable post in Bombay proper, - in view of my children's education etc. If that is, however, not possible, I shall be quite prepared to go to any place in Bombay Presidency. It is expected that I shall be given there also a post according to my seniority.

3. Apart from the reasons already given by me before, I can give numerous other reasons in favour of my transfer from this province now. I am, however, deliberately refraining from giving these to avoid unpleasantness. If the Government of India approve, I can come and explain my case personally on any fixed date at New Delhi.

4. I believe the whole object of His Excellency the Viceroy's statement on the Services dated the 30th of April 1947 is to ensure

that each member of the Secretary of State's Services is encouraged even after the transfer of power to continue to serve in his country and that too in surroundings congenial to him. This is all that I am asking for.

5. I shall be grateful if the Government of India's orders regarding my next posting are communicated to me as soon as ever possible. The matter has become very urgent now. As already stated in my previous letter (dated the 25th June 1947), I do not want to retire at this critical juncture in our nation's history. If, however, no suitable transfer can be arranged before the 15th of August 1947, I may be compelled to retire - much against my will - and will have to proceed on leave preparatory to retirement with effect from the 15th of August 1947.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. B.A.Bambawale.

No.Q-A/CC, dated the 12th July 1947..

Copy is forwarded to P.S.Rau, Esq., CIE, ICS, ChiefSecy.to Govt., C.P. & Berar, Appts.Deptt., Nagpur.

Sd. B.A.Bambawale.

No.Q/CC.

B.A. Bambawale, Esq., M.A. (Cantab), I.C.S.,  
Commissioner, Nagpur Division,  
"Sunnydale", Civil Lines,  
Nagpur, Central Provinces.

12/13th July, 1947. 43

To  
The Joint Secretary to the Government of India,  
Home Department,  
New Delhi.

Sir,

Please refer to paragraph 3 of my letter dated the 25th of June, which I sent in reply to your No.160/47-R.R. dated the 18th of June 1947. I regret I am compelled to write to you again in view of certain developments.

2. Yesterday (11th), the Honourable the Prime Minister called me to ascertain what my personal wishes were with regard to my proposed transfer from Nagpur Division to some other place. He was keen that I should give my views before a meeting of the Honourable the Ministers. The names of the Honourable the Ministers present at the meeting are given in the margin. I stated that I

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Hon'ble Pandit Havi Shankar Shukla,</li><li>2. The Hon'ble Pandit Dewara Prasad Mishra,</li><li>3. The Hon'ble Mr. Durgashankar Kripashankar Mehta,</li><li>4. The Hon'ble Mr. Sambhaji Vinayak Gokhale,</li><li>5. The Hon'ble Mr. Ramrao Krishnarao Patil,</li><li>6. The Hon'ble Dr. Waman Sheodas Barlingay,</li><li>7. The Hon'ble Mr. Rameshwar Agnihotri,</li><li>8. The Hon'ble Mr. Baba Anand Rao Deshmukh.</li></ul> | <p>would not at present myself like a transfer from this Division as (a) I have been here for less than 3 months, and (b) I have already had too many changes</p> |
|---|---|

during the last two years. I, however, agreed to carry out promptly such orders as Government may be pleased to pass. I also added that possibly in view of my request to the Government of India for a transfer from this province, it would not be desirable to send me to a new charge just at this time. The Honourable the Prime Minister seems to have got annoyed at this and among other things said that I should now sit at home and retire. This has created a very precarious and difficult situation for me. It seems certain that the Provincial Government does not want to continue me in their service after the 15th of August 1947. The request that I have already made for a transfer from this province thus now becomes extremely urgent and important. In this connection, I would like to submit the following alternative proposals for the consideration and orders of the Government of India: (a) As already stated in paragraph 3 of my letter dated the 25th June 1947, I may please be transferred to a post in the Secretariat at New Delhi in any Department of the Government of India. I have no doubt I shall be given a post according to my seniority. (b) Failing (a), I may be given a suitable (according to my seniority) administrative post under the Government of India either at New Delhi or at Bombay, such as (i) Chief Commissioner of New Delhi. (ii) Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust, etc. etc. (c) Failing (a) and (b), I may please be transferred to the regular Bombay Presidency cadre. Here also, my first request would be for a suitable post in Bombay proper, - in view of my children's education etc. If that is, however, not possible, I shall be quite prepared to go to any place in Bombay Presidency. It is expected that I shall be given there also a post according to my seniority.

3. Apart from the reasons already given by me before, I can give numerous other reasons in favour of my transfer from this province now. I am, however, deliberately refraining from giving these to avoid unpleasantness. If the Government of India approves, I can come and explain my case personally on any fixed date at New Delhi.

4. I believe the whole object of His Excellency the Viceroy's statement on the Services dated the 30th of April 1947 is to ensure



that each member of the Secretary of State's Services is encouraged even after the transfer of power to continue to serve in his country and that too in surroundings congenial to him. This is all that I am asking for.

5. I shall be grateful if the Government of India's orders regarding my next posting are communicated to me as soon as ever possible. The matter has become very urgent now. As already stated in my previous letter (dated the 25th June 1947), I do not want to retire at this critical juncture in our nation's history. If, however, no suitable transfer can be arranged before the 15th of August 1947, I may be compelled to retire - much against my will - and will have to proceed on leave preparatory to retirement with effect from the 15th of August 1947.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. B.A.Bambawale.

No.Q-A/CC, dated the 12th July 1947..

Copy is forwarded to P.S.Rau, Esq., CIE, ICS, -ChiefSecy.to Govt., C.P. & Berar, Appts.Deptt., Nagpur.

Sd. B.A.Bambawale.



95  
211  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

19th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

/we During the course of my conversation with you the other day I expressed my view and that of my colleagues that were against the appointment of I.C.S. men as Governors of provinces after the 15th of August 1947. As far as Trivedi and Akbar Hydari are concerned, I learnt from you and Pandit Nehru that the Government is committed to continue both along with the two British Governors of Bombay and Madras. As for the rest, I understood you to say that there was scarcity of I.C.S. men fit to be Governors of provinces. If that is so, I am sure you will be appointing non-official Governors. But in case you decide in favour of I.C.S. Governors, I may bring to your notice the name of Mr. P. S. Rau, who is the Chief Secretary of my province. He has put in over 28 years of service and is able and patriotic. He is senior to both Messrs. Banerji and Bhalja.

Yours sincerely,

*Rohatla*

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs, Govt. of India,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.



96  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

25th July 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I understand that proposals regarding my province will possibly be finalized this afternoon, in consultation with Bapu. I feel confident they may not become final without taking us into confidence.

Yours sincerely,

*A. J. M. K. L. A.*

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi.

6 97  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.  
The 22nd July, 1947.

Thank you for your letter dated the 21st July, 1947, regarding taking over of arms and ammunitions from licensees in C.P. We have separately sent a detailed circular to Provincial Governments making some suggestions as to the policy they should pursue in regard to arms, ammunitions and explosives. The procedure which you have suggested is in accord with the suggestions made and I have no objection to your proceeding accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Pandit Bavi Shankar Shukla,  
Prime Minister, C.P.  
New Delhi.





98  
New Delhi,

21st July 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I spoke to you today after the Assembly meeting about the taking over of arms and ammunitions from the licensees in my province and not returning them to the Muslims till their position became definite and clear. You approved of the action taken. I placed before you the main points. I am now writing to you in detail, so that, if necessary, you may be able to give further direction.

The circumstances and feelings of the people of Berar and also of other parts of the Central Provinces are in short described in the letter of Pandit Mishra, a copy of which I have given you this morning. It is certain that if either by order of the Nizam or by his connivance the goondas of Hyderabad State create trouble in Berar or in the border district of Chanda, the Muslims within my province will also create trouble. It is also quite evident that the Muslims of C.P. and especially of Berar not only have sympathy with the Nizam but they even render every help to the Nizam so far as it lies in their power. In view of these facts, some time before I left for Delhi I had issued orders that all Hindu and Muslim licence-holders, except Government servants and exemptees, should deposit their arms and ammunitions in the nearest police station house. It was stated in the order that this was only a temporary measure taken to meet an emergent situation. Notwithstanding the fact that arms and ammunition were taken away both from the Hindus and Muslims, the Hindus of Berar heaved a sigh of relief inasmuch as they felt that Muslims, who could create trouble, were deprived of arms. As this surrender of arms was only a temporary measure, I ordered the District Magistrate to return to the Hindus their arms, except to such of them as were considered undesirable. A list of these

undesirables.....  
7

undesirables was to be submitted to the Government with reasons to show why their arms were being withheld. As for the Muslims, I ordered that a list of Muslims whom the District Magistrate proposed to return arms and another list of those whom he considered undesirable should be submitted to the Government and arms were not to be returned to them unless approved by the Government. I do not propose to return the arms and ammunition of the Muslim licence-holders till it is clear what their attitude is. Perhaps they will never promise or declare that they will not help the Nizam. I, therefore, consider it is not safe to return the arms to them immediately. Though it looks discriminatory, it is justified under the present extraordinary circumstances stated above, and I am glad I have your approval of it. The interview and talk which Pt. Mishra had with Syed Rauf Shah are significant and have a great bearing on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

*R. S. Shukla*  
( R.S.Shukla )

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.

100  
New Delhi, 21st July 1947.

21/7  
Thank you for your letter of the 20th July 1947 regarding the request of the Ruling Chief of Kawardah to come to some mutual arrangements with the C.P. Government in regard to civil supplies etc.

I assume that the Kawardha State will join the Union. If so, there could be no objection to your coming to an agreement with the Ruler in regard to these matters. You will notice that provision has been made in the draft Constitution for the Provinces enabling the executive authority of the Province to function outside its boundaries by special agreement with the neighbouring States.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Prime Minister,  
Government of the Central Provinces & Berar,  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

R.



101  
1, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

20th July, 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter which I have received from the Ruling Chief of Kawardha. His representative, who brought this letter to me last evening, has been informed by me of the position to which the States are relegated by clause 8 of the Provincial Constitution. But I have told him that we would give him proper replies after consulting you.

Yours sincerely,

*Winkles*

The Hon. Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.



102  
Kawardha, E.S.A.

Dated 17-7-1947.

My dear Panditji,

I thank you very much for your telegram of the 14th inst. I am longing to see you and discuss with you the matters of present day politics.

You must have read in the papers that the Eastern States Agency has formed a union and has joined the Consembly, but has not yet given decision whether they would federate with the Indian Centre. I alone have not signed the Instrument of Accession to this Union, as I thought that it was a very vital issue to give one's consent without consulting the people of the State, but all the same I am required to give my final decision by the end of this month. Now the people of Kawardha and I think that our geographical situation is such that our economic interests will not be well served by joining this States Union. Our desire is to come to some terms with C.P. in the way of mutual civil supplies, administrative and educational facilities. This is merely illustrative, but will be exhaustively dealt in the course of discussion and final agreement.

I want to take the earliest opportunity to discuss with you and take your valuable advice in the matter. Unfortunately I am so much burdened with the work here that I cannot get off just at present. Therefore I am sending to you our representative to start negotiations with you. I shall be joining them as soon as possible. I request and hope that you will please give them time for your advice and preliminary discussions.

Please treat this letter as confidential till we have reached the final agreement.

With best of regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. D.R.Singh,

Ruler, Kawardha.

Telephone  
40319



New sethi  
19.7.47

My dear Sardar Sahib  
I am reliably informed  
that the new India Government  
which is being formed and  
is to take charge on the  
21st will include:-

1. Pandit J. Nehru - C.P.
2. Dr. Rajendra Prasad
3. Sir Jagjivan Ram
4. " Satej Narayan Sarda } Bihar
5. " Sardar Sahib }  
6. " Gadhgil } - Bombay  
7. " Masani }  
8. " Deen Dakhilani } Bengal  
9. " G. G. Mehta }  
10. " Rajaji } Madras  
11. Shri Rajkumar } Punjab  
12. Sir Ar. M. Dasgupta }

3)<sup>o</sup> We in the C.P. have loyally  
carried out your policies,  
and have stood by our  
guns in spite of all opposition  
for silence in your meeting  
and debate should not  
be treated as incapacity  
to stand the responsibility  
of the Centre. We have  
stunned Congressmen and  
other Congressmen who  
are in ~~success~~ way even all  
if not better than, many  
many proposed to be  
taken in. If arriving before  
ability is any evidence  
our men are superior to  
and can surpass all other  
Congress.

Kindly do not mis-  
understand me. I am, of course



-104-

out of consideration  
being not liked by some  
whose voice in the Selective  
Committee. But I leave in my  
province Mr. Krishna Rao  
legislative and administrative  
experience <sup>capacities</sup> is most outstanding  
and superior to any you  
are taking. Mr. Krishna Rao  
is the eldest member of  
the Central Assembly and  
is able & experienced. I know  
there is some prejudice  
against him but I think  
that ought to be ignored now  
my regret is not to embrace  
you in any way, but it is  
since that I place an

104/8

on record my protest  
against the acc. representation  
of some provinces and  
neglect of others who  
have kept the balance  
of the Congress up at all times.  
It is needless for me to say  
anything more.

Yours sincerely  
Wm. Winkler



105

नागपुर  
२१.६.४६

श्री. बहिन जी,

एक आश्चर्य-जनक घटना की ओर मैं आप सबका ध्यान आकषिप्त करना चाहता हूँ।

मई के आखिरी सप्ताह में मैं निखल्दा (बरार) गया था। वहाँ मुझ से जो लोग मिले उनमें श्री ठाकुर भी थे जो अधिराजती जिला कांग्रेस कमेटी के सभापति हैं। उन्होंने मुझ से कहा कि बरार के निजाम को दिये जाण का मरा है। मैंने उनसे कहा कि यह असंभव है। उन्होने फिर कहा कि जियानी जी ने उनको जतवाया है कि कांग्रेस हाई कमांड High politics की दृष्टि से निजाम को बरार दे सकती है। यह सुनकर मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ। मुझे ऐसा लगा कि बरार में आजाद बरार



नागपुर  
५/६/४६

श्री बहिनजी,

एक आश्चर्य-जनक घटना की ओर मैं आप सबका ध्यान आकषिप्त करना चाहता हूँ।

मई के आदिकारी सन्धार में मैं चिबल्दा (जरा) गया था। वहाँ मुझ से जो लोग मिले, उनमें श्री ठाकुर भी थे जो अमरावती जिला कांग्रेस कमेटी के सभापति हैं। उन्होंने मुझसे कहा कि जरा के निजाम को दिये जाय का मस. है। मैंने उनसे कहा कि यह असंभव है। उनसे मैं उन्होंने फिर कहा कि जियानी जी ने उन्को बतलाया है कि कांग्रेस हाई कमांड high politics की दृष्टि से निजाम को जरा दे सकती है। यह सुनकर मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ। मुझे ऐसा लगा कि जरा में आजाद जरा

अंगरानी में सुनी थी। यह अफवाह  
 इतनी फैली है कि उनके गाँव के  
 मुखानों को बरार मिल जाने  
 के उपलक्ष्य में किजान को बधाई  
 के तार भी भेजे और मस्जिद  
 में नमाज़ भी पढ़ी। उसी रात  
 में एक बटाराष्ट्र राजन मेडिकल  
 ब्रदर प्रो. डेवर आते साँ के यहाँ  
 मजान के लिए गया। कई लोग  
 उपस्थित थे। वहाँ फिर मुझे  
 निश्चित पता लगा कि इस  
 अफवाह को सूत्र कहाँ है। आप  
 सोनाचार-पत्रों में देखती हो  
 होंगी कि बियानी जी के वक्तव्य  
 पर वक्तव्य निकलते रहते हैं।  
 यदि जनता को यह निश्चित  
 विचार हो जाये कि बरार  
 किजान का वादा मिलेगा तो  
 आजाद बरार कभी भी और बियानी  
 जी के वक्तव्यों का अंत हो



कमिटी का आ.दे. लगे।

3। पजे गेलुल्य में चलयते।

रहने के लिए यह बात

वरार में फैला रहे हैं।

मा. मं. अ. अ. अ.

अचित्त नारी' साक्षात् /

Fit double bearing

संख्या का क्रम ५२

द पुष्पा इति साक्षात्

कठोरताओं को भी म

मंजरी के पक्ष पर

सदा विद्यमानं जी रे

कला है। यह पता

यदि इसी चीज में

ਦਫ਼ਤਰੀ ਨਾਮ ਨੂੰ ਸਹੀ

अभी 30 ता. को समाप्त

मै राइन्स कोलेज  
रामपुर

अ. सं. २०००/२००१

गुरुत पाना 3712

ने जहाँ आप जोर

३। निम्न आन दोह

106  
अंधराजनी में, सुनने दो। यह अफवाह  
इतनी फैली है कि एक बौद्ध  
बुद्ध भगवानों को बंधार मिल जाया  
के अंधराजनी में मित्रता को बढ़ाई  
के बंधार भी भेजे और मजिद  
में नम्राज भी पड़ी। उसी रात  
एक बहाराष्ट्र इज्जत मुनि के मत  
व्यवस्था के लिए आते हैं। के यहाँ  
उपासित थे। वहाँ फिर मुझे  
मिश्रित पती मिला कि इस  
अफवाह को खूब करो है। आप  
सोभाचार-पत्नी में देखनी हो  
होंगी कि बियाली जी के वक्तव्य  
पर वक्तव्य निकलते रहते हैं।  
वहाँ दाद जनता को यह मिश्रित  
बियाली हो जाय कि बंधार  
मित्रता का बंधार मित्रता तो  
आचार-बंधार कभीही ओह बियाली  
जी के वक्तव्यों का अंत हो

जाने। उन्हें जीवित रखने के लिए  
ही ये आफवाहें जनता में फैलानी  
जा रही हैं। अपने इतने खरे  
से स्वाधीन के लिए जनता में  
इतना भय फैलाना आश्चर्यजनक  
बात है। मरणा विचार नहीं  
होता। प्रांत बात सच है। मैंने  
ब्रह्मगोत्र में अपने माँ  
में जितना हो सका था उतना  
लोगों को आश्वासन दिया  
कि हाई कमांड बरार की लब  
लट रखा करेगी। लोगों की  
माँग पर सीमा पर कुछ कमरे  
पुलिस भी भेजी जा रही है।  
मैंने आपको यह सब लिख  
देना उचित समझा।

भवदीय  
डॉ० आशुतोष मुखर्जी

1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi,  
The 9th July, 1947. 107

Thank you for your letter of the 30th June, 1947, with which you enclosed a letter from the Raja Bahadur of Khairagarh. Before committing yourself to any collaboration with the neighbouring states, you should await the result of the negotiations we are going to undertake with regard to temporary and permanent arrangements in matters of common concern after the 16th August, 1947. It is likely that the enthusiasm of these states for an arrangement with us would decrease if they knew that in nation-building departments they could rely on the co-operation of provinces. You may reply that there would be no objection to collaboration in these matters if the offer is genuine but the important thing to start with is the conclusion of arrangements with the Centre through the Constituent Assembly and once these are accomplished, arrangements with Provincial Governments will present no difficulty and that you will do the best you can to deal with matters of common concern.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Pandit  
Ravishankar Shukla,  
Prime Minister, C.P. & Berar Government,  
Nagpur.



108  
Nagpur,

The 30th June 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I am enclosing herewith a letter received from the Raja Bahadur of Khairagarh. A number of things mentioned therein are purely provincial which can be arranged between the States and this province; but there are others which are either inter-provincial or Central, e.g., the highways. Even for those things which are provincial, the States Negotiating Committee may have come to some decisions, and I shall be grateful if you will kindly advise me what suggestions should be made for the guidance of the Ruling Princes. The subject of the splitting-up of this province on linguistic basis is one in which the Chhattisgarh States are keenly interested, and I would like to know what your suggestion would be in this connection.

Yours sincerely,

*As hunkla*

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.

A

Personal  
&  
Confidential



109  
Khairagarh camp,  
Wood-Cock House,  
Ootacamund,  
S.I. Rly.  
Dt. 27th June, 1947.

My dear Panditji

When I was last in Nagpur on about the 7th of June, I had informal discussions with you on the matters of mutual co-operation bringing mutual benefit to the Chhattisgarh States and to the Province.

2. You are aware of the fact, that the Political Department is shortly going to be wound up, and paramour-  
*a. incl.*  
-ty reverting to the States, there may be some difficulties in administration both in the Province and the States.

3. I therefore, in my own personal capacity would like to have your personal opinion and advice, on the subject and I also wish to find out in what respect and to what extent collaboration between the Central Province & Berar and the Chhattisgarh States would be feasible without effecting in any manner the separate identity of the States and the proposed Federal Union, which you are aware, of the 39 States of the Eastern States viz:- "The 25 States of Orissa and 14 States of the Chhattisgarh". The following subjects seem to me

BA



110

requires attention viz:-

- (a) Provincial highways linking up through routes of communication in the States.
- (b) University Education, arrangements for the State candidates for their training at Agriculture, Medical, Engineering Colleges and such other technical colleges that are in the Province and that are likely to be opened in near future.
- (c) Co-operation in combating epidemics.
- (d) Mutual assistance of the Police force for purposes of detection and prevention of crime near the borders of Central Province and Chhattisgarh States.
- (e) Co-operation in the enforcement of excise articles.
- (f) Consultation in regard to adoption of suitable forest policies, such as may prevent floods and soil erosion.
- (g) Cereals, commodities, supply of control articles and supply of excise drugs.
- (h) Maintenance of common boundaries.
- (i) Planning of agricultural and industrial development, so as to make Central Province and the Chhattisgarh States self supporting and mutually helpful.

4. I shall also be much obliged if you kindly let me know if there is any truth in the rumour viz:- that the Central Province & Berar would be split up on linguistic basis viz:- of the Hindi speaking (Mahakoshal) and the Maharashtra consisting of Marathi speaking stretching up to Poona.

I shall be very grateful for your reply

BEA

on the above subject.

I am leaving for Khairagarh on the  
4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Excuse Bad typing  
with my kind regards  
& pranams.  
I remain  
Yours very sincerely  
Brendan Mahadul

The Hon'ble Pundit Ravishankar Shukla,  
B.A., L.L.B.,  
The Premier,  
Central Province & Berar,  
Nagpur, (C.P.)



6. 7. 47

Mr. Gibbons was elected from your Assembly at our suggestion as a representative of the Anglo-Indian community. On account of the separation of Western Punjab, he has resigned from the Constituents Assembly and in his place Mr. Frank Anthony is to be elected. Will you please make necessary arrangements for this purpose?

The Honourable  
Pandit Ravi Shanker Shukla,  
Prime Minister,  
Central Provinces,  
Nagpur.

+

112  
6.7.47.

Dear Dr. Hasan,

I have received your letter of the 27th June. I am unable to understand how your personal views or your personal grievance against the Prime Minister in this connection found place in the Press. If you are not directly responsible for giving this publicity through the Press, you must have certainly talked about it loosely to your friends and thus indirectly helped this publicity. There is no other way by which such thing could happen. Surely you must straighten your matters with your Prime Minister.

2. In any case it is up to you to restore his confidence in you; otherwise it would be impossible to work with a sense of joint responsibility which is so essential in working of the Ministry.

3. I have no objection to your referring the matter to Gandhiji, but what I object to is the publicity that you have given, directly or indirectly, about your supposed grievance against your Prime Minister. Apart from that my real objection is to your having lost confidence of your Prime Minister, and it is quite essential that you should take steps immediately to regain it. It is not a matter of much consequence as to who is at fault. The fact remains that you have lost his confidence and such a state of things cannot be allowed to continue. I am informing

P.T.O.

your Prime Minister about it as he had referred  
the matter to me.

Dr. S.M.Hasan,  
Minister of Public Health,  
C.P. and Berar,  
Nagpur



113

Nagpur,  
27th June, 1947.

Dear Sardar Sahib,

In reply to your letter dated the 23rd June, 1947, I beg respectfully to submit as under:-

I assure you with all sincerity that I had no hand whatsoever in any press propaganda.

Had it been my intention to make the personal reference to me in the Hon'ble the Premier's speech a matter of official complaint, I would have surely followed the usual Congress parliamentary procedure.

I, however, did feel uneasy at the Hon'ble the Premier's personal reference to me in his speech. My relations with revered Mahatmaji are like those of a father and son. I have always been in the habit of opening my heart to him. It is in the light of this relation that I did write a personal letter to him giving expression to my feelings therein.

If any further elucidation is required on any point I may come and explain it personally to you.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

*S. N. Hasan*

6. 7. 47.

114

I had your letter of the 29th June. Question of Hyderabad State is under our active consideration.

2. There is at present no proposal to separate Meerut and Agra from U.P. There is loose talk about it from some of the Delhi people who claim to form a separate Province. This is not going to materialise for at least some time to come.
3. If U.P. will be willing to part with Bundelkhand districts, we would have no objection.
4. My letter about Dr. Hasan need not disturb Shuklaji at all, but I have written to him sending copies of my correspondence with Dr. Hasan already.

The Honourable  
Mr. D. P. Mishra,  
Minister of Development,  
C. P. and Berar, NAGPUR.

7



Nagpur  
29.6.47

Respected Sardar Sahab,

Our speaker Shri Guptaji is keenly interested in Hyderabad. He had done much for the success of Satyagraha there in 1938.

Recently Swami Ramanand Tirtha met me.

I have advised him not to precipitate matters up to 15th of August. Accordingly he has asked his workers either to leave the State or to go underground. We in C.P. have posted on our border crushed Hindu D. C. & D. S. R. S. with instructions to help those who are working in Hyderabad. Such workers can agitate in Hyderabad and when pursued can cross back in to C.P. & Berar districts. I had requested Shri Morarji Dasai to make similar arrangements in their border districts. Shri Ramanandji has gone to Bombay to see Shri Dasai. When I visited Mysore in March last I had spoken to Raddia, & Bhaskarham the two veteran Mysore congress leaders. They are willing to help the Hyderabad workers on the Mysore border. If a similar situation could be created by Dr. Subbayan on the Hindia border, I think we would have succeeded in throwing a ring round this treacherous State. Otherwise, all this is subject

15/11

to your approval and you will kindly  
instruct Guppteji accordingly.  
I have also advised Swami Ramakrishna  
to see you and I am sure he will meet you  
soon.

Another matter is regarding the future  
of our province in view of linguistic  
redistribution movement. So far G. B. S. and  
and Marathi C.P. districts are concerned  
they do not want to join United Maharashtra  
but would prefer to form what they call  
Marathi Bhasha. But this is merely for your  
information. What I am more anxious  
about is naturally Maharashtra. I feel  
it is impossible to form a province of  
only eleven districts. We want four  
districts of Bundelkhand from the U.P.,  
The intervening Central India States  
and also Bhettia, Jachha States including  
Bastar. I have got a map prepared  
and a captain will show it to you. The  
U.P. districts will be willing to come  
with us. The Maharajah of Orchha is  
also willing. But are some of the chieftain-  
ship States. But if Meerut & Agre-  
hensins are taken away from U.P.  
to form a province of Delhi then I am  
afraid the U.P. people will not be  
willing to give us any of their districts.  
In that case we may be talked on



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to U.P. - Gupta and myself are not unwilling to join U.P. But it is no use to say anything without being sure of our position. At the same time we can not keep quiet long as people have begun to discuss the matter and want a lead from us. I should be obliged if you will advise us in the matter.

Gupta knows all about the Hasan episode. Your last letter has made Shukla anxious. He feels unhappy. In my opinion he is not at all to blame. I hope you will send him a word of encouragement through Gupta.

Thanking you for this long letter

Yours sincerely

J. Mukherjee



117  
New Delhi, 28.6.47.

My dear Shankar,

I attach (a) a copy of a telegram from Sir C. P. Ramaswamier to P.S.V., and (b) the C.P. Premier's letter and its enclosures. Please show the first one to H.M. and return it to me after he has seen it. On the second, I have spoken to Sir Walter Monckton who thinks that the letter written by Salmon Hossain was absolutely stupid and that he would be writing to Chhattari about it.

Yours sincerely,

Libel  
97

V. Shankar, Esq., ICS.



118  
Nagpur,

The 24th June 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

This is another case regarding Berar which requires your careful attention and direction. Under Article 11 of the Agreement of 1936, the Nizam has a right to maintain an Agent at the seat of Government of the Central Provinces and Berar for the purpose of representing his views with reference to any matter which is of common interest to the Central Provinces and Berar and to Hyderabad or which directly affects the interests of Hyderabad; but, save as aforesaid, the said Agent shall have no concern with any of the internal affairs of the Central Provinces and Berar.

On the 21st June, the Secretary to this Agent of Nizam wrote a letter to the Area Rationing Authority, Nagpur. Up till now, so far as known to us, we used to have letters from the "Office of the Agent to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad", but this letter bears the heading "Office of the Agent to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar". In this letter he applied for issue of supplementary coupons for 50 gallons of petrol, and the purpose for which it was required is stated to be "to visit all the four districts of Berar on duty urgently". After the receipt of this letter, he was asked to state the nature of the duty which necessitated his tour, the reason why the tour was to be performed by car, and the itinerary proposed to be followed, etc. In reply, he refused to disclose the nature of his duty, saying it was confidential. Why he was visiting the four districts of Berar was also not disclosed, stating "No more information can be given". This, we consider, is a pointer to what is likely to follow, and

therefore.....

therefore we have entered an emphatic protest against this action. I understand that the Agent has for the present postponed his tour and he has not left Nagpur yet. It is just possible that a reference may be made by the Agent to the Nizam's Government and the Nizam's Government might make a reference to the Crown Representative. I am, therefore, sending to you the entire correspondence and the protest letter we have addressed to the Crown Representative. We trust that prompt steps will be taken to put an end to this sort of interference. It may lead to untoward incidents resulting in disturbance of public peace and order.

I have also addressed a similar letter to Pandit Nehru as he is in charge of Political and External Affairs.

With best regards,

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

*R. S. Shukla*

( R.S.Shukla )

The Hon'ble Shri Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs in the Interim Government,  
NEW DELHI.

119  
No. 646

Office of the Agent to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar  
Nagpur.

Dated the 21st June 1947.

Dear Mr. Abdul Hafiz,

I have to visit all the four districts of Berar on duty urgently.  
I shall therefore be grateful if you will kindly issue supplementary coupons for 50 gallons of ~~gas~~ petrol. As I have to leave early morning tomorrow, I hope you will kindly issue the coupons to day. My motor car registration no. is C.P. B 947, but I am sorry the Registration Book is not available at the moment as my office has sent it by post to Pachmarhi from where I had suddenly to return to Nagpur yesterday. I will however send it to you for necessary entries as soon as it is received back.

Yours sincerely,

Sd./- Salmon Hosain.

To

M.A.Hafiz, Esq.,  
Secretary, Area Rationing Authority,  
Nagpur

Copy of note recorded by Additional Secretary on 23-6-47. 120

I asked Secretary, P.T.A., to obtain the following information which is generally supplied by touring officers who apply for supplementary petrol: (a) the nature of the duty which necessitates this tour, (b) the reason why the tour should be performed by car (c) the itinerary proposed to be followed (d) the mileage to be covered and (e) how it is estimated that 50 gallons are required.

The reply given by the Secretary to the Agent of H.C.M. the Nizam is unsatisfactory and is as follows:

- (a) The duty is confidential and its nature cannot be disclosed;
- (b) The tour is to be undertaken by car so that it can be finished quickly;
- (c) The tour is to be in Berar, and all the four districts are to be visited. No more information can be given;
- (d) 500 miles;
- (e) The car in which the tour is to be done does only 10 miles to the gallon.

Chief Secretary.

Sd./- K. Radhakrishnan,

23-6-47

Government of the Central Provinces and Berar,  
Political and Military Department.

121

No. 462-336/Con.

From

P.S.Rau, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar.

To

The Secretary to His Excellency the Crown Representative,  
New Delhi.

Nagpur the 24th June 1947.

Subject— Tour in Berar by the Agent to His Exalted Highness  
the Nizam of Hyderabad and his staff.

Sir,

I am directed by the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar to say that it has come to the notice of the Provincial Government that the Secretary to the Agent of His Exalted Highness the Nizam intends to undertake a tour of the Berar districts on official duty, the nature of which and the itinerary to be followed cannot be disclosed to the Provincial Government as they are confidential. Under Article 11 of the Agreement of 1936 between His Majesty the King Emperor and His Exalted Highness the Nizam, H.E.H. the Nizam is authorised to maintain an Agent at the seat of the Provincial Government. The duties of the Agent as defined in that Article are—

"Article 11. His Exalted Highness shall have the right to maintain an Agent at the seat of Government of the Central Provinces and Berar for the purpose of representing the views of his Government with reference to any matter which is of common interest to the Central Provinces and Berar and to Hyderabad or which directly affects the interests of Hyderabad but save as aforesaid the said Agent shall have no concern with any of the internal affairs of the Central Provinces and Berar."

and he is expressly prohibited from interfering in the internal administration of the Central Provinces and Berar. The Provincial Government considers that a tour in Berar by the Secretary to the Agent for a purpose deliberately kept secret from the Provincial Government can only be construed as being intended to interfere in the internal administration of Berar and is a violation of the express conditions of Article 11 of the Agreement of 1936. Moreover, relations between the communities in Berar have been strained to a considerable extent as a direct consequence

consequence of the ill-advised utterances of the late Prime Minister of Hyderabad during his recent tour inviting the people to acquiesce in the return of Berar to H.E.H. the Nizam. A visit to Berar by any one associated with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam at this juncture will only exacerbate feelings and when the reasons for the visit and the itinerary to be followed are not disclosed to the Provincial Government, the Provincial Government cannot accept responsibility for anything untoward that might happen.

2. The Provincial Government has received information that the Muslim League proposes to raise 3,000 Muslim National Guards in Berar expressly for the purpose of agitating for the return of Berar to H.E.H. the Nizam. The inflammable possibilities of such a move are obvious. A visit by a member of the staff of the Agent of H.E.H. the Nizam to Berar at this juncture is liable to be interpreted by the advocates of reversion to Hyderabad as an encouragement and by its opponents as an incitement to unconstitutional agitation and it may have serious repercussions on the maintenance of law and order.

3. In these circumstances, the Provincial Government requests you to move His Excellency the Crown Representative to ask the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam to instruct its Agent and his staff to confine their activities to the discharge at the seat of the Provincial Government of the duties falling to them under Article II of the Agreement of 1936 and not to interfere in the internal administration of the Central Provinces and Berar in violation of the terms of the Article.

I have honour to be, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd./- S.S. Rau,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar.

No. 646

123

Office of the Agent to H.H.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and De  
Nagpur.

Dated the 21st June 1947.

Dear Mr. Abdul Hafiz,

I have to visit all the four districts of Berar on duty urgently. I shall therefore be grateful if you will kindly issue supplementary coupons for 50 gallons of ~~gas~~ petrol. As I have to leave early morning tomorrow, I hope you will kindly issue the coupons to day. My motor car registration no. is C.P. B 947, but I am sorry the Registration Book is not available at the moment as my office has sent it by post to Pachmarhi from where I had suddenly to return to Nagpur yesterday. I will however send it to you for necessary entries as soon as it is received back.

Yours sincerely,

Sd./- Salmon Hosain.

To

M. A. Hafiz, Esq.,  
Secretary, Area National Authority,  
Nagpur



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Copy of note recorded by Additional Secretary on 23-6-47.

I asked Secretary, P.T.A., to obtain the following information which is generally supplied by touring officers who apply for supplementary petrol: (a) the nature of the duty which necessitates this tour, (b) the reason why the tour should be performed by car (c) the itinerary proposed to be followed (d) the mileage to be covered and (e) how it is estimated that 50 gallons are required.

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- (d) 500 miles;
- (e) The car in which the tour is to be done does only 10 miles to the gallon.

Chief Secretary.

Sd./- K. Radhakrishnan,  
23-6-47



To

The President,  
All-India Congress  
Parliamentary Board,  
NEW DELHI.

NAGPUR,

The 19th June 1947. 1

Dear Sir,

On my return from Delhi on the 17th I found the local newspapers prominently displaying that differences had arisen between Dr. Hasan, my colleague in the Medical & Public Health Department, and me. The United Press of India stated that Dr. Hasan had tendered his resignation to Bapu. Even before I came in, the Chief Secretary had approached Dr. Hasan who authorized him to issue a contradiction, and this was done. Last evening I heard that he had written something to Bapu, and on my asking Dr. Hasan what the fact was, he admitted having done so and sent to me the original draft, a copy of which I have enclosed with this.

The facts are as below :-

The partition of India has pained me as it has pained every nationalist in the country. As the two-nation theory was responsible for this tragic division, I took the opportunity of referring to it in my address to the Hindustani Seva Dal on the 5th June. As my speech was an important statement which a responsible man of my position was making, I had taken care to take with me a Hindi shorthand writer of the Publicity Department. As the enclosed transcription of the speech at page 4 will show, my arguments were based on the hypothetical assumption that if Muslims not only continued to preach the two-nation theory but put it into practice in the Pakistan State, what would be its result. I told the audience what would follow if a theocratic State based on Islam was established in Pakistan. I said that if the Hindus were treated as aliens in Pakistan, then Muslims in Hindustan will be equally alien and they

would.....

would not be able to continue to be members of local bodies or the legislature. Turning to Dr. Hasan, who was seated by my side, I humorously remarked that he would then have to part company with us and be treated like a Japanese or a China-man or an Englishman. He will have to leave for the Punjab, Bengal or the Frontier Province. My object was to expose the absurdity of the two-nation theory which, if taken to its logical conclusion, was capable of dividing them from a colleague and a close friend like Dr. Hasan.

Referring to the doings of the Sind Government and their communication to the C.P. Government, a copy of which is enclosed, I said that my Government had merely noted the matter as it did not wish to create any bad blood. I, however, added that a day may soon arrive when a decision may have to be taken. I may here recall that while moving his resolution in the A.I.C.C. meeting, Pandit Pant used the same word "alien" when he was arguing on this very topic.

I may state here that not even our worst enemy could charge me and my Government with having ever done any wrong to the Muslim community or its interests. It was due to this that the peace of the province has never been disturbed in spite of what is happening across its borders. Even the Governor complimented the Ministry on this achievement at a recent Cabinet meeting.

Dr. Hasan never raised any objection to my speech either at the gathering or later even though he had met me more than once before I left for Delhi on the 12th instant.

Even conceding that every Congressman is entitled to approach Bapu — and perhaps Dr. Hasan better, being of Wardha —, it will have to be admitted that members of a Cabinet in a Government are not free to complain against their Prime Minister behind his back. In my opinion, Dr. Hasan should first have spoken to me if he had any grievance and then approached Bapu or the All-India Parliamentary Board if I failed to satisfy

him. ....

him. But even in this last case, he should not have gone over my head and made the complaint which he did. Not only was the complaint made behind my back, but the fact of his having done so was let out to the Press. All this by itself is enough to compel me to ask for his resignation. But things have gone further. He has not only charged his Prime Minister with indiscretion, but despite his presence at the meeting, has supported in his letter to Babu the wrong version of my speech appearing in the "Hitavada". He complains that he is terribly pained and his position has become very awkward. The fact is that he has made my position very awkward both with him and in public eye. In the circumstances, I am constrained to request you that permission may be given to me to ask for Dr. Hasan's resignation in his own interest and in the interest of the smooth working of my Cabinet. After what has happened, it will not be possible for me to restore my confidence in him, more particularly in these delicate times when complete amity and understanding are essential in the Cabinet for successfully facing the various problems that confront us.

Yours sincerely,

*R. S. S. S.*

P.S. After this letter was typed I read in the "Times of India" an interview reported to have been given by Dr. Hasan (a copy of it is being enclosed). There is another cutting from today's "Hitavada" which also I enclose. All newspapers have taken notice of the matter and something or the other in this connection appears daily, and evidently Dr. Hasan has been freely telling everybody that he has complained to Babu against me. Such a behaviour on the part of a colleague adds insult to injury, and I request that approval to my proposal be communicated to me soon, so that the awkwardness finds a quick end.

In view of Babu's letter to me, a copy of

which.....

which I attach, I am sending a copy of this letter to him.

P.S. Since the above was typed, another statement has appeared in the "Hindustan Herald" confirming that Dr. Hasan made no secret of his actions.

Enclosures :-

- (1) Dr. Hasan's letter to Bapu, dated 14-6-47, with his covering letter to Pt. Shukla.
- (2) Transcription of Pt. Shukla's speech.
- (3) Sind Government's communication to C.P. Government, with the latter's reply.
- (4) "Times of India" report about an interview given by Dr. Hasan.
- (5) Cutting from the "Hitavada" dated 19-6-47.
- (6) Bapu's letter to Pt. R. S. Shukla.
- (7) ~~Another~~ Cutting from the "<sup>Hindustan Herald</sup>Hitavada" dated 18-6-47
- (3) Cutting from the "Hindustan Herald" dated 13-6-47.

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Nagpur,  
18th June 1947.

My dear Panditji,

I am herewith enclosing a rough copy of my letter dated the 14th June addressed to Mahatmaji. As this is the only copy with me, I would request you to kindly return it after perusal.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. S.N.Hasan.

By Air Mail.

Nagpur, 130

14-6-47.

Revered Bapu,

I am herewith sending a cutting from the Hitavada of Nagpur containing the indiscreet speech of my Premier flung in my very face as I was present next to him in the meeting. The reporting in the Hitavada is quite correct and faithful except that it was in a serious strain and not in a lighter vein. It has its own repercussions not only in this province but the whole of India, and every Hindu friend of mine, who knows me from my very boyhood, is vehemently resenting against it.

It has pained me terribly as I feel it has made my position very awkward as of any other nationalist Muslim who has been in the Congress fold long before 1921.

I leave it to you to realize my position without any further comment from me.

With respects,

Ever yours,

Sd. Hasan.

131  
No. 878 N/42.

GOVERNMENT OF SIND.

Political, Services and General Administration  
Deptt.

(General Administration Branch),  
Sind Secretariat, Karachi, 23rd May 1947.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Central  
Provinces.

SUBJECT:- Public Services:  
Measures to achieve fair representation  
of all castes and communities in -

Sir,

I am to state that this Government has fixed the ratio of 70% (Muslim) and 30% (Non-Muslim) in recruitment and confirmation in initial employment in the services under its control. It is now considering the question whether this ratio should be made applicable to promotions. I am therefore to request that, if there be no objection, this Government may please be informed whether your Government has prescribed any ratio for recruitment to services under its control, and if so, whether it applies only to initial recruitment or to all grades in a service. It may please be particularly stated whether it applies to promotions. Copies of the orders on the subject may, if convenient, be also supplied.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd. Muhammad Yakub K. Agha,

Deputy Secretary to Government.



132  
No.3773-1856-II-50.

Government of the Central Provinces & Berar,  
General Administration Department.

From

P.S.Rau, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar.

To

The Chief Secretary to the Government of Sind,  
Political, Services and General Administration  
Department,  
Karachi.

Dated Nagpur, the 16th June 1947.

Subject :- Communal representation in Public  
Services.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No.879/  
N/42 dated the 23rd May 1947, and to say that no  
percentages have actually been fixed for the purpose  
of communal representation in the public services in  
this province. The policy followed is that Govern-  
ment services should not become the prerogative of  
any one community. The appointing authorities are  
required to ensure the observance of this policy by  
making efforts to secure adequate representation of  
all castes and communities in the public services  
without lowering the qualifications prescribed. In  
actual practice, however, the Muslims have secured  
a considerably higher representation in the services  
than they would have received by reservation of a  
percentage of posts for them on the basis of their  
population, as will be seen from the fact that,  
though they constitute only 4.6 per cent. of the  
population, they hold 10 per cent. of all the  
gazetted posts, 11 per cent. of the posts in the  
ministerial services and 18 per cent. of those in

the.....

the subordinate executive services in the province. In the Police Department they are over 30 per cent. of the total force.

2. Confirmation of a Government servant is based only on merit and not on communal considerations. The criterion for promotion is merit tempered by seniority and communal considerations play no part whatever.

3. I am to add that the Provincial Government have taken note of the decision of the Government of Sind not only to reduce the representation of non-Muslims in the services so as to correspond with their population strength, but to restrict the promotion of existing officers of these communities to their ratio of the population. It is possible that public opinion in this province may also demand a similar reduction of the representation of Muslims in the public services according to their population. The Provincial Government are carefully watching the repercussions in the province to the Sind Government decision before determining the steps they should take in this matter.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. P.S.Rau,

Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar,  
General Administration Department.

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**Government of the Central Provinces and Berar  
Publicity Department.**

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**Extract from the Times of India, Bombay, dated 18th  
June 1947.**

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**MUSLIMS IN CABINETS**

**From Our Own Correspondent -**

**NAGPUR, June 17 :-** Dr. S. N. Hasan, Minister for Public Health in the Central Provinces Government, in an interview today said that he was glad to hear of Mr. Gandhi's views that Muslim members in provincial Cabinets were just as welcome as before.

Dr. Hasan added that he was pained by the remark of Pandit R. S. Shukla, the Premier, that he could not be a member of the Cabinet as Muslims may not be granted citizenship rights in Hindustan provinces.

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Extract from the "Hitavada" dated 19-6-47.

## THE HASAN EPISODE

### Varied Impressions in Nagpur

No Reply to Minister from Mahatmaji Yet.

(From Our Special Representative)

NAGPUR, June 18. — The rumoured resignation of Dr. S. M. Hasan, Minister of Public Health, has not been given much importance nor credence in political circles though it is not also dismissed as a pure canard. It is admitted that Pandit Shukla's speech at the Hindustani Seva Dal passing out parade was not relished by many, especially the nationalist Muslims, and it was immediately indicated on the faces of Dr. Hasan and Mr. Suleman Pathan, the Commandant of the Hindustani Seva Dal. Later on, it appears it was worked up by a clique into a major grievance and a complaint was made to Mahatma Gandhi. Those in close touch with Dr. Hasan pointed out that Dr. Hasan has been loyal Congressman for over a quarter of a century and has very intimate relations with Mahatma Gandhi. The "Pandits" however have always treated him not with much respect and Dr. Hasan felt that Pandit Shukla had a deliberate dig at him. There is another section which points out that Dr. Hasan has been finding it difficult on account of a clique in Nagpur to carry on his work smoothly and therefore to entrench his position in the Cabinet, he has with the help of certain friends played this hoax. It, however, appears that Dr. Hasan sent a cutting of the report of Pandit Shukla's speech which appeared in the "Hitavada" of the 7th June along with the editor's comment and pointed out to Mahatma Gandhi that report was fairly accurate except for the w

"jocula"

136  
"jocularly" which in his opinion should be "seriously" and he asked Mahatma Gandhi what he should do in such circumstances. No reply has yet been received from Mahatma Gandhi. The ministerial circles point out that this is a gross misrepresentation of Pandit Shukla's speech. The trend of the Prime Minister's argument, they say, was that should the non-Muslims in Pakistan areas not be allowed to enjoy citizenship rights, it may then become possible that Muslims living in the Hindustan area would have to suffer from lack of citizenship rights also and therefore it was a duty of the Muslims who have lived in this province for generations and who have got land, property, business and trade should bring pressure on Mr. Jinnah not to press for Pakistan. Dr. Hasan who was at the meeting did not catch the full significance of Pandit Shukla's speech.

137

दिल्ली

१६. ६. ४७.

माई सुक्लाजी,

आपके लेखादल को दिये माषण  
की हितवाद की कटिज्ञ आहसन ने मुझे  
प्रेमी है। वे लिखते हैं कि आपने जो  
कुछ कहा वह मजार में नहीं कहा गया था।  
यह सब क्या है ?

बापु के आशीर्वाद.

"Hindustan Herald"  
Extract from the "Hitavada" dated 18-6-47. 138

## DR.HASAN RESIGNS ?

Letter to Gandhiji

Sequel to Shuklaji's Speech ?

(From Our Special Correspondent)

Nagpur, June 17.

"I myself do not know if I am resigning", said the Hon.Dr.Hasan, Minister for Health, when I contacted him for verification regarding the report about his resignation.

There was no straight denial of the report and he said no statement was called for at this stage.

An earlier report of the United Press said:-

There are persistent rumours in political circles of Nagpur that Dr.Hasan, Minister for Public Health, C.P. & Berar, has sent in his resignation of the Office of Minister to Mahatma Gandhi. It is stated that the resignation is a sequel to the speech of the Hon. the Premier, Pandit R.S.Shukla, at the concluding function of the Hindustani Seva Dal which has already caused a great flutter.

When a correspondent drew his attention to Gandhiji's remark after the prayer yesterday and asked him what reply he had received from Gandhiji, Dr.Hasan said "How can I tell you about it now".

Gandhiji's remarks were :-

"If the report was fairly accurate, Mahatma Gandhi said, the speech was unfortunate, although it might have been made in lighter vein. Surely, the Union Provinces were not going to be caught

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in the trap prepared for them. They had to show by their action that the Muslim members in provincial Cabinets were just as welcome as they have been so far, and no matter what was done in the so-called Pakistan provinces, the treatment of minorities in the Union should be just and fair."

It will be recalled here that Shuklaji complained of misreporting of his speech wherein he only illustrated a hypothetical case.

The Director of Information, C.P. Govt., informs that there is no truth in the report that Dr. Hasan has resigned.



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Extract from the Hindustan Herald dated June, 19th  
1947

## DR. HASAN EPISODE

### Gandhiji Making Enquiries

#### Dr. Hasan's Letter and Gandhiji's Reply

### Story of Official Contradiction

(From Our Political Correspondent)

Nagpur, June 19.

The latest development in Dr. Hasan episode is the receipt of a letter by him from Mahatma Gandhi to-day. This letter is written by Gandhiji in Urdu and is in reply to Dr. Hasan's complaint against Prime Minister Shukla's speech at the Sewa Dal Camp wherein he had referred to the position of Muslims in Hindu Majority areas in case Jinnah's two nation theory was followed to the extreme in Pakistan. Gandhiji in his letter to Dr. Hasan says he was grieved to read the report and was making enquiries from Pandit Shukla in this connection. He further wrote that he would prefer to the Prime Minister's speech in his post-prayer address.

It may be remembered that Pt. Shukla in his speech had made a personal reference to Dr. Hasan saying even he (Dr. Hasan) might have to go out of the Cabinet and migrate to Pakistan. Dr. Hasan felt greatly humiliated at this remark. But he did not stand up to protest nor did he stage a walk out, though it is said he felt like doing it at the moment. I understand that he waited hoping Pt. would make amends. They met next day or soon after official business but even then when no regret was expressed by Pt. Shukla, he wrote to Gandhiji on June 14 bringing to his notice the humiliation inflicted on him at a public function where he was seated near the Prime Minister. The other point

point that Dr. Hasan made out in his letter to Gandhiji was the mischief and harm such ill-conceived remarks of the Prime Minister would have on the public mind specially the Muslims and other minorities. He also said that if amends were not made he may be driven to the stage of tendering his resignation.

Interviewed Dr. Hasan said he was glad that Gandhiji's remarks have removed much of the confusion that was created by Pt. Shukla's speech. He said it was better that the cha ter was closed.

On his return from Delhi Pt. Shukla is understood to have telephoned and asked Dr. Hasan if he has resigned. When Dr. Hasan replied in the negative Pt. Shukla, it is reported, enquired if he had written to Gandhiji and if he could have a copy of it. A cop was sent. The Prime Minister is also said to have asked Dr. Hasan if he could issue a contradiction regarding the report of resignation. Dr. Hasan gave his consent and that explains for the official contradiction saying that the report of resignation was a fictitious and malicious canuard.

It is understood that when Pt. Shukla who was in Delhi for the A.I.C.C. meeting met Gandhiji this topic came up for discussion and Pt. Shukla said that he would send Gandhiji a corvest version of his speech which would speak for itself.

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हिन्दुस्थानी सेवा दल केम्प ( ला कालेज मैदान, अमरावती रोड, नागपुर ) के समारोप के अवसर पर माननीय पं. रविवंशर शुक्ल, प्रधान मंत्री, मध्यप्रान्त और बरार, का भाषण :-

सेवा दल के संवाल्क, सैनिकों और उपस्थित भाई और बहिनों --

जब कभी सेवा दल में जानेका मुमेन अवसर मिलता है किन्तनी ही कठिनाईयां क्यों न हो समय निकालकर मैं जाता हूं. हिन्दुस्थानी सेवा दल जब से हिन्दुस्थान में कायम किया गया तब से मैं उसे जानता हूं. इसका संगठन अन करीब २४ या २५ वर्ष से है. डा. हार्डीफर इसकी शिक्षा देते थे. रायपुर से भी इस शिक्षा के लिये सैनिक जाते थे. अलग अलग सभी प्रांतो में जो शिक्षा दी जाती है वह उतनी उच्च न हो, जैसी अखिल भारतीय दी जाती थी. आपका यह दल उसी की ही एक शाखा है. आपके राष्ट्रसेवा का काम देख मुमेन बहुत सुशी होती है. साथ ही साथ आप जन-सेवा का भी कार्य करने की शिक्षा लेते हैं. अपने अपने स्थानपर आप जब जावें तब जन-सेवा का प्रमुख कार्य आप करें यही आपके लिये मेरा संदेश है. हम, आप सब हिन्दुस्थान की स्वतंत्रता के लिये बर्षों से कोशिस कर रहे हैं. लाहोर की काग्रिस में रात्रि के १२ - ५ पर स्वतंत्रता की घोषणा का प्रस्ताव पास हुआ था. और जो लोग उपस्थित थे उनके आनंद का कुछ ठिकाना न था.

उस का .....

उस का स्मरण लोगों को अभी भी है, उस वक़्त  
लेकिन यह स्वप्न भी न था कि ज़माना इस तरह बदल  
जायेगा कि जिस स्थान पर कांग्रेस ने स्वतंत्रता का फेंडा  
फहराया वह हिन्दुस्थान के बाहर हो जायगा, यह  
कौन कह सकता था की अफ़ग़ानिस्थान से लेकर बेग़ाल  
तक और हिमालय से लेकर लंका तक हिन्दुस्थान एक न रहेगा,  
हिन्दुस्थान के दो टुकड़े होंगे या उसका बटवारा हो  
जायगा इसका अनुमान भी किया नहीं जा सकता था, लेकिन  
आज वही बीज हमारे सामने है, अभी जो गीत  
गाया उसमें यह बतलाया है की मजहबी तौर पर  
हिन्दुस्थान का बटवारा नहीं हो सकता, यहाँ से वहाँ  
तक भारत अखंड ही रहेगा, वजहों से इसी से बचना चाहते थे,  
यहाँ से वहाँ तक भारत में यही एक गीत गाते थे, एक  
ही यूनिफ़, संयुक्त राज्य की माँग करते थे, अब ब्रिज  
सरकार के तरफ से योजना पेश हुई है, उसमें हिन्दुस्थान के  
दो टुकड़े कर दिये गये हैं - एक यूनिफ़ वह, जिस में  
मुसलमानों की संख्या ज्यादा है और उसको पाकिस्तान कहे  
भी तो कोई हर्ज नहीं है, दूसरा यूनिफ़ वह, जिसमें हिंदूओं  
की ज्यादा संख्या है, बात यह है कि प्रांतों का बटवारा हो भी  
जाता परन्तु मुस्लिम प्रांत जहाँ मुसलमानों की ज्यादा  
आबादी है या हिंदू प्रांत जहाँ हिंदुओं की ज्यादा आबादी है  
बटवारा होने पर एकही राष्ट्र के अंग रहते तो यह बात हिंदू और  
मुस्लिम दोनों के लिये ख़र्ब की बात होती, परन्तु वर्तमान  
विभाजन को आज अपने नेता महात्मा गांधी को भी  
स्वीकार .....

स्वीकार करना पड़ा है. आगे क्या होगा यह अतलाना बहुत कठिन बात है.

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अब तो दो डोमिनियन्स होंगे. हमारी नीति तो अरंड और स्वतंत्र हिन्दुस्थान की थी. परन्तु हिन्दुस्थान के दो टुकड़े कर दिये गये - एक पाकिस्तान डोमिनियम और दूसरा हिन्दुस्थान डोमिनियम - जैसे केनडा, आस्ट्रेलिया, न्यूजीलैंड हैं. जो कान्स्टीट्यूण्ट असेम्बली दिल्ली में चल रही है उसमें रिपब्लिकन गवर्नमेन्ट की घोषणा भी हो चुकी है. लेकिन पाकिस्तान का क्या हाल होगा बता नहीं सकते. पाकिस्तानी हिस्सा हिन्दुस्थान से अलग होना ही देश की अमजोरी है. बटवारे से मजबूती नहीं रहती, अमजोरी पैदा होती है. और देशी राज्य भी तो है. एक भाग मुसलमानी जहाँ मुसलमान ज्यादा, दूसरा भाग हिंदुस्थानी जहाँ हिंदू ज्यादा. इन दोनों के बीच में देशी राज्य है. प्रजा और राजा के संबंध ठीक नहीं है. नाम के सिधे प्रजामंडल कायम हैं. देशी रियासतों के साथ जो अंग्रजी के मोहायदे हैं उनका भी सातमा अर्थात् अंत हो जाता है. अंग्रेज सरकार क़तम होते ही वे मोहायदे क़तम हो जाते हैं. (ताड़िया) वे चाहें तो विधायक परिषद में शामिल हो - हिन्दुस्थान या पाकिस्तान. वे स्वतंत्र भी रह सकते हैं. आगे वे किनसे संबंध रखेंगे या स्वतंत्र ही रहेंगे यह आज कहा नहीं जा सकता. अपने सामने जबरदस्त समस्या पंजाब और बंगाल की है और उसका भी निर्णय दो महीने के भीतर हो जायगा. हमें तो आज इस से

उस से उतना तालुक नहीं। हमारे नेताओं ने हमें आदेश दिया है कि ऐसे भाषण न दें या ऐसे लेख न लिखें जो जोष पैदा करें, घृणा पैदा करें। यहाँ के मुस्लिमों को बटवारे से कमी भी फायदा न होगा। नुकसान ही नुकसान दिखता है। मैं आपको बतलाता हूँ कि मुस्लिमों के पाकिस्तान में ४ करोड़ ८० लाख मुस्लिमान हैं, १ करोड़ मुस्लिमान हिंदुस्थान के प्रांतों प्रांतों में बसे हैं, २ करोड़ रियासतों में हैं और पाकिस्तान के भाग में हिंदुओं की संख्या १ करोड़ ८५ लाख है। आज हिंदु डोमिनियन और पाकिस्तान डोमिनियन अलग अलग होने की बात है। जिन्ना साहब कहते हैं कि हमारी कल्चर, हमारी भाषा, हमारा धर्म अलग और हमारा नेशन अलग है। और इसी बुनियाद पर वे पाकिस्तान चाहते हैं। आज आप अफगानिस्तान का क्या हाल देखते हैं। सारे अफगानिस्तान में आज मुस्लिमानी सत्तनत है। वैसा ही हाल यहाँ न हो। सिंध में ११ प्रतिशत हिंदु और बाकी मुस्लिमान हैं। पंजाब, बंगाल में भी हिंदुओं की काफी तादाद है। आज जिन्ना साहब की धीपरी दो नेशन की है, यदि यही कायम रही और पाकिस्तान की राज्यप्रणाली इस्लामी मजल्ल के आधार पर रही तो जैसे उनके राज्य में हिंदु विदेशी होंगे वैसे ही मुस्लिमान हिंदुस्थान में विदेशी होंगे। धर्म की स्वतंत्रता, भाषा की स्वतंत्रता उनकी रहे परन्तु दो नेशन के सिद्धांत के अनुसार नागरिक अधिकार उस भाग में मुस्लिमों को नहीं रह सकते। आज जिस प्रकार प्रांतीय धारासभा में ११२ में से १४ मुस्लिमान हैं। म्युनिसिपैलिटी, डिस्ट्रिक्ट कौन्सिल के समासद, ग्राम पंचायतों के समासद वे नहीं रहें .....  
रहें .....

रह सकते. सरकारी नोकरीका दरवाजा उनोके लिये बंद रहेगा. मुसलमानों का अलग ही रास्ता रहेगा. ( हंस्ते हुए ) भला देखिये तो ये हमारे डा. हसन साहब है. उन्हे भी हमसे अका होना पड़ेगा. जब उनके कोई नागरिक अधिकार ही नहीं रहेंगे तो जापानी, चीनी, अंग्रेज, जैसे इस देश में होंगे वैसे ही वे भी होंगे. डा. साहब को तो पंजाब, बंगाल या पश्चिमोत्तर प्रांत के किसी स्थान में जाना होगा. वे वर्धा में न रह सकेंगे. अपने सी. पी. (C.P.) में केवल  $8\frac{1}{2}$  प्रतिशत मुसलमान हैं. जिन्ना के पाकिस्तान से अगर खतरा है तो इस प्रांत के मुसलमानों को ही है न कि हिंदुओं को. जब तक कोई कानून नहीं बन जाता तब तक उन को नागरिक अधिकार नहीं मिलेंगे.

नेचुरलाइजेशन (Naturalisation) के बिना नागरिक अधिकार न मिल सकेंगे.

आप जानते ही है कि सिंध सरकारने एक कानून बनाया है की सरकारी नोकरियां, ७० प्रतिशत मुसलमानों को और १० प्रतिशत हिंदुओं को मिलना चाहिये. सिंध सरकारने हम से पूछा है कि हमने अपने प्रांत में हिंदु - मुसलमानों का सरकारी नोकरीमें प्रमाण क्या रखा है. मैं आपसे यह कह देना चाहता हूं कि इस प्रांत की सरकार की अभी तक यह नीति नहीं रही कि कितने प्रतिशत मुसलमान और कितने हिंदु वे सरकारी नोकरी में रहेंगे. लायक होने पर जैसा हिंदु रखा जाता है वैसा ही मुसलमान. तरक्की के समय उसका काम और (Seniority) ही देखी जाती है न की जात -- हिंदु और मुस्लीम. फिर भी आफिसीयल .....

आफिशियल सेक्रेट ( Official Secret ) मंग किये बिना

हम कहते हैं कि हमने सिंध सरकार को यह लिख दिया है कि जो सिंध ने किया है वह हमने नोट कर लिया है. लोग पूछने लगे हैं कि हम क्या कर रहे हैं. मैं आपसे इतना ही कहता हूँ की प्रांतीय सरकारने सिंध के कानून हाल में नोट कर लिया है मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि किसी को किसी तरह का उत्तेजन मिले.

परन्तु आज नहीं तो कल हमें निर्णय करना ही होगा. देश में बटवारे में अंग्रेजों का फायदा है. मेरे श्क के लिये बड़ी भारी एक दलील है वर्चिल साहब की. ब्रिटीश सरकार ने किये हुए घोषणा का समर्थन करना, यही एक बात मुझे बहुत श्क में डाल देती है.

इसका रहस्य आज उतना मालूम नहीं हो रहा है. आगे लेकिन जल्दही जल्द सुलने वाला है. हमारे बड़े बड़े नेता-इस का विचार कर रहे हैं. और घोषणा को स्वीकार कर रहे हैं. अच्छी समझकर नहीं परन्तु मजबूरी हालत में. दूसरा रास्ताही नहीं. -- हम लोग को यह मानना पड़ेगा की ये जो चीज हुई

या हो रही है यह ठीक नहीं है. आज तक अंग्रेज यह कहते थे की वे जून ४८ तक चले जायेंगे, लेकिन नये घोषणा में हमने एक वाक्य देखा. वे कहते हैं कि जब हम उनको कहेंगे कि जाव तब वे हिन्दुस्थान छोड़कर चले जावेंगे. हम तो ४२ से कह रहे हैं और कहते आये हैं.

यदि हमें उनकी जरूरत होगी तो नौकर सम्भलकर न कि मालिक -

हम उन्हें रखेंगे. जिन लोगों का अभी भी काम है उन्हें अभी भी रख सकते हैं.

मैं एक बात .....



में एक बात और कह देना चाहता हूँ वह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है, १६ मई १९४६ के कैबिनेट मिशन के स्टेटमेंट में खाली सी. पी. ( C.P. ) ही शब्द का प्रयोग है, बरार ( Berar ) का नाम नहीं लिखा था, लेकिन वर्तमान घोषणा में ऐसा लिखा गया है की सी. पी. एन्ड बरार ( C.P. and BERAR ) कान्स्टीट्यूशन असेम्बली में शामिल है, इसका अर्थ बरार के लोग सम्मिलित जावे, कान्स्टीट्यूशन असेम्बली में जो लोग आये है वे सी. पी. एन्ड बरार ( C.P. and Berar ) के लोग आये है, बरार तो शामिल हो गया अब अंग्रेज सरकार के साथ परामर्शोत्तरी का भी सन्तुष्ट होता है, ( ताज़िया ) निज़ाम चाहे पाकिस्तान में जाय या हिंदुस्थान में रहे, लेकिन बरार तो हिन्दुस्थान में शामिल ही है और रहेगा, निज़ाम की ५५ प्रतिशत हिंदू और १५ प्रतिशत मुसलमान प्रजा है, हिंदुस्थान में ही शामिल होना उन के लिये अच्छा है, ब्रिटिश सरकार की मंशा के अनुसार भी उन्हें अपने पड़ोसियों के साथ रहना उचित है, 5.

एक बात और बताने के लिये हम से कहा गया है वह है वात होम गार्ड ( नगरसेना ) के संघ की, जनरल कराना, लोगों की संपत्ति की रक्षा करना, जहाँ जहाँ बल्लू या रायटस ( Riots ) हों भगड़े होंगे वहाँ वहाँ नगरसेना के सिपाही पुलिस की सहायता करेंगे, जनसेवा उनका कर्तव्य है, होम गार्ड को सिक्काने वालों को वेतन दिया जायगा, लेकिन होम .....

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होम गार्ड्स वेतन-भोगी नहीं रहेंगे, इस के सब कानून कायदे बन गये  
हैं, और जल्दही वे प्रकाशित किये जायेंगे, उस का हिन्दी और  
मराठी भाषान्तर भी छपाया जा रहा है.

अभी १४ नगरों में होम गार्ड्स के लोग भरती होंगे,  
अच्छी से अच्छी सैनिक शिक्षा उन को २ महिने तक दी जायेगी,  
वे हमारी नगर सेना होंगे, १९ साल से कम नहीं और ३० से ज्यादा नहीं  
ऐसे सब होम गार्ड्स में भरती हो सकेंगे.

कह नहीं सकते भविष्य में क्या परिस्थिती होगी, और  
कैसा कैसा काम नगर सेना को करना पड़ेगा, प्रांत और देश की रक्षा  
के लिये पड़े लिये सैनिकों की आवश्यकता जरूर है, यह बहुत  
काफ़ी बातें मैं ने आप को होम गार्ड्स के संबंध में बता दी है.

मुझे यहाँ आकर कुछ कहनेका मौका दिया जिस के लिये  
संबालक को धन्यवाद देता हूँ, और एक बार यही कह देना चाहता  
हूँ जमाना कैसा आयगा और क्या क्या अदल बदल होगी ठीक नहीं  
कहा जा सकता परन्तु हमें सतर्क और तैयार रहना है, गाफिल  
रहनेसे काम नहीं चलेगा. (तालियाँ)

००००००००

Translation of the speech of the Honourable  
Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla, Prime Minister,  
Central Provinces and Berar, at the conclu-  
ding function of the Hindustani Sewa Dal  
Camp (Law College Ground, Amraoti Road,  
Nagpur) :-

Organisers of Sewa Dal, volunteers and  
brothers and sisters ---

Whenever I get an opportunity to attend  
a Sewa Dal function, I find time even though  
it may be difficult to do so. I have  
known the Hindustani Sewa Dal since its  
inception in India. It is now 24 or 25 years  
since its organisation. Dr. Hardikar  
used to look after it and volunteers from  
Raipur also used to go to his class. It  
may be that the different provincial orga-  
nisational work may not be as high as the  
All-India one was. Yet your Dal is a  
branch of it. I am very pleased at the  
service you are doing for the country. You  
are also simultaneously taking lessons  
in the service of the people. My message  
to you is that when you return to your  
individual places, you should be to the  
forefront of the people's service. All of  
us have been struggling for the freedom of  
India for years. The Independence resolu-  
tion was passed in the Lahore Congress at  
12.5 midnight and those who were present  
there at the time knew no bounds to their  
job. People remember that occasion even  
now. But nobody even dreamt at the time  
that times would so change that the place  
where the Congress unfurled its flag of  
independence would go out of India. Who  
could have anticipated that from Afghanistan  
to Bengal and from Himalayas to Ceylon

to Ceylon India would not remain one. Nobody could have thought of India being cut into two or distributed. But we have to face that very fact today. The song which was sung just now said that India would remain undivided could not be distributed on the basis of religion and that from one end to the other 'Bharat Varsha' would remain undivided. For years we tried to save ourselves from this. From one end to the other India sang only this song. We demanded one union, one united administration. Now the British have put forward a plan in which India has been cut into two; one union in which Muslims would be in a majority, you may call it Pakistan and the other union in which the Hindus would be in a majority. What I feel is that provinces might have been distributed. The Muslim provinces where Muslims live in larger numbers or Hindu provinces where Hindus live in larger numbers; had they remained part of one nation then it would have been a matter of pride for both Hindus and Muslims. But the present partition has had to be accepted even by our leader, Mahatma Gandhi. What will happen tomorrow, it is difficult to know.

Now there will be two Dominions. Our policy was for an undivided and free India; but India has been cut into two, Pakistan Dominion and the other Indian Dominion, like Canada, Australia or New Zealand. The Constituent Assembly which is

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is meeting in Delhi has already declared for a Republican Government. But we do not know what will be the position in Pakistan. The separation of Pakistan areas from India is a matter of weakness to the country. Division does not bring strength but creates weakness, and then there are the States, One Muslim part where Muslims are a majority the other Hindu part where Hindus are a majority and in between we have the States. The relations between the subjects and the Princes are not harmonious. There are Praja Mandals in name only. The treaties which the British have with the States will also end. With the end of the British Government will end the treaties (applause). They may join the Constituent Assembly, India or Pakistan, they can remain independent. It cannot be forecasted today as to with whom they would keep relations or remain independent. The biggest question before us today is concerning Punjab and Bengal and it will be decided within two months. We are not at present concerned with it so much. Our leaders have instructed us not to speak or write in a manner which would encourage agitation or antagonism. The Muslims of this place will not profit by a division. They can only lose. While Muslim Pakistan will have 4 crores and 80 lakhs of Muslims, 3 crores of Muslims will remain in the provinces of India and 2 crores in States; while the number of the Hindus in Pakistan will be 1 crore 85 lakhs. Today we are talking

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talking of a Indian Dominion and a Pakistan Dominion being separate. We are told by Jinnah Sahab that their culture, their language, their religion and their nation is distinct. On this principle he wants Pakistan. What is the position of Afghanistan (vis-a-vis India) today? The Muslims rule all over Afghanistan. The same situation may not be created here. In Sind there are 22 per cent Hindus and the remaining are Muslims. There is a large percentage of Hindus in the Punjab and Bengal also. Today Jinnah Sahab believes in the two-nation theory. If this is accepted and if the Pakistan administration is based on Islamic religion, then the Hindus would be aliens there and naturally the Muslims would be aliens in India. Of course they will have freedom of religion and speech but according to the two-nation theory the Muslims cannot have citizenship rights. Today we have 14 Muslims members in a Legislative Assembly of 112. They cannot remain members of Municipalities, District Councils, Village Panchayats, etc. The doors of Government service will be closed to them. The Muslims will follow a separate road. (Jocularly turning to Dr. Hasan, who was sitting by his side) Why, here is our Dr. Hasan Sahab! Even he will have to separate from us, when he will have no citizenship rights. He will have to stay here like the Japanese, the Chinese the

British, etc. Dr. Saheb may have to go to some place in the Punjab, Bengal or the North West Frontier Province. He may not stay in Wardha. In the Central Provinces there are only 4½ per cent Muslims. If there is any danger from Jinnah's Pakistan, it is only to the Muslims of this province and not to the Hindus. They will not get citizenship rights till an Act is passed to that effect. They will not get citizenship rights without naturalisation.

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You all know that the Government of Sind has passed an order by which there will be 70 per cent Muslims and 30 per cent Hindus in Government service. The Sind Government has asked us as to what is the percentage of Hindus and Muslims in Government services in our province. I want to make it clear to you that the Government of this province has never up till now laid down any policy as to the percentage of Muslims and Hindus in Government services. As a Hindu was taken if he were fit so also was a Muslim. At the time of promotion also his work and seniority was considered and not his caste or creed, Hindu or Muslim. However, without disclosing any official secret I may tell you that we have written to the Sind Government that the Provincial Government has noted the action taken by Sind. People are asking us as to what we proposed to do. All that I can tell you is that the Provincial Government.....

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Government has noted the order passed by Hind Government but I do not wish to encourage any one in any way. But we will have to take a decision tomorrow if not today. It is only the British who profit by the division of the country. My suspicions are aroused on account of the support given by Mr. Churchill to the announcement of the British Government. This single fact has disturbed me considerably. The secret of this is unknown today, but it will certainly be known in future. Our big leaders are thinking over this, and we have accepted the British announcement not because they thought it good but under compulsion. There is no other way. It will have to be admitted that what has happened or what is happening is not good. The British were telling us up till now that they will quit in June 1948 but in the new announcement I have noticed one sentence. It says that they will quit India when we tell them to do so. We have been telling them since 1942. If we want them, we will keep them as servants, not masters. Those who are necessary for us today will be kept even now.

I want to refer to another matter which is of considerable importance. In the Cabinet Mission's statement of the 16th May the term used was only the 'C.P.' but in the present statement it has been announced that the "the C.P. and Berar" have already joined the Constituent Assembly. The Beraris should understand the meaning of this. The people who have joined the

Constituent.....



Constituent Assembly are the people of the C.P. and Berar. Berar has already joined and with the British Government paramountcy will also end. (Applause). The Nizam may go into Pakistan or remain in India, ~~and~~ Berar is already in India and will remain so. The subjects of the Nizam are 85 per cent Hindus and 15 per cent Muslims. It is but meet that he should join India. Even according to the intention of the British Government he will have to remain with his neighbours.

I have been asked to speak about another matter namely the Home Guards. The members of the Home Guards will help the police in protecting the people and their property and wherever there are disturbances or riots, their duty is the service of the people. We will pay to the teachers of the Home Guards but the Home Guards will not be paid servants. The Act and Rules regarding this are now ready and will be published very soon. We are also printing its Hindi and Marathi translations.

Recruitment to the Home Guards will begin in 14 towns and they will be given the best possible military training for two months. This will be our Home Guard. All those between the ages of 19 and 40 can join the Home Guards.

No one can say what is in the womb of the future or what types of duties the Home Guards will have to undertake. We require educated volunteers for the protection of the provinces and the Country.

This.....

This is enough information for you regarding the Home Guards today.

I am thankful to the Organisers for giving me an opportunity to come here and speak to you. In the end I can again repeat that none can say what situations will arise or what changes will take place but one thing is certain that we will have to be alert. It will not do to be caught napping (prolonged applause).

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"BOMBAY CHRONICLE"

Parsi Bazar Street,  
BOMBAY.

26th June, 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I thank you very much for your two letters of the 17th and 21st inst. I am very grateful to you for taking so much trouble about this matter.

When Gandhiji referred to this matter in a post-prayer speech recently, "THE BOMBAY CHRONICLE" wrote a leading article, copy of which I am sending you herewith, for your perusal.

I am sorry that Pandit Shukla's speech was wrongly reported. This wrong reporting created all this misunderstanding. However, all's well that ends well.

I am keeping quite well now.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

*Rabeh*

(S.A. BRELVI).

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Home Member, Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.

P. S. P. Shukla has sent me a copy of his speech.

"BOMBAY CHRONICLE" 18TH JUNE 1947

## MINORITIES REASSURED

Temper paper's report of Mr. Jinnah's recent speech at Lucknow, which were read out at Gandhiji's prayer meeting on Monday evening, shows that the news agency summary of it did not do justice to the C. P. Premier. Gandhiji Shukla, discussing the consequences of Mr. Jinnah's two-nation theory carried it to the logical absurdity. It was an exposure of the dangers to Muslims themselves of the theory rather than any suggestion by the C. P. Premier for a positive Congress policy. But, as Gandhiji said, the speech was unfortunate although it might have been made in lighter vein. It has, however served a useful purpose. Gandhiji has once again warned Congress against falling into the trap of the two-nation theory and laid it down clearly and categorically that the Indian Union must not only not discriminate against Muslims but must also vindicate itself and its character by being just and fair to them. So far as the Indian Union is concerned it can be taken for granted that the minorities, including Muslims, will receive a fair and square deal not only in theory but also in practice. They will live in safety and security enjoying all the rights as full and equal citizens of the Indian Union.

What about Pakistan and its minorities, although, as Gandhiji has repeatedly declared, the Indian Union must and will discharge its obligations towards its minorities irrespective of whatever attitude Pakistan may adopt? It is satisfactory to learn, therefore, from an Orient Press report that Mr. Jinnah is conscious of his obligations towards the Hindus and Sikhs in Pakistan. He is reported to have told some of his followers that minorities in the new state will be treated justly and even generously. He is also reported by the Orient Press, on the authority of a U. P. member of the Council of the All-India Muslim League, to have told a delegation of Sind leaders that the Ministry was wrong and ill-advised to have enforced reservation of representation in the services and so on for the majority community in the proportion of its population. It is unfortunate that Mr. Jinnah's opinion should be given out at second or third hand especially

on such a vital subject as the treatment of Hindus and such minorities which requires by its very nature, a categorical statement direct from him and all the more so because his two-nation theory has naturally caused apprehensions which have been intensified by the recent policy of his followers in Sind. But the opinions attributed to Mr. Jinnah need not be dismissed as unauthentic. They must be accepted because they make sense logically and otherwise, too. It should not be surprising if Mr. Jinnah expressed his resentment at the Sind Ministers' new policy. For it is true as he is reported to have pointed out, that it is calculated to inflict great injury on the Muslims in the Indian Union without any proportionate returns. Moreover, confronted with responsibilities as a result of the creation of Pakistan Mr. Jinnah cannot but acknowledge his obligations to the minorities partly because of the Muslim minority in the Indian Union but mainly because it may be all right to propound a two-nation theory but it is quite impossible to enforce its implications in the constitution and administration of any secular state. We welcome the Orient Press report and we hope the Muslim League leader will consider the desirability in fact the necessity of speaking out directly even as Mahatma Gandhi has been doing.



BY AIR MAIL.

NAGPUR,

The 25th June 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

Many thanks for your kind letter of the 23rd instant and its enclosure. If I had known even a word of this episode, I would have certainly not left Delhi without consulting you. After I had taken my seat in the plane at the Willingdon Aerodrome on the 17th, my attention was drawn to the prayer speech of Mahatma Gandhi by a fellow passenger. On reaching Nagpur, I read in the local newspapers about my colleague's reported resignation; but soon after, I was told by the Chief Secretary that he had sent a contradiction to the Press as authorized by Dr. Hasan himself.

It appears from your letter that you are somewhat perturbed by what has been appearing in the Nagpur Press. But there is nothing serious to cause any anxiety. The hostile Press, particularly the Marathi daily "TARUN BHARAT" (Dr. Khare's paper), has been trying to create a storm in a teacup; but even that has subsided inasmuch as nothing has appeared in it for the last three or four days. All sections of the people, Maharashtrians and Hindi-speaking, are solidly behind me. If Dr. Hasan goes, everyone will breathe a sigh of relief.

As regards Dr. Hasan himself, he has now taken up a position that Mahatmaji's speech is quite satisfactory and he has no more to complain. It is evident that he has been playing into the hands of some malcontents and wishes to strengthen his position in the Cabinet by these methods. However, the whole thing has left a bad taste in the mouth of my other colleagues. No one trusts Dr. Hasan any more, but everyone looks up to me to make

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a definite move. As you will yourself realise, it is impossible for me now to work harmoniously and with mutual confidence as long as Dr. Hasan remains. With a view to prevent further propaganda, I have kept my communication to the Parliamentary Board confidential.

Thus it will be seen that at no stage it was possible for me to prevent Dr. Hasan from resorting to propaganda as the whole thing was manufactured while I was in Delhi. It was as much as a surprise to me as to you. My only fault perhaps is that I communicated to you officially without consulting you personally. I could have done this only on the phone, and I thought this was unsafe. I can assure you I do not mean to do anything against your wishes. But I personally felt, and still feel, that for the sake of good administration and harmony in the Cabinet, Dr. Hasan should go. Except the Leaguers, not a dog will bark. He wrote to Bapuji that his position had become awkward. I think Bapuji should advise him to resign and thus get out of the awkward position.

With regards,

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

*R. S. Shukla*

( R.S.Shukla )

Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
NEW DELHI.



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NAGPUR, (C)

The 24th June 1947.

My dear Panditji,

With reference to your demi-official letter No.F.14(1)-P.S./47, dated the 26th May 1947, I herewith forward to you a copy of a letter I have received from the Political Department asking us to agree to the suggestion of the Resident on grounds which we do not consider reasonable. I also enclose a copy of the reply we have sent to that letter, insisting upon our right to make the appointment till the transfer of territory takes place. In the present political circumstances, to take away the appointment from us before such an event has taken place is surely unwarranted and must be resisted. I hope you will do the needful in the matter soon.

Yours sincerely,

*Nehru*

The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,  
Vice-President of the Interim Government,  
NEW DELHI.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.  
EXPRESS LETTER.

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From - Polindia, New Delhi

To - The Chief Secretary to the Central Provinces Government, Nagpur.

No. D. 894-E(S)/47. Dated the 18th June 1947.

Your telegram dated May 25, 1947. Superintendent of Railway Police, Hyderabad. Delay in reply is regretted but a reference to certain Departments of the Central Government has been necessary.

2. Crown Representative does not regard Resident's action in suggesting alternative appointment of Burhanuddin as unwarranted interference, as stated in concluding sentence of your telegram, and hopes, in view especially of new circumstances which have supervened, that Central Provinces Government may now agree to accept suggestion, though normally there could of course be no question but that police officer from Central Provinces cadre should be appointed.

3. Transfer of power is expected to take place on August 15, 1947. With transfer of power, paramountcy lapses, and it will be seen from paragraph 5 of Cabinet Mission Memorandum on States' Treaties and Paramountcy of May 12, 1946, which remains unchanged under paragraph 18 of His Majesty's Government's statement of June 3, 1947, that when His Majesty's Government cease to exercise powers of paramountcy "all the rights surrendered by the States to the paramount power will return to the States" Thus jurisdiction over their railway lands at present surrendered to paramount power will revert to Hyderabad on August 15, 1947. From that date Hyderabad have complete discretion regarding appointment of Superintendent of Police in those railway lands and it appears somewhat unlikely that they will wish to appoint officer from Central Provinces cadre when they have suitable officer of their own. In the circumstances it would seem that nothing except dislocation and inconvenience to all concerned would be caused by appointment, now, for two months only, of officer from Central Provinces cadre.

4. Crown Representative will be glad if in these circumstances Central Provinces Government will now agree to Resident's suggestion that Burhanuddin and not Ghate be appointed.

\*\*\*\*  
The issue of the above has been authorised.

Sd/-Illegible,  
for Secretary to H.E. the Crown  
Representative.



*Confidential*

EXPRESS LETTER.

GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR

~~Madhya Pradesh Government~~

Police Deptt.

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*Shree Chy*

No. 2376-2473-10 dated Nagpur the 24th June 1947.

To

The Secretary to His Excellency the  
Crown Representative,  
New Delhi.

Reference :- Correspondence resting with your  
Express Letter No. D.894-E(S)/47, dated  
the 18th June 1947.

Provincial Government is unable to agree to Resident's suggestion that Barhanuddin and not Ghate be appointed Superintendent of Railway Police, Hyderabad. The post is borne on the I.P. cadre of the C.P. and Berar and the Provincial Government has unquestioned right to post an officer to fill it as long as the Railway lands are not returned to the Hyderabad Government. The interference of the Resident in regard to this posting amounts to an interference in a matter which is exclusively within the province of the Provincial Government and the Provincial Government, therefore, considers it to be unwarranted. The Provincial Government does not consider that the circumstances that would arise after retrocession are relevant in existing circumstances before return. It, therefore, requests that the Resident be informed that the posting of Ghate decided upon by the Provincial government holds good.

*[Signature]*

(P. S. Rau.)  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar.



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Nagpur,

The 24th June 1947.

My dear Panditji,

This is another case regarding Berar which requires your careful attention and direction. Under Article 11 of the Agreement of 1936, the Nizam has a right to maintain an Agent at the seat of the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar for the purpose of representing his views with reference to any matter which is of common interest to the Central Provinces and Berar and to Hyderabad or which directly affects the interests of Hyderabad; but, save as aforesaid, the said Agent shall have no concern with any of the internal affairs of the Central Provinces and Berar.

On the 21st June, the Secretary to this Agent of Nizam wrote a letter to the Area Rationing Authority, Nagpur. Up till now, so far as known to us, we used to have letters from the "Office of the Agent to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad", but this letter bears the heading "Office of the Agent to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar". In this letter he applied for issue of supplementary coupons for 50 gallons of petrol, and the purpose for which it was required is stated to be "to visit all the four districts of Berar on duty urgently". After the receipt of this letter, he was asked to state the nature of the duty which necessitated his tour, the reason why the tour was to be performed by car, and the itinerary proposed to be followed, etc. In reply, he refused to disclose the nature of his duty, saying it was confidential. Why he was visiting the four districts of Berar was also not disclosed, stating "No more information can be given". This, we consider, is a pointer to what is likely to

follow, .....

follow, and therefore we have entered an emphatic protest against this action. I understand that the Agent has for the present postponed his tour and he has not left Nagpur yet. It is just possible that a reference may be made by the Agent to the Nizam's Government and the Nizam's Government might make a reference to the Crown Representative. I am, therefore, sending to you the entire correspondence and the protest letter we have addressed to the Crown Representative. We trust that prompt steps will be taken to put an end to this sort of interference. It may lead to untoward incidents resulting in disturbance of public peace and order.

I have addressed a similar letter to Syt. Sardar Patel in the Home Affairs Department.

With best regards,

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

*R.S. Shukla*  
(R.S. Shukla)

The Hon'ble Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru,  
Member for Political & External Affairs Departments,  
Govt. of India, New Delhi.

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No. 646

Office of the Agent to H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad and I  
Nagpur.

Dated the 21st June 1947.

Dear Mr. Abdul Hafiz,

I have to visit all the four districts of Berar on duty urgently  
I shall therefore be grateful if you will kindly issue supplementary  
coupons for 50 gallons of ~~petrol~~ petrol. As I have to leave early morn-  
tomorrow, I hope you will kindly issue the coupons to day. My motor  
car registration no. is C.P. B 947, but I am sorry the Registration  
Book is not available at the moment as my office has sent it by post  
to Pachmarhi from where I had suddenly to return to Nagpur yesterda  
I will however send it to you for necessary entries as soon as it is  
received back.

Yours sincerely,

Sd./- Salmon Hosain.

To

M.A. Hafiz, Esq.,  
Secretary, Area Rationing Authority,  
Nagpur

Copy of note recorded by Additional Secretary on 23-6-47.

I asked Secretary, P.T.A., to obtain the following information which is generally supplied by touring officers who apply for supplementary petrol: (a) the nature of the duty which necessitates this tour, (b) the reason why the tour should be performed by car (c) the itinerary proposed to be followed (d) the mileage to be covered and (e) how it is estimated that 50 gallons are required.

The reply given by the Secretary to the Agent of M. S. H. the Nizam is unsatisfactory and is as follows:

- (a) The duty is confidential and its nature cannot be disclosed;
- (b) The tour is to be undertaken by car so that it can be finished quickly;
- (c) The tour is to be in Berar, and all the four districts are to be visited. No more information can be given;
- (d) 500 miles;
- (e) The car in which the tour is to be done does only 10 miles to the gallon.

Chief Secretary.

Sd./- K. Madhakrishnan,  
23-6-47

Secret

GOVERNMENT OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR,  
Political and Military Department.

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No. 462-336/Con.

spare copy

From

P.S. Rao, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar

To

The Secretary to His Excellency the  
Crown Representative,  
New Delhi.

dated Nagpur the 24th June 1947.

Subject :- Tour in Berar by the Agent to His Exalted  
Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and his  
staff.

S i r,

I am directed by the Governor of the Central  
Provinces and Berar to say that it has come to the  
notice of the Provincial Government that the Secretary  
to the Agent of His Exalted Highness the Nizam intends  
to undertake a tour of the Berar districts on official  
duty, the nature of which and the itinerary to be followed  
cannot be disclosed to the Provincial Government ~~as~~  
as they are confidential. Under Article 11 of <sup>the Agreement of</sup> ~~kms~~ 1936  
between His Majesty the King Emperor and His Exalted  
Highness the Nizam, H.E.H. ~~the Nizam is authorised to~~  
maintain an Agent at the seat of the Provincial Government.  
The duties of the Agent as defined in that Article are -

"Article 11 - His Exalted Highness shall have  
the right to maintain an agent at the seat  
of Government of the Central Provinces and Berar  
for the purpose of representing the views of  
his Government with reference to any matter  
which is of common interest to the Central  
Provinces and Berar and to Hyderabad or which  
directly affects the interests of Hyderabad  
but save as aforesaid the said agent shall have  
no concern with any of the internal affairs of  
the Central Provinces and Berar."

and he is expressly prohibited from interfering in the  
internal administration of the Central Provinces and Berar.  
The Provincial Government considers that a tour in Berar  
by the Secretary to the Agent for a purpose deliberately

kept secret from the Provincial Government can only be construed as being intended to interfere in the internal administration of Berar and is a violation of the express conditions of Article 11 of the Agreement of 1936. Moreover, relations between the communities in Berar have been strained to a considerable extent as a direct consequence of the ill-advised utterances of the late Prime Minister of Hyderabad during his recent tour in inviting the people to acquiesce in the return of Berar to H.E.H. the Nizam. A visit to Berar by any one associated with the Government or His Exalted Highness the Nizam at this juncture will only exacerbate feelings and when the reasons for the visit and the itinerary to be followed are not disclosed to the Provincial Government, the Provincial Government cannot accept responsibility for anything untoward that might happen.

2. The Provincial Government has received information that the Muslim League proposes to raise 3000 Muslim National Guards in Berar expressly for the purpose of agitating for the return of Berar to H.E.H. the Nizam. The inflammable possibilities of such a move are obvious. A visit by a member of the staff of the Agent of H.E.H. the Nizam to Berar at this juncture is liable to be interpreted by the advocates of reversion to Hyderabad as an encouragement and by its opponents as an incitement to unconstitutional agitation and it may have serious repercussions on the maintenance of law and order.

3. In these circumstances, the Provincial Government requests you to move His Excellency the Crown Representative to ask the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam to instruct its Agent and his staff to confine their activities to the discharge of the duties falling to them under Article 11 of the Agreement of 1936 and not to interfere in the

internal administration of the Central Provinces  
and Berar in violation of the terms of the Article. 169

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant



Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces & Berar.



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23.6.47.

I have received your letter of the 19th instant and its accompaniments. I dislike the whole episode and I wish you had talked to me when you met me in Delhi. It is unfortunate that Dr.Hasan should have been allowed to get an opportunity of creating such propaganda in the press. However, you have addressed this letter to the President of the All-India Congress Parliamentary Board and the matter will have to be disposed of by the Board. In the meanwhile you must keep me informed if there is any further propaganda in the press. The matter has become more delicate because of Gandhiji's

P.T.O.

111 23.6.47.

Dear Dr. Hasan,

I understand that unseemly reports about your resignation and its subsequent controversy sequel appeared in the press at your instance. You must be aware that if you have any complaint to make against the Prime Minister or any of your colleagues, you have got the Parliamentary Board to which you must approach for redress; but to go to the press or the public in such matters which may affect your relations with your colleagues, particularly with your Prime Minister, is contrary to the rules of propriety and it would be highly improper for a Minister to do so. In the first instance, if you have any grievance against the Prime Minister, you are expected to approach him. You have also to place your case before your colleagues in the Cabinet. In the event of your failing to straighten out your differences you have to approach the Parliamentary Board. But no Prime Minister can tolerate his own Minister going to the press against him. If you find that you have lost the confidence of your Prime Minister or your colleagues, the proper course for you is to send your resignation to the Parliamentary Board. Up to now you have not even informed the Parliamentary Board as to what has happened which has led to this controversy. I should like to know what you have to say in this matter.

2. You know that you were selected as a Congress candidate in a constituency of joint electorate with very great preponderance of Hindu votes, in

P.T.O.

order to show to all that the Congress is not a communal body. But for the Congress-ticket, no Mussalman would have a chance for getting that seat. I cannot for a moment believe that a responsible leader like your Prime Minister would have seriously meant what is alleged to have said in his speech about you in your presence, and I do not think that you took it seriously unless I would believe that you are devoid of all sense of humour. But as you have already referred this matter to Gandhiji, I do not wish to say anything more about it. I am only concerned with your conduct as a Minister in this episode and I wish to know what you have to say about it.

Yours sincerely,

To  
The Honourable  
Mr. S. M. Hasan,  
Minister, C.P. & Berar,  
Nagpur.



1B  
Nagpur,

The 19th June 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I am in receipt of your letter, dated the 17th June, enclosing a cutting of a leading article in the "Bombay Chronicle" of the 9th June. In a subsequent issue of the same paper, dated the 18th June, the Editor has the fairness to correct the mistake he had made. He says :-

"A Nagpur paper's report of Pandit Shukla's recent speech, extracts from which were read out at Gandhiji's prayer meeting on Monday evening, shows that the news agency's summary of it did not do justice to the C.P. Premier, Pandit Shukla, Discussing the consequences of Mr. Jinnah's two-nation theory carried to its logical absurdity, it was an exposure of the dangers to Muslims themselves of the theory rather than any suggestion by the C.P. Premier for a positive Congress policy ....".

You will thus see that the article, a cutting of which you have kindly sent to me, is based on a distorted version of my speech. On return here, I found the news of Dr. Hasan's resignation flashed in the papers. I am sending herewith a ~~separate~~ letter addressed to the President, All-India Congress Parliamentary Board, which contains all I have to say in the matter. I have addressed a similar letter to the President, Indian National Congress.

2. As settled, I have written to Raja Bahadur of Khairagarh to ask the Bastar Chief to enter his protests against the granting of leases etc. to the Nizam's State and also against the action of the Administrator of the State not arranging for the

election.....

election of delegates to the Electoral College which is to elect representatives to the Constituent Assembly. I am now writing to him as suggested, and if possible, he should accompany the Bastar Raja when he goes to Delhi.

P.S. I have replied to Bapu's letter and also sent him a copy of the letter regarding Dr. Hasan's resignation.

Yours sincerely,

R. Shankar

Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs in the Interim Government,  
1, Aurangzeb Road, NEW DELHI.

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1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.  
The 22nd June, 1947.

Thank you for your letter of the 19th June, 1947. I would advise you to take up the question of transmitters and broadcasting station in Nagpur after some time. If you raise it now, it is possible that the news regarding the presence of surplus transmitters might spread and others may lay their claims to them.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Shri Dwarka Prasad Mishra,  
Minister of Development,  
C.P. & Berar,  
Nagpur.

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Nagpur,

19th June 1947.

*Respected Sardar Sahab,*

I enclose with this copies of two letters for your information.

2. You will recall that I had mentioned the matter of a Broadcasting Station in Nagpur to you when we met recently in Delhi and you were good enough to say that you would do your best to remove our difficulties in this respect. If the Defence Department agrees to transfer the Transmitters we have asked for, there will be some legal difficulties in operating the Station; but I believe the Information and Broadcasting Department can advise the Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, who is the competent authority, to permit us to work a station as a temporary emergent measure. I am advised that the legal position is that the Government of India can permit the operation of non-commercial stations for some definite object - "of scientific value, research, experiment or instruction" with the concurrence of the Provincial Government of the province.

3. In view of the great necessity for us to contact the rural areas in this province instantly and frequently in the present critical communal and political period, I hope you will be able to help us in this matter early.

With regards,

*Yours sincerely,  
D. K. Mishra*

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Home Member, Government of India,  
No.1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.

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Nagpur,

19th June 1947.

Dear Mr. Bhalja,

I enclose with this a copy of a letter sent to you officially for the loan of two Transmitters at present lying idle in Nagpur. We have been feeling the need of a Transmitting Station in Nagpur increasingly urgently due to the changing political and communal situation. The lack of such a station has made us powerless to approach the rural areas as quickly as we desired. You know the condition of communications in the Province and I need not emphasise the great assistance which the Transmitting Station would give to us during the next year or two. I hope you will do your best to see that these Transmitters are placed at our disposal at the earliest possible moment.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. D.P. Mishra

(D.P. Mishra)

G.S. Bhalja, Esqr., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Additional Secretary to the Government of India  
Defence Department,  
New Delhi.



Government of the Central Provinces and Berar,  
Publicity Department.

From

P.S. Rau, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,  
Defence Department,  
New Delhi.

Nagpur the 20th June 1947.

Sir,

I am directed to say that there has been in this province an insistent public demand for the establishment of a broadcasting station. The Provincial Government has had considerably sympathy with this demand, which it considers to be reasonable, but it has so far refrained from moving the Government of India as it is aware of the difficulty in obtaining the necessary transmitters for the establishment of such a station. The Provincial Government understands that eight powerful wireless transmitters are available in the I.A.F. Transmitting Station at Nagpur, which are no longer required by the Defence Department and which that Department proposes to transfer to the Civil Aviation Directorate for safe custody. It further understands that these transmitters can be utilised for establishing a temporary broadcasting station in the province. As these transmitters will not be used by the Government of India, the Provincial Government feels that some of them could be utilised as an emergent measure for the immediate establishment of a temporary broadcasting station to enable the Provincial Government to contact the rural population, a step which is very necessary in the present critical political and communal situation in the country. It is, therefore, proposed to approach the Government of India in the Information and Broadcasting Department for the necessary

1-18  
for the necessary permission to establish such a temporary station to be in operation till a regular broadcasting station is set up in the province. I am, therefore, to request that two of the transmitters in the I.A.F. Transmitting Station at Nagpur may be placed at the disposal of the Provincial Government for the establishment of such a temporary broadcasting station.

2. As a part of the scheme, the Provincial Government proposes to distribute widely in rural areas receiving sets. I am to enquire whether battery receiving sets are available for bulk purchase with the Disposals Directorate.

3. I am to request for a very early reply to this letter.

I have the honour to be,  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant,

*Arjun*

Chief Secretary to Government,  
Central Provinces and Berar,  
Publicity Department.

*Cover*

XXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXX  
1 Aurangzeb Road, New Delhi  
17th June 1947.

Brelvi has sent to me the attached cutting of a leading article in the BOMBAY CHRONICLE with reference to your speech at a Hindustan Seva Dal meeting at Nagpur. I should like to know what you feel about it.

You remember we had a discussion about Bastar State. If you could send the Maharajah with someone who counts, we would go into the question and give him a draft representation.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Pandit  
Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Prime Minister, Govt of C.P. & Berar,  
Secretariat, N A G P U R.

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✓  
**TELEGRAM**

**IMMEDIATE**

**STATE**

**HONOURABLE PANDIT SHUKLA  
PRIME MINISTER  
NAGPUR**

**REFERENCE SHANKARS LETTERS AND TELEGRAM  
REGARDING ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR SPECIAL POLICE  
ESTABLISHMENT STOP REQUIREMENTS MOST URGENT  
STOP WOULD BE GLAD IF IMMEDIATE STEPS COULD  
BE TAKEN TO NOMINATE OFFICERS AND THEIR  
PARTICULARS SENT TO US**

**VALLABHBHAI**

**Not to be  
telegraphed:**

**Signature**

**Address: Hon. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel  
Home Member of Cabinet, Govt of  
India, New Delhi.**

**New Delhi,  
3.6.1947.**

187  
New Delhi.  
The 31st May, 1947.

Please see your letter of the  
28th May, 1947, regarding Mr. Khankhoje.  
The subject-matter concerns Rajen Babu  
to whom I have passed on your letter.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Mr. R.K. Patil,  
Food Minister to the  
Government of C.P. & Berar,  
Food Minister's Bungalow,  
Civil Lines,  
Nagpur, C.P.

182  
Nagpur,  
The 27th May 1947.

My dear Rajendra Babu,

I am sorry I could not meet you when you passed this place for your tour to the Madras Presidency. We did not know when you returned to Delhi. Pandit Mishra, who had met you, told me that we would get your telegram about the date of your return; but we did not get any.

I find you have reached Delhi and have announced additional five names for one of the Committees appointed in our last session. You know very well that I am not anxious to get into any Committee unless required by you. But there is one fact which I must bring to your notice. It is this: the Central Provinces is a composite province consisting of Mahakoshal, Nagpur, and Berar Congress ~~Committee~~ Provinces. On the Provincial Model Constitution Committee, you have been pleased to nominate the Hon'ble Mr. Brijlal Biyani. I myself suggested his name, because the question of Berar was likely to be raised. But it was a surprise to me to find that no one was nominated from Mahakoshal. There is great resentment about this, and the reason is that the Hon'ble Mr. Biyani is not familiar with the provincial needs of Mahakoshal, nor is he a member of the provincial Assembly. I would, therefore, suggest to you with all the emphasis at my command to nominate someone from Mahakoshal on the Provincial Model Constitution Committee. Though I prefer the Union Committee as I wrote to you before, I have no objection to be nominated on the Provincial Model Constitution Committee. My letter might have given you a wrong impression; therefore, I have cleared up this point. I can suggest other names, if need be, for the purpose. I have already suggested, I think, the name of Seth Govinddas; but there is a strong rumour that he is being sent out to East Africa or somewhere by Pandit Nehru.

Kindly treat this as absolutely personal and confidential.

With best regards,

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

Sd. R.S.Shukla

The Hon'ble Shri Dr. Rajendra Prasad,  
President, Constituent Assembly of India,  
Council House, NEW DELHI.

Nagpur, the 29th May 1947.

I am forwarding this only for your information.

*R. S. Shukla*

The Hon'ble Shri  
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs in the Interim Govt.,  
New Delhi.

( R.S.Shukla )

Camp: Birla House,  
Mussoorie, 26.5.1947.

My dear Shukla ji,

I have your letter of the 20th instant.

About the appointment of a Civilian Chief Justice in the Nagpur High Court, I knew about it only from your letter. I have come here for a week's rest and will be returning to Delhi on the 28th.

About the retirement of Justice Mulla of the Allahabad High Court also, I learnt only from your letter. When I return to Delhi on the 28th, I will be able to find out what is possible in this matter.

I got Pandit Mishra's letter along with a copy of the report of the Chief Commissioner of Berar regarding Sir Mirza Ismail's visit. There are conflicting rumours about Sir Mirza having resigned from the Nizam's service. Anyway, Berar is now trying to organise on the basis of independence. It seems it is afraid of being mixed up with the Maharashtra agitation.

I do not know about your being omitted from the Committees.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Pandit  
Ravi Shankar Shukla,



Nagpur,

The 20th May 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

You must have seen in the papers that an I.C.S. Judge has been made the Chief Justice of the Nagpur High Court, about which I had written to you. This appointment was made without consultation with the Ministry. We intend to lodge an emphatic protest against this appointment. Perhaps nowhere in India, a Civilian has been appointed Chief Justice. In the Allahabad High Court, one or two I.C.S. Judges were passed over and a lawyer-Judge was appointed Chief Justice.

I understand that Justice Mulla of the Allahabad High Court is likely to retire soon and there will be a vacancy. I am sure you will have a hand in making this appointment, and therefore, I bring to your notice the name of a friend of mine. — Mr. Shyambiharilal Gour, Advocate of the Allahabad High Court. He is sufficiently senior to be eligible for a Judgeship and has, I understand, a lucrative practice. He is a man of charming manners and independent views and is nationalist in his outlook. Though he did not take active part in politics, he is helping the nationalist movements with money, and I understand, in 1942 he was particularly helpful. If there is a chance and you feel you can recommend him, I may assure you he would justify your selection.

I have received your letter of the 15th instant and have been thinking on the same lines. I shall inform you what action we take or propose to take in the matter.

Pandit Mishra has also sent you a copy of the report of the Commissioner of Berar regarding Mirza Ismail's visit. I have seen your reply to Pandit Mishra's letter. After we have taken the necessary steps, I shall write to you, or if it is found necessary, either I or Pandit Mishra will see you personally.

If I were a member of one of the two Committees

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164/A  
-2-

nominated by the President of the Constituent Assembly, I might have got an early opportunity of meeting you. Syt. Jairamdas Daulatram told me I was on one of the Committees, but I do not find my name in the announcement made by the President. I do not write this as a complaint; there must be weighty reasons for omitting my name.

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

Bhambhani

The Hon'ble Shri Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs in the Cabinet,  
NEW DELHI.



Nagpur 185  
12.5.47

Reverend Sardar Sahab,

Herewith the report of  
Mr. C. J. Lillie, Commissioner  
of Berar on the visit of  
Sir Mirza Ismail. This is  
being sent merely for information.

With regards

Yours Sincerely  
D. K. Mishra

She

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Report on the visit of Sir Mirza Ismail to Berar.

Sir Mirza Ismail arrived at Amraoti by road from Wardha on the 10th April 1947 at about 12 noon. En route, he was accorded reception at villages Warkhed, Teosa and Nandgaon in the Amraoti district. Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh received Sir Mirza at Nandgaon and accompanied him to Amraoti. On arrival at the Staging Camp at Amraoti, Sir Mirza Ismail was garlanded by the Head Master of the Shree Shivaaji High School. Attendance at this function was very meagre and it was on the whole a disappointing failure. It is understood that Sir Mirza and his staff were dissatisfied with this small show which they considered most unbecoming the eminence of the guest.

2. Later in the day, Sir Mirza paid a brief visit to the Chitra Talkies where a drama entitled "Nyaya" was staged by the Shree Shivaaji Education Society. He was garlanded on arrival, was introduced to some of the workers of the said Society, but stayed there only for a few minutes. In the afternoon, Sir Mirza was entertained to tea by Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh at his residence and was introduced to several leading personalities of the town. Some officials were also present but myself, the Deputy Commissioner and the District Superintendent of Police did not attend this function. Subsequently, Sir Mirza visited the Government Urdu High School and the Jumma Masjid close by.

3. The most important function of Sir Mirza's visit was the laying of the foundation stone of the Hyderabad building near the Shree Shivaaji College. This function took place at 5.30 p.m. and was largely attended. This function was a conspicuously non-Brahmin affair. Sir

Mirza was garlanded and was presented with addresses by various educational and other institutions of the Amraoti district, prominent amongst which were (1) Shree Shivaaji Education Society, (2) the Berar Muslim Educational Conference, (3) the District Council, Amraoti, (4) The Cotton Market Committee, Amraoti, (5) some of the Local Boards, (6) the Scheduled Castes Federation, Amraoti, (7) the Holy Cross Convent, Amraoti.

4. In inviting Sir Mirza to lay the foundation stone of the Hyderabad Building, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh traced the history of the development of the Shree Shivaaji Education Society and said :-

" I have always received the heartiest co-operation and sincerest support from my Muslim friends of Berar, whether official or non-official, and although often mutually antagonistic, I owe to them a great debt of gratitude. Their regard and consideration for me has been so uniform and unbroken that it has ripened into a deep mutual affection. It is a pity that politically we are forced to deal only with our own respective communities. Had this not been so, I feel sure that we would have been able to keep out all enemies of Berar with one single effort. But, with things as they are, a few unscrupulous persons can make us fly at each others' throats without much difficulty. It is my earnest prayer to God that the situation should end at the earliest possible moment, and a mutually acceptable solution of the political impasse evolved without any further delay."

5. He referred to the social and economic conditions of Berar and said :-

" I am determined to avoid any reference to politics in this speech of mine. Yet, I must say that Berar is in a very unhappy position - a position so embarrassing that

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the indigenous population is most depressed by a keen sense of frustration - a frustration political, social and economic. All prosper here, except the son of the soil, and anybody but him sets out to speak on his behalf. He mutely listens, and if someone claps, he does the same in sheer imitation. He rarely realises that he is cheering simultaneously two contradictory propositions and interests. But that is how the things are. On the one hand, our Hindi friends think, sooner or later a divorce is inevitable, and there is therefore, in the opinion of some, a veritable scramble to locate all possible institutions in Mahakoshal. On the other hand, it would be sinful not to say that the people of Berar are most genuinely apprehensive of retrocession and that they are asking for the sovereignty of the people. This demand is not only in accordance with the spirit of the times, but has been upheld by the unanimous resolution of the Constituent Assembly. Any solution of the Berar issue to be peaceful and acceptable to the people of Berar, shall have to be consistent with this fundamental principle and legitimate demand. "

6. The address presented by the Berar Muslim Educational Conference also vaguely touched upon the subject of retrocession of Berar in the following words :-

" We cannot close without mentioning our heartfelt gratitude to His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad and Berar, whose loyal subjects we are, and hope and pray to remain so for ever. "

7. Sir Mirza replied to the various addresses, and in replying to Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh's welcome address he made the following significant pronouncement in connection with the establishment of a University for Berar :-

"I feel that by natural affinity the people of Berar and Hyderabad are drawing ever closer together, and that their destiny is one. Every sign of this is to be welcomed; for example, in education and particularly in higher education ..... As in other affairs, first-rate educational institutions cost a lot of money. If the necessary resources can be found, Berar might be well justified in establishing a University. Such a university would gain much by inter-relation with Ozmania. Interchange of the most scholarly professors is but one of the many means of mutual benefit. "

8. He also made the following important statement in his reply to the address presented by the District Council, Amraoti :-

"As you are aware, the House of Asaf Jha has always taken great interest in Amraoti. The wall which still surrounds the city, built a century and a quarter ago by the Nizam to protect the people against the Pindaris is a reminder of the solicitude with which the Ruler of Hyderabad regards the welfare of its citizens. I need not tell you that the interest of His Exalted Highness in your city and district, and for the matter of that the whole of Berar, continues unabated today; for Berar has been, and is, an integral part of his Dominions; and true to the traditions of his House and his duty as the sovereign, he feels towards the Beraris the same responsibility as for those in other parts of the realm."

9. In reply to the address presented by the Berar Muslim Education Conference, he said :-

"While the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar have not been unmindful of your educational needs so far, it is easy to understand that in a progressive world those needs are not static but constantly tend to expand and claim greater and ever greater attention. I am sure

the Government will not be oblivious of this fact. No Government can, indeed, be indifferent to the needs of any community howsoever small; for it is the solemn duty of Government to look after the welfare of all the people placed in their charge. If the strength of the chain is measured by its weakest link, the strength of a nation is measured by its weakest component; and as long as any class or community is socially, or economically backward or suppressed, no nation can claim to be called free or civilised. If we are going to have a truly democratic Government, the interests of all should be secured, irrespective of numbers; and the primary duty of Government will be to behave in a manner that will inspire confidence and a sense of security in all. I, therefore, believe that your interests are safe in the hands of the Government and your requirements will be fully considered and met. "

10. Without previous knowledge of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh the Hanuman Vyam Shala had invited Sir Mirza Ismail, to visit their institution and this invitation had been accepted. Arrangements for his reception were, therefore, made at the Hanuman Vyam Shala, but Sir Mirza did not eventually visit this institution. There are a great feeling of frustration amongst the Hanuman Vyam Shala workers. On the whole the programme of Sir Mirza Ismail was a very confused affair. It gave the impression of being a Punch and Judy show with more than one person pulling the strings, usually in contrary directions. Sir Mirza Ismail granted interviews at the Circuit House to some prominent local leaders, and to a large number of Muslims of all degrees of eminence. At night he gave a large buffet dinner party at the Circuit House to which a heterogeneous crowd of guests was invited. On the morning of the 11th April 1947, Sir Mirza left for

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Ellichpur and on his way was accorded a reception by the Jagirdar of Walgaon who hails from the Hyderabad State. At Ellichpur, Sir Mirza was presented with an address of welcome by the citizens of Ellichpur. Various institutions approached him for securing his recommendation in obtaining financial assistance from the Nizam's Government, but they did not receive much encouragement. The local khaksars also presented a Guard of Honour. On the whole, Sir Mirza did not appear to be well impressed by his reception and programme at Ellichpur. One notorious busybody, Mohd. Nazarkhan, had, allegedly with the previous approval of Sir Mirza, arranged a breakfast party for him at the Ellichpur Circuit House but Sir Mirza motored down straight from Ellichpur city to Khamgaon, leaving his host in a violent fit of self-righteous indignation. Mr. Mohd. Nazarkhan delights in associating himself with offers of hospitality to personalities of all degrees of eminence, and is also notorious for sending up telegrams to all and sundry without much provocation. He is reported to have wired a long protest close on the heels of Sir Mirza Ismail regarding the unceremonious rejection of his hospitality. This incident, however, appears to have caused nothing but amusement in local circles.

11. Sir Mirza Ismail reached Khamgaon at about 2.15 on the 11th April. He granted usual interviews to officials and non-officials. He then proceeded to the Anjuman High School at Khamgaon, where a tastefully decorated pandal had been erected and a big gathering of about 2000 persons, both Hindus and Mohammadans, had gathered. Addresses were presented to Sir Mirza Ismail on behalf of the Anjuman High School, the local Muslim League and by Mr. Bhatkar, Member of the Constituent



Assembly and by Mr. Jadhao, M.L.A. of Chikhli on behalf of the Free Chokhamela Boarding House, Chikhli. Several silver caskets were presented to him. Sir Mirza Ismail in reply said that the bonds between Berar and the Nizam's Dominions were getting closer day by day, and added that the interests of Berar were always dear in his heart and would receive proper attention.

12. Invitations to attend the above mentioned function had been issued to some of the local prominent lawyers, such as Messrs. Bhide, Bhadang, Ozarkar and Bhate. These persons wrote back to Mr. Abdur Rahman Khan saying that they would attend the function only if they got an assurance from the organisers of the function that there was no political motive behind the visit of Sir Mirza Ismail, and that no reference to the sovereignty of the Nizam over Berar was made in any of the addresses. Messrs. Bhadang and Ozarkar attend the function, as the address presented to Sir Mirza Ismail did not, according to the, contain anything objectionable.

13. Sir Mirza Ismail entered the Akola district from Khamgaon on the 12th April. At Balapur he was presented with an address by the Khanquah-e-Kadria family in the course of which they eulogised the Asafjihi dynasty and the ancestors of His Exalted Highness. Another address was presented on behalf of the Municipal Committee, Balapur, who had unanimously resolved for it. The address was read by Mr. Hundiware, a prominent Hindu gentleman of Balapur when Hindu members of the committee were also present. It appears that a number of Hindus were also present on the occasion. Sir Mirza Ismail suitably replied and distributed sweets to the children among whom he moved

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freely and talked a few kind words here and there. He and his party arrived at Akola at about 8 p.m. Sir Mirza Ismail and the party then visited the so-called orphanage of Khan Bahadur Mirza Rahman Baig, whose nephew Mirza Yunus Baig, read an address on behalf of the institution. Except referring to the generosity of the Nizam Government there was no political reference in the address. Sir Mirza said a few words to such of the orphans as were present and distributed sweetmeats to quite a large number of children and even to poor people. He and his party then proceeded to Shri Januji Mahar Hostel where they were welcomed by S.A. Khandare and other members of the Managing Committee. Khandare is reported to have read an address which was suitably replied to by Sir Mirza. In the course of his speech Khandare referred to the two flags flown on Government buildings and added that when the British retire from India and remove their flag, naturally the remaining flag will be that of the Nizam who is the rightful sovereign of Berar and legitimate claimant to it. Khandare also added that the good wishes of the Mahars went with the House of the Nizam. At a public meeting convened by the Hon'ble Mr. Biyani also Khandare is reported to have spoken in the same strain.

14. Sir Mirza and the party arrived at the Circuit House at 8.35 p.m. where a deputation of the young Muslim Federation of Akola and the Scheduled Castes Association waited on him and presented addresses referring to certain needs of the two bodies and indirectly requesting for monetary help. This done, Sir Mirza and the party were entertained to a dinner given by the management of the Sayatram Ramprasad Mills. The invitation were signed by Mr. Dhanuka, the Managing Agent of the Mills. Prominent among those present were Rao Bahadur A.S. Athalye, Mr. Dhanuka, Seth Lalchand alias Lalu Seth and two other Hindu merchants. The D.C., D.S.P., and a number of prominent Muslims, viz. Seth Mohd.

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Haroon Abdulla, M.L.A., A.S. Khan, M.L.A., Mr. M.M. Hag, Pleader, S.A. Rahman, Press correspondent, Syed Zawaar Ali, editor, Al-Burhan, Abdul Sattar Usmani and others were invited to dinner. Sir Mirza talked for about 10 minutes with Mr. Dhanuka, for 5 minutes with Rao Bahadur Athalye, for 3 minutes with the Deputy Commissioner and 1 or 2 minutes each with other prominent persons present. From the D.C., he enquired about the importance of the district, its land revenue and relations of the two communities generally. The dinner was held at the Circuit House. Sir Mirza left for his saloon at 10 p.m.

15. The general impression created by the ~~fixt~~ visit of Sir Mirza Ismail is that if he came to Berar on a special mission he had failed to achieve any success. Sir Mirza Ismail's visit was ostensibly private but there is no doubt that there was some political motive behind it and was intended to keep alive Hyderabad's claim on Berar. So far as Berar is concerned it has made Berar more sure than ever that it does not want to go back to Hyderabad.

Camp: Chikalda,  
2nd May 1947.

Sd.-C.J.W. Lillie  
Commissioner, Berar. ]

195  
14th May 1947.

My dear Misraji,

I have received your letter of the 12th instant along with its enclosure.

I understand Sir Mirza Ismail has left Hyderabad for good. Of course it is not due to his visit or his activities in Berar, but perhaps His Exalted Highness is dissatisfied with his work, which was perhaps not so communal in spite of his Berar tour. Let us hope that Berar will stand solid against the intrigues, threats and cajolry of the Hyderabad State. The State might try to corrupt some of the people by offering bribes, but it is hoped that the people of Berar will stand solid.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit D.P.  
Mishra,

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NEW DELHI, 14th May 1947.

I understand the Prime Minister of C.P., the Hon. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla, has written to you on the 11th instant whether there is any difficulty to provide his Government with arms and ammunition required for the purpose of raising Home Guards, which for all practical purposes will be an additional or special Police Force. Their requirements are:

1. Rifles for drill purposes with bayonets and frogs, at least 5,000.
2. Service rifles, at least 1,000 (i.e. 20% of the whole number).

In the present disturbed conditions in all the Provinces owing to communal tension, they are naturally in need of having such additional armed Police Force, and it is our duty to give them all possible assistance. It would also obviate the necessity of demanding Military assistance. May I know whether you will have any difficulty in meeting their requirements?

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Sardar Baldev Singh,  
Member of Cabinet,  
Defence Department, New Delhi.

Copy to Hon. Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla.



Nagpur,

The 12th May 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I spoke to you while in Delhi that I want arms and ammunition for the Home Guards which I am creating shortly in my province. I am enclosing herewith for your information a copy of a letter which I have written to Sardar Baldeosingh. I hope you will strongly support my claim for these arms under the extraordinary circumstances of my province. I shall submit my formal application on receipt of your reply.

The arms which I require at present are the following :-

- (1) Rifles for drill purposes with bayonets and frogs, at least 5,000.
- (2) Service rifles, at least 1,000 (i.e. 20 per cent. of the whole number).

Yours sincerely,

*Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel*

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs, Govt. of India,  
NEW DELHI.

Nagpur, 10/5

The 11th May 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

Allow me to apologise to you for not being able to see you during my short stay at Delhi this time though I made an appointment with you which had to be cancelled on account of some unavoidable circumstances.

There is one matter of vital importance to the province and the country for which your prompt assistance is very necessary. You perhaps know that the Central Provinces Legislature has passed an Act for the creation of a force known as Home Guards, and we want to have this force well-trained and armed to meet all cases of emergency. It is, therefore, essential that we should be provided with arms and ammunition as required for these home guards. I am approaching you through the Home Department (Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel). This is a proposal in advance, so that there may be no delay when my formal request reaches you. In case there is any hitch or trouble, you will kindly inform me what steps should be taken to avoid such a hitch or trouble. If you wish that I should adopt any other procedure than approach through the Home Department, kindly suggest it to me and oblige. I shall await your reply before making my formal application.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. R.S.Shukla.

The Hon'ble Sardar Baldeosingh,  
Member for Defence,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.

1947  
NEW DELHI, 7th May 1947.

My dear Shuklaji,

I got your letter of the  
3rd May 1947 regarding the appointment  
of Chief Justice of the Nagpur High  
Court. We shall do our best.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
17 Canning Lane,  
NEW DELHI.





Confidential

17, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

Hon. Mr. Patel will explain to  
you about the appointment of  
Chief Justice of Nagpur. I am  
sure you will see that a

Civilian Judge is not appointed  
as Chief Justice. Governor  
is likely to recommend Mr.

Pollock who is an ICS Judge.

Mr. Vinian Bose who is a  
Barrister Judge & is also  
senior-most; but he is at  
present on leave, but  
can be recalled if

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appointed Chief Justice.

Mr. Menon is Advocate-  
General and is an Advocate  
of the Supreme High Court -  
though not a barrister.

He is quite good but I am  
afraid it may not be possible  
to get him appointed as  
Chief Justice. The best  
course would be to  
press the claims of Mr. Kania  
and recall him from  
leave. He made a mark



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in <sup>Swing</sup> ~~making~~ independent  
judgments in 1942.  
Honble Mr. Patel will tell  
you all about him.

I hope you & Pt. Nehru  
will do your best to see  
that an ICS is not  
appointed the Chief Justice  
of the High Court.

I am sorry I did not  
get this information earlier.  
I am leaving tonight.

2011A

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and enclosing this to  
Honble Mr. Patel,  
with regards,  
Yours truly,

Ashtekar

The Honble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Minister for Home Affairs in the Indian Govt.,  
Mumbai

17, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

202  
The 3rd May 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

Hon. Mr. Patil will explain to you about the appointment of Chief Justice of Nagpur. I am sure you will see that a civilian Judge is not appointed as Chief Justice. Governor is likely to recommend Mr. Pollock who is an I.C.S. Judge. Mr. Vivian Bose is a barrister-Judge and is also seniormost; but he is at present on leave, but can be recalled if appointed Chief Justice.

Mr. Sheorey is Advocate-General and is an Advocate of the Nagpur High Court, though not a barrister. He is quite good, but I am afraid it may not be possible to get him appointed as Chief Justice. The best course would be to press the claims of Mr. Vivian Bose and recall him from leave. He made a mark in giving independent judgments in 1942. Hon'ble Mr. Patil will tell you all about him.

I hope you and Pandit Nehru will do your best to see that an I.C.S. is not appointed the Chief Justice of the High Court.

I am sorry I did not get this information earlier. I am leaving tonight, and entrusting this to Hon'ble Mr. Patil.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Sd. R.S. Shukla.

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs in the Interim Government,  
New Delhi.



17, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

The 3rd May 1947.

My dear Mr. Shankar,

This is a corrected copy  
of the note of the talk I had with  
Lord and Lady Mountbatten yesterday,  
a preliminary copy of which I had  
handed over to Sardar Saheb today.

Yours sincerely,

*W. M. K. L.*

V. Shankar, Esq., ICS,  
Private Secy. to H.M. Home, G. of I.,  
27, Safdar Jang Road,  
New Delhi.

*file*

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**A note of H.P.M's talk with Lord and Lady Mountbatten  
on the 2nd May 1947 at the Viceroy's House.**

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After lunch, Lord Mountbatten opened talk with me by referring to the visit of Sir Mirza Ismail to Berar. I brought to his notice that when Sir Mirza Ismail had written to me about his visit to Berar, asking me whether I had any objection to his visit, he was informed that I had no objection but that it was presumed that his visit to Berar was as private as the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Shri Shivaji College at Amraoti. Ignoring this hint, Sir Mirza Ismail Baig referred publicly in his speeches to the retrocession of Berar and asserted that Berar was an integral part of Nizam's Dominions in the past and would remain so in the future. I also brought to the notice of Lord Mountbatten that it was highly improper on the part of Sir Mirza Ismail to invite a member of the C.P. Government for an informal conference at Hyderabad without the knowledge of and consultation with the Provincial Government. I also pointed out that the people of Berar as a whole were deadly against the retrocession and would not submit to it. Protests had already begun to come in, and the one result of his visit to Berar has been that the feelings between the Hindus and the Muslims have become bitter -- the Muslims supporting retrocession and the non-Muslims all opposing and declaring their determination to oppose such a step tooth and nail. I told him further that Lord Curzon had given the Nizam to understand definitely that Berar was to be held by the British Government for ever and was not to be returned to him. Lord Mountbatten said that Nizam has been allowed to hold his sovereignty over Berar, has been allowed to fly his flag, and the appointment of the Governor of the Central Provinces and Berar is made in consultation with him. I told him this did not alter the fact that he was deprived of the possession of Berar for ever. These symbolic things perhaps were only consolation prizes. The Government of India was also paying him Rs.25 lakhs annually. With the termination of British rule in India, the paramountcy would

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lapse and whatever may have been the rights of the Nizam over Berar, he could not claim or take possession of Berar which has become an integral part of the Central Provinces and whose representatives are members of the Constituent Assembly representing the whole province. He (Lord Mountbatten) then put it to me, "What would be your advice if you were in my place?" I told him the status quo must continue and the matter should be settled by negotiation with the Union Government when it comes into existence. Lord Mountbatten seemed to agree that the present position might continue, say, for five years or so, after which the whole situation might be reviewed. I said this might be a possible solution. I also brought to his notice that it would be detrimental to the interests of Nizam to take Berar and make it an autonomous sub-province with a constitutional Governor and a Cabinet whose decisions that Governor would not be able to over-rule. If this were to happen, I said, the other parts of Nizam's Dominions will claim the same status. There would be agitation and revolution and ultimately nothing will be left to the Nizam except perhaps the wealth he possesses. He agreed that there was this danger.

I also informed him that the Nizam had 12,000 well-trained troops and about 18,000 irregulars -- Arabs and Pathans -- who have settled down in villages in Hyderabad. There is no Arms Act and the Muslims in Nizam's territory have been arming themselves. It was reported that a military factory capable of manufacturing arms and ammunition has been made over to the Nizam by the military authorities. He was surprised at this information and remarked, "Not in my time". Then he asked his Deputy Private Secretary whether he knew anything about it. He also said he did not know it. The Viceroy asked him to make enquiries about it.

He then asked whether I expected the Nizam to invade Berar. I said it was possible but that if he did it,



the province would not take it lying down and the Union Government's armies would be there to repel such an attack. I said that I should think that if he did so, it would lead to the loss of his Dominions inasmuch as he would be declared hostile and may be compelled to abdicate. I told him that it was reported that the Prince of Berar was not very keen about the retrocession of Berar. Lord Mountbatten admitted that except the present Nizam, nobody appeared to be keen about it. So far as the question of Berar was concerned, it appeared to me from his talk that the British Government might declare that the Nizam had legal right to Berar but that the matter might be left over at that stage and reviewed after five years or so. It appears this suggestion has been made to him from some other quarters. From the Governor of my province I came to know that the Political Adviser had also suggested that the matter be left as it was at present for ten years, after which it might be settled by negotiation with the Union Government. This advice has also been given by the Governor of my province. The Governor has addressed a protest letter to the Viceroy about Sir Mirza Ismail's visit to Berar, in which he has also stated that the matter should be left over in its present state for ten years, when it might be considered and decided finally.

There was also talk about the Bastar State where the Nizam is allowed to build a railway and ~~is~~ is taking the forest and mining leases from the present administration during the minority of the Raja. He expressed the view that the Regency was entitled to act on behalf of the Raja and there appeared to be nothing wrong about that. He said Pandit Nehru had mentioned this to him and he had asked Corefield to go and satisfy Pandit Nehru. I brought to his notice that the C.P. Government was vitally interested in the Bastar State which has a very big waterfall capable of being utilized for hydro-electric works, and nothing should have been done without consultation with the C.P. Government.

During the lunch, I was sitting on the right of

Lady Mountbatten. I enquired from her what her impressions were regarding the Frontier, the Punjab, and the tribal areas. She appeared to think that the tribal people wanted to remain independent and were encouraged to do so by the British Government; but that they could come under the British rule. I told her that they were connected with the people of the Frontier Province in all possible ways and that the tribal areas would have become part and parcel of India, had the Britishers liked it. She appeared to think that perhaps it was a mistake to keep them separate. But she said the feelings between the two communities in the Frontier and the Punjab had become so bitter that partition was perhaps the only remedy. As regards the demonstration, she seemed to think that it was engineered. She praised Dr. Khan Sahab and said that even when the suggestion was made to him not to allow them to meet her husband, he refused to do so and very generously allowed her husband to meet the demonstrators. She said Dr. Khan Sahab was a nice man; she liked him for his frankness.

NEW DELHI :

The 3rd May 1947.

  
( R. S. Shukla )

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NEW DELHI, 9.3.47.

My dear Shuklaji,

I have received your letters of the 25th February, one regarding your correspondence with Maulana Sahib and the other regarding a complaint made by the Muslim Leaguers against you, a copy of which was sent to you by Mahatmaji.

Mr. Atal has already come here and taken charge. He wanted to come here and Maulana Sahib was probably approached.

Regarding the complaint against you by some Muslim Leaguers, I see that you have made an unanswerable case.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit Ravi Sahnkar Shukla,  
Prime Minister,  
Govt of Central Provinces,  
N A G P U R.



JW

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Nagpur,

The 25th February 1947.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I am forwarding to you copies of letters received from Moulana Saheb regarding Mr. Atal's deputation to the Government of India and my reply thereto. I am also forwarding to you a copy of the letter sent by him regarding Burhanpur affairs and the reply that I have sent to him for your information and perusal.

Yours sincerely,

*Shri Vallabhbhai Patel*

The Hon'ble Shri Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs,  
Government of India,  
NEW DELHI.

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Confidential  
New Delhi,  
5th February 1947.

My dear Shukla,

I would like to have J.K. Atal who is now serving in your Province as my Private Secretary. I told my Secretary, Sir John Sargent, and he has already taken action in the matter. I understand from him, however, that the practice in the Govt. of India is that they never ask for any officer by name. The requisition, which has gone from here therefore, does not mention Mr. Atal but simply says an officer of the Indian Civil Service of about ten year's standing. I have, however, Mr. Atal in mind and I hope you will see that his name is sent up.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- A.K. Azad.

The Hon'ble Shri Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Premier,  
Central Provinces,  
Nagpur.

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Pandit Shukla  
Premier Nagpur.

TAKE REPLY YET EARLIER TELEGRAM PLEASE ARRANGE ATAL  
MAY JOIN HERE LATEST FIRST MARCH IF POSSIBLE EARLIER

ABUL KALAM AZAD.

.....

EXPRESS STATE

HONOURABLE ABUL KALAM AZAD  
NEW DELHI

EXTREMELY  
SERVICE

FOR  
OTHER

REGRET  
OFFICERS  
GOVERNMENT  
OFFICER AT

PAUCITY OF CIVIL  
MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE  
TO SPARE ATAL OR ANY  
PRESENT LETTER FOLLOWS

PRIME MINISTER.

EXPRESS

STATE

HONOURABLE MOULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD  
EDUCATION MEMBER  
NEW DELHI

ATALS SERVICES BEING PLACED AT YOUR  
DISPOSAL AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE

SHUKLA PREMIER

Nagpur,  
the 22nd February 1947.

My dear Moulana Saheb,

In pursuance of the telephonic conversation I had with you last night, I consulted my colleagues and they have agreed to make an exception in the case of Mr. Atal's services being placed at the disposal of the Government of India as desired by you. But they have asked me to request you to appreciate the difficult situation in which the Provincial Government is placed by a very large number of its officers having been taken away by the Government of India, and they wish that you induce the Government of India to return to us some of our officers of senior standing like Messrs. R.K. Ramadhyani, N.T. Mone, S.N. Mehta, Maharaj Nagendra Singh and others. Mr. Atal, however, is being relieved as soon as possible to join his duties with you.

With best regards,

I am,  
Yours sincerely,

sd/- R.S. Shukla.

The Hon'ble Moulana Abul Kalam Azad,  
Education Member, Government of India,  
New Delhi.

212  
Nagpur,  
dated the 2~~nd~~<sup>nd</sup> February 1947.

My dear,

With reference to your telegrams asking for the services of J.K. Atal, I.C.S., for appointment as your Private Secretary, I should like at the outset to assure you that nothing would have given me greater pleasure than to comply with your request and help you in however small a way to facilitate the discharge of the ~~ones~~ duties you have undertaken so patriotically and at such great personal inconvenience, but the I.C.S. cadre in this province has been so weakened as will appear from the sequel that I find it most difficult to agree to the deputation of another officer consistently with my duty to the province.

2. We have in this province 74 I.C.S. officers (excluding four High Court Judges) of whom, no fewer than 35 are already serving under the Central Government, 10 are on leave and only 29 are at present serving in the province. An examination of the different provincial figures will show that we have sent by far the largest proportion of our officers to the Centre. Moreover, Provinces such as Bengal and Madras have recently withdrawn some of their officers from the Centre, but we have not done so. On the contrary, we have not only been told that none of them will be sent back for the present, but that I should agree to give one more officer. A further request in the form of a special appeal has come from the External Affairs Department for a few of the best men for the newly established Foreign and Diplomatic service.

The key post of Food Secretary in the province fell vacant as a result of the British Financial Secretary proceeding on leave, and we requested the Government of

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of India to return one of our officers who has special qualifications for the post. But they were unable to comply with our request. I am finding it increasingly difficult to run the Provincial Administration and as, you know, the public expect higher standards of administration from the Congress and as we have been compelled to fill many important posts with provincial officers of not first rate ability, we are coming in for a good deal of public criticism. I must, therefore, be excused for what might appear to be an unreasonable refusal of a friendly request.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- R.S. Shukla.

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Copy of the D.O. letter, dated the 23rd January 1947 from the Hon'ble A.K. Azad, Education Member, Government of India to the Hon'ble Pt. R.S. Shukla, Prime Minister, C.P. & Berar.

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I have received a long complaint from Burhanpur. It states that since the riot of 1940 no Sikh procession was allowed to pass by the mosques. On December, 23, 1946, the Sikhs were allowed to take out the procession which resulted in a communal trouble and later on firing was resorted to. It also states that punitive fines have been levied on Muslims only, and they are the targets of the Goonda Act. I shall be obliged if you send me the details.

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Nagpur,  
The 24th February 1947.

My dear Moulana Sahab,

I regret the delay in replying to your letter dated the 23rd January 1947, regarding Burhanpur affairs. It would have been perhaps better if I had a copy of the complaint so as to enable me to meet all points specifically. I am sending the following which will explain the position in detail regarding this matter.

The Central Provinces and Berar has happily an enviable record of communal amity and accord, but echoes of what has been happening in other parts of the country have had their inevitable repercussions in this province causing uneasiness and general nervousness.

The Muslim League 'Direct Action' day last August passed off peacefully in this province, but then came news of the 'Great Calcutta Killing', as it has come to be called, the gruesome details of which appearing in the press sent a wave of horror throughout the length and breadth of the province, resulting in an atmosphere of tension and nervousness. This was allayed to some extent by a statement made by the Hon'ble Minister for Development at a Press Conference in the latter half of August 1946 that all apprehensions in the minds of Muslims and others that the Calcutta incidents may have repercussions in this province were completely without foundation, and that the Provincial Government were determined to discharge their primary duty of maintaining law and order and protecting all peaceful citizens without distinction of caste or creed. At the same time, district officers were assured that Government would support them in the lawful exercise of their authority in maintaining peace and quickly restoring order in case of disturbances. This had the desired effect and there were

hardly any cases of breaches of the peace anywhere in the province for some time thereafter.

Then came the assumption of office as the Interim Government by Congress on the 2nd September 1946. Muslims throughout the province were, in accordance with the orders of the All-India Muslim League, exhorted to observe this day as "Black Day". The speeches and propaganda made in pursuance thereof had the effect of rousing communal animosities, and small incidents took place in Amraoti in September. The under-current of nervousness was maintained by the speeches of Muslim League leaders and some Hindu Mahasabha workers throughout September and October, and on the 14th of October a Hindu-Muslim fracas took place at Badnera. An enquiry was held by Mr. C. J. W. Lillie, ICS, Commissioner, Berar Division, and his finding was that the Muslims were to blame, ~~as~~ that they had been aggressive, and that the police firing was justified. Then in the second half of October news of Noakhali and Tippera came, and this led to further excitement and a further spate of speechmaking, chiefly by communal-minded Hindus. It was clear that unless something was done communal passions would rise high. I therefore issued the following statement on the 1st November 1946 :

"Thanks to the good sense of our people, this province has an enviable record of communal amity and concord; but echoes of what is happening elsewhere in the country have had their inevitable repercussions on the relations between the Hindus and Muslims in this province, with the result that there is a good deal of tension in the atmosphere, and exaggerated reports of unfortunate incidents, small and unimportant in themselves, are gaining currency adding to general nervousness. It is unfortunate that some organs of the Press and a few communally minded persons of both the communities have been fanning the

flames.....

flames of communal bitterness. It is in this context that I should like to appeal to the people of this province not to lend credence to rumours and to do all in their power to maintain the age-old traditions of communal amity that have prevailed in this province. As the public is aware, my Government is determined to maintain law and order at all costs, and to give every protection to all law-abiding citizens irrespective of caste, creed or community. Ample police precautions have been taken throughout the province and will continue to be taken so long as the present unfortunate state of nervousness lasts. Stern action will be taken against all law breakers. I feel sure that my Government can confidently rely on the good sense and love of peace and order of the public as a whole in discharging its primary duty of maintaining the public peace."

The policy of Government has all along been to maintain peace and harmony between the two communities and to this end it has tried its best to be scrupulously fair to all parties concerned, as evidenced by the instances mentioned below :

① Music before mosques -- The question of music before mosques has been a sore question in this province and has resulted in occasional clashes between the two communities. Since the present Government has assumed office, it has had to deal with two or three such cases.

The first concerned Gondia in the Bhandara district. In September 1945, disputes arose between the Hindus and Muslims of Gondia regarding the passage of the Ganpati processions with music past the Jumma mosque. The district officers found it necessary to issue orders under section 30 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The Hindus resorted to satyagraha, with the result that the Ganpatis that were installed were not immersed. The Commissioner, Chhattisgarh Division, was asked to make a summary enquiry into the matter and to submit his recommendations. The Muslims took their stand on a document executed by three Hindus and two Muslims. By this document, the Hindus purported to agree to stop all music accompanying this procession within a silence zone for all time to come. On behalf of the

Hindus, it was contended that the general law that every community has a right to take out a procession with customary music along a public road provided it does not interfere with traffic or disturb the public peace. It was further contended that the document was not signed by the Hindus voluntarily and the three Hindu gentlemen who signed it had no authority - express or implied - to execute it on behalf of the whole Hindu community as to be binding on it. The Commissioner's findings were as follows :

(1) The Jumma mosque was constructed some time after 1888 and has been added to and enlarged from time to time and assumed its final and present shape about the year 1930;

(2) There was no custom in Gondia that music should be stopped in front of any mosque. The previous Government records bear this out;

(3) In the year 1940, the then District Superintendent of Police rejected the Muslims' request that processions with music should not be allowed to go past the Jumma mosque;

(4) The agreement of 1941 does not appear to be voluntary and the three Hindu signatories could not bind the whole community.

These were just and legally correct, but in our anxiety to be generous to the Muslims, we ordered that the agreement of 1941 should be enforced till it is modified or cancelled by the civil court. In other words we ordered music to stop in front of the mosque, and issued the following communique :

"The policy of Government in such disputes was laid down as long ago as 1926 in connection with the Akola communal dispute. In these orders, Government stated inter alia that 'in matters of religion, Government maintains an attitude of strict neutrality, but while sympathising with the natural desire of each party to perform their religious obligations without ~~interference~~ interference or annoyance, Government must where the demands of religion come in conflict with civil right, aim primarily at upholding the common rights of the individual'.

"To this policy Government still adhere but consider that

where a document has been executed by prominent persons of a community, the question of its voluntary or representative character and its binding effect on the whole community are properly matters for examination by the civil courts. Government are, therefore, of opinion that in accordance with their policy of strict neutrality in religious disputes, the terms of the document of 1941 should be enforced until it is declared to be not binding by a competent civil court. Orders are, therefore, being issued accordingly. At the same time, Government have every hope that the leaders of the two sister communities would strive their utmost to maintain cordial relations between them and to compose their differences by mutual discussion and agreement, and in the event of these proving infructuous, Government appeal to the party feeling aggrieved to seek redress in the civil court rather than launch on any course of action which is likely to have the effect of accentuating the difference.

Our order was resented by the Hindu public opinion as being one-sided and pro-Muslim, and the Hindus promptly filed a civil suit.

The second incident occurred at Burhanpur in the Nimar district on the 29th December 1946 on the occasion of the Sikh procession in honour of Shri Guru Govind-singh's birthday. I may here explain the background of the incidents. Mr. Mohammad Ashgar, an excitable somewhat undependable man, tried to secure the League ticket as against Khan Bahadur Haji Syed Hifazat Ali, but was rejected. He nevertheless stood for election and got elected defeating the official League candidate, and he was expelled from the League. Khan Bahadur Hifazat Ali then filed an election petition challenging Mr. Mohammad Ashgar's election, and the case is pending. It is rumoured that many illegal practices took place and Mr. Md. Ashgar fears the result of the petition. He has, therefore, been trying hard to get back into the League in order that the High Command may persuade Khan Bahadur Hifazat Ali to withdraw his election petition. He has also been trying hard to retain his leadership of the local Muslims by putting forward all kinds of extravagant demands on their

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behalf, and immediately after these incidents he sent a telegram, among others, to Mr. Jinnah, the Premier of Sind, Mr. Khuro, and Mr. Yusuf Abdullah Haroon from which I quote the following :

"Regular and wellplanned persecution of Muslims in minority provinces by Congress Governments has already commenced. Muslim lives and properties unsafe. I place my humble services in League interests, assuring you of my sincerity, loyalty and selfless devotion."

It is to be feared that most of the trouble was due to Mr. Md. Asghar's activities and desire to come into prominence and under his leadership many till-then-unheard of things took place in Burhanpur, such as 'kuffara' on the open road.

Now for the incidents themselves. The question of music before mosques in Burhanpur is, so far as executive practice is concerned, governed by an agreement of 1890 under which no music is to be played at any time for a specified distance before any mosque. This agreement governs only such mosques as existed in 1890. Several mosques have since been constructed in Burhanpur. The Loharmandi mosque is a new one, the construction of which was begun long after the agreement of 1890 and though the Muslims claimed that the agreement of 1890 should be applied to this mosque also, Government turned down the request in 1939. After this the Muslims did not complete the mosque and have never used it as one. The Shahbazandi mosque, though apparently an old one, is situated between two roads, the Shah Bazar road and the Lakherwadi road, but with its main entrance in the former road. According to an order of the Deputy Commissioner of 1891, the agreement to stop music applies only to the entrance in the Shah Bazar road. In regard to this mosque the Muslims claimed that no music should be played even on the Lakherwadi road by the Sikh procession in spite of the order of 1891, and in spite of the fact that Hindu processions have been allowed to play music. This claim was also disallowed. In 1942, the Adviser Government ordered the District Magistrate to license this procession year after year.

The legality of the 1942 orders was examined by the

present Government on an application by the Sikhs who represented that what was allowed to the Hindus could not be denied to them, and we were advised by our law officers that a permanent order by Government to the effect that a given community must take out a license under section 30 of the Police Act for its annual procession is bad in law and that the district authorities were the proper judges of whether in any particular set of circumstances a procession should be allowed. The 1942 orders were therefore withdrawn and revised orders were issued as follows:

"Whether this procession should be licensed this year or in the future should depend entirely on the circumstances existing at the time and the local authorities should be guided by them."

Any other order would not only have been illegal but also immoral and would have been rightly regarded as anti-Sikh. The relations of the small Sikh community in this province have always been cordial with other communities and the Provincial Government was reluctant to raise an All-India issue by denying to the Sikhs their elementary right to take out a procession.

All possible precautions were taken to avert a breach of the peace on the occasion of the Sikh procession in December 1946. A Special Armed Force was sent to Burhanpur and the Range D.I.G. of Police (Mr. Ozanne, I.P.) was specially present. The procession was allowed on the understanding that in regard to the older mosques the agreement of 1890 would be observed and a Muslim Circle Inspector of Police was sent with the musicians to indicate the places at which music should be stopped in front of such mosques. The processionists were told that his directions on the point were final, and it is reported that they obeyed his directions. The procession proceeded on its way and when it was ~~brought to a halt~~ about to enter the Lakherwadi road, when information was brought that a cow had been slaughtered on the road in front of two mosques by way of 'kuffara'. Even when the processionists heard this, they did not retaliate, but continued to be peaceful and orderly. In spite of this, however, crowds of Muslims who had collected together ....



together stoned the tailend of the procession just as it passed the Loharmandi gate, and also raided the Alamnaji locality outside the city wall and attacked some houses. The crowd attacking the procession defied warning and had to be dispersed by police fire.

The performance of 'Kuffara' was reported to have been a premeditated affair and the fact that it was performed on ~~the~~ the main road showed that it was deliberately provocative. The attack on the procession at the Loharmandi gate, when the procession, in spite of the provocation offered by the 'Kuffara', had remained peaceful, also appears to have been a deliberately engineered riot. But for the excellent police arrangements and the tactful and efficient manner in which the situation was handled by the District Magistrate, there would in all probability have been serious riots at Burhanpur on that day. The Commissioner reported that the Sikhs and Hindus generally showed forbearance and restraint in the face of deliberate provocation on the part of the Muslims who seemed to be out to force on their exaggerated claims by deliberate resort to lawlessness. Shortly after the incident, a deputation of Muslims headed by Mr. Md. Asghar, M.L.A., waited on the Commissioner of the Division who was encamped there and expressed their sincere regret at what had happened and offered to apologise publicly to the Hindus for these unfortunate occurrences; but a few days later they went back on their promise and made the tendering of an apology conditional upon the withdrawal of the criminal cases against those responsible for the 'Kuffara' and general lawlessness. In order to restore that harmony which had so long characterised communal relations in the province and which had been rudely disturbed by the misbehaviour of the Muslims and also to maintain the public peace and order, the Provincial Government decided to impose a force of punitive police on Burhanpur town at the expense of the Muslims of the locality. The Central Provinces and Berar Coercion Act was also applied to Burhanpur which empowers the District Magistrate to take action against known Coercion. This action was taken on the unanimous recommendation of all officers including the Commissioner, the Deputy Commissioner, the Deputy Inspector General .....

General of Police and the District Superintendent of Police.

Hindu Muslim Problems -- The present Government has not only been scrupulously fair but even generous to Muslims in all matters. In the matter of appointments it has even gone out of its way to put Muslims into key positions. A Muslim I.P. Officer, whose claims to higher promotion had been repeatedly turned down by the previous Government, was brought in as a Deputy Inspector General of Police and given the important charge of Crime and Railways. A Muslim Provincial Police Officer who had also been kept down for higher promotion was brought in as City Superintendent of Police in charge of the headquarters of the province and has now been promoted and appointed to the important post of Superintendent Government Railway Police. A Muslim District Superintendent of Police has been placed in charge of the headquarters district of Rampur and has been given an extension of service - the only officer of the province who received this distinction.

On account of the firm yet just policy of the Government there have been no communal disturbances worth the name in the province, though the Muslim League has always been trying to give communal colour to every minor incident that takes place and exaggerating it beyond all recognition.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- R.S. Shukla.

The Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad,  
Minister for Education,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.



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Nagpur.

The 25th February 1947.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a complaint made by the Muslim Leaguers against me, a copy of which was sent to me by Mahatmaji. A copy of Mahatmaji's letter and the reply that I have sent to him are herewith sent for your information and perusal.

Yours sincerely,

*Rshrikla*

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Home Member, Government of India,  
New Delhi.

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नवरवाली,

२९.११.३६

माई शुक्लजी,

इस शिकायत में क्या है ? उत्तर  
देते समय शिकायतनामा वापिस कीजिये।

आपका,  
(सही) मो. क. गांधी.

उत्तर

नागपुर,

२५.२.३७.

शुद्ध महात्माजी,

जो शिकायत आपने भेजी उसका उत्तर में  
अंग्रेजी में लिखकर भेजें रहा हूँ, जिससे यदि  
आवश्यकता हो तो उपयोग करने में कठिनाई न हो।  
उत्तर देने में विलम्ब हुआ उसके लिए  
क्षमा-प्रार्थी हूँ।

~~रविशंकर शुक्ल~~ २५.२.३७

(सही) रविशंकर शुक्ल.

The C.P. Premier, Mr. Ravi Shanker Shukla, has unnecessarily created ruffle in the political atmosphere of the country by giving statements and counter-statements to the Press extolling his administrative capability in maintaining law and order and throwing dust over the grave incidents which took place at Badnera, Amraoti, Saugor and three stabbing cases at Jubbulpore. His love for the Muslim community is really a political discovery, which cannot white-wash his vitreous speeches delivered at Jubbulpore in March 1946 at Alaf Khan Talaya during his electioneering campaign for the Congress. His hymn of hate for the British Government and the Muslim community was alike. He denounced the British beaurocracy with the same contempt with which he denounced Mr. Jinnah and the Muslim League. Addressing the Muslims at Jubbulpore, he asked them either to adopt a common political ideology with the Hindus or pack up their beddings and migrate to Jinnah's Pakistan. In the same breath he had assured the Hindus that they need have no fear from the Muslims who politically would have no place in the Congress-governed provinces. Even the police force would take orders from them and the "Hindu Vira" would not henceforth fight shy of the police taboo.

With Mr. Ravi Shanker Shukla on the Prime Minister's "Gaddi" of this province the whole mental outlook of the Hindu community has changed. They have taken law and order in their hands and are not afraid to commit heinous crimes even against the custodian of law and order. On the night of 28th October 1946 a Muslim Sub-Inspector of Police Mohammad Ismail of Belkheda Tahsil Patan District Jubbulpore was waylaid by the Hindus in the Village Sunderdehi as a result of conspiracy hatched by Nathoo Singh Malguzar and village Patwari. The Muslim Sub Inspector was brutally assaulted by lathis which fractured his thigh bone and several ribs. He fell down senseless. The assailants taking him to be dead threw him over the necked horse back and went out to throw him in Nerbudda River. Accidentally they changed their mind and threw him at a distance on the country path passing through Shrubs. This Sub Inspector Police was picked up the next day by the said Nathoo Singh and Patwari while going to report the missing of the Sub Inspector and took him to Station House Belkheda. He has been admitted on the 30th October 1946 in the Victoria Hospital Jubbulpore where he is still lying in a precarious condition.

Such and many other cases of daring assaults are taking place on the Muslims at Jubbulpore and its suburbs. Will the Hon'ble Mr. Shukla take a note of these stray assaults on the innocent peace-loving Muslims for whom he is day in and day out sheeding crocodile tears.

Jubbulpore.

Dated 18th Novr. 1946.

Sd. (Illegible)

Secretary,  
City Muslim League.

Copy forwarded to :-

Quaide Azam M.A. Jinnah, President, All-India Muslim League, Delhi.  
Hon'ble Mr. Liaqat Ali Khan, Finance Member, Delhi.  
Secretary, All-India Muslim League, Delhi.  
Mr. M.K. Gandhi/Hon'ble Pt. J.L. Nehru, Vice-President, Interim Govt.  
President, Provincial Muslim League, C.P. & Berar, Akola  
Secretary, Muslim Rights Protection, Wahdat Building, Qasim Jan Gali  
Editor, Dawn, Delhi/Morning News, Calcutta/Star, Bombay/Delhi  
Times of India, Bombay/Vatan Daily, British India Press, Luvlen  
Mazgaon, Bombay, 10/ Central Times, Nagpur/Hitavada, Nagpur/  
Eastern Times, Lahore.  
Mujahid Azam H.S. Suhrawardy, Premier, Bengal, Calcutta./Hon'ble Ghulam  
Husain Hidayatulla, Premier, Sindh, Karachi.  
Khan Iftikhar Husain of Mamdot, Lahore,  
President, Provincial Muslim League, N.W.F.P., Peshawar/Assam/U.P./  
Bihar/Bombay/Madras.

Nagpur, the 25<sup>th</sup> February, 1947.

My dear Mahatmaji,

I have received your note dated the 29th November 1946 forwarding for my comments "an open letter to Mr. Shukla, Premier, C.P. and Berar" by the Secretary of the Muslim League Jubbulpore. I may mention that this letter has not been sent to me, although it has been fairly widely broadcast, as you will see from the endorsement at the end of it.

2. The Secretary has levelled four charges against me, and they are the following:

- (1) "The C.P. Premier, Mr. Ravi Shankar Shukla has unnecessarily created ruffle in the political atmosphere of the country by giving statements and counter-statements to the press extolling his administrative capability in maintaining law and order and throwing dust over the grave incidents which took place at Badnera, Amraoti, Sagar and three stabbing cases at Jubbulpore."
- (2) "His love for the Muslim community is really a political discovery which cannot whitewash his vitreous speeches delivered at Jubbulpore in March 1946 at Alar Khan Talaya during his electioneering campaign for the Congress. His hymn of hate for the British Government and the Muslim community was alike. He denounced the British bureaucracy with the same contempt with which he denounced Mr. Jinnah and the Muslim League. Addressing the Muslims at Jubbulpore he asked them either to adopt a common political ideology with the Hindus or pack up their beddings and migrate to Jinnah's Pakistan. In the same breath he had assured the Hindus that they need have no fear from the Muslims who politically would have no place in the Congress governed provinces. Even the police force would take orders from them and the "Hindu virs" would not henceforth fight shy of the Police taboo."
- (3) "With Mr. Ravi Shankar Shukla on the Prime Minister's "Gaddi" of this province the whole mental outlook of the Hindu community has changed. They have taken law and order in their hands and are not afraid to commit heinous crimes even against the custodian of law and order. On the night of the 28th October 1946 a Muslim Sub-Inspector Police Mohammed Ismail of Belkheda tahsil Patan district Jubbulpore was waylaid by the Hindus in the village Sunderdehi as a result of conspiracy hedged by Nathoo Singh malguzar and village patwari. The Muslim Sub-Inspector was brutally assaulted by lathis which fractured his thigh bone and several ribs. He fell down senseless. The assailants

taking...

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- (4) "Such and many other cases of daring assaults are taking place on the Muslims at Jubbulpore and its suburbs. Will the Hon'ble Mr. Shukla take a note of these stray assaults on the innocent peace loving Muslims for whom he is day in and day out shedding crocodile tears?"

I shall deal with these seriatim.

2. Charge No.1- The Central provinces and Berar has happily an enviable record of communal amity and accord, but echoes of what has been happening in other parts of the country have had their inevitable repercussions in this province causing uneasiness and general nervousness. The Muslim League 'Direct Action' day last August passed off without incidents in the province, but then came news of the "Great Calcutta Killing", as it has come to be called, the gruesome details of which appearing in the press sent a wave of horror throughout the length and breadth of the province, resulting in an atmosphere of tension and nervousness. This was allayed to some extent by a statement made by my colleague, Dwarkaprasad Mishra, at a Press Conference in the latter half of August 1946 that all apprehensions in the minds of Muslims and others that the Calcutta incidents may have repercussions in this province were completely without foundation, and that the Provincial Government were determined to discharge their primary duty of maintaining law and order and protecting all peaceful citizens without distinction of caste or creed. Instructions were also issued to District Officers that Government would support them fully in the lawful exercise....

exercise of their authority in maintaining peace and quickly restoring order in case of disturbances. This had the desired effect and there were no cases of immediate breaches of the peace anywhere in the province.

Early in November, however, Mr. Jinnah issued a statement to the effect that "he had been receiving reports of very grave and serious character of killing and destruction of property from the Muslim minority provinces such as Bihar, United Provinces, Central Province Madras and Bombay, and he assured the Muslims of the minority provinces that it was not due to indifference or neglect that he had been quiet. The matter was receiving his most careful attention and consideration". I immediately issued the following reply contradicting the allegations as far as the Central provinces and Berar was concerned:

"My attention has been drawn to a statement said to have been issued by Mr. M. A. Jinnah alleging that reports had been received by him of grave and serious killing and destruction of property in Muslim minority provinces including the Central Provinces and Berar. As the public is aware, this allegation is entirely unfounded so far as this province is concerned. Had there been such occurrences, it would have been surprising indeed for the vigilant press, both provincial and extra-provincial, to have been unaware of them. The publication of such obviously mendacious reports without any attempt at verification exhibits a degree of callous irresponsibility which would be surprising in any normal person, let alone one who claims to be a leader of all the Muslims of India; but the public who are aware of Mr. Jinnah's characteristic methods of propaganda and agitation will not be surprised, though they may be pained.

"The people of this province, irrespective of caste or community, have every reason to be proud of their record of communal harmony and amity. I am confident that they will not be misled by such provocative and irresponsible utterances. It is unnecessary for me to reiterate the intention of my colleagues and myself to maintain the public peace and tranquillity by every means in our power. Our achievement in this regard during the short term we have been in office is a sufficient assurance to the people of our determination and of our ability to do so."

The following day, Mr. Jinnah issued the following counter statement repeating the former one:

"I have...



"I have read in the press the statement of pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla premier of the Central provinces, resenting my reference that the Muslims were being harassed in the Central provinces, my allegation is based on reliable and responsible sources of information and not intended, as Mr. Shukla tries to make out, for propaganda purposes. Mr. Shukla and some Congress leaders, unfortunately, always judge others by their own standards. His statement shows ignorance of, or indifference to, what is happening in his province.

"I do not wish to stoop to the offensive and aggressive tone that he has adopted in his statement. I may draw his attention specifically to what has already taken place - and it is not merely harassment - in Jubbulpore, Amraoti, Badnera, and Katni and the Deputy Commissioner of Jubbulpore and authorities in Amraoti have been apprised of attacks upon unarmed Muslims which have already resulted in some deaths and injuries."

As this statement of Mr. Jinnah was likely to mislead the public into thinking that the communal situation in the Central provinces was alarming and that daily assaults were taking place all over the province, I felt it my duty to issue a detailed statement showing how Mr. Jinnah was trying to create a wholly wrong impression upon the public mind; for instance, in two out of the four towns mentioned in his statement, not a single incident involving a breach of the peace had taken place. After referring to this controversy I went on,

"I wonder whether it would surprise Mr. Jinnah to know that at two of these four places, viz. Jubbulpore and Katni, no breach of the peace whatever has occurred. On the contrary, both Hindus and Muslims have not only maintained their traditional friendly relations, but there has actually been fraternisation, such as Muslim reception to the Hindus on the pashra pay and Hindu felicitations to the Muslims on the ID Day. The news of the happenings at Noakhali and Tippera however inflamed Hindu feeling and there has been a spate of violent speech making. The District Magistrate therefore promulgated an order under Section 144, forbidding all processions and public meetings in Jubbulpore. In Katni, all is quiet, except that there is some slight tension brought about by extra-provincial causes. The Additional District Magistrate, Mr. M. A. Khan, enjoys the confidence of both the communities. In the remaining two towns, Amraoti and Badnera, a couple of isolated incidents no doubt occurred which no man with any sense of proportion would describe as attacks on unarmed Muslims generally. I proceed to give a brief account of these

incidents.....

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incidents and leave it to the public to judge whether there is any justification even for the implication contained in Mr. Jinnah's modified statement.

"It is within public recollection that the Hindu-Muslim relations in this province were normal till the beginning of August last, when under the orders of the All-India Muslim League local branches of the organisation commenced to threaten 'Direct Action' and prepare for the 'struggle' against an unspecified enemy. Although no incidents actually occurred till the end of August, the news of the 'Great Calcutta Killing' of which gruesome details began to appear in the press horrified this province and brought much communal tension and nervousness in its wake. Soon after, the Muslim League issued a fiat to Muslims all over the country to observe as Black Day the 2nd September, the date of assumption of office by the Interim Government, which was condemned in advance in unmeasured terms as a Hindu Government out to harass the Muslims, destroy their culture and ruin their property. It is against this background that the subsequent proceedings should be viewed in order to obtain a correct perspective.

"Amraoti-- The continued incitement to violence indulged in by the Muslim League first bore fruit in Amraoti and the local officers, Mr. G.L. Watson, Deputy Commissioner, and Mr. Wynne, District Superintendent of Police, Amraoti, reported that two Hindu shops were attacked on the 5th September and two Hindus in a car were stoned and some damage done to the wind-screens. Both occupants and driver were injured by broken glass; one Hindu received minor injuries from a spear and one Muslim injuries from a lathi. An order under Section 144 was promulgated, banning all processions and the carrying of weapons, and a curfew ordered. On the 6th one Muslim was stabbed to death and on the 8th September 70 to 75 Muslims gathered, armed with spears in defiance of the 144 order and the curfew, and were dispersed by the police. 17 arrests were made.

"The Provincial Government in their fortnightly report for the second half of September 1946 stated that there were definite signs indicating that communal tension and nervousness were slowly decreasing and that the situation had eased in Jubbulpore, Amraoti, Basim and other centres.

"Badnera-- On the 14th October 1946, a small riot took place in Badnera, which resulted in the death of one Muslim and one Hindu and injuries to 7 Muslims and one Hindu as a result of police firing. Under the orders of the provincial Government, Mr. C. J. W. Lillie, I.C.S., Commissioner, Berar Division, held an enquiry and he came to the conclusion that the Muslims were the aggressors, that they had set fire to a number of Hindu shops and that the police firing was fully justified. I happened to be in Amraoti then and inspected the scene of occurrence, spoke to the leaders of both communities and advised the people to live in amity. I received a deputation of Muslim Leaguers headed by Mr. Hidayat Ali, M.L.A. who gave me a list of Muslim grievances connected with the prevailing communal tension. These have been carefully

investigated.

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investigated by the District Superintendent of Police, Mr. M.G. Wynne, who reports that they were either exaggerated, misconceived or entirely groundless. Copies of the report received from Mr. Wynne have been forwarded to Mr. Hidayat Ali, M.L.A., and Syed Abdur Rauf Shah, M.L.A., President of the Provincial Muslim League. Mr. Jinnah should now realise how reliable his sources of information are."

"Saugor--There was also an incident in Saugor, in which a Hindu was killed by some Muslims on the eve of the Pusehra. This naturally did not attract the attention of Mr. Jinnah, because the deceased belonged to the 'other nation'."

"3. From the summary given above, it will be clear to any impartial person that a few stray incidents have taken place in this province and that in accordance with the policy of the Provincial Government every possible step was taken to prevent their spread. In conclusion, I wish to say that Mr. Jinnah can scarcely be surprised at the exaggerated and false news he gets as his agents have somehow come to believe that what he wants is highly exaggerated accounts to suit his anti-Congress and anti-national propaganda. It is irresponsible and mischievous statements of this character that put ideas into the heads of some simple Muslims and provoke them into violence and lawlessness. But I have sufficient faith in the sanity and good sense of the people of this province, both Hindu and Muslim, not to be misled by such provocative statements but continue to live in harmony and concord as we have always done in the past."

Ever since the issue of this statement, Mr. Jinnah has been completely silent about the Central provinces communal situation.

At about this time, discussions took place in our Assembly on the Maintenance of Public Safety Bill and some Muslim M.L.A. irresponsibly alleged that atrocities were being perpetrated on the Muslims of the province in general and of Amraoti and Badnera in particular. We then took the opportunity of exposing the tactics of the Muslim League and quoted on the floor of the House the report made by the British District Superintendent of Police of Amraoti district which is as follows :-

"I desire to bring it on record here that I consider that one of the chief factors in keeping the communal tension at fever pitch in Amraoti during the last three months has been the activities of Mr. Hidayat Ali M.L.A., and the Muslim League leaders of Amraoti. To my mind there is not the least doubt that the Muslims in Amraoti have been the aggressors from the very beginning. Mr. Hidayat Ali and the Muslim League leaders have been sending a continuous stream of protest in the form of interviews, applications or telegrams to the D.S.P., D.C., Commissioner, I.G. Police and Hon'ble Ministers....

Ministers ever since the communal trouble started in Amraoti. These applications and telegrams have only one object in view, i.e. to prove that Muslims are being oppressed and that the Hindus are the aggressors in Amraoti. These complaints against the Hindus have been accompanied by a campaign of vilification against the local Hindu police officers. Mr. Hidayatali and his associates have acted throughout upon the principle of the late Dr. Goebbels that the bigger the lie and the more frequently it is repeated, the more likely it is in the end to be believed. In contrast to this the Hindu leaders of Amraoti have contented themselves with reporting to the local police any case in which Hindus were complainants and Muslims were aggressors. They have not bombarded the District and provincial authorities with applications and telegrams but have left the District authorities to deal with their complaints. I consider that it is now time for Mr. Hidayatali and the Muslim League leaders of Amraoti to be told that their activities are actionable under section 153-A I.P.C. and that if they do not cease he and his associates will be prosecuted."

The Muslim League members were so thoroughly disconcerted at this exposure that they did not know what to do. The following day, the leader of the Muslim League, Syed Abdur Rauf Shah, approached me and apparently to rehabilitate their reputation offered to make a joint statement calling upon the people of both communities to live in peace as they had always done in the past. I readily agreed, and the following statement was issued by us:

"No sane man can view with equanimity the orgy of violence and murder, of arson and loot, of outrages against women that have been and are still perpetrated in several parts of the country. Whilst thankful that such disorder and civil commotion have not reached this province, we should nevertheless do and are determined to do all in our power to ensure the continuance of the peaceful conditions that have so far generally prevailed in this province, largely owing to the good sense and level-headedness of our people of all communities. One of the most potent methods of achieving this is by enlisting the co-operation of leaders of opinion of all communities, Hindus, Muslims and others, in nipping in the bud everything that is likely to inflame communal passions, whether by spoken or written word or act. Orders have recently been issued to Deputy Commissioners to form Peace Committees in all districts for the purpose of contradicting false rumours, and promoting brotherly relations between various sections of the people. We consider it desirable to constitute a Provincial Peace Committee, consisting of prominent public men, both Hindus and Muslims, and others, who will tour the province exhorting the public to practice patience and tolerance, to discount false and exaggerated reports, and generally to co-operate with the authorities in their difficult task of maintaining public peace and tranquillity. We appeal to every citizen, irrespective of caste, creed or community, to give prompt information of all designs to disturb the public peace and of all cases of illegal possession of arms of every type that come to their notice. By so doing, not only will the province be spared the untold misery and suffering that have unfortunately overtaken certain parts of our country, but we shall also be an example to the rest of the country."

From this you will see that the first charge, viz. that I have been "issuing statements and counter-statements to the press extolling my administrative capability etc. and

throwing dust over the grave incidents which took place at various places" is completely untenable.

Charge No.2.- It is said that what I have been saying while in office is of a piece with what I am alleged to have said when out of office. I have sent for the police reports of the speeches I made during the election campaign, and I am told that there is no record of any speech made by me in March 1946. I apparently made one in January, and the following is the Police report made at the time:

"Ravi Shanker Shukla at the outset remarked that the people should solidly organise themselves and remove the weakness displayed by them in the past struggles. They should not be led away by the encouraging statements of the Premier and the Secretary of State for India as Victory was impossible without shedding blood.

"The British have no right to remain here much less to rule. They must quit and quit sooner in their own interests. All the 'issues', all the party slogans were in vain so long as the country's freedom is not achieved.

"Speaking about the ensuing elections, fought on 'Quit India' issue, he expressed confidence in the public support to the Congress candidates and desired that all party discussions and disputes between the various organisations should come to an end and they should join hands and present a united front to the Government. He exemplified this by the sense of unity displayed by the Allied Powers in spite of ideological differences and the INA composing of various castes and creeds.

"Explaining the Pakistan and the two nation theory of Jinnah, he stated that it could not be conceded by the Government. If so the Muslims living in Hindu provinces be considered as aliens and will have no say in the Provincial Administration.

"Concluding, he urged the people to get ready for the coming struggle. This time the Congress will claim ~~its~~ more from them. The wealth, treasure and houses of the millionaires will belong to the Congress and as soon as the call comes all rich and the poor will have to lose everything even life. The Police and Magistracy will have to obey them and not the Government. The Congress should be made so strong and powerful that the present Government with all its weapons should not budge them an inch.

"Concluding, he appealed to the youths to strengthen their organisation as fire was burning in them."

You will see that I said nothing anti-Muslim in that speech

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All that I said was that, if the Muslims considered themselves as a separate nation and wanted an independent State of their own they would become aliens in Hindustan, and as such would have no share in its Government.

Charge No.3. -- This incident which is true has not the slightest communal significance. I reproduce the Special Police report:

"On the night between the 28th and 29th October 1946, Sub Inspector Mohamed Ismail, Station Officer, Police Station Belkheda, visited village Sundradehi, and found Amar Singh Mehra and others gambling in the verandah of Kunjilal Mehra. He seized Rs.16/8/-, playing cards and other articles used for gambling. On information given by Nanha Mehra, one of the gamblers, the Sub-Inspector, accompanied by Nathu Singh Lodhi, Malguzar, Dalchand, retired patwari and the Mukaddam of the village, went to the house of accused, Imrat Lal Bani and found about 14 persons gambling in the open courtyard. On seeing the Sub-Inspector, all gamblers except Imratlal Bani and his two sons Todal and Udaichand, left the spot and concealed themselves closeby. The Sub-Inspector commenced seizure of cash and other articles used for gambling from the possession of Imratlal Bani and his two sons. While he was doing so, the three accused assaulted him with lathis and prevented him from discharging his duty. Seeing this the three witnesses took to their heels. The Sub-Inspector also ran from the spot but was followed by the three accused and the remaining two accused viz. Puran Bani and Bhupsingh Lodhi who all beat the Sub-Inspector so severely that he became unconscious. Taking him to be dead, they took him on a pony on the Belkheda Road about 1 1/2 miles from the village and left him there. Next morning, Malguzar Nathu Singh made a search for him and sent the Sub-Inspector to Police Station Belkheda where he made a report to HCM Mahadeo Prasad. He also stated that accused Imratlal Bani had taken away the seized cash amounting to Rs.16/8/- and his torch.

"An offence under section 333/397 was registered by the HCM. The HCM being sick in the hospital, he sent information to Station Officer, Police Station Patan, who immediately proceeded to the spot for investigation. Circle Inspector, Garha Circle, also went to the spot and supervised the investigation. The Sub-Inspector was badly injured. He was, therefore, sent to the Victoria Hospital for treatment.

"The facts were confirmed in the investigation. It was also known that accused Imratlal Bani and his two sons had ill-feelings against the Sub-Inspector. On the 28th November 1945, the Sub-Inspector had registered an offence under rule 81(2) Defence of India Rules against accused Udaichand Bani for exporting rice from Saugor District to Jubbulpore District and transferred the case to Police Station Tendukheda. Its final result was not known. It was found during investigation that it was for this reason that accused Udaichand Bani while assaulting the Sub-Inspector had abused him and said that it was the time for taking revenge from him for his seizure of rice and kicking him (Udaichand Bani). Nathu Singh Lodhi Malguzar

Dalchand Patwari, Nanha Mehra, Nerbudda Prasad Brahman Paramlal Brahman, and others had seen the occurrence. They have stated the facts to the Police.

" On medical examination, it was found that the Sub Inspector had 6 contusions. One of them was on the head. Besides, his right knee and two ribs on the left side were fractured. The Assistant Surgeon stated that the injuries were dangerous to life.

" To recover torch and the lathis, the houses of all accused were searched but nothing incriminating was found. A torch was seized from the house of Imratlal Bani. All the accused denied the commission of the offence. They were arrested and remanded to Jail custody. The accused persons are now being prosecuted for committing murder, robbery etc. under sections 307, 392, 333 and 148 I.P.C."

Charge No.4.-- This charge is very vague. The fact is that far from there being 'many other cases of daily assaults on Muslims in Jubbulpore and suburbs', there have not been a single one. Myself and most of the Ministers were in Jubbulpore from the 7th to the 16th January 1947, and it is incredible that, if such assaults had taken place, the Muslims would have refrained from bringing them to my notice.

3. All that I need say is that I am not surprised at this communication. It and other similar ones are part of a well-concerted Muslim League plan systematically to badnam Congress Governments, while at the same time privately asking for and obtaining every kind of concession and consideration at the hands of those Governments; but I have no doubt that truth will prevail in the end.

4. I return the "open letter".

Yours Sincerely,

SE Sd. R.S. Shukla

237  
NEW DELHI, 18th Feby. 1947.

Many thanks for your demi-official letter No. C.F.43 dated the 14th Feby. 1947 regarding the Small Savings Scheme in your Province.

I feel that Panditji's message should do very well and any further message from me will be unnecessary.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Mr. D.K. Mehta,  
Minister of Finance,  
Government of Central  
Provinces & Berar,  
Secretariat, NAGPUR.

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238



[ D. O. No. C. F. 43.

Nagpur,

14th February 1947.]

[ My dear *Sardar Sahib*,

I have addressed Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru asking him for a message of encouragement to help us with the Small Savings Scheme which we are operating in this province. } This scheme, which aims at promoting small savings among the less wealthy members of the community by the purchase of National Savings Certificates encashable after three years, and carrying interest at 4 1/6 per cent, represents the first savings movement in India. Post Office Cash Certificates were introduced during the first world war as a suitable opening for small investors, and during the early years of the second world war Defence Savings Certificates were issued with a similar purpose. There was, however, no regular savings movement, and during the war, investments in these Certificates were promoted by periodical drives. As you are perhaps aware these drives were operated by our predecessors in office with perhaps more zeal than discretion and aroused varying degrees of suspicion and hostility. When this was realised, these periodical drives were replaced by a regular savings movement known as the Small Savings Scheme. The Scheme has been accepted by the present Central Assembly and is being operated throughout the country with varying degrees of success. We have accepted it in this province for we feel not only that it should be a permanent feature of our fiscal policy but that it is of very great social importance. From the fiscal point of view the fear of inflation is still with us, aggravated by shortages of consumer goods, and the consequent rise in prices. At the same time the enormous expansion of employment during the war did undoubtedly increase the purchasing power of the masses which

7

resulted in an ever-increasing demand for goods against an increasingly short supply. It was and still is therefore necessary to draw off, a part at least, of the extra purchasing power of the people until normal conditions of trade are restored. From the social point of view the spread of thrift has an undoubted bearing on the general standard of living, and it is in everyone's interest, and particularly in that of the small man, to save now so that he may be able to spend more wisely later. Finally the more of the people's money is invested in Certificates and Bonds, the more money is available to popular Governments for imple<sup>ment</sup>ing post-war development plans.

25 We are experiencing certain difficulties in the operation of the scheme in this province which are largely due to unfounded fear and suspicion of our ultimate intentions. We in this province, like certain other provinces, are examining the possibility of making National Savings Certificates legal tender in payment of Government dues, which should have a steadying effect on public morale. But we feel that messages of encouragement from the people's leaders would be of immense value to us. I enclose a draft message for your consideration.

Enc. 1.

Yours very sincerely,

*D. K. Menta*

(D. K. MENTA)

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Home Member, New Delhi.

2600  
Draft Message

The Small Savings Scheme is not, as many people seem to think, a scheme for the raising of funds. It is meant primarily to teach our people to save for the future and to help them to understand that by saving they are helping not only themselves but also their Governments with voluntary loans to carry out the much needed development of the country. I hope therefore that everybody will invest as much as he can in National Savings Certificates.

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

241  
1 Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi,  
13. 2. 1947.

My dear Mishraji,

I have your letter of the 9th instant.

I know Sir Shafaat Ahmed's views and desires in the matter. It is not easy in the present set-up of the Interim Government. There are many difficulties in the way of the selection of foreign Ambassadors' appointments. But he is not out of our mind, and will never be. We must wait for a proper occasion.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit D.P. Mishra,  
Minister of Local Self-Government,  
Government of Central Provinces & Berar,  
N A G P U R.



Nagpur

9.2.47

Revered Sardar Sahab,

While leaving Delhi I met  
(Sir) Shafaat Ahmad Khan. He expressed  
his gratefulness for uniform courtesy  
and kindness received from you.  
He expressed his preference for  
being sent to Moscow. He thinks  
that some eminent Hindu should  
be sent to London. Regarding  
Canada he thought it was inferior  
even to High Commissionership in  
South Africa - a job held by him  
long ago. But he said that as a  
devoted follower he would carry  
out the humblest task entrusted  
to him. I have written all this  
merely for your information.

The day after I reached Nagpur  
I got high fever and have not  
yet recovered completely. Shetlaji  
has gone out in connection with his  
son's marriage.

Sincerely yours

+ D. K. Shetlaji



243  
Telephone Number: 7636.

5, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

The 16th December 1946.

Most urgent.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

It has been suggested to me by a friend that in order to give the widest publicity in the whole of India and also perhaps in other countries, the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly should be broadcast on one of the wave-lengths, preferably a short wave-length, every day from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. when the Assembly is transacting its business. This suggestion has appealed to me and I commend it to you for your serious consideration. I am sure the Chairman of the Constituent Assembly will permit it if you so desire.

I was coming to you at 7.30 P.M. today but I learnt that you were going out for dinner. I therefore did not like to disturb you. I shall come whenever you want me till 10 o'clock tonight or any other time that suits you tomorrow for discussing matters about which I have already written to you and which are urgent.

10-30 am  
Yours sincerely,

*R. Shukla*

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
1, Aurangzeb Road,  
New Delhi.



I have informed P.A. to hon. Ravi Shankar Shukla that his n.m. might discuss this with H.M. in the House of the C.A. in response to his telephone enquiry.

ns  
15/12/46.

244  
Telephone Number: 7636.

5, Canning Lane,  
New Delhi.

The 14th December 1946.

My dear Sardar Sahab,

I am extremely sorry I could not come to your place yester-night as the driver of my car had gone away. There are certain important provincial matters which I would like to discuss with you on any day convenient to you. Some of them are :-

- (1) Establishment of a broadcasting station in Nagpur.
- (2) Supply of educative and documentary films for the mobile cinema vans.
- (3) Question of Government of India's share in provincial publicity expenditure.
- (4) The almost total lack of representation of the Central Provinces in the Broadcasting & Information Department of the Government of India.
- (5) The question of supply of teleprinter lines to Nagpur.

I have mentioned these so that you may get the necessary information from your office beforehand.

There are other matters of provincial importance which I wish to talk over with you when we meet. Kindly fix up some time and let me know. I may take not more than an hour.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Shri Sardar  
Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Information & Broadcasting,  
Government of India, NEW DELHI.

*R. Shukla*



D.O. No. 84/PA.

245  
12, Western Court,  
New Delhi.

The 16th October 1946.

Dear Sir,

I received your communication dated the 14th October as also the Bombay Labour Bill. C.P. and Berar Government has already moved in the matter and drafted a Bill more or less on the lines of Bombay Bill with such suitable alterations as were found necessary to suit the local conditions. The Bill is already before the C.P. Legislative Assembly and may have been by this time passed into an Act but for the abrupt closing of the Assembly Session. The Assembly Session is now adjourned to 11th of November and the Bill will go to the Select Committee in due course. The principles of both Bombay and C.P. Bills are the same. I will send you a copy of the C.P. Bill after I return to Nagpur. I may also add that C.P. Government has also introduced a Bill to regulate the wage and working hours of shop assistants and the Bill is before the Assembly.



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2. I really thank you for drawing my attention to the Bombay Bill. The Conference of Labour Ministers held at Delhi has also provided me with additional material for certain amendments which will be taken into consideration in due course at the Select. . Committee stage.

With respectful regards

I am, Yours Sincerely,



( S V Gokhale )

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
Member for Home Department,  
Government of India, New Delhi.

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New Delhi, the 4th October, 1946.

Grand.  
a.s.c.

4/10/46.

Dear Friend,

I have received your letter of the 30th September<sup>-al</sup> inviting me to address the students of the Agricultur/College and give away the prizes on Sunday the 1st December. It is rather too early for me to give you any programme in advance of nearly two months, as it would not be possible for me to say that I would be free by that time from the Assembly sessions. It may be possible to shift the date of 30th November which has been given to the University for the Convocation address.

2. I have received the letter of the General Secretary of the Agricultural College enclosed by you. Please convey my thanks for the invitation and inform him that it is premature to make such engagement from now, and no commitment can be made at this stage.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. V.J. Patel.

+

The Hon'ble Mr. Rameshwar Agnobhoj,  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Central Provinces & Berar,  
Nagpur.



248  
Nagpur,  
The 30th September 1946

Revered Hon'ble Sardar Saheb,

I was in Delhi last week and wanted to pay my compliments to you personally, but finding that you were engrossed in more important and heavy work, I restrained myself disturbing you. I will, however, take an opportunity to do so at some other time.

2- I enclose herewith a letter addressed to you by the General Secretary, College of Agriculture, Nagpur, which was to be handed over to you at New Delhi during my stay there for your kind consent. The Agricultural College boys want you to address them at the Social Gathering of the College and give away the prizes on Sunday, the 1st December 1946, as you would be here on the 30th of November to address the Convocation. The students' request ~~the~~ has been supported by the Principal of the College and I myself would be extremely happy if you could kindly give your consent to this and send your approval

X



248  
Nagpur,  
The 30th September 1946

Revered Hon'ble Sardar Saheb,

I was in Delhi last week and wanted to pay my compliments to you personally, but finding that you were engrossed in more important and heavy work, I restrained myself disturbing you. I will, however, take an opportunity to do so at some other time.

2. I enclose herewith a letter addressed to you by the General Secretary, College of Agriculture, Nagpur, which was to be handed over to you at New Delhi during my stay there for your kind consent.

✓ The Agricultural College boys want you to address them at the Social Gathering of the College and give away the prizes on Sunday, the 1st December 1946, as you would be here on the 30th of November to address the Convocation. The students' request ~~the~~ has been supported by the Principal of the College and I myself would be extremely happy if you could kindly give your consent to this and send your approval

26/9/97  
at an early date.

I am sure, you are enjoying ~~very~~ good health.

With my best compliments,

Yours sincerely,

The Hon'ble Sardar Ballabh Bhai Patel,  
Member for Home Affairs,  
Government of India,  
New Delhi.

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D.O.No. \_\_\_\_\_

252  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE,  
Central Provinces and Berar.  
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Nagpur,  
23rd September, 1946.

Dear Sir,

I am enclosing herewith an application received from the students of the Agricultural College requesting the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel to preside over the College Day function and to give away the prizes. I am not entitled to address the Hon'ble Minister direct. I am therefore forwarding it to you in the hope that you would approve of the idea and fix up the engagement by directly contacting the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel.

2. The students and staff of the College are very eager to have the Hon'ble Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel in their midst during the College Day function and I hope that <sup>you</sup> he will help in the realisation of their desire.

Thanking you and trusting that you are enjoying your stay at Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

To  
The Hon'ble Mr. Rameshwar Agnobhoj,  
Minister for Agriculture,  
Central Provinces & Berar,  
Camp NEW DELHI.

*P. Phayni*  
(P. D. Phayni)

251

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE,  
NAGPUR.

Dated Nagpur, the 23rd September, 1946

To

The Hon'ble Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel,  
Minister for Home Affairs,  
INTERIM GOVERNMENT,  
NEW DELHI.

Through : The Proper Channel.

Revered Sir,

On behalf of the students and staff of the College of Agriculture, Nagpur, I most respectfully beg to approach you with the following request for your favourable consideration.

The students of the Nagpur University are very happy to learn that you would be coming to Nagpur to deliver the Convocation address on the 30th November, 1946. On behalf of the staff and the students of the College of Agriculture, Nagpur, I beg to request you to kindly make it convenient during your stay at Nagpur to come to the College of Agriculture to deliver the address and give away the prizes on the occasion of the Social Gathering of the College.

We could arrange our college functions according to your convenience. The Convocation address is fixed on the 30th November, 1946, and if I may venture to suggest, perhaps the afternoon of Sunday the 1st December, might suit you.

On hearing about your convenience we would arrange the programme. I do realise that you would be very busy and it is difficult for you to spare the time for such functions, but knowing your interest in students, I venture to approach you, and feel confident that you would very kindly accept our invitation.

Thanking you

With respects,

I beg to remain,

Sir,  
Yours obediently,

*Blehaehonia*

GENERAL SECRETARY,  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, NAGPUR.

C. P.

252 नागपुर  
३१-८-३३

प्रिय आर्च प्रेमदास,

आपका लिखता पत्रा संबंधी पत्र मिले।

हम पत्र के साथ ओर मोर लेख रहा हूँ जिसमें  
प्रति जो आशी भविष्य. परिवर्तित जात है। हा गया  
है। मैं तो इस विषय में अधिकार साधना से  
जो आशी की जा. इस संबंध में देखा व्यापक  
मार्ग निश्चित करने की आज्ञा देखा जा प्रमाण  
होता है।

आपकी

(स.) २५/८/३३ २५/८.



1. The import of foreign cloth is arranged by the Govt. of India, as also all other imported consumer goods such as cycles, fountainpens, pencils, etc. The Provincial Govt. has nothing to do with the import of these articles but when a quota is allotted to this province, it tries to secure its equitable distribution so as to prevent blackmarketing.

2. The Govt. of India have, in the last week, removed all control over pure and artificial silk fabrics. Control still remains, however, on imported woollen goods which is effected under the provisions of the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order, 1945 (copy enclosed). Under clause 5(2) of that Order, the importer furnishes details of consignments to the Department of Industries & Supplies of the Govt. of India. Under the directions of that Dept., 4 percent out of woollen goods imported into India are sent to this province. The importers send 4 percent of their total imports to dealers selected by them in this province and keep the provincial government informed of the woollen goods sent by them to such dealers. If the importer is unable to select a dealer, the Provincial Govt., in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner, selects a dealer for him. No other control is exercised by the Provincial Govt. over the distribution of imported woollen goods. The dealers are naturally bound to sell the woollen goods at the retail prices fixed by the Govt. of India.

3. The import of foreign cloth, again, is arranged by the Govt. of India and the Provincial Govt. has nothing to do in the matter. The distribution arrangements follow closely the lines described above for imported woollen goods but are governed by the Cotton Cloth & Yarn Control Order 1945 (copy enclosed). The importers give the Textile Commissioner details of all cloth imported by them, as required by clause 10A(2) of the Cotton Cloth & Yarn Control Order, and he fixes the prices, both wholesale and retail, at which such cloth can be sold. This province gets 8 percent of the foreign cloth imported at Bombay. The Provincial Govt. has appointed an importer who brings the quota of foreign cloth allotted to this province, which is then distributed to selected dealers in the main urban areas of the province for sale to the public. Two of the importers of foreign cloth, viz. Messrs. Ralli Brothers and E. Spinner & Co., have been allowed to send the proportionate quota falling to the share of this province out of their imports directly to their retailers who have been approved by Govt.

4. The present supply position of Indian made mill cloth is extremely poor due to the considerable fall in production because of strikes and absenteeism. Our quota of Indian mill cloth has recently been cut by 10 percent by the Textile Commissioner and a further cut of 12 1/2 percent has been foreshadowed. In 1938-39, the monthly consumption of mill cloth, both Indian and foreign, in this province was 12,385,380 yds. and in 1939-40, 12,309,383 yards. During 1946, the monthly supply of mill cloth has been only 8,848,875 yards. On the other hand, the purchasing power of the people has gone up very considerably since 1938-39 and the very large gap between the quantity then received and that now allotted explains the acute cloth scarcity which is being experienced at present. Until production of Indian mills increases very considerably with the setting up of new looms and spindles -- which are being imported from abroad but which will take atleast a couple of years before coming into production. The import reduces to some extent the present acute scarcity of cloth. Though imports are at present negligible, they may increase considerably in the very near future and thus improve the cloth situation.

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DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES & CIVIL SUPPLIES.  
NOTIFICATION.

New Delhi, the 21st July 1945.

No.198(137)-AP(A)/45. In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (2) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules and in suppression of the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order 1944 and of all notifications amending the same, the Central Government is pleased to make the following Order and to direct with reference to sub-rule (1) of rule 119 of the said rules that notice of the order shall be given by the publication of the same in the Official Gazette and by the issue of a Press Note summarising and explaining its provisions.

1. (1) This Order may be called the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order, 1945.

(2) It extends to the whole of British India.

(3) It shall come into force at once.

2. In this Order, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context, -

(a) 'Controller General' means the Controller of Civil Supplies appointed by the Central Government, and includes any Additional Deputy, Assistant or Deputy Controller General of Civil Supplies so appointed and any other Officer authorised by the Central Govt. to exercise all or any of the powers of the Controller General under this Order;

(b) "dealer" means a person carrying on the business of selling any scheduled articles whether wholesale or retail and whether in conjunction with any other business or not;

(c) "importer" means a person importing into British India whether under an import licence granted by the Central Govt. or otherwise, any scheduled article from outside India, and includes a buying agent, an indenter or a manufacturer(s) agent;

(d) "producer" means a person engaged in the manufacture or production of any scheduled article; and

(e) "scheduled article" means any such article as is mentioned in the Schedule annexed to this Order.

3. (1) the Controller General may by notification in the Official Gazette specify in respect of any scheduled article the dealers who shall be approved dealers in that article for the purpose of this Order; and, thereupon, no importer or producer of that article, shall except with the written permission of the Controller General sell or otherwise dispose of it to any person who is not an approved dealer in that article.

(2) the Controller General may from time to time by notification in the Official Gazette add any name to, or remove any name from, the list of approved dealers in any scheduled article notified by him under sub-clause (1).

4. (1) The Controller General may by notification in the Official Gazette fix the price at which scheduled articles may be sold by importers, producers or dealers, and different prices may be fixed for different localities and different classes of importers, producers and dealers.

(2) No importer, producer or dealer shall sell any scheduled article at a price exceeding the price fixed in that behalf by notification under sub-clause (1).

5. The Controller General may by order in writing require any importer or producer to sell to such dealers or dealers such quantities of scheduled articles as may be specified in the

Order, and may issue such incidental or supplementary instructions to any importer or producer or dealer in regard to the sale as he thinks fit; and the importer or producer or dealer shall comply with the order and instructions.

5A. An Officer of the Provincial Govt. - not below the rank of a district magistrate - duly authorised by the Provincial Government in this behalf, may, by order in writing, require any dealer within this province to sell to any other dealer in the same province such quantity of scheduled articles as may be specified in the order, and may issue such incidental or supplementary instructions in regard to the sale as he may think fit; and the dealer shall comply with the order and instructions.

6. (1) Every importer of scheduled articles shall within one week from the date of his receiving intimation of despatch of the consignment from any place outside India, furnish to the Controller General the following information in respect of the consignment.

(1) Description and quantity of scheduled articles included in the consignment.

(1i) Expected date and place of arrival of consignment in India.

(1ii) How he proposes to dispose of the scheduled articles on arrival giving relevant particulars.

(2) Every importer of scheduled articles shall, within two weeks of the arrival of the consignment in India furnish to the Controller General the following information in respect of the consignment.

(1) Description and quantity of scheduled articles included in the consignment.

(1i) Landed cost of each item of the scheduled articles showing c.i.f. value, customs duty and other incidental charges, if any, separately.

7. No importer shall sell or otherwise dispose of any scheduled articles imported by him after the commencement of this Order except in accordance with such written instructions as to their distribution among provinces and States as may be given to him by the Controller-General and, where such written instructions are given by the Controller-General in relation to a Province or State, in accordance with such further instructions as to their allocation to areas or dealers within the province or State as may be given to him in the case of a province, by an Officer authorised by the Provincial Govt. in this behalf, or in the case of a State, by an officer of the State Government specified in this behalf by the Controller-General.

Provided that, if no instructions are given by the Controller General, or, where the Controller-General gives instructions, by such officer within a period of 21 days from the latest date on which any of the information in respect of the articles required to be furnished under sub-clause (1) or sub-clause (2) of clause 6 is received in the Office of the Controller General, the importer may, subject to the other provisions of this Order, sell or dispose of the articles.

8. Every producer of a scheduled article shall furnish to the Controller General so as to reach him by the 15th day of each calendar month the following information:

(1) Description and actual or estimated quantity of

scheduled articles produced in the preceding calendar month.

(11) The actual or estimated cost of production of the scheduled articles.

(111) How he proposes to dispose of the scheduled articles giving full details.

9. The Controller General or an Officer empowered by a Provincial Govt. in this behalf may, with a view to securing compliance with this order:

(a) require any person to give such information in his possession with respect to any business carried on by that or any other person as he may demand;

(b) inspect or cause to be inspected any books or other documents belonging to or under the control of any person;

(c) enter and search, or authorise any person to enter and search any premises, and seize, or authorise any person to seize, any scheduled articles in respect of which he has reason to believe that a contravention of this Order has been, is being or is about to be committed.

10. A court trying any contravention of this order may without prejudice to any other sentence which it may pass; direct that any scheduled article in respect of which it is satisfied that this Order has been contravened shall be forfeited to His Majesty.

11. Anything done under any provisions of the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order 1944, shall be deemed to have been done under the corresponding provision of this Order.

#### SCHEDULE.

(See Clause 2(e):

2. Lead, copying and coloured pencils,
11. Hand knitting wool,
12. Woollen fabrics,
13. Umbrellas, and parts of umbrellas,
15. Kerosene, hurricane lanterns,
23. Cycles, cycle spare parts and accessories.
34. Woollen and Worsted Weaving & Machine Knitting Yarns.

R.A.Mahamadi, Dy. Secy.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

Dept. of Industries & Civil Supplies.  
New Delhi, the 21st July 45.

No. TB(3)45- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-rule (2) of rule 81 of the Defence of India Rules, the Central Govt. is pleased to make the following Order, and to direct with reference to sub-rule (1) of rule 119 of the said Rules that notice of the Order shall be given by the publication of the same in the official Gazette and by the issue of a Press Note summarising and explaining its provisions:

1. (1) This Order may be called the Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order, 1945.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. (1) The provisions of this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force.

(2) The Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order, 1943, is hereby repealed:

Provided that anything done under any provision of that Order shall be deemed to have been done under the corresponding provision of this Order;

Provided further that any reference in any order issued under the Defence of India Rules or in any notification issued thereunder to any provision of the Cotton Cloth & Yarn (Control) Order, 1943, shall, unless a different intention appears, be construed as reference to the corresponding provision of this Order.

3. In this Order, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,

(a) "Cloth" and "Yarn" mean respectively any type of cloth or yarn manufactured either wholly from cotton, or partly from cotton and partly from any other material and containing not less than 10 per cent of cotton by weight, but "cloth" does not include-

(i) ready made clothing other than dhoties and sarees;

(ii) hosiery;

(iii) any articles which are Indian Woollen goods as defined in the Indian Woollen Goods (Control) Order, 1944;

(iv) leather cloth and inferior or imitation leather cloth ordinarily used in book binding;

(v) tracing paper;

(vi) cloth manufactured partly from cotton and partly from wool and containing 40 percent or less of cotton by weight;

(vii) synthetic proofed fabrics, whether single textured or double textured, used as substitutes for rubberised sheets and leather cloth.

(b) "dealer" means a person carrying on the business of selling cloth or yarn or both, whether wholesale or retail and whether or not in conjunction with any other business and shall include master weavers of handloom cloth;

(c) "manufacturer" means a person engaged in the production of cloth or yarn or both, including any process ancillary to such production, like dyeing, bleaching, emboridering, printing and finishing; and "manufacture" shall be construed accordingly;

(d) "Textile Commissioner" means the Textile Commissioner appointed by the Central Govt. and includes such Additional Textile Commissioners as may be appointed by the Central Govt.

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4. (1) The Central Govt. may constitute a Textile Control Board (hereinafter referred to as the Board) consisting of 25 to advise the Central Govt. through the Textile Commissioner ~~Board consisting of 25 to advise the Central Govt. through the Textile Commissioner~~ generally on matters connected with the purposes of this Order (including matters connected with the export of cloth, yarn and raw cotton) and in particular in respect of the functions of the Textile Commissioner under clauses 10 and 11;

Provided that the Central Govt. may appoint a substitute member when, for any reason, a member of the Board is unable to attend to his duties as such member, for such period as, in the opinion of the Central Govt. necessitates the appointment of a substitute. Such substitute member shall have and exercise during the period he is so appointed all the powers, duties and privileges including the power to vote at all meetings as the member in whose place he has been appointed had.

(2) The Chairman of the Board shall be such non-official member thereof as the Central Govt. may designate in this behalf.

5. (1) The Board may by resolution form from among its members such Committees as it thinks expedient to exercise on its behalf such of its functions may be specified in the resolution:

Provided that any such Committee formed for the purposes of advising on technical matters connected with the purposes of this Order and in particular on matters relating to the fixation of prices, increase of production, standardization, and rationalisation shall be composed only of members representing the Textile Industry, and subject to the provisions of clause 9 its advice on all such matters shall ordinarily be acted upon.

(2) Any such Committee shall not exceed fifteen in number and it shall elect a Chairman from among its members.

6. Any Committee of the Board may coopt such additional members not exceeding ten in number as it thinks fit and having special knowledge of the subject with which the Committee is concerned and the members so coopted shall have the same rights as the other members of the Committee.

7. (1) A Committee of the Board may by a resolution form from among its members a Standing Sub-Committee to exercise on its behalf such of its functions as may be specified in the resolution.

(2) Any such Standing Sub-Committee shall not exceed five in number, and if the Chairman of the Committee is a member of the Standing Sub-Committee he shall be the Chairman thereof.

8. The Board may in consultation with the Central Govt. make rules to regulate the calling of, and procedure at, meetings of the Board, Committees and Standing Sub-Committees (including the fixing of quorum).

9. (1) The Board or any Committee or Standing Sub-Committee acting in the exercise of the functions assigned to it under clause 5 or as the case may be clause 7 may tender advice to the Central Govt. through the Textile Commissioner on matters connected with the purposes of this Order and in particular in respect of the functions of the Textile Commissioner under clauses 10 and 11;

Provided that if the Textile Commissioner is unable to recommend to the Central Govt. to accept the advice so tendered he shall refer the matter back to the Board, Committee or Standing Sub-Committee as the case may be for reconsideration.

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(2) If after such reference the Textile Commissioner is still unable to recommend to the Central Govt. to accept any advice so tendered by the Board or any Committee or Standing Sub-Committee, he may, or if the Chairman of the Board so requires shall, refer the question for the decision of the Central Govt., who shall consult the Board or the Committee or Standing Sub-Committee, as the case may be, before giving its decision.

(3) Before issuing any notification under clause 10 or any direction under clause 11 otherwise than in pursuance of advice tendered to him by the Board or a Committee or Standing Sub-Committee, the Textile Commissioner shall consult the Chairman of the Board, who shall refer the question to the Board or, in his discretion, to the appropriate Committee or the Standing Sub-Committee.

(4) The Textile Commissioner may refer any matter on which he desires advice, or make any proposal, to the Chairman of the Board who shall refer the same to the Board or, in his discretion, to the appropriate Committee or Standing Sub-Committee.

(5) If the opinion of the majority of members of the Board or any Committee or Standing Sub-Committee, as the case may be, present at the meeting at which the question is discussed is adverse to the Textile Commissioner's proposal, he shall, if he does not accept the advice of such majority, refer the question for the decision of the Central Govt., who shall consult the Board or the Committee, as the case may be, before giving its decision.

10. Subject to the provisions of sub-clause (3) of clause 9, the Textile Commissioner may, by notification in the Gazette of India, specify:

(a) the maximum quantity of handloom cloth which may be stocked by any dealer and the maximum period for which he may hold such stocks;

(b) the maximum prices, ex-factory, wholesale and retail, at which any class or specification of cloth or yarn may be sold;

(c) the markings to be made by the manufacturers and dealers on any class or specification of cloth or yarn manufactured or sold by them, and the time and manner of making those markings.

10A. (1) The Textile Commissioner may, for the purposes of a notification under sub-clauses (b) and (c) of clause 10 relating to cloth or yarn imported from outside India provide in such notification, for the determination of the landed cost of such cloth or yarn, the issue of certificates as to such landed cost and the charging of fees therefor.

(2) Every importer of cloth or yarn from outside India shall submit within such time, in such form, and to such authority such information relating to the clearance, location, cost and other matters relevant for the determination of the landed cost under sub-clause (1) as may be specified by the Textile Commissioner by notification in the Gazette of India.

10B. Notwithstanding anything contained in clause 10, the Provincial Govt. or an officer authorised by the Provincial Govt. in this behalf may fix:

(a) the ex-factory maximum price for the purposes of the special markings under clause 15A in respect of any type of cloth for which such price has not been specified by the Textile Commissioner under clause 10;

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(b) the maximum prices, ex-factory, wholesale and retail, at which cloth produced by a manufacturer or other person referred to in the explanation to sub-clause (2) of clause 13 may be sold and may further specify the markings to be made on such cloth and the time and manner of making them.

11. Subject to the provisions of sub-clause (3) of clause 9, the Textile Commissioner may from time to time issue directions in writing to any manufacturer regarding the classes or specifications of cloth or yarn, and the maximum or minimum quantities thereof, which he shall or shall not manufacture during such periods as may be specified in the directions, and the manufacturer shall comply with all such directions.

11A. Save in accordance with a special or general permission of the Textile Commissioner and subject to such restrictions as he may prescribe no manufacturer shall manufacture any article of clothing or any other article from cloth:

Provided that nothing in this clause shall apply to a manufacturer who does not have in his possession 25 powerlooms or more, or is engaged solely in any process ancillary to the manufacture of cloth.

12. (1) No manufacturer or dealer shall sell or offer to sell any cloth or yarn at a price higher than the maximum price specified in this behalf under clause 10 or under sub-clause (b) of clause 10B.

(2) Every sale of cloth or yarn by a dealer, except to a consumer, shall be at a price either F.O.B. station of despatch or exgodown of storage at the buyer's option;

Provided that the commission of a Commission Agent shall be paid by the buyer.

(2A) No person acting as a Commission Agent in respect of a sale of cloth or yarn (to which sub-clause (2) applies) shall receive a commission which exceeds  $\frac{1}{2}$  percent of the maximum price of the cloth or yarn the subject matter of such sale;

(3) Every dealer shall exhibit on his premises a true copy of each of the notifications that may have been, or may hereafter be, issued by the Textile Commissioner under clause 10 specifying the maximum prices at which cloth or yarn may be sold.

(4) No manufacturer or dealer shall, without sufficient cause, refuse to sell cloth or yarn to any person.

Explanation: The possibility or expectation of obtaining a higher price at a later date shall not be deemed to be a sufficient cause for the purposes of this sub-clause.

13. (1) Where the markings to be made and the time and manner of making them in respect of any class or specification of cloth or yarn have been specified under clause 10 or 10B--

(a) the manufacturer of, or as the case may be the dealer in, such cloth or yarn shall cause the markings to be made thereon at the time and in the manner specified;

(b) no person other than such manufacturer or dealer shall cause the markings to be made on any such cloth or yarn;

(c) no person other than the manufacturer thereof shall have in his possession or under his control any such cloth or yarn which is not so marked, unless it be for bonafide personal requirements;



(d) no person shall alter or deface or cause or permit to be altered or defaced the markings made on any such cloth or yarn held by him otherwise than for his bonafide personal requirements;

(e) no person shall make on any cloth or yarn any other markings resembling the prescribed markings in a manner calculated to mislead;

(f) no person shall have in his possession or under his control otherwise than for his bona-fide personal requirements any cloth or yarn the markings whereon are altered or defaced or are of the character specified in paragraph (e).

(2) No manufacturer shall sell or deliver any cloth or yarn of which the maximum prices have not been specified by the Textile Commissioner under clause 10;

Provided that a manufacturer who has applied to the Textile Commissioner for the fixation of the price of such cloth or yarn may, before the prices thereof are notified, deliver any such cloth or yarn marked with prices provisionally sanctioned by the appropriate member of the Industry's Committee of the Board; and in relation to the cloth or yarn so delivered, the prices marked shall be deemed to have been fixed under this Order.

Explanation-- Nothing in this sub-clause applies to a manufacturer who does not manufacture any yarn and who had in his possession or under his control not more than 24 powerlooms on the 1st January 1944, or to any person engaged solely in any process ancillary to the production of cloth or yarn.

13 (3) No person shall use in the manufacture of cloth--

(a) yarn (other than handspun yarn) the maximum price of which has not been fixed by the Textile Commissioner under clause 10;

(b) sewing thread.

14. (1) No dealer shall, after the 31st December 1944, buy or sell or have in his possession:

(a) any cloth or yarn manufactured in India before the 1st August 1943;

(b) any cloth or yarn manufactured in India and packed after the 31st July 1943 and before the 1st January 1944.

(2) No manufacturer or dealer shall buy or sell or have in his possession any cloth or yarn, whether manufactured in India or elsewhere, other than that referred to in subclause (1), after the expiration of twelve months from the last day of the month marked on the cloth or yarn in accordance with the directions of the Textile Commissioner under clause 10; and no person shall buy or sell or have in his possession any such cloth or yarn in unopened bales or cases after the expiration of six months from the said date.

(3) For the purposes of this clause:

(i) cloth or yarn shall be deemed to be in the possession of a person when it is held on behalf of that person by another person;

(ii) a bale or case shall be deemed to be unopened if the hoop or other bindings and all outer covering have not been removed;

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(111) cloth or yarn of Indian manufacture not bearing any markings in accordance with the directions of the Textile Commissioner under clause 10 shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed to have been manufactured in India before 1st Aug. 43.

(4). Nothing in this clause shall apply to handloom cloth.

15. The Textile Commissioner may by general or special order exempt any cloth or yarn, or any class of cloth or yarn, from all or any of the provisions of clauses 13 and 14.

15A. Notwithstanding anything contained in clauses 14(1) and 14(2), cloth or yarn not disposed of within the period specified in those clauses may be kept and sold by a dealer subject to the conditions notified in this behalf by the Textile Commissioner prescribing the special markings to be made on such cloth or yarn, the agency by which the marking shall be made and the fee payable for such marking;

Provided, however, that no such cloth or yarn shall be kept undisposed of by any dealer, or by any person holding on behalf of a dealer, for more than six months after the date of such marking.

16. Where, in pursuance of a notification under clause 10 or clause 15A any piece of cloth is required to be marked at one end with the price at which it is to be sold retail, and the piece is not sold as a whole, that portion of the piece containing the price marking shall be sold last by the dealer.

17. Every manufacturer, every dealer and every person to whom any stocks of cloth or yarn have been pledged by a manufacturer or dealer, shall declare the stocks of cloth and yarn held by him on such dates in such form and to such authority as may be specified by the Textile Commissioner by notification in Gazette of India.

18. (1) No manufacturer shall, save with the permission of the Textile Commissioner, at any time hold-

(a) stocks of cloth exceeding the total quantity manufactured by him during the preceding three months; or

(b) stocks of yarn exceeding :

(1) in the case of a person engaged in the manufacture of yarn alone, the quantity of yarn manufactured by him during the preceding two months;

(11) in the case of a person engaged in the manufacture of cloth alone, the quantity of yarn reasonably required by him for manufacturing cloth during the next three months; and

(111) in the case of a person engaged in the manufacture of both cloth and yarn, the sum total of the quantity of yarn reasonably required by him for the manufacture of cloth during the next three months and the amount equal to the yarn manufactured by him during the preceding three months surplus to his own requirements during that period:

For the purposes of this sub-clause, cloth on looms and yarn in process of manufacture into cloth shall not be taken into account in computing the stocks held by the manufacturer.

(2) No dealer or other person not being a manufacturer shall, save with the permission of the Textile Commissioner, at any time hold stocks of cloth or yarn in excess of his normal requirements.

Explanation: In the case of a person engaged in manufacturing from cloth or yarn articles such as ropes, tapes, newar, bandages or canvas, his normal requirements of cloth or as the case may be, of yarn for the purposes of this sub-clause shall be deemed to be the quantity of cloth or yarn used by him during the preceeding three months in such manufacture.

(3) Nothing in sub-clause (2) shall be deemed to apply in relation to the possession by any person carrying on this business of banking of cloth or yarn pledged with him by a dealer or a manufacturer.

(4) For the purposes of sub-clauses (1) and (2) any cloth or yarn agreed to be sold to a dealer by a manufacturer and of which delivery has not been taken by the due date shall be deemed to be held by the dealer and not by the manufacturer.

18A. (1) No manufacturer shall, save in accordance with a general or special permission of the Textile Commissioner or in compliance with a direction given under clause 18B--

(a) sell or agree to sell cloth or yarn to any person who--

(1) is not a licensed dealer under the rules framed in this behalf by the Provincial Govt; and

(ii) did not as a dealer buy any cloth or yarn from him at any time during the years 1940 and 1942;

(b) during any quarter deliver to any dealer, whether in pursuance of a pre-existing contract or otherwise, cloth or yarn in excess of his quota determined under sub-clause (2),

(2) For purposes of sub-clause (1) (b), a dealer's quota of cloth shall bear to the value of the total deliveries of cloth made to all dealers during the quarter by the manufacturer concerned the same proportion as the value of the total deliveries of cloth made to that dealer during the years 1940, 41 and 42 bore to the value of the total deliveries of cloth made to all dealers during the same years by the same manufacturer; and a dealer's quota of yarn shall be similarly determined.

(3) Every manufacturer shall maintain a register of contracts and deliveries and shall submit returns in such form and at such time as the Textile Commissioner may prescribe.

18B. (1) The Textile Commissioner may, with a view to securing a proper distribution of cloth or yarn or with a view to securing compliance with this Order, direct any manufacturer or dealer, or any class of manufacturers or dealers:

(a) to sell to such person or persons such quantities of cloth or yarn as the Textile Commissioner may specify;

(b) not to sell or deliver cloth or yarn of a specified description except to such person or persons and subject to such conditions as the Textile Commissioner may specify;

(c) to furnish such returns or other information relating to his or their undertaking, and in such manner, as the Textile Commissioner may specify; and may issue such further instruction as he thinks fit regarding the manner in which the direction is to be carried out.

(2) Every manufacturer or dealer shall comply with the directions and instructions given under sub-clause (1).

18C. Save in accordance with a general or special permission of the Textile Commissioner-

(1) no manufacturer of cloth who has no spinning plant shall work or cause or permit to be worked-

(a) looms in excess of the number of looms working in the undertaking on the 30th Sept. 1944;

(b) any loom for a period which in any one month exceeds the average number of hours of work per loom per month in the undertaking during the year ending 30th Sept. 1944;

(2) no manufacturer of cloth who has a spinning plant shall in any quarter:

(a) purchase a quantity of yarn exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the quantity of yarn purchased by him in the year 1944;

(b) sell a quantity of yarn less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the quantity of yarn sold by him in the year 1944.

(3) no manufacturer of yarn who has no weaving plant shall instal or cause or permit to be installed any loom in his undertaking.

18D.

(1). Save in accordance with the general or special permission of the textile Commissioner no manufacturer of cloth shall pack cloth except in bales containing not less than 1,450 yards nor more than 1550 yards.

(2). The Textile Commissioner may by a general or special order prescribe in the manner in which any manufacturer or manufacturers shall pack cloth or yarn in bales.

18E. Save in accordance with any general or special permission of the Textile Commissioner no manufacturer of cloth having 25 or more powerlooms in his possession shall undertake or carry out any ancillary processes such as printing, dyeing, bleaching or calendering of any cloth not manufactured by him.

19. The Textile Commissioner may with a view to securing compliance with this order:

(a) require any person to give any information in his possession with respect to any business carried on by that or any other person;

(b) inspect or cause to be inspected any books or other documents belonging to or under the control of any person;

(c) enter and search, or authorise any person to enter and search, any premises and seize, or authorize any person to seize, any cloth or yarn in respect of which he has reason to believe that a contravention of this order has been committed.

20. If any person with the intent that any provision of this order may be evaded refuses to give any information lawfully demanded from him under clause 19, or conceals, destroys mutilates or defaces any book or other document, he shall be deemed to have contravened the provision of this Order.

21. A Textile Commissioner may, with the sanction of the Central Government and by general or special order in writing,

authorise any person to discharge on his behalf all or any of his functions under this Order.

22. A Court trying any contravention of this Order may, without prejudice to any other sentence which it may pass, direct that any cloth or yarn in respect of which it is satisfied that such contravention has occurred shall be forfeited to His Majesty.

23. No prosecution for the contravention of any of the provisions of this Order shall be instituted without the previous sanction of the Provincial Govt. or of such officer of the Provincial Govt. not below the rank of Dist. Magistrate as the Provincial Govt. may by general or special order in writing authorise in this behalf.

DHARMA VIRA, Dy. Secy.

18C. Save in accordance with a general or special permission of the Textile Commissioner-

(1) no manufacturer of cloth who has no spinning plant shall work or cause or permit to be worked-

(a) looms in excess of the number of looms working in the undertaking on the 30th Sept. 1944;

(b) any loom for a period which in any one month exceeds the average number of hours of work per loom per month in the undertaking during the year ending 30th Sept. 1944;

(2) no manufacturer of cloth who has a spinning plant shall in any quarter:

(a) purchase a quantity of yarn exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the quantity of yarn purchased by him in the year 1944;

(b) sell a quantity of yarn less than  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the quantity of yarn sold by him in the year 1944.

(3) no manufacturer of yarn who has no weaving plant shall instal or cause or permit to be installed any loom in his undertaking.

18D.

(1). Save in accordance with the general or special permission of the textile Commissioner no manufacturer of cloth shall pack cloth except in bales containing not less than 1,450 yards nor more than 1550 yards.

(2). The Textile Commissioner may by a general or special order prescribe in the manner in which any manufacturer or manufacturers shall pack cloth or yarn in bales.

18E. Save in accordance with any general or special permission of the Textile Commissioner no manufacturer of cloth having 25 or more powerlooms in his possession shall undertake or carry out any ancillary processes such as printing, dyeing, bleaching or calendering of any cloth not manufactured by him.

19. The Textile Commissioner may with a view to securing compliance with this order:

(a) require any person to give any information in his possession with respect to any business carried on by that or any other person;

(b) inspect or cause to be inspected any books or other documents belonging to or under the control of any person;

(c) enter and search, or authorise any person to enter and search, any premises and seize, or authorize any person to seize, any cloth or yarn in respect of which he has reason to believe that a contravention of this order has been committed.

20. (a) If any person with the intent that any provision of this Order may be evaded refuses to give any information lawfully demanded from him under clause 19, or conceals, destroys mutilates or defaces any book or other document, he shall be deemed to have contravened the provision of this Order.

21. A Textile Commissioner may, with the sanction of the Central Government and by general or special order in writing,

authorise any person to discharge on his behalf all or any of his functions under this Order.

22. A Court trying any contravention of this Order may, without prejudice to any other sentence which it may pass, direct that any cloth or yarn in respect of which it is satisfied that such contravention has occurred shall be forfeited to His Majesty.

23. No prosecution for the contravention of any of the provisions of this Order shall be instituted without the previous sanction of the Provincial Govt. or of such officer of the Provincial Govt. not below the rank of Dist. Magistrate as the Provincial Govt. may by general or special order in writing authorise in this behalf.

DHARMA VIRA, Dy. Secy.



206  
Seminary Hills,  
Nagpur,  
dated the 9th September 1946.

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*Revered Sadar Sahab,*

I have been desirous of seeing you after your assumption of office, but could not do so owing to the Assembly Session which is to be resumed on the 12th instant after a brief recess. Hence this letter.

The Ambedkarites are conducting the so called Satyagraha and so far we have dealt with it in our own way. Instead of sending them to prison, we have let them off with fine without imposition of any sentence in default. Now they have started publicly asking for imprisonment and perhaps the top ones will get it. A good deal of secret information in our possession goes to show that they had planned to murder Congressite Harijan members of the Assembly. Even the names of the would be assassins are known to us and we are trying to round them up under the provisions of the Goonda Act recently passed by the Assembly.



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What is dangerous for the peace of this city and other Marathi speaking towns is a junction between the Ambedkarite Mahars and Muslims which the leaders of both the communities are trying to effect. So far we have succeeded in keeping the two apart. Elaborate police arrangements have been made throughout the province. A little trouble has already taken place in Amraoti, but situation is under control. The All India Radio reported two cases of stabbing but the news was not quite correct. In my opinion if the press correspondents show their press messages to their District Magistrates before sending them out, it would be conducive to public peace. Government can impose such a restriction, but voluntary co-operation should be forth coming. If you agree with me, kindly speak to the heads of the A.P.I. and U.P.I.

Another suggestion I would like to make is about the organisation of national peace police which, I think, can be done under the existing laws. It should be on honorary basis and recruited from all sections of the population holding nationalist



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views. They should be made to take a pledge to sacrifice even ~~in~~ their lives in the maintenance of law and order and to be impartial in their behaviour towards all communities. They can be trained in the use of arms, which will be kept in Government custody, but issued to them on emergent occasions. If you approve, you can instruct and inspire all Congress Governments to take action accordingly.

As you are aware there are branches of the Central C.I.D. in all the provinces. So far we have looked upon them with suspicion and have been opposed to their existence. Some were of opinion that as soon as a National Government was formed at the centre these branches should be closed down. I personally feel that as all the provinces are not under Congress control, they should continue to exist to enable you to know

2621A  
what is happening in the non-Congress provinces.

Another question is regarding the abolition of Commissionerships. In all provinces the Commissioners are merely post offices between the Deputy Commrs. and the Provincial Governments. If the Central Government decides to help us, this reform can be effected at once and so much public money saved.

Now I wish to make a few suggestions to you regarding my own province. As you ~~xxx~~ very well know, the Tata Iron and Steel Works are the only one of its kind in the country. Recently the Iron and Steel Panel, presided over by Mr. Gidwala, has recommended opening of a similar works in the C.P. They have given preference to the C.P. over Bihar, and I trust our interests will not be sacrificed.

Another matter relates to Nagpur having a broadcasting station of its own. Repeated requests have been made but to no purpose. As the department is under you, we hope our needs will now receive attention. Besides its educative value, in times of



of stress, it can be <sup>of</sup> great help to us in  
maintaining peace in the province.

Hoping to be excused for inflicting this  
lengthy letter upon you,

Yours sincerely  
D. Mishra

P.S.

Pandit Shukla has gone to Lucknow  
on some private work and will  
be back on the 11th inst.

D. M.

270-2-  
... Camp: B. ...  
... Delhi ...  
... 11th Sept. 48  
- Personal ...  
My dear Mishraji,  
I have received your letter of the  
19th inst.

We must not depend upon the Military.  
If you think that National Peace Police under  
existing laws can be raised, you can do so  
- and if such Police can be raised on honorary  
basis, it would be all the better. It should  
be recruited from all nationalist elements,  
without caste or creed.

I do not think that it would be advisable  
to close down the small nucleus of  
Central C.I.D., which is functioning at  
present in the provinces. It is the only  
useful source of information in some of  
the truculent provinces.

The abolition of Commissionership  
is important but before taking up questions  
affecting the services, it may be advisable  
to wait till the general Hindu-Muslim ques-  
tion is settled one way or the other. Abolition  
of such posts is likely to further  
alienate the already unsympathetic civil  
service, and we may not give any irritant  
at present. It would be inadvisable to throw  
them into the lap of the Muslim League. Let  
us not raise more than one front at present.

Your suggestion about looking after  
your Province's interest in the matter of  
iron and steel works will be borne in mind.

I should like to know at what particular stage the matter stands. Do you think your Provincial Govt. would be able to take the responsibility of starting any such industry or is it proposed to give a licence to any private enterprise? Perhaps a scheme for taking up this question may be considered by the Central Govt. I have no idea as yet as to the actual state of things in this matter.

About the opening of Broadcasting Stations, perhaps I will be able to do something because it falls within my province. I will look into the matter. Hope you are doing well.

Yours sincerely,  
Hon. Pandit D.P. Mishra,  
Minister, C.P. Govt.,  
Bhopal.

Enclosed are two copies of the letterhead of the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, dated 10.12.47, regarding the opening of Broadcasting Stations. One copy of the letterhead is being sent to the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, and the other copy is being sent to the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, for their consideration.

Yours faithfully,  
D.P. Mishra

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Camp: Birla House,  
N. Delhi.  
30th Aug. 46

My dear Mishraji,

I have received your letter of the 27th inst. I have shown it to Gandhiji and he has also received a letter from Sir Shafaat Ahmed.

His was a Providential escape from the murderous assault which was cleverly organised and thank God, he has been making satisfactory progress. I understand that arrests have also been made in this connection.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pt. D. P. Mishra  
Minister of Development,  
Nagpur.



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Nagpur,

27th August 1946.

Revised Sardar Sahela,

Before I could answer your kind letter about the selection of Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan, I had to leave for Chhindwara and there I learnt of the brutal and cowardly assault on him. We are all relieved to learn that he is out of danger and is making satisfactory progress.

In the meanwhile, I had received a letter from him dated the 20th August from which I quote the following :-

" I am expecting that my book on the Indian problem in South Africa will soon be published. Nobody knows more about Mahatma Gandhi's work in South Africa than I do. Without his inspiration and sacrifice, the Indian community would have disintegrated.

" On my return from South Africa I expected to be appointed to the next vacancy in the Executive Council of the Government of India, but in the higher circles they thought that I had been too zealous for the Indian cause in South Africa and was regarded as anti-Smuts. In my despatches from South Africa to Government are ever published - and they are voluminous, and deal with my negotiations with Smuts for three years - then the Indian public will know what I tried to do for the Indian race. At present my lips are sealed, and though I have been under the cloud, wholly because of my excess of zeal, I do not mind, as the National Government, which is likely to be formed, will, when it studies my despatches and the work achieved there, will regard me, as the South African Indians regard me, as the saviour of the Indian race in South Africa. I have written to Mahatmajji about it, but I

X



972/A  
give you permission to show this part of the letter to Mahatmaji, if you think it proper."

It will thus be seen that he is anxious to be understood. As his student in the University of Allahabad, I always found him treating his Hindu and Muslim students alike. In those days the late lamented Dr. Beni Prasad had written a book on "JEHANGIR" to which Sir Shafaat had contributed the introduction. A perusal of it will show that even in those days he was an ardent believer in common Hindu-Muslim culture. I learn from him that his latest book just going to the press deals with development of Hindu and Muslim culture.

I am sure that with your usual tact and sympathy, you will completely win him over to the nationalist cause.

Yours Sincerely  
D. P. Mishra

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Camp: Birla House,  
New Delhi.  
29th Aug.46

PERSONAL.

My dear Shuklaji,

I have received your letter delivered to me by the two C.I.D. Officers who accompanied Gandhiji under your instructions. I have asked them to return to your province on their duty, as it is unnecessary for them to wait for the return journey of Gandhiji. His return may be delayed and perhaps he may not go to Wardha by the same route. However, if there is any need, arrangements can be made from here.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit R.S.Shukla,  
Premier of C.P.,  
NAGPUR.

X



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M. 29/8

Nagpur,

The 31th August 1946.

My dear Sirdar Sahib,

Mahatmaji is going to Delhi by Grand Trunk tomorrow. As a precautionary measure I have deputed two C.I.D. officers to go in the train by which he is travelling. They will go with him up to Delhi. I have instructed them to see you and get the information as to when Mahatmaji is returning. They will return with him.

Yours Sincerely,

*Rohankar*

5

X

275

Camp: Birla House,  
New Delhi,  
29th Aug. 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 24th inst. I do not know what complaints are to be investigated against Dr. Mehta and why has the A.I.C.C. Office referred the matter to the Nagpur P.C.C. Unless I see the letter written by the A.I.C.C. Office, I would not be in a position to give any advice. But I do not think it would be advisable to make any investigations in such matters on vague charges, after such a long time.

Yours sincerely,

Shri B.N.Saojee,  
Managing Director,  
The Indian Central News,  
Mahal, Nagpur City.

**The Indian Central News.**

Head office: Mahal, Nagpur City.

(Managing Director):-

**B. N. SAOJEE.**

Revered Sir,

My words fail short to express my feelings about your appointment on the National Government. I congratulate you for the same and wish your regime a success. Your powerful born leaders, I hope, will be successful in unfurling the National flag on the Red Fort.

I took your word as final and has at once stopped agitation about Menaka's case. The A.I.C.C. office has sent this case to N.P.C.C. for investigation. Hence may I know whether there should be investigation into the allegations made against Dr Mehata? On hearing from you I will decide whether the papers against Dr Mehata should be placed before the N.P.C.C. or not?

I assure you my best cooperation and expect your guidance at all times.

Thanking you;

21/6/43

JAT HIND

B.N. Sajee

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## INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

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Date.

Service Instructions.

Words.

O KK NAGPUR POST 22-21 SARDAR VALLABHAI PATEL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI :

THANKS YOUR TELEGRAM TRUST YOU MET MY GURUJI AND SATISFIED YOURSELF =

= MISHRA =

N.B. - The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, should be written after, but separated from the text.

C. &amp; M. G. Ltd., Lahore - E. 567-26-4-46-20,000 Bks.

218  
Personal.

Camp: Birla House,  
New Delhi.  
21st Aug. 46.

My dear Mishraji,

The suggestion that you made at Wardha about your one-time professor who had written to you two letters recently has been acted upon and I hope we will have no cause to repent in future. I had made contact with him through a friend at Simla, where he happens to be at present and he has given full assurance of loyalty and also to clear out whenever any such need arises. You know him more intimately and so we shall depend upon you to see that there is no misplaced confidence.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit D.P. Mishra,  
Minister, C.P. Govt.,  
Nagpur.

Express

HON DWARKAPRASAD MISHRA

NAGPUR

SUGGESTION YOU MADE AT WARDHA ABOUT YOUR GURU  
ACCEPTED STOP HOPE WILL GIVE NO CAUSE REPENTENCE

VALLABHBHAI

---

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Birla House. 21.8.46



280  
16th Aug. 46

My dear Ravi Shankar,

When I enquired of you at Wardha regarding a complaint in connection with the promotion of one Dr. Mehata, who as Superintendent of Betul Jail is alleged to have ill-treated political prisoners during the 1942 movement, you told me you had not received my letter on the subject. I am, therefore, sending herewith a copy of the letter in question along with relevant enclosures.

Yours sincerely,

Encls:

Hon. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Premier of C.P.,  
Nagpur.

4

5th Apr. 48

My dear Ravi Shankar,

I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter I have received from one Smt B. .Sarojée. I do not know who this gentleman is. I am also enclosing a copy of my reply to him.

Yours sincerely,

Encls: 2.

Hon. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Prime Minister of C.P.,  
Rampur.

2066  
5th Aug. 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 16th July only today owing to postal strike. I do not understand your statement in your letter that the Mahakhosai Ministers tried to lower down Dada Dharmadhikari's position in the election, because Dada Dharmadhikari had been here last week and he did not say anything or had any complaint to make in this behalf.

Your complaint is a promotion given to Dr. Mehta, who happens to be the brother of Minister Mehta. The allegation against him, which according to you, prevents his promotion, is that as Superintendent of Betul Jail, he has given mal-treatment to political prisoners.

I do not know anything about such allegations but I know that many jail officers in all provinces have in those days behaved rather strictly with political prisoners, some of whom expected that they being their countrymen should have behaved more leniently. Whether these old sores should be revived or forgotten is a very delicate matter, and much would depend upon the gravity of the alleged offence in individual cases.

If he is fit to be retained in service, it would be difficult or perhaps unfair to prevent his promotion, which may be due to him in normal course of service. I do not think that it would be wise for me to interfere in such individual cases or actions of Ministries in the provinces. We can lay down general policies from above but we cannot interfere in the day-to-day affairs of the Ministries. It would be contrary to democratic working of popular ministries, which would be generally influenced by public opinion.

Yours sincerely,

Sri B.N. Sahoo,  
Managing Director,  
The Indian Central News,  
Mahal, Nagpur City.

**The Indian Central News.**

Head offices: Mahal, Nagpur City.

(Managing Director):-

B. N. SAOJEE.

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Revered Sarwarji,

I am in receipt of your letter and very glad to let you know that Shri Dada Dharmadnikari and Shri H.V. Kamath have been selected on the Constituent Assembly. But ~~xxxx~~ before selecting them the trio of Mahakoshal Pandit Ministers tried to ~~xxxx~~ lower down Shri Dharmadnikari's position. I don't wish to open any thing on this subject at this stage ~~xx~~ but I certainly would like to suggest you to be very strict in C.P. affair. It is you and you alone who can check all illplannings of Pandit Ministers.

For instance one Dr Mehata brother of Minister Mehata has been promoted though serious allegations were made against him. It was alleged that Dr Mehata as a ~~xxxxxxx~~ superintendent of Betul Jail gave very mal treatment to political prisoners. Shri Anandrao Lokhande, president August Atrocity Inquiry Committee for Betul has written open letter to Congress Govt, in which he made a very shocking discription of the Betul Belson Camp. The local press and public demands immediate reversion of such officer, else there is every possibility that there may be Satyagraha movement on this point.

I hope you will ~~xxxx~~ personally look into this matter before it is too late.

Early reply is awaited.

JAI HIND

10/7/46

B.N. Saojee

Copy sent to Pt. Shukla.

5/8/46.

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Personal.

29th July 46

My dear Mishraji,

I have received your letter of the 11th or the 17th, but I have not ventured to send you a reply by post owing to the postal strike. I am taking a holiday for all practical purposes owing to the Post and Telegraph strike, except confining myself to local activities in the city and sending urgent messages through special messengers.

I have received numerous complaints about the formation of the new Working Committee by our new President and I fully appreciate the depth of feeling amongst comrades, who have worked with us for so many years and who are upset by the revolutionary change in the personnel. I am therefore not surprised at the unrestrained manner in which you have expressed yourself in your letter.

Though the President has been elected fourth time, he often acts with child-like innocence, which puts us all in great difficulties quite unexpectedly. You have good reasons to be angry but we must not allow our anger to get the better of ourselves. We are passing through a critical period and our life's work may either yield successful results or our hopes may all be dashed to pieces by sheer foolishness on our part and the cup which is full of nectar and which is very near our lips may drop down from our hands before we can taste even a drop of it. The situation is

full of perplexities and difficulties but on such occasion seasoned soldiers have to hold their feet firmly and tightly on the ground and brave the tumult and storm through which the country is passing.

You may perhaps be thinking that I must have been consulted. Many Congressmen also think so. But you will be surprised that when I was informed of the new personnel, I pressed for being relieved of the burden. I cannot write to you all in a letter, because it would be unwise, but I feel as much, that our cause has been injured at a critical juncture. I cannot afford to get out of it because it would be injuring our cause.

He has done many things recently which has caused us great embarrassment. His action in Kashmir, his interference in the Sikh election to the Constituent Assembly, his press conference immediately after the A.I.C.C. are all acts of emotional liberality and it puts tremendous strain on us to set matters right. But in spite of all his innocent indiscretions, he has unparalleled enthusiasm and a burning passion for freedom, which make him restless and drive him to a pitch of impatience, where he forgets himself. All his actions are governed by a supreme consideration of reaching the cherished goal with electric speed. His mind has been exhausted by over-work and strain. He feels lonely and he acts emotionally and we have to bear with him in the circumstances. Opposi-

255 -3-  
sometimes  
tion/ drives him mad, as he is impatient. His present action is also result of a burning desire to take the younger elements with him and although in doing so he has committed grave mistake, he will not hesitate to rectify it when he realises the grave injustice he has done to others and to the organisation.

You may, however, rest assured that so long as one of us is inside the group that governs the policy of the Congress, the straight and steady march of the ship will not be interrupted.

You are right when you say that the atmosphere is full of violence. You must be reading 'Harijan' wherein you will find that there can be no greater condemnation of the present-day hypocrisy, tomfoolery and mad race for power politics. You have seen that the Madras ministry is formed and functioning against Gandhiji's advice. Who could have thought of its possibility before 1942? And yet these people claim or profess to belong to the Gandhian school.

The mad race for going into the Constituent Assembly has caused him considerable pain and he has come out with his heart's agony in an article in which he compares these people's jail-going with that of thieves and robbers. These people are also Congressmen of the Gandhian school. The underground variety of Congressmen, who call themselves 'Augusters' think that they created the August revolution. Like a dog



285/10

walking under a fully loaded cart, they feel that the whole load is on their shoulders and they are dragging the whole cart. However, in a world full of violence and immorality resulting from the aftermath of the war, India cannot be isolated. But individuals who are conscious of their surroundings must stand firmly and resist all temptations, so as to keep the torch burning.

I have written to you at some length in order that you may derive consolation by getting some inkling of my own mind and also with a hope that this passing phase of our political life will not upset you so much as to deviate from our chosen path.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Mr. D.P. Mishra,  
Minister for Industries,  
Nagpur.



17 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>46</sub>

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Nagpur,

11th July, 1946.

*Revised Sander Sahab,*

I had gone to Bombay this time resolved to discuss with you a number of difficulties which face us as congressmen in this province. I have never believed in non-violence as a matter of religious faith but as a matter of policy, I have religiously followed it. To-day I see an atmosphere of violence all round. It is not even honest belief in violence. It is all power-politics and playing to the gallery. Congressmen, quite a large number of them, have become thoroughly irresponsible. Not to speak of Forward Blockists and Socialists, who frankly have ceased to believe in non-violence, even those who profess to believe in Gandhian philosophy of life, have so far forgotten themselves as to swim with the current for fear of losing the support of public which is being increasingly fed on tall talk. At the very hour of victory, all the basic principles of Gandhiji are being ridiculed. I had thought that the contemplated reorganisation of the congress would put an end to all this confusion but the announcement of his Working Committee by our new Rashtrapati has dashed all my hopes to the ground. What names! They are our new statesmen! They are supposed to have a clear grasp of our political affairs! They are supposed to possess self-control in dealing with men and matters! It seems to me to-day that we have been foolish in obeying you and remaining mute. We have been made to surrender without a fight. All of us are not job-hunters. We too have some political ideals and wish to see them realised. Our silence should not be mistaken for absence of active brains and warm hearts. Pandit Nehru wants new blood! In this ancient land for thousands of years public affairs have been in the hands of elderly men free from passions. It seems to me now that public life is becoming Mrs. Warren's profession, wherein the elder one must give place to the younger

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2861A

one merely because she has become older! In all democratic countries a team carries on until it forfeits the nation's confidence. Has this happened in the case of those who have been discarded? These rejected ones were the real authors of "Quit India" policy. These rejected ones covered themselves and the nation with glory by their statesmanlike negotiations with the Cabinet Mission. The reward of these tried men is their replacement by a lot of tall talkers at a time when utmost wisdom is the prime necessity.

The wickedness and follies of some men in our province was borne by us in silence in the hope that just and wise people were at the top to set matters right. All that is gone. In honest men loyalty takes root slowly and it cannot be uprooted suddenly. I feel as if all is lost but I must stop. In my letters to you I have always observed restraint. It has failed me to-day. Kindly excuse me.

Respectfully yours  
J. P. Mishra

287  
Personal.

27th July 46.

My dear Ravi Shankar,

The bearer, Shri Mayabhai Teli of Ahmedabad has purchased a huge quantity of Mahwa seeds from your province, as there were no restrictions. He has already paid the value of about Rs. 5 lakhs. But suddenly he is informed that he cannot export them now, as the C.P. Government have passed orders that no export can be made without a licence. This is no food-stuff and there is no reason for its stoppage. He is an old Congressman who has suffered for the cause of the country. Please look into his case and see that no unnecessary difficulties are placed in his way.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit R.S. Shukla,  
Premier of C.P.,  
Nagpur.

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List of names adopted for the  
Constituent Assembly from C.P.  
and Berar.

---

1. Rajkumari Amrita Kaur.
2. Pandit Ravi Shankar Shukla.
3. Thakur Chedilal.
4. Guru Agamdas.
5. B.A. Mandloi.
6. V.R. Kalappa.
7. Dr. Sir Hari Singh Gour (Mahakoshal).
8. Seth Govinddas.
- 9.
10. R.K. Sidwa.
11. H.J. Khandekar.
12. S.T. Pharmadhikari. ( C.P. ).
13. C.F. Gibbons.
14. Brijlal Biyani.
15. L.H. Bhatkar.
16. Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh. ( Berar. ).



Nagpur

22.7.46.

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My dear Bishan Sahai,

I understand that Shri

Bishanbhar Sahai Saxena of Mainpuri is dead. He was a Congress M.L.A. There is likely to be a bye-election in that constituency of U.P. Assembly. Pandit Shri Ratna Shukla M.A., LL.B., was a lawyer having tolerably good practice at Cawnpur. He joined politics at the sacrifice of his practice. He was a Congress M.L.A. in the last assembly. Though he did not court imprisonment he did render great help in the August movement of 1942. Every province has its politics and

28/9/18

Therefore Pandit Shri Ramesh Shukla  
could not be adopted as a Congress  
Candidate this time. Now there  
an opportunity has presented itself,  
I strongly recommend his name  
for the Mainpuri Seat in the U.P.  
Assembly. He, I am sure, will loyally  
serve the Congress Cause. You  
know how recommendations were  
made this time from U.P. Shri Ramesh  
Shukla is the son-in-law of a very  
prominent Congress worker of  
Cawnpur who was also a great  
friend of mine. Of course I am  
interested in this gentleman,  
but I do not wish to embarrass  
you in anyway. I am sure you  
will do your best to fix him in  
if possible. With kind regards  
I am yours very sincerely  
R. Shukla

ता. 3/4/22

श्री

गागूर

१००

माननीय सरदारसाहब,

आपकी ता. 20/12 की चिट्ठी मिली।

पत्र के बारे में जो शिकायत आपके पास आयी है, उसका  
जवाब मैं नगरी करता हूँ।

2 पिछला पत्र लिखने के बाद मेरी और

श्री दिवंगत जी दो दो दफे मुलाखत हुई। अब दिवंगत  
कुछ है। दामनजी के बारे में उनका कोई विशेष नहीं है। माने  
मंडल में आप आ सकते हैं लेकिन महाकाश्वर के नहीं।  
गागूर या बरार आये। आपको जो बात हुई सो बतावायी  
है। मेरा निजी मत जैसा आपको पहले पत्र में लिखा  
वैराही है।

3 दौरे पुअर मरेछी के लिये आपको



प्र० १८  
वसरसे श्री. रामराव देसाइका का नाम पुराने का  
में आर्य्य करता हूँ। आपका जो काम पुराने (१९३७)  
आपका मेरे नजर में आया है उसके आसरे पारिव्य  
और आबिदायन के बारे में मेरा बहुत अच्छा खयाल  
हुआ है। उनके बारे में आप और तो सब जानते ही हैं।

आपका विनीत

रा. कु. पाटील

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Note on the circumstances which led the C.P. & Berar Govt. to undertake procurement of pulses of various kinds.

Pulse is a foodgrain and movements of all foodgrains from surplus to deficit provinces are governed by the Basic Plan prepared by the Govt. of India. Under the Basic Plan, the Govt. of India allots quotas to surplus Provinces and they are expected to send foodgrains according to the quota to the deficit Provinces. Normally, this work should be done by the traders of the surplus and deficit Provinces. The ordinary trade practice is for a trader in a surplus Province to arrive at an understanding with a trader in a deficit Province regarding price, quality etc and export the foodgrains. In order, however, to check an unnecessarily high rise in prices of foodgrains, certain ceiling prices were adopted, and it was notified to the trade that no export permit would be countenanced above the fixed ceiling prices. Prices, however, started mounting up and it was represented by the Govts. of the deficit provinces that foodgrain, in this case, dal, was not available within the ceiling prices fixed. It was further represented by the Madras Govt. that over and above the market price, their traders had to pay unauthorised premia for procuring the foodgrains. This is a common complaint when any movement is left to the trade; in spite of price fixation, traders charge unauthorised premia and refuse to enter into a contract without such charge being paid. I enclose a copy of a letter from the G. of I. Dept. of Food, which will bear out this assertion. We are also experiencing similar difficulties in respect of such articles as we have to obtain through ordinary trade channels from the U.P. I enclose copies of two letters which I addressed to the Prime Minister of the U.P., which show how difficult it is for our traders and consequently for this Govt. to procure sugar and gur at controlled rates in the U.P. All these

difficulties can be resolved if Govt. take upon themselves the duty of procuring foodgrains at fixed prices. Nor is the trade handicapped in any way under this procedure. It is free to procure the articles which Govt. subsequently purchases, from the cultivators in the usual manner. What it loses is the unauthorised charge which it levies for the privilege of possessing an article which is in considerable demand in the deficit Provinces. If the price at which Govt. purchases from the traders is a fair price and allows for the incidental charges, which the trader incurs over and above the price he actually pays to the cultivator, then there should really be no complaint on the ground that Govt. is procuring commodities which ordinarily are dealt with by the trade itself.

It will be seen that in none of the telegrams received by you is there a complaint that the prices fixed by Govt. are low, and, therefore, the procedure adopted by the C.P. & Berar Govt. is not likely to cause any hardship to the traders.

There is no likelihood of any pulse mills or other dal business being interfered with. Govt. is procuring dal with the traders after it has been manufactured through the mills and there is no likelihood of the mills or labourers being out of work.

रा. व. पाटील  
3/5/22

No. BP-289(23). 2013  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD.

---  
New Delhi, the 24th April, 1946.

My dear Kamath,

We have received a complaint from the Madras Govt., that their merchants are not in a position to obtain supplies of black gram from C.P. against their allotments without paying unauthorised premia to the C.P. merchants. I take it that C.P. will begin official procurement of pulses now and that the difficulties reported by Madras will disappear gradually under the new system of procurement. We shall, however, be grateful if you will be good enough to take necessary steps so as to ensure that meanwhile the Madras Government obtain their quotas from the C.P. at reasonable prices.

I enclose a copy of my letter to R.F.C., Madras on the subject.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- N.N.Wanehee

H.S.Kamath, Esquire, I.C.S.,  
Secretary,  
Food Department,  
C.P., Nagpur.

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No. BF-289 (23).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD.

-8-

New Delhi, the 24th April, 1946.

My dear

Please refer to Narasimhan's D.O. letter No. Food D. - 351/46-B, dated the 6th April, 1946 (copy attached), regarding the supply of pulses and blackgram from G.P. to Madras at controlled prices. The question of the control of prices of pulses came up for consideration at the Conference which was held here on the 17th of this month. As you know, the Food Department had prepared a schedule of prices of different varieties of pulses based on existing ceilings wherever there are such ceilings and on the basis of prices ruling in January to be fixed as ceilings for those areas where no ceiling rates are fixed at present. This schedule of prices came under criticism both from the surplus as well as from the deficit areas. The Madras Government, for example complained, that the effect of fixing January prices as ceiling prices in Madras would be that their statutory ceilings would in fact be lower than the ceilings current in Hyderabad which is the main supplying area for them. Hyderabad on the other hand complained that the present ceilings were below the current market prices, so that procurement was not possible at these ceilings now. In view of these difficulties it was decided that the surplus and deficit areas should examine the schedule of prices circulated at the Conference and report their views to the Government of India during the course of the next eight to ten days.

With regard to the prices of black gram in G.P. I understood from Kamath that they had undertaken a gradual reduction of their present market prices to the level of the statutory ceilings. As gram and pulses are to be procured officially, I suggest that till the G.P. bring down the price to the statutory ceiling, Madras take the pulses from them at such prices as they can procure them. I am, however,

GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED PROVINCES AND BHERAR,  
FOOD DEPARTMENT.

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Dated Nagpur the 24th June 1946.

My dear Panditji,

I have already written to you, vide my d.o. letter no. PAQ dated the 8th June 1946 regarding our difficulties in obtaining gur at the statutory rates prescribed in the United Provinces. The same difficulty in a more aggravated form, has now arisen over khandasari sugar. Our Deputy Commissioners report that the following prices were current for the first five qualities of Khandasari sugar in Bareilly :-

No. 1	22/3/3 Per maund.
No. 2	22/10/6 "
No. 3	21/14/- "
No. 4	20/13/- "
No. 5	18/6/6 "

The statutory ceiling price of best quality khandasari sugar is fixed at Rs. 18/8/0 per maund in the United Provinces.

2. When this commodity is not available at the controlled rate in the United Provinces, it obviously becomes impossible to exercise any effective control over prices at this end. The natural consequence is that blackmarketing and profiteering, which the Congress is pledged to put down, flourish, and no measures that can be taken by our Government prove effective. I would be most grateful if you could give your personal attention to this matter and see that the United Provinces officers assist our nominees in obtaining their quotas strictly at controlled prices.

Yours sincerely,

R.K. Patil.

(Food Minister)

The Hon'ble Pandit G.B. Pandit ~~Minister~~, B.A. LL.B.,  
Prime Minister and Minister of Civil Supplies,  
United Provinces, Lucknow.

No.  
D.O./PAQ.

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Government of the Central Provinces & Berar,  
Food Department.

Dated Nagpur/Pachmarhi the  
8th June 1946.

My dear Panditji,

I am writing to you personally regarding the supplies of gur for this Province because the matter is extremely urgent in view of the fact that the monsoon will commence very shortly, and movements will become difficult. Last year merchants in the United Provinces were permitted to export gur to any district in this province up to the limit of the provincial quota. This led to local shortages in certain districts, as a result of the absence of any correlation between supply and demand, and made it impossible for our Deputy Commissioners to exercise effective control over stocks and, therefore, over prices and distribution. The Provincial Government accordingly urged upon the Gur Controller for India (then Mr. V. Sahai) the desirability of (a) returning to the nominee system and (b) of issuing export permits according to district quotas fixed by this Government during his visit to Nagpur in January 1946. The question was further discussed at the Gur Conference held in Delhi on 23.2.46 and finally the Gur Controller agreed to our proposals, in a letter dated the 2nd April 1946. The U.P. Government introduced statutory price control vide their notification no. A-2900/XKIX-A-1210-46, dated the 9th March 1946 and the nominee quota system vide their telegram dated the 12th April 1946. Immediate action was taken by us to move our quotas under the new procedure, and between the 12th and 30th April 1946 actually 2,115 tons of gur were imported from which it is clear that there was no undue delay in import. We have now received a telegram from the Gur

Controller .....

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Controller for India informing us that the U.P. Government have decided to return to the old system because of delays in movement. We have already written to the Gur Controller protesting against any return to the old system and a copy of that letter is enclosed for your information.

2. Gur is the poor man's food and if the system proposed by the U.P. Government is adopted, we will not be able to control either its distribution or its price in this Province. I should be grateful if you could see your way to continue the present nominee system which gives us adequate control over stocks, distribution and prices, and considerably mitigates the avoidable hardship to the poor.

3. We have also received complaints from our merchants that the gur available at controlled prices in the U.P. is damp and losses in transit are consequently very heavy. If they ask for better stocks, a premium of Rs. 2 to 3 per maund is charged, illegally. We should be grateful if this could also be looked into.

Yours sincerely,

Sd. R.K. Patil

Encl: One.

The Hon'ble Pandit G. B. Pant, B.A., LL.B.,  
Prime Minister and Minister in Charge of Civil Supplies,  
Lucknow.

Copy of letter no. 11936/1032-XV-F2, dated 29.5.46  
from the Deputy Secretary to Government, C.P. & Berar,  
Food Department to the Gur Controller for India, Simla.

I am directed to refer to your telegram no. 2-G(1)/  
46/5011, dated 14.5.46 on the subject of system of supply  
of gur for the year 1945-46 and to say that the system  
of supply of gur to the C.P. and Berar till recently was  
that the merchants in the U.P. were permitted to export  
gur to any district they chose in this Province upto



upto the limit of the provincial quota. This led to local shortage in certain districts, as a result of the absence of any correlation between supply and demand. Further, the system made it impossible for our Dy. Comms. to exercise effective control over stocks and therefore over prices and distribution.

This Government accordingly urged upon the Gur Controller for India (Mr. V. Sahas) the desirability of (a) returning to the nominee system and (b) of issuing export permits according to district quotas fixed by us, during his visit to Nagpur in Jan'y 1946. The question was further discussed at the Gur Conference held in Delhi on 23.2.46 and finally the Gur Controller agreed to our proposals, in his letter no. 2-(1)/46, dated 2.4.46. The U.P. Government introduced statutory price control vide their notification no. A-2900/XIX-A-1210-46, dated 9.3.46 and the nominee quota system vide their telegram no. TA-407 dated 12.4.46 and immediate action was taken by us to inform Dy. Comms. of the new procedure. Since then, 2,115 tons have been imported up to the 30th April 1946 from which it is clear that there has been no undue delay in importing stocks. A return to the old system mentioned in your telegram under reference will again lead to the chaotic state of affairs that prevailed formerly and while rendering price control impossible, will bring about frequent local shortages. This Govt., therefore, desires to protest strongly against the course proposed.

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O PA PUSAD 27 190 SARDAR BALLABHBHAI PATEL PRESIDENT C. BOARD NO

IT IS RELIABLY LEARNED THAT THE CP AND BERAR GOVT ITSELF IS GOING TO PROCURE AND DEAL IN TOOR MUNG URID AND THEN PULSES FROM FIRST JULY 1946 STOP IT HAS SHOCKED THE DEALERS IN BERAR SERIOUSLY BECAUSE GOVT PROCURED ALMOST ALL GRAIN BUSINESSES AND BUSINESS OF PULSES IS ONLY ~~100~~ LEFT FOR THE MERCHANTS OF BERAR STOP IN MOST OF THE CORNERS OF INDIA THE RATES OF TOOR AND TOOROLL ARE EXORBITANTLY HIGH AND COMPARING TO IT THE RATES PREVAILING IN BERAR ARE NOT MUCH ~~100~~ INCREASED AND WE ARE AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND AS TO WHY SUCH INJUSTICE IS ~~100~~ BEING DONE TO US IF THIS SCHEME EXISTS IT ~~100~~ IS LIKELY THAT RETAILERS WHOLESALERS PULSEMILLS THOUSANDS OF HAND MANUFACTURING LABOURERS MERCANTILE CLERKS AND LABOURERS WILL BE UNEMPLOYED STOP CONSIDERING THE ABOVE FACTS THE PRESENT SCHEME BE CANCELLED STOP IF NOT IT BE POSTPONED AND INQUIRY COMMITTEE BE APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE ~~100~~ UBTI TGE NATTER STIO ~~100~~ SE UT WUKK DRAG YS UD GRAVE DISASTER .....

ALLARKHA JUSAF PRESIDENT GRAIN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION  
100N PUSAD .....

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U RB MURTAZAPUR 27 198 SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL PRESIDENT CONGRESS

CONGRESS PARLIAMENTARY BOARD NEW DELHI

IT IS RELIABLY LEARNT THAT THE C P MND BERAR GOVT ITSELF IS GOING TO PROCURE AND DEAL IN TOOR MUNG URID AND THEIR PULSES FROM FIRST JULY 1946 STOP IT HAS SHOOKED THE DEALERS IN BERAR SERIOUSLY BECAUSE GOVT PROCURED ALMOST ALL GRAIN BUSINESS AND BUSINESS OF PULSES IS ONLY LEFT FOR THE MERCHANTS OF BERAR STOP IN MOST OF THE CORNERS OF INDIA THE RATES OF TOOR AND TOORDALL ARE EXORBITANTLY HIGH AND 10000X COMPARING TO IT THE RATES PREVAILING IN BERAR ARE NOT MUCH INCREASED STOP AND WE ARE AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND AS TO WHY SUCH INJUSTICE IS BEING DON TO US IF THIS SCHEME EXISTS IT IS LIKELY THAT RETAILERS WHOEE SELLERS PULSES MILLS THOUSAND OF HAND MANUFACTURING LABOURERS MERCHANTILE CLERKS AND LABOURERS WILL BE UNEMPLIYED STOP CONSIDERING THE ABOVE FACTS THE PRESENT SCHEME THE CANCELLED STOP IT IF NOT IF BE POSTPONED AND ENQUREY COMMITTEE BE APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO THE MATTER STOP ELSE IT WILL OPAG US IN GRAVE DISASTER.....

NANSILAL SIKCHI PRESIDENT

300/242

Q OF WARORA 27 110 SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL PRESIDENT CONGRESS

PARLIAMENTARY BOARD DELHI



RELIABLY LEARNS THAT C P AND BERAR GOVT IS GOING TO PROCURE AND  
DEAL IN TOOR MUNG URIND AND THEIR ALL PULSES FROM FIRST JULY 1946  
STOP IT SHOOKED WARORA DEALERS SERIOUSLY BECAUSE GOVT PROCURED ALMOST  
ALL GRAIN BUSINESS AND PULSE BUSINESS IS ONLY LEFT FOR WARORA  
MERCHANTS STOP --50-- THIS SCHEME EXISTS IT IS LIKELY THAT RETAILERS  
WHOLESALE PULSE MILLS THOUSANDS OF HANDS MANUFACTURING LABOURERS  
MERCHANT LE CLERKS AND LABOURERS WILL BE UNEMPLOYED STOP CONSIDERING  
THE ABOVE FACTS THE PRESENT SCHEME BE CANCELLED IF NOT BE POSTPONED.....  
~~XXXXXXXX~~ PRESIDENT MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

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Q. QB DHAMANGAON R S 25 (JADDS) 186

VALLABHABHAI PATEL DELHI

...SIR BEING GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND FROM BELIEVABLE SOURCE THAT  
C P GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO PURCHASE TOOR MUNG URID AND TOORDALL  
MUNGDAL URIDDALL FROM THE 1 ST JULY 1946 ALL THE MERCHANTS  
IN BERAR ARE VERY MUCH SURPRISED TO HEAR SUCH A TERRIBLE  
NEWS THIS WAS THE ONLY BUSINESS IN WHICH THE MERCHANTS OF  
BERAR CAN DEAL AFTER ALL OTHER BUSINESS WERE CARRIED BY  
GOVERNMENT IN EVERY CORNER OF INDIA THE RATES OF TOORDAL HAD GONE  
VERY HIGH INSPITE OF THIS SITUATION MERCHANTS IN IN BERAR HAVE IN  
NO WAY INCREASE THEIR RATES STILL C.P GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO DO  
THIS INJUSTICE UPON THEM IF THIS SYSTEM IS CARRIED ON TOO MANY  
MERCHANTS DEALING IN THIS BUSINESS AND OTHER SERVANTS LIKE CLERKS  
AND WORKERS EMPLOYED IN PULSE MILLS WILL REMAIN UNEMPLOYED  
GOVERNMENT WILL KINDLY CONSIDER OUR SITUATION AND WILL TRY TO  
ABOLISH THIS SCHEME OR WILL POSTPONE IT UP TO THE TIME....  
WHEN A COMMITTEE CAN BE SET UP TO ENQUIRE IN THIS MATTER  
OTHERWISE THE MERCHANTS FEAR ABOUT THE TERRIBLE RESULTS.

....MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION...LN 271

*15/5*

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# THE MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

(Estd. 1934)

WARDHA

THE WARDHA BULLION EXCHANGE,  
THE GRAIN & SEEDS ASSOCIATION,  
WARDHA

Wardha

3/7/46

C. P.

Pho: 43

The

President-Parliamentary Board  
Vallabhai Patel Esq.  
68 merin drive  
Bombay

मान्यवर महोदय,

दाख प्रोक्क्युमामेन्ट के बिषय  
मे हमारे अको सीपडान की मीटींग मे प्रस्ताव  
पास हुए उसकी कॉपी आपने मेवाते  
योग्य कारवाई के दिगु कोजरे हे।  
आशा हे, आप डिफर ही उच्चत आरक्षण  
करोगे।

बजरंगदास भटुदास

जल्द से जल्द दि. ग्रेन  
अॅण्ड सिड्स अको सीपडान  
बजरंग

बाज ता. १-७-४५ को ग्रेन बैंड सीड्स मार्ट्स असोसियेशन के तरफ से नोटिस फ़िराकर व्यापारीबोके मिटिंग ठीक १ बजे सेठ गोपीबंध जीके धर्मशाला के बड़े हॉलमें भरी.

बाजके सभाके प्रेसिडेंट सेठ गणेशनारायणजी गोयाजीके सभापतीत्वमें सभा की कारवाई शुरू हुई, और उसमें गवर्नमेंट के चाल चोरे के प्रोक्जुरके बारेमें काफी चर्चा हुई. सभापती के ओरसे निम्न कुछ प्रस्ताव पेश किये गये सर्व संमतीसे मंजूर हुये.

प्रस्ताव नं. १. सी. पी. न्हा गवर्नमेंट ने चाल प्रोक्जुरमेंट १ जुलै से चालू किया है. इस बातका यथाके समस्त अनाज के व्यापारी निम्ने लिखे पॉइंट पर धोर विरोध करती है.

प्रमाण (१) अपना यह दाँत साब करवार्ता जिसका चाल के लिये सरप्लस है और प्रोक्जुरमेंट होजायैस चालनी डेमिंग में बड़ी जायेगी जिसका असर यह होगा कीनरीब जनताको, उतने प्रमाणमें गहू जवारी चावल आदी जठरी साब पदार्थ कम प्रमाणमें मिलेंगे जिससे पब्लिक को और भी अंजानमें अनाजकी कटौता हो जायेगी.

(२). व्यापारीबोके पास सिर्फ चाल का ही पैसा नया या वह भी गवर्नमेंट बिना कबल के इस कवर लीन रही है जिससे की हजारों व्यापारी दलाल मजदूर बेकार होजायैस. जिन व्यापारीबोने और व्यापारी ब्रस्थायोने सरकार को और कंत्रित व पब्लिक के हरेक रीलीक कार्यको लांलो रुपबोकी मदद दी है उनकीको सतम कर देनेकी यह निती निवनीय है इसके लिये यार्ता का व्यापारी समाज इस प्रोक्जुर स्कीम का धोर विरोध करती है.

(३) प्रोक्जुरमेंट होनेसे इम्पोर्टिंग प्रांतको रु सस्ते भावसे अनाज मिलेगा इस भावनापर बधि गवर्नमेंट ने यह स्कीम बनाई हो तो यह गलत है कारण बिना प्रोक्जुरमेंट के बजारमें माल छोटे छोटे व्यापारी प्रांतों रकम की अठबणीके कारण सस्ते भावमें खरीद कर पर प्रांतमें जाता था उसके बनिस्वत अब उसपर सर्व गवर्नमेंट गोवाम भाड़ा प्रोक्जुरमेंट इन्स्पेक्टर पूछ आफीसर चोरेका चर्चा पडकर जायेगा <sup>प्रमाण</sup> मिल जायेगा जिससे न दो एम्पोर्टिंग प्रांतके व्यापारीबोको काबवा होगा. इसकी गरीब जनता इस प्रोक्जुरमेंट के नाम पर बिना कबल के निपसा जायेगी.

(४) प्रोक्जुरमेंट स्कीम से किसानोको किसी प्रकारक काबवा न होते हुये नुकसान ही होयेगा जिसका की अनुप जवार गहू चावल आदि के प्रोक्जुरमेंट में आया है. व इससे किसानों की बिल्हा जारी है. किसानोको गवर्नमेंट गोवामें माल लाकर बेचनेमें व अनुपवी प्रोक्जुरमेंट इन्स्पेक्टर द्वारा मनमानी भाव जिस आदी बातों को नुकसान पोहोचैगा इस दुःस्ते अनाज का बोना किसान छोड़ कपती करके कपास और तैंगवायेकी बोनेके तरफ झुक जायेगे ऐसी संभावना होती है. अतः इस पुच्छीसे भी इस स्कीमका व्यापारी समाज धोर विरोध करती है.

(4) गवर्नमेंट ने प्रथम पेंडरवाडेमें लिये 12/12/- का भाव बांधा है फिरभी लोकल अधिकारी यहाँ 13 रुपया बांधा का भाव सरेदीका फिक्स किया है, तो यह तरीका बर्बोर है, कारण बेपारी बोकों माल की तुल गोदाम भाड़ा बारदाना स्तर ज्यादा हमाली सुतली गाडीभाड़ा पलाली स्टाफ सर्व वीर करीब बाठ बांधे मज लगमग लग चुका है वह भी बेपारीबोकों मुखरा मिलना चाहिये लेकिन उसपर भी गवर्नमेंट में विचार किया नहीं है अतः इसभाव फिक्सिंग पद्धतीका घोर विरोध करती है.

(4) 12/12/- का भाव लिमिट सिर्फ 14 दिनका रहा तो यह मुदत बहुत कमती है, वर्षा में सरासरी 20-25 हजार पोती का स्टाक है और वर्षा तहखील के लिये प्रोक्जुअरमेंटप्लैट निवृत्त हुये है, अतः तीनों काटोपर रोजके 200पोतेके हिसाबसे कुल 6 सौ, पोते रोज तोल सकेंगे इस हिसाबसे पेंडरवाडेमें कुल 2000 पोते ही तुलै पुरामाल तुलनेकेलिये 2माहका समय चाहिये अतः 12/12/- भावका लक्ष्य बाज जितना माल स्टाक है उन समोको मिलना चाहिये इसलिये टाईम लिमिट 14 दिनकी हटाकर 2 महिना करना चाहिये व सरकारी गोदामपर न जुला कर बेपारीबोकों गोदाम परही तुलवाया जाये कारण सरकारने रेट एक्स गैज फिक्स किया है इसका मतलब है एक्सप्रेस गोडाउन होता है न की सरकारी गोदाम फिर इस बरसातके मौसममें सरकारी गोदाममें माल ले जानेसे मालकी खराबी होगी अतः बेचवालके गोदामपरही तुलवाया जाये.

(5) प्रोक्जुअरमेंटमें सरकार नया बारदाना लगाती है बेपारीबोकों के पास जो जुना बारदाना 25000 पोता खाली होगा उसका लेवाल बाजारमें कोही नहीं मिलेगा कारण व्यापारहि सब तरह सरकार ही में हीन रही है तो खाली पोते कौन लेवेगा अतः उसकी लागत करीब 15000 रुपया बेपारीबोकों में पड़ती है सबब सरकारसे यह प्रार्थना है की एक बरतीका बारदाना सरकार योग्य मात्राके तरीक करलेवे.

प्रस्ताव नं. 2:- डेपुटेसन मानजिव फुड मिनिस्टर के तरफ जानेवाला है उसके लिये चार प्रतिनिधीबोकों जुना जाये.

- (1) सेठ तुलसीदास लिलाधरजी
- (2) सेठ गणेशनारायणजी जोगाजी
- (3) श्रीकृत कालुरामजी बाबोरिया
- (4) " बरगलाल अंतुलालजी

उपरोक्त चार सज्जनोंके नाम जुने गये

प्रस्ताव नं. 3:- सर्व समीतिसे यह सब हुवाकी फुड मिनिस्टरकी जिम्मे मुंख तार देकर वयकि व्यापारीबोकोंविरोध जाहिर किया जाये

The Honourable Food Minister C.P. and Berar  
The Warcha Grain and Seeds Association strongly protest  
Government pulses procurement scheme. Deputation ---  
reaching to-morrow request postponement of procurement  
till decision.

Secretary.



3-6

उपरोक्त प्रत्येक प्रस्ताव सर्व समितीसे प्राप्त हुंवा और जाईट सेक्रेटरी श्री. वज्रगुहालजीको सर्व अधिकार मागेकी कार्रवाई करनेके लिये दिया गया.

उपरकेत प्रत्येक प्रस्तावीका निर्णय हुने तक प्रोफेसुनारमैट स्क्रीम तहकूब की जाये ऐसी आजकी सभाकी सर्व समितीसे राय है.

गणेशनारायण जोगाजी

अध्यक्ष

3-6-86

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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ਪਾਸ ਮੁੱਖ ਮਰਦਾਨੀ।

(ਨਾਮ 3 ਲਾਗੂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ) ਜਿਸ ਤੋਂ ਆਪ  
ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜਾਨ (ਫ) ਤੋਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਦਿਲਚਸਪ  
ਮਿਲੇ ਪੇ ਆਪ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਪਾ ਰੁਕਾਵੇ ਦੇਖੇ ਪੇ। ਵੱਡੀ  
ਦੇਖਦੇ-ਦੇਖੀ ਨਾਮ ਮਿਲਦੇ-ਦੇਖੀ ਸਿਰਫ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ  
ਅੰਕਾਂ (17) ਜਾਨ (ਫ) ਤੋਂ ਨੇ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਲਾਗੂ (ਸਾਹਿਬ  
(ਇੰਡੀਆ ਸਾਹਿਬ) ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨ (ਫ) ਅੰਕਾਂ (17) ਜਾਨ  
ਫ)।

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਦੇ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ 17 ਸਾਹਿਬ ਆਪ  
ਸਪੁਰਦ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨ ਮਿਲੇ (ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ) 17 ਸਾਹਿਬ ਮਿਲਦੇ-  
ਦੇਖੀ ਸਮਾਨ (Commitment Assembly) ਤੋਂ ਆਪ ਪੰਜਾਬ  
ਫ) ਜਾਨ ਸਾਹਿਬ (ਫ)। ਵੱਡੀ ਉਪਰਾਲੇ ਦੇ ਸਮਾਨ (ਫ)।  
ਵੱਡੀ-ਦੇਖੀ ਸਾਹਿਬ 17 ਸਾਹਿਬ 17 ਸਾਹਿਬ ਨੇ ਨੇ ਰੁਕਾਵੇ ਨਾਮ  
ਫ) ਮਿਲੇ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਜਾਨ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਸਮਾਨ (ਫ)।

ਵੱਡੀ ਮਿਲੇ ਇਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਦੇ ਲਾਗੂ ਸਮਾਨ ਦੇ ਸਾਹਿਬ  
ਅੰਕਾਂ (ਫ)।

ਸਾਹਿਬ ਮਿਲੇ-  
ਦੇਖੀ ਸਮਾਨ (ਫ)।

Dring C.P.

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3rd July 46.

My dear Patil,

Further to my letter of the 28th ult.,  
I am enclosing herewith some more telegrams  
received by me in connection with the proposed  
procurement scheme of pulses, etc.

Yours sincerely,

Encls: 3.

Hon. Mr. R.K. Patil,  
Minister, G.P. Govt.,  
Nagpur.

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COPY.

RELIABLY KNOWN PROCUREMENTS PULSES BY GOVERNMENT  
STOP DEATHKNELL MERCHANTS ALL OVER CENTRAL  
PROVINCES BERAR STOP GOVERNMENT PROCURED ALL  
GRAINS STOP PULSES ONLY LEFT FOR MERCHANTS  
STOP EXHORBITANT RATES ALL OVER INDIA BUT CENTRAL  
PROVINCES BERRAR STOP THOUSANDS PEOPLE WILL BE  
THROWN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT STOP MUCH CHAOS WILL  
OCCUR STOP SOLICITING POSTPONMENT ORDER STOP  
PRAYING APPOINTING ENQUIRY COMMITTEE STOP DRAGGING  
IN GRAVE DISASTER STOP CONGRESS GOVT SHOULD GUARD  
LEGITIMATE CLAIMS OF MERCHANTS STOP MERCHANTS READY  
WILLING ABIDE CONGRESS

from:  
Secretary, Grain Merchants Asscn., Darwaha, 28/6/46.  
N.S.Dhanekar, Grain Merchants Asscn, Shegoan, 28/6/46.  
Traders Association, WUN. 28.6.46

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Camp: New Delhi

28th June 46

My dear Patil,

I have received a number of telegrams from Berar regarding procurement and deal by govt. in various kinds of pulses from 1st July 1946. You are in charge of the portfolio of Food and Supply. I do not understand these complaints and therefore I am referring them to you. Perhaps there may be no substance in these complaints. But I am bringing them to your notice, so that you may be able to deal with them properly.

I have written to Shuklaji to accommodate Shri Kamath in the selection of candidates for the constituent assembly. It may be a difficult thing, as the number from your province is comparatively small. There are only 16 seats and instructions have been issued by the Working Committee to provide for proper representation of small minorities such as Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis, Women, Labour, etc., besides adequate representation for the Scheduled Castes in proportion to their strength in the Assembly. This will leave very little margin but I trust they will be able to make room for him.

I had a letter from Shri M.S. Aney suggesting to me that he would be prepared to re-

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sign his job and serve in the Constituent Assembly, if he is elected. But I doubt very much whether his nomination would be acceptable to the Congress Assembly members in Berar. I have, however, brought this fact to the notice of Biyaniji.

I had your Hindi letter and I will see if anything could be done by me about the matter. I find it difficult to spare time to write letters myself and so I am dictating in English.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Mr. R.K. Patil,  
Minister,  
Civil Secretariat,  
Nagpur

*in Personal file*

Encls;

Sardar Patel, New Delhi.

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BEING GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND from believable source that cp government is going to purchase toor mung urid and toordall mungdal uriddal from the 1st july 1946 all the merchants in berar are very much surprised to hear such a terrible news this was the only business in which the merchants of berar can deal after all other business were carried by govt. in every corner of india the rates of toordal had gone very high inspite of this situation merchants in berar have in no way increased their rates still cp government is strying to do this injustice upon them if this system is carried on too many merchants dealing in this business and other servants like clerks and workers employed in pulse mills will remain unemployed. government will kindly consider our situation and will try to abolish this scheme or will postpone it upto the time when a committee can be set up to enquire in this matter otherwise the merchants fear about the terrible results.

Dated 26 - Merchants Association, Dhamangoan,

Dated 27th- Allardha Jusaf, President, Grain Merchants Association, Pusad.

do - President, Merchants Asscn., Warora.

do - Nansilel Sichi, ~~xxxxxx~~ Murtazapur.

313 538  
OF KHANGAON 27 25 SARDAR Vallabha Patel  
President P R Delhi

IT IS RELIABLY LEARNT THAT THE C P AND BERAR GOVT ITSELF IS GOING TO  
PROCURE AND DEAL INTOOR MUNG URID AND THEIR PULSES FROM FIRST JULY 1946  
STOP IT HAS BOOKED THE DEALERS IN BERAR SERIOUSLY BECAUSE GOVT PROCURED  
ALMOST ALL GRAIN BUSINESS AND BUSINESS OF PULSES IS ONLY LEFT FOR THE  
MERCHANTS OF BERAR STOP IN MOST OF THE CORNERS OF INDIA THE RATES  
OF TOOR AND TOORAL EXHORBITANTLY HIGH AND COMPARING TO IT THE RATES PREVAI-  
LING IN BERAR ARE NOT MUCH INCREASED STOP AND WE AT A LOSS TO UNDERSTAND  
AS TO WHY SUCH INJUSTICE IS BEING DONE TO US IF THIS SCHEME EXISTS IT IS  
LIKELY THE RETAILERS WHOLESALERS PULSE MILLS THOUSAND OF HAND-MANUFACTURING  
LABOURERS MERCHANTILE CLERKS AND LABOURERS WILL UNEMPLOYED STOP CONSI-  
DERING THE ABOVE FACTS THE PRESENT SCHEME BE CANCELLED STOP IF NOT IF  
BE POSTPONED AND ENQUIRY COMMITTEE BE APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO THE MATTER  
STOP ELSE IT WILL DRAG US IN GRAVE DISASTER-

- GRAIN MERCHANTS KHANGAON - LN71 -



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and come back to be elected  
I am returning to Bombay via Ahmed  
the of this month to two  
Camp, New Delhi.  
27th June 46.  
I am enclosing as I am enclosed in  
which there is some material of  
referred to in the letter.  
look into the matter.

My dear Ravi Shankar,

You must have received instructions about the Constituent Assembly elections from the General Secretary of the A.I.C.C., who has been asked to do so by the Working Committee. You have to take a Parsi from your province and in this connection I would suggest the acceptance of that Parsi lawyer, Rustumji - who came to me in connection with Averi's fast. If there is any other more competent or influential man from that community, you may inform me about it.

Shri Kamath has returned there, and it would be better to elect him from your province. For a woman whom you have got to provide, Rajkumari Amrit Kaur may be taken, in which case you may not have to provide separately for a Christian seat. The Scheduled Castes representation should be in proportion to their number and if you have any men who could be useful otherwise in the Constituent Assembly, it is not necessary that you should confine your choice within the Assembly or the Congress.

Shri Aney has written to me from Ceylon that he would like to serve in the Constituent Assembly and is prepared to resign his job

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and come back if he is elected.

I am returning to Bombay via Bhopal  
by the end of this month.

I am enclosing herewith a Hindi letter  
in which there is some complaint about non-  
release of certain political prisoners. You may  
look into the matter.

My dear Bhai Shankar,

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Pandit Bhai Shankar Shukla  
Prime Minister, Central Provinces,  
Bhopal.

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar returned there. And it  
would be better to elect him from your pro-  
vince. For a woman whom you have not to pro-  
vide, Nehruji's name may be taken in  
which case you may not have to provide anything  
for a Christian seat. The Hindu seat  
for representation should be in proportion to  
their number and if you have any who  
could be useful otherwise in the Government  
Assembly, it is not necessary that you should  
continue your choice within the Assembly or the  
Congress.

Shri Ambedkar has written to me from Calcutta  
that he would like to serve in the Government  
Assembly and is prepared to resign his job

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6th June 48

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 31st May. I do not know anything about your local papers writing anything regarding the formation of ministry and we attach no importance to speculations about ministry-making in provinces. No injustice has been done to you in any manner to my knowledge and therefore you have no reason to complain. The selection of ministers primarily rests with the Prime Minister, as in joint responsibility the Prime Minister must have the authority to choose his own team. It is true that 19 elected members of your province gave a signed representation against your being included in the ministry but that does not mean that any injustice is done to you. You must not nurse any grievance against anybody for this fact. The best thing is to serve your people selflessly and loyally, so as to secure unquestioned confidence of the elected representatives of your province and you will be doing better service by remaining out than by being included in the ministry.

Yours sincerely,

Shri P.K. Deshmukh, M.L.A.,  
President,  
Amraoti Dist. Congress Com.,  
Deshmukhwadi, Amraoti.

जिल्हा काँग्रेस कमिटी अमरावती

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अध्यक्ष

पी. के. देशमुख

देशमुखवाडा

ता. 31/5/1946.

To,

Sirdar Vallabhbhai Patel,  
in charge Congress Parliamentary Affairs,  
B o m b a y.

Sir,

I am a Congress M.L.A. from Berar representing Amraoti-Rural. I am writing this letter to bring to your notice an injustice that has been <sup>done to</sup> ~~inflicted upon~~ me. I was to have written to you much earlier but your engagements at Delhi with much more important business, prevented me from doing so. Now that you are in Bombay I request you to pay some attention to this case of mine.

While the C.P. Ministry was being formed you were in Delhi. I do not know as to whether you are aware of the fact that the local papers were mentioning my name as a certainty for being included in the ministry since Messrs Dada Dharmadhikari and Pandit Shukla and Pandit Mishra and Veer Wamanrao Joshi desired me to be there and Mr. Biyani also had many a times ~~had~~ expressed himself to be of the same view since I was, by far, the best man available from Berar M.L.A's.

However when Mr. Biyani learnt that Messrs Dada Dharmadhikari

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# जिल्हा काँग्रेस कमिटी अमरावती

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अध्यक्ष

पी. के. देशमुख

देशमुखबाबा

ता. 1 1 १९

(2)

pandit Shukla and Pandit Mishra desired that I should be included in the cabinet and that I had the full support and blessings of veer wamanrao Joshi also, he immediately changed his mind and obtained a letter of No-confidence against me from Berar M.L.As. by the intervention of his lieutenant and in some cases himself also by questionable methods. I am positive that such a letter would never have been even thought of by the Berar M.L.As. since they can have nothing against me but for the intervention of Mr. Biyani and his lieutenants. Thus he confronted Pandit Shukla, Mr. Pada Pharmachikari and you also, I am told at Delhi. It may be noted that the No-confidence letter does not make any allegations against me but since then Mr. Biyani and his group are systematically trying to boycott me politically and if possible to bring about my political death. They have started campaign of vilification against me under the cover of that letter of No-confidence. My natural desire therefore is to see you to explain the whole thing and request you to kindly grant an enquiry into the whole affair so that I may be judicially either condemned or

(3)

जिल्हा काँग्रेस कमिटी अमरावती

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अध्यक्ष

पी. के. देशमुख

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(3)

देशमुखवाडा

ता. १ १९

am freed from this defamation and condemnation past and  
present.

please let me know as to when and where I should  
see you in this connection.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

P. K. Deshmukh.

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6th June 46.

Personal.

My dear Patil,

I have not heard from you at all but I am following your activities from a distance and am glad to learn that you have set a proper Congress standard of dignity, responsibility and status of ministership. I see that other ministers have differed from you in some matters but you have done well in sticking to the Congress standard without making any fuss or without creating any bitterness.

Shri Kamath met me at Delhi before his going to Simla. He feels that it would have been better if he had also been your companion in office and I understand you also agree with him. Whether at this stage any room can be made for him in the ministry even if arrangement is made for his election to the Assembly by securing resignation of some one who may be prepared to accommodate him is the question. Even if we have to do so, we must first secure the goodwill of the Prime Minister. The question may be looked upon with suspicion, if it is not properly handled, so as to secure the goodwill of the Mahakoshal Group. I understand Mishraji has now come nearer to you and he may be useful in removing any prejudice or suspicion against you, which the other

two may have entertained in the initial stage. But whether ~~having~~ ~~by~~ ~~induce~~ the other two to accommodate Shri Kamath or not is a question.

I had a mind to call you to Bombay during my short stay here but I thought it would disturb your working much at this stage, which is more important and I could not venture to do so. Tomorrow I am going to Delhi again but some time when we meet we must discuss the question of Shri Kamath's future. I do not like his life being wasted. We have very few good, sincere, self-sacrificing workers and we have many more responsibilities being heaped upon us.

I should like to know how Dr. Hassan is shaping. I do hope that our choice in him may not prove to be a mistake. Dada Dharmadhikari had held high hopes about him. Responsibility alone can prove the worth of a man. Please write to me at Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Mr. R.K.Patil,  
Minister,  
Secretariat,  
Nagpur.



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Camp: Chedvick House,  
Summer Hill,  
Simla West.

2nd May 1946

Dear friend,

I have received copy of your letter of the 25th April. It would be impossible to do anything after such a long time of your resignation. No useful purpose would be served by pursuing this matter any further. You know innumerable people have made sacrifices in the cause of the Congress much greater than yours. Many of them have lost their profession, calling, property, etc. It would be impossible to compensate all those who have suffered in the cause of the Congress. The sacrifice itself is the greatest reward to those who have made it and you must not expect anything in return.

Yours sincerely,

Shri R. B. Shelke,  
Congress Sewak,  
Shanti Nagar,  
Mr. Itwara Rly. Station,  
Kumtse Rd., Nagpur.

X

To

THE PREMIER,

C.P. & Berar Legislative Assembly,

N A G P U R .

Dated Nagpur, the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1946.

Sir,

When in 1930 the Government consistently thwarted every effort for attaining freedom and sought to suppress the Congress by hook or by crook the Congress on its part sought to evoke in the people the measures of sacrifice sufficient to compel attention - to demonstrate what measure of popular -- support it had, demanded to give up their jobs who owed allegiance to the Congress and to behave in an exemplary non-violent manner until the trumpet call for liberty heralds in the dawn of the New World Order based on Truth.

I, at once, without the least hesitation earnestly responded to the Congress call and resigned my progressive post of Assistant Accountant in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Amraoti, where I had served for 16 long years. Since then my activity and allegiance are loyal and faithful to the Congress and further desire to strictly adhere to these until the end of my life.

In 1939 when the Congress Ministry was in office my helpless condition forced me to approach your honour with an application for the grant of a pension for my long services -- rendered to the Government. In the interview which your honour had very kindly granted to me I was assured that the record of my services was carefully gone through and had passed orders for the sanction of my pension.

But immediately after, for vital reasons, the Congress Ministry had to resign the office and orders of my pension proved unproductive for reasons unknown to me till to-day. I would have been the last man to approach you again about my pension application if I had been well off. But Sir, my advanced age of 63 and five dependants (including two daughters - marriageable) to maintain

in

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in these hard days of costly living force me to tender this application for giving kind effect to my pension orders passed by your honour previously.

For this act of kindness my internal gratitude shall be your ever due.

I beg to remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,



(Ramchandra Balaji Shelke)

Congress Sewak,

Shanti Nagar, Near Itwara Railway  
Station, Kamptee Road, NAGPUR.

Copy submitted to Sardar Saheb for information and favour of such action as he deems fit.

1-5-1943.

Congress Sewak.

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Camp: Chedvick House,  
Summer Hill,  
Simla West.

2nd May 46

My dear Ravi Shankar,

I have received your letter of the 29th April with its accompaniments. I am asking Acharya Kripalani to send you details about the salaries fixed for the Ministers, the Speaker and remuneration and allowances fixed for the Assembly members. I am sure you will get them before the meeting of your Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

P.S. Since this letter was dictated, I got your telephone message and hence I have to confirm our conversation that you can fix Rs.1000/- per month excluding allowances for house and conveyance for the Ministers. The maximum that the Working Committee has fixed is Rs.1500/- per month but that is the maximum limit allowed and in Bombay and Bihar, the Ministers have fixed Rs.1000/- (one thousand only) per month. It would, therefore, be better to accept the same standard, as it would obtain uniformity and avoid unnecessary criticism. For the Assembly Members, U.P. has fixed Rs.200/- per month but you are at liberty to reduce it if you can; you cannot go above it. This would be enough for the present, even if you do not get further information from Acharya Kripalani.

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Nagpur,

The 29th April 1946.

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I am sending herewith the proceedings of the Muslim M.L.As' Conference held here on the 7th and 8th of February 1939. The Press Note issued by the Government on the 9th February 1939, dealing with the allegations made by the Pirpur Committee against the C.P. Government, and the Government Press Communique regarding the press conference are also herewith sent. I am sorry I could not get hold of the Pirpur Committee Report, but I believe it will be available to you in Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

R. Shastri

Syt. Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel,  
Birla House,  
NEW DELHI.

Proceedings of the Conference of the Muslim Members of the Central Provinces and Berar Legislative Assembly convened by the Hon'ble the Prime Minister, C.P. and Berar at his residence on the 7th and 8th February.

Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, Honorary Secretary of the All-India Muslim League was also present and participated in the discussion. It is agreed between the Hon'ble the Prime Minister and the Nawabzada that the proceedings of the Conference are not to be published unless agreed to by both parties.

At the outset the Vidya Mandir Scheme was fully discussed and then the demands were taken one by one.

The following is the summary of the tentative conclusions reached at the Conference for the consideration of Government.

Demand No. 1. The following arrangement shall be made for imparting primary education to Muslim boys and girls :-

(a). That for the provision of a school either by Government or local body the minimum number of students should be 10 only.

(b) Whenever such a number of students is available the Government or the local body must establish primary schools. Failing such a number the Government or the local body must encourage private enterprise by giving grants to the extent of half of the recurring expenditure and full initial expenditure.

(c) That a committee consisting of the following gentlemen be appointed to examine the present educational schemes and amend, if necessary, to suit the Muslims.

(Names to be communicated later).

It'd. L.A.K.

(d) The curriculum and text books for the Muslim schools shall be prepared by a committee of Muslims.

Conclusion. (a) and (b). A reasonable percentage of the annual expenditure of each local body should be earmarked for imparting primary education to Muslim boys.

(c) Not considered necessary at present.

(d) In future all text books prescribed for teaching Urdu, Persian or Arabic in the Urdu schools should be approved by a committee with a majority of Muslims.

Demand No. 2. Adequate representation of provincial Muslims on all education committees such as syllabus committee, text book committee, High School Education Board, University and Standing Committee of Education be guaranteed.

Conclusion. There are various restrictions governing the rules concerning the appointment of these committees, but Government will certainly bear in mind the question of nominating representatives of the Muslim community. Regarding the Nagpur University, Government has no control over it. It is governed by Statutes of the University.

Demand No. 3. No school, house or building under the charge of Government or Government-aided institution or schools under the local body be utilized by student staff, authorities, or public for the performance of any religious ceremony.

Conclusion. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained the position in this matter. The demand was not pressed.

Demand No. 4. In no Government or Government-aided or local body school or institution the Bande-

Mataram or any other communal or religious song should be recited.

Conclusion. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained the present policy of Government and the orders which have been issued to local bodies regarding the recital of 'Vande Mataram'.

The demand was not pressed as it was definitely stated by the Hon'ble the Prime Minister that the local bodies will not be allowed to use any compulsion and also that no boy will be penalised for not singing the song or for not being present on the occasion. Anyone choosing to remain present should however observe the courtesies usually observed on such occasions.

Demand No. 5. There should be at least one more Normal Training School for Urdu teachers (Males) and 2 for women in Central Provinces and Berar.

Conclusion. If there is a demand for training more teachers - male or female - Government will make adequate arrangements for providing more seats in the existing schools or by opening new schools, if found necessary.

Demand No. 6. At least one high school for boys in the C.P., 2 High Schools for girls (one in the C.P. and one in Berar) and two middle schools for girls in the C.P. be established by the Government for imparting education through Urdu medium.

Conclusion. Facts and figures should be given for the necessity of a greater number of schools.

The proposal is that the Anjuman High School, Nagpur, should be taken over by Government and the two girls Anglo-Urdu Middle Schools should be converted into high schools.

This will be considered by Government.

Itd. L.A.K.



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Demand No. 7. The local bodies and Government should earmark and spend a reasonable sum adequate to the needs of the Muslim education. If the local bodies fail, the Government should take to itself the power to compel the defaulting body to do so.

Conclusion. Covered by item No. 1

Demand No. 3. The existing Urdu schools should not be abolished or amalgamated with Hindi or Marathi schools. Schools so abolished or amalgamated be restarted e.g. Betul, Umred, Waraseoni, Chhindwara, Gondia and other places.

Conclusion. As regards Betul, the dispute has been settled, but as regards schools in other places Government will make inquiries.

It is not usual to close down existing Urdu Schools. Whenever any existing Urdu School is closed, a school will be opened somewhere else where there is a demand for it.

Demand No. 9. No boys, staff, school committees, parents and guardians, be compelled to wear Gandhi cap, hoist or attend the hoisting of tri-colour flag or enrol themselves as Congress members. The orders, if any, passed by the local Government or the local bodies in this connection and also in connection with the worship of Gandhiji is rescinded.

Conclusion. There is no compulsion and the policy of Government in this matter is the same as that in regard to the 'Vande Mataram'. The question of parents and guardians does not arise as Government finds it difficult to believe that any parent or guardian can ever be compelled in these matters.

Demand No. 10. The Government or the local body should make adequate provision for the secondary education of the Muslims wherever they are doing so in case of Hindi or Marathi schools. That the grant-in-aid to private Muslim educational institutions for secondary education should be 50 per cent.

Conclusion. An assurance was given that the rules shall be interpreted as liberally as possible.

Demand No. 11. That the medium of instruction for Muslim students should be Urdu and provision for teaching Urdu should be made in all the Government High and Middle schools.

Conclusion. The question of provision for teaching Urdu as second language in Government High and Middle Schools where such a provision does not at present exist should be examined and if the examination shows a reasonable demand for such provision, it should be made.

Demand No. 12. Separate Muslim Inspectorate be provided to inspect Muslim educational institutions as in Bombay, Madras, the U.P. and Berar.

Conclusion. One of the Deputy Directors should be placed in charge of Muslim education for the time being and when a suitable opportunity occurs a special officer will be placed in charge of Muslim education under the Director of Public Instruction.

Demand No. 13. That Urdu should be recognised as one of the Provincial languages and also in the C.P. and Berar Legislative Assembly and courts.

Conclusion. This is a very wide question which the Government will have to examine in all its aspects before reaching any decision.

As regards the specific demand for printing of speeches made in the Legislative Assembly, Government is already considering the question favourably.

Demand No. 14. The Government aided schools of Balapur, Akot, Basim and Malkapur should not be closed. They should be placed under the charge of Muslim Head Master and the minimum number of students should be fixed for them.

Conclusion. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained the position. There has never been any proposal to close down the Urdu classes in the Government Urdu schools at Balapur, Akot, Basim and Malkapur. The demand was dropped.

Demand No. 15. The contract of the Government Printing Works with the Anjuman Islamia High School, Jubbulpore, be restored.

Conclusion. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained that the contract was rescinded purely on commercial grounds and that if the Anjuman High School, Jubbulpore, puts in an application for an additional grant, it will be favourably considered.

Demand No. 16. The local bodies should be stopped from starting or maintaining institutions dedicated to or run in the name of Hindu Deities or from installing and worshipping the idols therein. In cases of private institutions the Government should refuse grants to such institutions.

Conclusion. Local Bodies should not be permitted to give grants to Akhadas which are not open to all communities, where there is compulsion to worship any deity and which foster communal strife.

Demand No. 17. Provision for teaching Urdu should be made in all Government Colleges.

Conclusion. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained that there is adequate provision in all the Government Colleges and in most of the private Colleges. If there is a demand for teaching Urdu in any of the Government Colleges and is not being satisfied, the grievances should be brought to the notice of Government so that it may be attended to.

Demand No. 18. The higher education of deserving muslim students should be encouraged by giving them adequate scholarships on a liberal scale.

Conclusion. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained the position, and the demand was dropped.

It'd. L.A.K.

Demand No. 19. In all the education institutions run by or through the agency of the Provincial Government in areas whether excluded or otherwise the medium of instructions should be Urdu for Muslim students. e.g. the District Betul where 168 Hindi Schools are reported to have been opened through the agency of Provincial Government.

Conclusion. The demand has been covered by item No. 1.

Demand No. 20. Adequate grants should be given to Muslim institutions for maintaining adult Urdu Night Schools.

Conclusion. Where a security exists, provision should be made for teaching of Urdu to Muslims in the Adult Night Schools.

Demand No. 21. The local bodies should be compelled to provide separate inspectorate with Urdu qualifications for supervising Urdu teaching in schools under their charge, and the Act, if necessary, be amended.

Conclusion. It is covered by Item No. 12.

Demand No. 22. Adequate arrangements for providing Urdu Books should be made in the circulating libraries and all the libraries maintained by Government or local bodies.

Conclusion. Where there is a necessity, adequate provision should be made and the fact should be brought to the notice of local bodies.

Demand No. 23 - The Government should use its influence with the University in reconstituting the faculty of Oriental Learning in the Nagpur University on the lines of the Punjab so far as Urdu, Persian and Arabic is concerned, and provide separate chairs for the aforementioned subjects in the University.

ltd. L.A.K.

Conclusion. This is a matter which relates to the University which is an autonomous body and Government are unable to do any thing.

Sd. Liaquat Ali Khan,  
10.2. 1939.

Sd. R.S. Shukla,  
10.2. 1939.

Trans of Lok Sabha  
29/2/39  
Information

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with the Hindu boys, "parasthana" before the image of the Goddess Saraswati. It was also found that the Muslim boys are not allowed to wish each other in their Islamic way, but to say Namaste and Ramji-ki-jai.

Reply. In one school at Pandhurna, which has some Muhammadan boys on its roll, it is customary for a prayer to be sung before the image of Saraswati at the commencement of school work. No compulsion in this matter has been brought to bear on any boy, much less a Muslim boy. The allegation about Muslim boys being asked to greet one another in a particular manner has not been brought to the notice of Government before. An enquiry is being made.

### 3. Local Bodies.

Allegation No. 5. Previous Governments used to redress communal inequalities by means of nominations. But since the Congress has assumed the reins of Government, even this method does not help the Muslims, for nominations are made for party purposes and the interests of Muslims are ignored. Muslims are thus much worse off than they were under the previous Government.

Reply. The Municipalities and the Local Self-Government Acts against the provisions of which there has never been, except recently, any objection, do not provide for separate electorates for minority communities or for reservation of seats for them. The representation of these communities, including the Muslims who form 4.4 percent of the total population of the province is, however, secured by the system of nominations. The present Government has made no change in the policy pursued by previous Governments. The Congress Government has made nominations on 52 municipal and notified area committees and one district council. In 38 municipal and notified area committees and one district council the number of Muslims nominated was the same as that by the previous Government; in two cases,

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the number was more and in 12 the number was less. In none of the 12 cases however the Muslims remained unrepresented as they secured seats by election or selection.

#### 4. Debt Conciliation Boards.

Allegation No. 6. Prior to the assumption of office by the Congress, there was not a single board without at least one Muslim on it. But now under the Congress regime there are many such boards without any Muslim representation.

Reply. It is not the policy of Government to take communal considerations into account in making nominations on debt conciliation boards. On the 30th June 1937, i.e. about a fortnight prior to the assumption of office by the Congress, there were 43 boards in the province with a total strength of 325 non-official members, of whom 36 were Muslims. Eight out of 43 boards had no Muslim members. At present there are 41 boards with 296 non-official members, of whom 32 are Muslims. Eleven boards have no Muslim members. It is obvious therefore that the proportion of Muslim members has not altered appreciably since July 1937.

#### 5. Cow Protection.

Allegation No. 7. The Muslims complain that if the Central Provinces Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Bill is passed into law, it will make impossible not only animal slaughter for commercial purposes but also for social and religious purposes.

Reply. The Committee presumably refers to the Bill introduced by Mr. M. G. Chitnavis, M. L. A. The Bill is a private measure and has not yet reached the stage of consideration in the Assembly. The member-in-charge of the Bill does not belong ~~to~~ to the Congress Assembly Party.

Allegation No. 8. Reports of organized efforts in the cattle markets preventing the sale of cattle to Muslims were also made to us.

Reply. The Committee has not given any specific instances. No such complaints in this matter have reached



Government.

Allegation No. 9. The majority of local bodies have put heavy restrictions and have levied prohibitive fees on the slaughter of animals, the most objectionable of them being those which were adopted in the regime of the Hon'ble Mr. D. P. Misra (now a Congress Minister) as Chairman of Jubbulpore Municipality. The byelaws prepared by Mr. Misra were kept in abeyance on the interference of the Central Provinces Government and that of the Government of India, but they were confirmed and brought into force on the very day on which the Congress Government accepted office and Mr. D. P. Misra assumed the charge of the Local Self-Government portfolio.

Reply. The fees on the slaughter of animals are levied under the byelaws made by the municipal committees. The model byelaws which were framed long before the Congress assumed office prescribe a fee of 4 annas per sheep or goat and 8 annas per bullock or other horned cattle. The incorrectness of the allegation that the majority of the local bodies have levied prohibitive fees is clear from the following figures concerning 79 municipal committees, about which information is available.

	For sheep & goat.	Other animals.
No. of Municipal Committees which have levied fees according to model byelaws.	7	12
No. which have levied fees lower than those prescribed in the model byelaws.	68	39
No. which have levied fees in excess of those prescribed by the model byelaws.	Nil	7
No. which do not levy any fees.	4	21

As regards the Municipal Committee Jubbulpore the byelaws relating to slaughter houses were revised in 1935 when the present Minister in charge of Local Self-Government was

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not the President of the municipal committee. The fees levied under these byelaws are 6 pies per sheep or goat and one anna per bullock or other horned cattle as against 4 annas and 8 annas respectively prescribed in the model byelaws. The allegation that the byelaws were confirmed and brought into force on the very day on which the Congress Government accepted office is obviously incorrect.

6. Suppression of language and culture.

Allegation No.10. The Muslims generally complain of want of Urdu schools even in districts such as Saugor and Mandla where the number of Muslims is enough to justify the opening of such schools.

Reply. The question of the establishment of primary schools rests with the local bodies. For the province as a whole, these bodies cannot be said to have dealt unfairly with the question of starting Urdu schools. Muslims form 4.4. per cent of the total population, while the percentage of Urdu schools to the total number of vernacular schools in the province for the year 1937-38 was about 7.3. There are 7 Urdu primary schools in the urban areas of the Saugor district. It is true that there are no separate Urdu schools in the rural areas of that district, but this is due to the number of pupils with Urdu as their mother-tongue not being sufficient to justify the starting of such schools. For the same reason there are no separate Urdu school in the Mandla district but Urdu is taught as an optional subject in the municipal combined school, Mandla, and railway combined school, Nainpur. The number of Muslim teachers under the District Council Mandla is 10 and that under the municipal committee Mandla is 2. The question of opening a separate Urdu primary school at Mandla has been referred to the municipal committee Mandla for consideration.

Allegation No.11. In high schools the medium of instruction is Hindi or Marathi.

Reply. This statement is incomplete. The medium of

instruction is Urdu also in those high schools where a sufficient number of Urdu boys is enrolled, e.g. in some of the Government High Schools in Berar.

**Allegation No.12.** Some Municipal Boards have abolished Urdu classes, while one refused grant to a secondary Urdu school.

**Reply.** The first allegation is vague. If it refers to the Urdu classes at Betul, it may be pointed out that the municipal Urdu school at Betul was not abolished but was amalgamated with a Hindi school. The latter part of the statement being indefinite is not capable of verification. It may however be pointed out that under the Municipalities Act the first claims on the resources of the municipal committees in the matter of education are those of primary and middle vernacular education.

**Allegation No.13.** The Anjuman Islania Press at Jubbulpore was supported by the old Government. An arrangement was made by which Government printing work was given to that press and the profits were utilised for the maintenance of the Anjuman Islania High School. The Congress Government is now contemplating to change this arrangement without providing funds for the school.

**Reply.** For several years past, the Anjuman Islania Press Jubbulpore was printing, supplying and distributing the land records and settlement forms. A formal agreement was entered into for the first time in 1923 and renewed in 1929 till the 31st March 1939. The question of terminating the agreement was taken up in November 1935, i.e. long before the Congress assumed office as it was found that the arrangement involving as it did a loss of about Rs. 7,500/- per annum to Government, was uneconomical. The decision to terminate the agreement has been taken purely on financial grounds. The Robertson Anjuman High School Jubbulpore is already in receipt of a grant of Rs. 7,227 p.a.

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Allegation No. 14. Complaints are also made of the want of supervision in Urdu Primary schools.

Reply. The allegation has little substance. In Berar there is one Muslim Assistant District Inspector for each of the four districts, whose duty it is to inspect Urdu Primary schools. In addition, Akola and Buldana have Muslim District Inspectors. The Urdu Primary Schools in Nagpur, Wardha and Chanda districts are supervised by a Muslim Assistant District Inspector. The Urdu Primary schools in the Jubbulpore city and the adjoining areas are supervised by a Urdu knowing District Inspector and a Muslim Assistant District Inspector. There is also a Muslim Assistant District Inspector at Raipur. The fact that there are 12 Muslim Assistant District Inspectors and 9 non-Muslim Assistant District Inspectors possessing a thorough knowledge of Urdu in a total cadre of 69, shows that the supervision of Urdu Primary schools receives adequate attention.

Allegation No. 15. Speeches delivered in Urdu in the Assembly are reported either in Hindi script or a short summary of them is given in English. When the Speaker was approached and questions were asked in the Assembly, both the Speaker and the Premier expressed their inability to grant a request for the reporting of the speeches in Urdu.

Reply. The main reason for not getting the speeches printed in the Persian script was the inability of the Government Printing Press to do the work, without a large initial expenditure for the purchase of types etc. and an increase in the staff of Urdu compositors and proof readers.

Even, if the extra staff for this purpose was sanctioned, the difficulty of utilising their services during long breaks, when the Assembly is not in session, was not capable of easy solution. There was also the difficulty of securing efficient reporters well-conversant with both

the Nagari and Persian scripts. It was therefore decided purely as a temporary measure to print Urdu speeches either in the Nagari script or in English according to the wishes of the speaker. The whole question is still under the consideration of Government and the Hon'ble the Speaker, who are anxious to do everything in their power to meet the wishes of the Muslim members in this behalf as far as they possibly can.

Allegation No. 16. The whole of the Betul district has been converted into a compulsory education area. The Government has provided for expenditure with the express condition that the medium of instruction will be only Hindi.

Reply. According to the Census reports of 1931, the Muslim population of the Betul district is 7,037 out of a total population of 4,06,252, i.e. 1.7 per cent. Under the Primary Education Act, it is open to any local body to submit to Government schemes for the introduction of compulsory primary education in the areas within its jurisdiction. While submitting its scheme for compulsory education in the Betul district, the District Council, Betul, laid down Hindi as the medium of instruction, doubtless because the district is almost exclusively a Hindi area. Government sanctioned the proposals of the district council. It is not therefore correct to say that Government itself laid down the express condition referred to in the allegation.

Allegation No. 17. The Committee quotes the circular issued by the Chandur Local Board asking Head Masters of Urdu schools to have the worship of an image of Mahatma Gandhi as part of the birthday celebrations and considers this as an instance of the callousness of the Congress to the religious sentiments of the Muslims, whose rights are supposed to be safe in the Karachi Congress resolution on minority rights.

Reply. It is a fact that the local board Chandur issued the circular referred to to the Head Masters of schools within its

its jurisdiction. This was done without consulting either the local officers or the Government. On the matter being brought to its notice, Government ordered an enquiry. The Chairman of the local board explains that the forwarding of the circular to the Urdu schools was definitely a mistake, and that there was no intention to make it obligatory for the Muslim teachers or Muslim boys to worship the photograph of Mahatma Gandhi. Government understands that no Head Master of any Urdu School performed the ceremony of worship, nor was any action taken against any one. The policy of Government is one of allowing complete freedom to the staff and boys of educational institutions in this matter.

7. Vidya Mandir Scheme.

Allegation No. 18. The word 'Mandir' in common parlance means a place of idol worship. As such, the very name goes against the grain of Islamic tenets and becomes repulsive to a Muslim.

Reply. Government wishes once more to assure the Muslims that the term 'Vidya Mandir' has no communal or religious or political significance whatever. Further, it is not correct to assume that the word 'Mandir' in common parlance refers to a temple or a Hindu God or Goddess when it is used as a part of a compound word. Moreover, Government has made it clear on more than one occasion that any muslim who donates land for starting a school is at liberty to name it "Bait-ul-ilm" which is an exact synonym of the word 'Vidya Mandir' or by any other name of his choice.

Allegation No. 19. In theory the scheme does not neglect Urdu, but in actual practice Urdu has been entirely extinguished.

Reply. It may be stated categorically that the institution of Vidya Mandirs does not in any way alter the existing policy in regard to the medium of instruction. In all the schools under the scheme, provision will be

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made for imparting instruction through the mother tongue of the area in which the schools are situated. Further a careful study of the scheme will show that the syllabus, which is based on the Wardha Scheme of basic education prescribes a seven years' course and makes adequate provision for the teaching of Hindustani either in Nagari or Urdu script according to the choice of the pupils. Accordingly 'Vidya Mandir' teachers have been trained in Urdu as well as Nagri scripts.

8. Communal tendencies of the Congress.

Regime.

Allegation No. 20. One of the Ministers presided over a gathering held in honour of the President of the Hindu Mahasabha.

Reply. This presumably refers to a meeting held at Nagpur in December 1937 to accord a public reception to Mr. Savarkar, over which Mr. R.M. Deshmukh the then Minister for Public Works presided. It is far-fetched to regard this as an indication of the communal tendencies of the Congress regime. This will be clear from the fact that the Provincial Government has taken action under the law against the Hindu Mahasabha speakers and the Mahasabha press, e.g. the prosecution of Mr. J.P. Verma, Secretary of the Hindu Mahasabha, Nagpur, under section 108 Criminal Procedure Code for speeches tending to incite communal hatred, the administration of a warning to the 'Sawadhan' for publishing articles with an objectionable communal heading in December 1937 and the subsequent demand of a security under the Press Act from that paper for publishing matter calculated to promote communal ill-will, and the giving of formal warnings to some other Hindu Mahasabha speakers for delivering speeches tending to promote communal discord.

Allegation No. 21. Congress Government has provided a huge sum of money for the Hanuman Akhara, which is the training ground for the Mahasabha.

Reply. This is entirely incorrect. Government has not

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made any such provision for a grant to this institution. As the object of the institution is to promote physical culture, there would be nothing wrong for any Government to aid such an institution.

Allegation No. 22. The C.P. Congress Committee, according to Mr. Abdur Rahman's statement, has issued instructions that, while a Hindu could enlist himself as a member of the Mahasabha and the Congress at one and the same time, no Muslim could become a member both of the Muslim League and the Congress.

Reply. So far as Government is aware, no such circular has been issued. On the other hand, it is common knowledge that the Congress has recently declared both the Hindu Mahasabha and the Muslim League as communal organisations.

9. Undue influence on Muslims.

Allegation No. 23. In the village Rehli, Saugor district, Muslim labourers were turned out by their Hindu employers because they had voted for the Muslim League candidate in the Assembly bye-election.

Reply. This has not come to the notice of Government. On the other hand, it is on record that there was friction at Rehli immediately after the bye-election, largely as a result of anti-Hindu and anti-Congress speeches by the spokesmen in favour of the Muslim League candidate. The sequel was the desecration of a small temple at Rehli, two small idols being found to have been thrown outside the temple. In consequence, the Hindu shop-keepers boycotted the Muslims, but the boycott did not last long.

Allegation No. 24. A sum of Rs. 500 used to be paid to the Mohammad Ali Serai but since the Congress came into power the amount has been stopped and a resolution passed transferring the amount to the Shradhanand Asthan.

Reply. The allegation is entirely baseless. The



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Provincial Government makes no grant either to the Mohammad Ali Serai or the Shradhanand Ashram, Nagpur. During the year 1936-37 the municipal committee, Nagpur, paid a contribution of Rs. 501/- towards the construction of the Mohammad Ali Serai. This was not an annual grant. The municipal committee has made an annual contribution equal to the municipal taxes on the Serai which amounted to Rs. 164-8-0 in the current year. The committee makes an annual contribution of Rs. 500 to the Shradhanand Ashram since a long time. It is incorrect to say that any sum which was paid to the Serai has been transferred to the Ashram.

10. Communal riots.

Allegation No. 25. Cases against all those arrested and charged with rioting in Jubbulpore have been withdrawn by the prosecution. The Muslims have strongly protested against this action of the Congress Government. It is action like this that leads to more communal tension and makes Muslims lose confidence in the Government of the day.

Reply. The position is that, after very careful consideration, Government came to the conclusion that it was desirable to withdraw pending prosecutions with a view to facilitate the restoration of a spirit of good will between Hindus and Muslims at Jubbulpore. As a result of this decision cases were withdrawn against 60 Hindus and 77 Muslims. Government also decided to remit the unexpired portions of sentences on three persons, who were convicted of offences connected with the communal disturbances at Jubbulpore. Of these, two were Hindus and one was a Muslim. The Muslim was sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment.

Although the decision of Government was adversely criticised by the Muslims at the time, Government believes that the ultimate effect of the decision has been good. This is shown by the fact that Muslim leaders co-operated wholeheartedly with the Hindus and the authorities in maintaining

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peace during the last Dashera festival. Government has thanked both Hindu and Muslim leaders for their valuable services in the cause of peace. Dashera at other places in the north, which are centres of trouble e.g. Saugor, Burhampur and Mandla, also passed off without any ~~un~~ upward incident, unlike in 1937, when there was some trouble both at Mandla and Saugor. This is also another proof of the soundness of Government's policy in the matter. Encouraged by this result, Government has also withdrawn the case at Nagpur arising out of a communal riot in October 1937, in which both Hindus and Muslims were involved. It has also remitted the sentences passed in connection with a communal riot at Akot in September 1937 in which all the accused numbering 11 were Muslims.

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S.N.  
9/2

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WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE PUBLICITY OFFICER TO GOVERNMENT,  
Central Provinces and Berar.

PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

Dated NAGPUR, the 10th February 1939.

1. In a press note dated the 26th January 1939 it was stated that the Hon'ble the Prime Minister had decided to convene a Conference of Muslim Members of the Central Provinces and Berar Legislative Assembly with a view to discuss with them the question of giving an impetus to Muslim Education. This decision was in pursuance of a promise made to Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan, Honorary Secretary, All-India Muslim League, who met the Hon'ble the Prime Minister on December the 18th, 1938. The Conference was held on the 7th and the 8th February and was attended by the Hon'ble the Prime Minister and his Colleagues, Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan and all except two Muslim Members of the Central Provinces and Berar Legislative Assembly.

Several grievances and new demands were placed before the Hon'ble the Prime Minister. After a full and frank discussion, the Conference formulated certain proposals on the various points raised which the Hon'ble the Prime Minister promised to place before the Government for careful and sympathetic consideration.

2. Further, the Conference fully discussed the Vidya Mandir Scheme in connection with which the Muslims had started satvagraha at Nagpur, without awaiting the results of the Conference. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained the scheme in detail. He emphasised that his object in initiating the scheme was to remove illiteracy in the rural areas irrespective of caste and creed and that the scheme rested on endowments of land and money made by donors. He also assured the Conference and through it the Muslims of the Province that in giving the scheme the name Vidya Mandir he had no intention

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whatever of hurting the feelings of any community or making the scheme a religious or communal one. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister further pointed out that a private registered Association had now been formed under the name "The Madhya Prant-Berar Vidya Mandir Samiti, Nagpur" open to all classes and all that the Government undertook was to assist, as far as the financial resources of the Government would permit, this Association or any other private enterprise, if it was able to find the endowments necessary to meet the recurring expenses of schools started under the scheme. He said that at the same time he would welcome the formation by the Muslims of a similar Association under any suitable name and assured the Conference that Government would give that Association the same assistance as that to the Madhya Prant-Berar Vidya Mandir Samiti, Nagpur, or to any other private enterprise. The Nawabzada has stated that the Muslims desire to call this Association "Anjuman Madina-tul-ilm" and that the scheme under which the Urdu schools would be started by this Association will be named "Medina-tul-ilm" scheme. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister saw no objection to this proposal. It would of course be open to the Muslim Association to give any name to the schools started under its auspices. The Muslim members of the Conference brought to the notice of the Hon'ble the Prime Minister that on account of their poverty the Muslims in the Province might not be able to obtain sufficient endowments to start schools and take advantage of the offer of assistance made. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister assured the Conference that he and his colleagues would make their best endeavours to obtain endowments from Muslim gentlemen. He had every hope that if all

concerned made a united effort, there should be very little difficulty in making such an Association the success it deserved to be. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister also made it clear that no minimum number of boys was necessary as a condition precedent to starting a school under the scheme. All that was necessary was that the endowments created for this school should be sufficient to give a net income of Rs.200/- per annum for the maintenance of the teacher and the school. He also undertook to see that in any area where compulsory education was introduced, Muslim boys would not be compelled to attend the Vidya Mandirs if they did not wish to do so. A reference was made in the Conference to the syllabus to be taught under the scheme. The Nawabzada brought to the notice of the Hon'ble the Prime Minister that the All-India Muslim League had appointed a committee to examine the Wardha Scheme on Basic Education and that he was, therefore, not in a position to state at this stage whether, so far as the education of Muslim boys was concerned, the Wardha Syllabus would be acceptable to the Muslims in the schools started ~~by~~ by the Muslim Association referred to above. The Hon'ble the Prime Minister explained the syllabus prescribed for the Vidya Mandir Scheme and stated that it was based on the recommendations of the Zakir Husain Committee appointed by the Provincial Government. At the same time, the Hon'ble the Prime Minister took note of the point raised by the Nawabzada and said that as the question of the syllabus was still under the consideration of the Muslim League he could not commit the Government in advance.

3. In view of what has been stated above and the cordial atmosphere at the Conference, the Government hopes that all agitation based on misunderstanding and

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# INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

Received here at \_\_\_\_\_ H. \_\_\_\_\_ M.

No.

X PF MGROR POST NO. 35. SARDAR VALLABHAI PATEL  
 SPEAKER HOUSE NEW DELHI.  
 ASSEMBLY MEETING SIXTH STOP KINDLY GIVE DETAILED  
 INSTRUCTIONS RE S LARKES L P MINISTERS SPEAKER DEPUTY  
 SPEAKER SECRETARIES MEMBERS STOP BILL AWAITING DRAFT.  
 SHUKLA PRASAD.

W.K. 1/-.

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The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of  
 service telegrams only), office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

MGIRPAH—968—26.3.45—80,000 Bks

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141

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

Received here at \_\_\_\_\_ H. \_\_\_\_\_ M.

No.

O NE CHANDA C 26 DVTD ND DELY 16 SARDAR VALLABHAI  
PATEL BIRLA HOUSE DELHI:-  
KATHADE IMPROPER FOR MINISTRY : POTDUXHE :

The recipient at posting at the beginning of this telegram to—of telegram, time posted in, serial number in, the  
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This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.  
HSL/PAL—663—36-9-45—\$0,300 Bha.



364  
Camp: Birla House,  
New Delhi.

25th April 46

The President,  
Provincial Congress Committee,  
Nagpur.

Dear friend,

I have received your telegram dated 22nd inst. suggesting the names of ministers and protesting against our calling Dada Dharmadhikari for consultation. I am surprised that your Committee should have thought fit to pass such a resolution. The formation of ministry rests with the Prime Minister and it is for him to choose his own team. We have only to suggest or fix certain general principles and not the names of ministers. It is therefore unnecessary for us to consult any Provincial Congress Committee in this matter and we do not do so in any province. If you have any suggestions to make, you must approach the Premier.

Yours sincerely,

B. T. B.

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23)

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.



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By _____			By _____		

X RA NAGPUR 22 TWO ADDS SA RDAR PATEL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI

(MULANA AZAD WINDSOR PLACE DELHI)

FOLLOWING RESOLUTION PASSED BY EXECUTIVE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS  
COMMITTEE CONTE WITH REGRET SARDAR PATEL ASKED SHARMATHICKARI TO SUGGEST  
NAMES OF MINISTERS FROM NAGPUR PROVINCE TO LEADER WITHOUT CONSULTING EITHER  
EITHER PRESIDENT OR COMMITTEE STOP COMMITTEE SUGGESTS CHATURBHUJSHAI  
JASANO R K PATIL AND R W KATHADE AS MINISTERS FROM THIS PROVINCE BESIDES  
USE TM AND HARIJAN STOP AT LEAST TWO BE TAKEN STOP PRAY INSTRUCT LEADER  
ACCORDANCE 20-0-25-1,42,500 Rs.

PRESIDENT PROVINCIAL CONGRESS COM  
COMMITTEE

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356  
Camp: New Delhi.

21st Apr. 46.

My dear Ravi Shankar,

I have received your letter of the 17th inst. I am not able to follow the Nagpur affair referred to in your letter and about Dr. Dubey's attitude. However, if any complaint comes to us from Nagpur, we shall look into it in the light of the facts you have given in your letter.

You have your party meeting today and I hope things will turn out smoothly. I am trying to have a talk with you on the telephone but I have not yet been able to get the connection.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Ravi Shankar Shukla, M.L.A.,  
Raipur.

पंडित रविशंकर शुक्ल

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रायपुर

17-4-46.

My dear Sardar Sahib,

I was in due receipt of your wire on the 15th night and have communicated it to the President of the Berar Congress Committee, and Dr. Chakradhari. This settles up the question of my suitability to convene a meeting of I.L.A.'s of three different Congress provinces.

As regards provincial elections we have succeeded in almost all the constituencies. We are sorry to find that our Congress Muslim candidate ~~XXXXX~~ did not succeed as was hoped from all accounts the candidate was given us. By how you must have replied my letters regarding the ministry making. Mr. Bhanderkar has come out successful with a commanding majority. Only one Marivan seat in Berar has been lost to us. Berar and Nagpur provinces give us eight million and a lakh of votes. We shall have to decide whether we should take Khilafat or Bhanderkar. I will let you know our final opinion after consulting friends at Nagpur on the 21st when we meet there.

I do not know whether you are aware of the march of events in Nagpur. The situation there is intriguing. A long article has appeared in the Independent of the 15th instant. I enclose herewith a copy of it for your information. It is accompanied by a copy of a letter I have received from the Editor of the Independent Mr. W.G. Sheorey, brother of Mr. Nant Sheorey who has I believe often met you in connection with nomination of candidates. A copy of my reply to his letter is also enclosed. I am absolutely ignorant so far as to what part Dr. Dubeey has played in the city elections of Nagpur. I know this much at any rate that Dr. Dubeey was mainly if not solely responsible for the grand success of our University candidate Dr. Hassan. He was also helpful to me in some degree in inducing Lala Jaimarain to withdraw in favour of our Congress candidate for commerce Mulla Abdullah Taharabai. Beyond this I know nothing about Dr. Dubeey's activities in Nagpur City elections. I have issued a statement disassociating myself from all anti-activities of the Mayo Hospital group as alleged by Dr. Sheorey. A

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A copy of that statement is also enclosed herewith for your information. I am acquainting you with all facts so that if any situation develops at Nagpur it will not take long for you to see things through. I hope we shall not be required to trouble you in this connection. The only trouble and perhaps greater trouble we anticipate from Berar about which I have already written to you but I hope better sense will prevail and history will not repeat itself.

Yours sincerely,

*As. L. K. K.*

356  
1133 Jail Road,  
Nagpur  
15-4-46

My dear Shukla Ji,

By the time this reaches you, you will have read what we have written in today's issue of the Independent about the doings in Mayo Hospital. It must shock all right thinking Congressmen. I write this to enlist your prestige and influence in the eradication of such things. Perhaps I am actuated to write to you because I am told you have close relations with Dr. Dubey and a public statement condemning his anti-congress activities will be particularly helpful in maintaining purity of public life at this juncture.

Another reason why as a friend I felt called upon to write to you is that scores of mischievous rumours are circulating here connection your name with that of Dr. Dubey. I think the rumours are manufactured solely on the basis that you happen to have good relations with Dr. Dubey. They are obviously malicious and unfounded because a responsible congress man of your integrity and standing could not even dream of working against Congress candidates. But rumours are rumours which must tend to do their mischief. I know that rumours cannot do much harm but still for a prospective Premier it is advisable to sail clear of them. A public statement from you will go a long way to kill the rumours.

I need not add that for some time atleast your future association with Dr. Dubey will be seriously misunderstood. It would be best to avoid such misunderstanding. Political tempers in Nagpur are at present extremely acerbated as you will know for yourself when you come here for the party meeting.

Please excuse the liberty of foisting unsolicited advice on a person of your eminence, age and seasoning.

Yours sincerely,

( Sd ) W. G. Sheorey.

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17-4-46

My dear Vasudeo,

I received your letter just when I was reading your article in the Independent of the 15th inst. The whole thing is a surprise to me. I am however, thankful to you for informing me that scores of mischievous rumours are circulating in Nagpur connecting me with Dr. Dubey in his present anti-congress activities as stated by you. In the present tense atmosphere every thing is possible in Nagpur. I wish you had specified some of these rumours to enable me to understand the situation better. I have however, issued a statement to to-day disassociating myself and Misraji with such activities if any. I shall be at Nagpur in a day or two. We shall then talk over matters.

I feel however I must tell you that interested groups and persons inside as well as outside the congress are trying to create some breach and misunderstanding to serve their own ends. Whatever the rumours mischievous articles in Tarun Bharat and some other papers also lend support to the feeling that efforts are being made to revive the Maharashtrian and anti-Maharashtrian feelings among the members of the congress assembly party. I wish to take the earliest opportunity to say that we must not fall a prey to such tricks over again. You have known me and Pandit Mishra long enough and you rightly say that we could never be led away by anyone to act against congress interest however close our relations may be with him. In all fairness to us you might have given a lie to these rumours in your article without waiting for a statement from me. Purity of public life should certainly be maintained particularly at this juncture and I shall certainly co-operate with you and other friends in doing this at all times. More when we meet on the 19th or the 20th.

Yours Sincerely,

Sd/- R. N. Kulkarni

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Copy of the Statement

Attention being drawn to certain articles in the press and rumours set afloat in Nagpur connecting him with anti-congress activities of certain persons in close relation with him, Pandit Shukla stated " All rumours and statements connecting me and some of my other Mahakoshal friends with anti-congress activity of certain groups and persons during Nagpur city elections, are false, malicious and absurd. No credence should be given to them. No true congressman can tolerate and encourage such activities however close the relations may be. Mischief-mongers inside as well outside congress ranks are interested in creating misunderstandings, but we should be on our guard and not fall a prey to them.



Spotlight on Nagpur Elections

# ENEMIES WITH SABOTAGE CONGRESS

## Doings of Mayo Hospital Clique

(By: FREE-LANCE)

The election of the Nagpur-Kamptee constituency on Monday last passed off as well or as badly as most elections do. There was some confusion, some inefficiency, some system, some bungling, some double-crossing, some meanness, some nobility, some earnestness, some negligence—and large-scale sabotage. As far as the average citizen was concerned, the position of the Congress was unassailable and a thumping victory for all the three Congress candidates could not be doubted even in dream. But—

Yes, a big BUT intervened to jeopardise seriously the position of the Congress. And that BUT was a calculated, cold-blooded sabotage of the Congress candidates by a covey of Congressmen themselves who operated in alliance with a powerful clique outside the Congress. This latter clique has its headquarters at the Mayo Hospital and its activities spread far and wide over the province. Its leading lights are Doctors Balam Dubey and Rangilal and they are assisted by a large number of office clerks, police and civil politicians, Congressmen, merchants, municipal dignitaries, adventurers, goondas and what-nots. They form a powerful combine which is held in awe by the high and low because of its capacity to do and undo people's lives. They shun the limelight because it is preferable strategically. Their power continues to grow because nobody has so far mustered courage to challenge the two-way.

But let me introduce the two characters. I have named above, Dr. Balam Dubey, a physician of the very top class. His compeer can hardly be found in this whole province. He looks almost saintly and pious, there is in him a streak of saintliness and religiosity which, unfortunately, is not properly integrated in his personality. When he does attend on a patient seriously and sincerely, he gives of his heart, and inspires immense confidence.

The only trouble about him is that it is so difficult to secure his services. He would be busy with so many non-professional things while his patients pass through hours of tortuous waiting. Many people feel that Dr. Dubey's conscientious indifference to the torture of anxious waiting, without any proper justification.

I have my personal experience of this in the case of a friend who was lying ill for some time and whose condition one night suddenly took a grave turn. For some time he was as near death as can be imagined. Ministers were sent in all directions to Dr. Dubey of the Mayo Hospital, but his only came—some five hours after the crisis had passed. Among the good Doctors engaged at that night were the conference and a Gita Prasad, who was found at the latter but he refused to give reluctance and long stay. In his religiousness, he

might have known that there is far more fun in saving a human life than in reciting Gita for a whole life time.

That night I experienced along with many others the agony of waiting for a doctor who has no substitute in its most intensely painful form. It is not an uncommon experience, for doctors are not always available at a moment's notice and for people in that condition of mind, even an hour looks like an age. And when the doctor ultimately arrives, you feel like doing anything to him but you have to suffocate yourself in suppressing that feeling while you profess overweening courtesy towards the doctor. It is a tremendous strain on the mind and drives one to the verge of madness. Indeed the power of doctors over people is tremendous and one can easily imagine that it can be a great factor in human relations.

As against this I know of instances in which Dr. Dubey spontaneously offered to examine persons who had come to him on some other business but who looked obviously unwell, thus saving them from much misery and suffering. He often does all this without any reservation and out of a simple human urge.

It must be said to the credit of Dr. Balam Dubey that he is extremely solicitous and diligent in the case of poor patients. Many hours of his duty in the Mayo Hospital are spent in attending on the poor and he must have received the blessings of hundreds and hundreds—blessings which will count for him in the hereafter.

Another thing to the credit of Dr. Dubey is his perfect non-attachment for money. With his high-class capability as physician he can earn tons of money, but he doesn't. He does earn quite a lot for in spite of himself but he spends it prodigally in ultra-professional activities and causes. He spends comparatively very small amounts on himself and his pleasures.

But Dr. Dubey's obnoxious weakness is power-mongering. He is the greatest power-monger that walks the province today. It is a psycho-pathological trait under whose influence he is helpless. He must have his finger in every unsavoury bit of public life. It is indeed amazing how he manages to carve out so much time and energy from his doctoring for attending to so many affairs.

He is interested in everything conceivable—in Government appointments, transfers and promotions in the University, in municipal intrigues and quarrels, in the affairs of Congress and Congressmen, and in all the political manoeuvres of the day.

His place is thus a rendezvous for all manner of people, high and low Government officials and Congressmen and anti-Congressmen, loyalists and patriots, self-seekers, adventurers and goondas, millionaires

ex-ministers and would-be ministers, honest politicians and unscrupulous opportunists and many other people who defy description.

You can never predict in what affair Dr. Dubey would be interested next. Among people who are not interested in anything except themselves and for whom idealism is a foreign thing, Dr. Dubey's influence is great. They talk about him in hushed tones and when they get promise of support from him in their particular business they feel as if they have received God's blessings.

There is no gaining that the strength of Dr. Dubey in this first instance lies in his skill as a physician. He simply grips the mind of those whom he treats. His influence grows not only to individuals but to whole families. The greatest weakness of a human being is the desire to live and the doctor who administers to this desire is his God. I should think this is a fit subject for investigation by political scientists. The influence of doctors in society yet remains to be properly assessed.

It is not that doctors bring direct pressure on people concerned. They need not. Some treatment given today may come to play a part in some affair months later. It is impossible for a patient to discard the weight of doctor's obligation from his mind. He will always react to the doctor, whatever the time lag, under the influence of the obligation. While it must be admitted that this psychological factor is natural and inevitable, it becomes undesirable only when a doctor proceeds to interfere in non-medical spheres and in a way not conducive to social good. It need not be gainsaid that good doctors as a class are no considerable good to



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society, provided they are well-meaning, and they are fired by the purest idealism, and never lend their influence for the profit of self-seekers and adventurers. I know Dr. Dubey has done much social service, but more than that he has allowed himself to be of service to scores and scores of anti-social men and elements.

While watching at one quarter my friend's case, I came to know something of the doings in the Mayo Hospital. The noteworthy of the Mayo Hospital is a byword in Nagpur and the province. It has associations which are at least as stirring as a piece of fiction. People talk of it as a word underlines, always suggestively and never directly. Their attitudes vaguely suggest of the existence of something fishy, something scandalous which is taken for granted to be beyond the pale of investigation and exposure. Many tales of the subject in the dining rooms but nobody is prepared to take the responsibility for or to stand by its statements. So the Mayo Hospital is left strictly alone.

In the same context I came to know something of Dr. Rangilal. He is quite a person. He is an able lieutenant of Dr. Dubey but not quite so clever as he is—ambitious and other qualities needed to distinguish one in public affairs. Short, a covey, bald-pated, bicipitated, redoubt Rangilal looks like the rakishest of gamblers of Chicago, the ones you see at a Hollywood picnic. At the very first sight you think he is a tough guy who has seen much of the world and that too at close quarters. I do not think he is a hard-eyed, cold-blooded, intangible thing called conscience. Also he would not appear to be over-fascinated about professional status.

(Continued on Page 3)

## The Independent

Nagpur the 15th April 1946

## MUSLIM LEAGUE THEATRICALS

As Britain's showboy Mr. Jinnah is overdoing his job. True to his love of theatricals he has tried to create a dramatic impression on the mind of the Cabinet Mission by holding the Muslim League Legislators' Convention at Delhi. The Muslim League demand for Pakistan was repeated at the Convention for the thousands time and was backed up by threats of rebellion against the formation of "a Congress Government at the Centre." Mr. Abdul Quasim went on to threaten "that the Muslim Nation will strike swiftly before such a Government can be set up in this country." Sir Feroz Khan Noon held out the threat of attaining Pakistan with Russia's assistance, in the Ambedkar fashion. The ex-Defence Member of the Government of India said: "The Hindus give us Pakistan and freedom then the Hindus are our best friends. If the British give it to us then the British are our best friends. But if neither will give it to us then Russia is our best friend."

It cannot be conceived that Sir Feroz is unaware of the implications of Russia's friendship. Islamic nations of the Middle East are not quite so solicitous about Russia's friendship as Sir Feroz appears to be. Probably Russia is being mentioned to humbug the Cabinet Mission into the acceptance of the Muslim League's demand for Pakistan.

The face of the Convention held at Delhi is not without strong reasons from the Muslim League point of view. The fact that the Muslim League has not been able to form Ministries in the Punjab, the Frontier Province, and Assam, by itself proclaims what support the League enjoys in the various provinces of the Nagpur area. In Sind the Muslim League is balanced precariously on the support of three European members and the non-Muslims are free to be very different. The existence of Muslim League Ministries in Sind and Bengal will depend entirely upon the sweet will and pleasure of the European element in the respective Legislatures. This picture, irrespective of what arguments Mr. Jinnah may advance, does not indicate that the Muslim League is what it claims to be, and to that extent Mr. Jinnah is reported to have

found it difficult to press his claims for Pakistan before the Cabinet Mission.

Speaking at the Convention about the talk he had with the members of the Cabinet Delegation Mr. Jinnah stated, "I had long talks with the Secretary of State for India unofficially and thereafter officially with Cabinet Mission as a whole. I am not in a position to tell you anything more than that it was a free, frank and cordial exchange of views...." And yet Mr. Jinnah and his notable colleagues went on fulminating against the Congress and the British Government. The reason for the discomfiture is obvious. Every minority in India wants India to remain united and opposed to the division of India in any form. Sir Feroz referred with considerable complacency to the aid of Russia which the Muslim League is going to invoke to get Pakistan. It is not to be denied. And it is precisely for the same reason, that Pakistan might come into the sphere of influence of Russia and endanger the security of the whole of India, that the demand for Pakistan is being opposed by every Nationalist in this country.

What Mr. Jinnah and his colleagues forget altogether when they go fuming and fretting about the establishment of Pakistan, is that the majority of people in India are Hindus who oppose its establishment. Although Mr. Jinnah may want the wishes of the non-Muslims in the Pakistan zone of his conception to be ignored, to do so would be the greatest injustice in the history of the world. Anyone who wishes the general conceptions of justice and has to stand before the bar of world opinion would have to concede that the opinion of the non-Muslims in Pakistan areas must count.

Sir Feroz has promised "destruction and havoc" by the Muslims in this country which will "put into the shade what Chengiz Khan did." Chengiz Khans, it may be stated, had not to reside in India; Indian Muslims have not. But even if such devastations have got to be faced we cannot run away from them. Threat of creating chaos is not quite the proper language of discussing constitutional problems. Neither the Congress nor the Muslims nor the Cabinet Delegation are likely to be misled by such theatrical utterances.

## Let Sikhs Deal with Noon

Referring to Sir F. K. Noon Sardar Sant Singh warned the Cabinet Mission not to attach too much importance to it. As regards Noon enacting the drama of Chengiz Khan—leave it to the Sikhs to handle. Noon is to the Sikhs the Punjab to deal with him.

## Spotlight on Nagpur Elections

(Contd. from Page 3.)

though he is undoubtedly a highly skilled surgeon. He is a good surgeon and greedy—and when a little greedy, he generally gets what he wants.

This is not the place nor occasion to talk out the Mayo Hospital pattern in full. But I may mention that Major Lyden, one time Civil Surgeon of Nagpur, had once made an attempt at racketeering. Poor fellow, he had not reckoned with powers that be and the forces that worked. Consequently it was he who suffered and was sent away the Army.

The clique continued to operate apparently without impinging itself much on public attention and without doing much that could be called strikingly undesirable by public standards. People sensed its influence so much as to take it seriously. Recently however the clique has been blinding itself with its own light. It has stabbed at the Congress itself which would be the height of impudence in any power on earth and it utters threats in a half-dozen of mere individuals who harbour a bloated illusion of their powers.

It all started in the preliminaries of the selection of candidates from the Nagpur Province for the coming elections. The Mayo Hospital clique was interested in certain individual Congressmen who were calculated to be amenable to its influence. The Congress High Command ordained otherwise and gave a list, headed by Dada Dharmadhikari, which was the clique simply crazy. It saw that all power would slip out of its hands if its stooges could not get into positions of power and vantage.

Following this event there was much sneering and outlying. Lions were girded up to teach the High Command and their nominees the lesson of their lives. There was much abuse and vulgar talk, over and over, challenging threats of breaking heads and of exterminating the new men who were coming and their supposed friends. Moves and counter-moves were planned the success of which could only amount to a sabotage of the Congress elections. Quite a number of disgruntled Congressmen lent their cooperation in these moves. By the way, I may say that there is an incident which is revealing of the alignments of the elements composing the clique which I am writing about. When the Nagpur list was made known, a Deputy Superintendent of Police was heard to proclaim that this Wardha clique was made of snakes and it would become a headache. That D. S. P. happens to belong to the inner circle of the clique.

I may also pen here something which has a bearing on what I said above and will say subsequently. On the face of it, it is surprising that Government should overlook so much of meddling in public life. But that they have so overlooked could not be without very good reasons. From their point of view such doings would be highly profitable. The interests of the party of administration. They would

be desirable only from a political point of view. So far as the opinions of the group did not strengthen the nationalist forces but on the other hand weakened and disrupted them, then it is obviously to Government's advantage. The Government would not mind (and by current political standards they could not be blamed for it) if the clique promoted conflict among Congressmen, made tools of certain self-seeking Congressmen and thus disrupted and weakened the nationalist movement. I say this to demonstrate that since Government did not interfere in the operations of the clique it was primarily anti-national in its colour.

General Aweril's anti did much to undermine the strength of the Congress. It could only be expected to produce any other results. It went a long way in strengthening the anti-Congress forces within and outside the Congress. Dr. Duley and his friends took quite a lot of interest in the fact in a way not very helpful to the Congress. The only course open for honest Congressmen and friends of the Congress was to dissociate from and shun the clique. One reason I do not do this very knowingly or unknowingly aligning themselves against the interests of the Congress.

Now as to the reasons why this clique and its friends should be so terribly anxious about smashing the so-called Wardha Group. One reason was that in the coming of the Wardha men, they saw all power slipping out of their hands, but ardently imported for the Congress. The only course open for honest Congressmen and friends of the Congress was to dissociate from and shun the clique. One reason I do not do this very knowingly or unknowingly aligning themselves against the interests of the Congress.

The second factor is not much of a real thing, but ardently imported for its strategic advantages. This factor is an intense feeling of bitterness against the Mahars. This feeling is so ingeniously created and exploited that I am all admiration for those brainy fellows who do it. Some persons in the Nagpur list, specially two candidates from Nagpur, happened to be Mahars and it needed no more than this to make them to enlist against them the enthusiastic cooperation of many people. The trick works very well indeed!

Now I am not going to say here anything in defence of Mahars as a class. They are not all bad. But it is interesting to note that many drawbacks which offend justly the feeling against them. They are classish, they are casteistic, they are bad mixers, they are snobbish and conceited, they are over-suspicious of non-Mahars elements, they are general, they are over-individualistic and they seek power and position without seeing any sacrifice for it. The list of drawbacks may not be exhaustive. But I should think that even among them there can be exceptions.

But I shall not insist on the acceptance of even this hypothesis. What I want to insist is that it is not inherently wrong or abnormal those holding a strong prejudice

against Maharashtrians or any community for that matter. Christianity is India's special malady and it must be looked upon without any passion or ill-feeling. Allowances must be made for the weaknesses of human nature. But such prejudice becomes harmful when carried to the length of assailing the national cause. And Congress is a national cause par excellence.

Further as I have already suggested above, the feeling against Maharashtrians is an unreal thing in the background of our provincial set-up. They are so small in number that they hardly need any crushing. One has only to say that Maharashtrians must not get such and such a thing, and he will never get it. The very numbers are overwhelmingly against them. It would be ridiculous indeed if a band of hundred people got to be bitter against a single individual and planned elaborate schemes to checkmate him as if he were a horde. The hundred can as well ignore him and leave it at that.

Thus, when I hear of some people indulging in violent outbursts (which it becomes their large body) against Maharashtrians, treating them then to curses with foaming mouths, I cannot help bursting into laughter. (I wonder if my diminished body is also as ungainly as they when it shakes with laughter). It is as if a child has conjured up a bogey out of his own imagination and is indulging in violent mock-heresies against it. All in all there is something fantastically odd about power and numbers and obsessed by bitterness against a helpless handful. Calmness and serenity would be more logical and natural.

But as I have said there is nothing serious or enraging about anybody not bringing himself to like a particular community-provided of course that it does not lead one into anti-social and anti-national acts. The indefensible of the Mayo Hospital clique and of all those Congressmen and so-called friends of the Congress, coming in the train that they carried their hatred of two Maharashtrians—Dada Dharmadhikari and Mrs. Chatterjee—into the language of cold-blooded and sneakingly stabbing the Congress in the back.

One can understand of frank and open opposition to the Congress; it can be honourable under certain circumstances, despite the fact that the Congress represents the noblest and the purest of a whole nation. But to sabotage the election of Congress members from the nobility and the purity with the attitude of anti-Maharashtrian fanaticism—I do not know what name to give it.

I shall deliberately omit to defend the persons of Dada and Mrs. Deshpande. They are the real culprits as the Detractors painted them to be. These detractors were free to run them down in any manner; they pleased. They could have beaten up the two in the lines, they could have set fire to their home—none of these acts would have constituted crime. There can be no quarter for Congressmen and professed friends of the Congress for sabotaging the election of Congress members as the official Congress candidate. To stab the Congress today, to undermine its strength, to disrupt it as the present posture when the nation, on the failure

of the Cabinet Mission, may have to wage a battle, a thousand times more powerful than that of 1942—is like stabbing one's own mother. And all this because Mrs. Deshpande and one Mr. Awarri did not happen to get a Congress ticket. Let all Congressmen who are party to this sabotage by omission, commission, consent, indifference or weakness, pause and ponder, for it is a grave issue.

A peculiar factor went into the working up of the hostility of the clique against the Wardha group. It was the feeling that the High Command had sent the Wardha men to do spying on parliamentary activity. In the first place, those who have a clean record and a clear conscience need not be afraid of any spying. Indeed they should welcome it, for only thus can their golden deeds be conveyed to the High Command in their full glory. That one should be afraid of spying carries its own meaning.

Secondly there is something improper about the High Command wanting to "spy" (a vicious synonym for "keep a watch") on the Congress members. After all it is the province to see that the Congress administrations are maintained at the highest possible pitch of purity and efficiency. Even so it would be ridiculous to presume that the High Command would resort to "spying" on the Ministers. They are not exactly certified by the Ministers so as to checkmate them only by spying. Before I enter into details of the way in which the sabotage against the Congress was staged, I will narrate a couple of incidents to illustrate the conduct, character and attitude of the clique.

Mr. P. Y. Deshpande on the previous evening of the election day, went to see Mr. Sarajpal Gupta, President of the Sadar Ward Congress Committee, about the arrangements for the next day. Mr. Gupta was in a contrary mood and complained of so many difficulties. When he went on to say that he was not particularly considerably spoiled because *Bharivara* (perhaps he referred to the *Independent*) had attacked Dr. Dabry and that only he (Mr. Deshpande) picked up with Dr. Dabry the chances of the Congress candidates would be seriously jeopardized. The attitude of this statement can be assessed by sifting it a little closely.

The second instance refers to Babu Parate the relative Congressman who was opposing Dada Dharmadhikari. At one stage before the election, Parate felt funky and actually wrote out a statement announcing his withdrawal in favour of the Congress, and delivered copies of it to the Wardha clique of the P. C. G. and the *Taran Bharat*. This obviously did not suit the conveniences of the Wardha clique and they were immediately on the move.

They got Chatterjee, Municipal Secretary, to send for Parate and a conference was held at his residence place. Among those present were Dr. Dabry, Chatterjee, Bhola Deshpande and a few others. Parate himself. The outcome was that Parate rushed to get back his statement and all the three quarters, saying that he wanted to make com-

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alterations therein. The statement never saw the light of the day.

This instance has already been quoted in the *Taran Bharat* but no attempt has been made so far to contradict it which is extremely significant. I do not know what actually transpired in the above conference, but I am told Parate was given to understand that he need not be afraid of the Congress opposition because he was being backed by "powerful men".

In the third instance, Dr. Dabry asked a prominent Congress leader to help a Congress rebel candidate in a rural constituency in the Chanda District. The leader rejoined that Dr. Dabry was himself supporting Congress candidate in Dr. Hasan because he was supposed to be in the run for Ministry and was asking him (the Congress leader) to support one who, even if he won, was not likely to be anybody in particular. Dr. Dabry should, therefore, put Dr. Hasan out of his compass. Then he might consider the proposition made to him. All this shows how deep is this friendship of this clique for the Congress.

Let me now discuss some of the sabotage which, I know, was being discussed (mainly by disgraced Congressmen) weeks before the election. There was a talk of it during the election. The strategy was to go on the double-voting system which lent itself admirably for the purpose. Under it one need not work openly and technically against the Congress as such; it was enough that double voting was canvassed in favour of one Congress candidate to bring about

the fall of another who was considered the most dangerous from the point of view of the saboteurs. The full extent of the sabotage and the persons involved in it can be known only after a full inquiry. I will here only illustrate the manifestations of the strategy.

In the afternoon of the election day, a model Devadasi, flavoured melodramatically approached D. Dabry, President, N.N.C.C. and urged that she should have been given double vote for Dada Dharmadhikari and that if the other Congress candidate, Khandekar, was to be saved from falling, double-voting must immediately start in favour of the latter. He, therefore, urged that the Nagar President, in his official capacity, should immediately issue instructions to all the booths that double-voting be canvassed for Khandekar.

Gupta fell an easy victim to the pious wretches he duped under the pretence of his high birth. He is indefatigable in such an important official of the Congress. Before agreeing to this proposal he should have stood guarantee for Dabry's victory, which he conceivably could not. Later in the evening, when questioned on the subject, he actually wondered how he could take such a guarantee. It may be argued that it was only an error of judgment on his part but in the error very serious evidences will have to be adduced. It was far from him to permit the such of Parate's information and to find out for himself if double-voting had been canvassed for Dabry.

(Contd. on page 2)

## POLITICAL NOTES

## Ministry-making Efforts : Niranjan Singh in the Run : Mehta for Speakership?

( By Our Political Correspondent )

The coming week in the province, and specially in Nagpur, will be one of intense political activity. The Congress Assembly Party meeting is likely to be held on April 21 next. Almost every body in active politics is working for the climax which the meeting will be. Outwardly, the meeting is regarded to be merely for the election of the leader but in the background will be the grim question of the personnel of the Cabinet.

The Congress Party strength in the new Assembly will go up remarkably. It will at all events pass the 90 mark as against 72 of the last Assembly. The overwhelming popular support naturally makes us proud and elated, but it must also chasten us and make us alive to the grave responsibilities that weigh upon us. In the words of the Bombay Premier this is indeed an occasion for "fasting and prayer". Less victory make us drunk with power, we must be humble and mindful of the sacred trust the vast masses of the province have placed in the hands of the Congress.

## POLITICAL EMISSARIES MOVE

Last week I had discussed the prospects of ministry-making in our province. Since then more ideas are in the air. More concrete suggestions backed by considerable support have come forward.

Political embassies have been moving about sounding people and I have no doubt that the coming week—the time till the Party meeting is held—will be full of feverish underground activity. The situation has undergone some change during the last week.

From Berar comes the report that the legislators from that area are holding a separate party meeting of their own to vest full powers in their leader, not necessarily an M. L. A. (in all probability the Provincial President), to submit a list of Berar Ministers to the Leader with the mandate that it should not be rejected because it has the unanimous sanction of all Berar legislators.

**WRONG PROCEDURE**

If this report is true and the procedure suggested therein is adopted, then it is nothing but fettering the power and freedom of the Party Leader whose strength lies in the Congress Party working as a homogeneous team. The moment the legislators sit as Congress Party, they must forget the territorial loyalties and give their wholeheartedness to the Party Leader. The territorial conventions are bound to be respected and followed by the Party Leader, who will be open for advice from all quarters. But it would be wrong to place limits on his discretion.

reduce the Party Leader to

**MEHTA FOR SPEAKERSHIP?**  
Consequent on my remarks about Mr. D. K. Mehta made in my last despatch, a very concrete suggestion has come from a section in the Mahakoshal itself that has struck me as being timely and appropriate. A

PATIL AS FINANCE MINISTER

And why do I consider this change as highly desirable? Will the provinces stand to gain by this? Who will look after the Finance Portfolio, an important portfolio in every administration, much more so in the case of post-war and post bondage India? Yes, there are replies to these questions because I find that those who proffer this suggestion have thought constructively about it.

R. K. Patil will make good Finance Minister. His inclusion in the cabinet will be an asset in every way. The change is in the best interests of the province without causing any serious disturbance in the political set up. The province has been hungering for some change, a change that will show that the forces released during the August revolution find due recognition and representation and that in 1946 we are not going back to 1937.

## NIRANJAN SINGH

From this point of view, Thakur Nirajan Singh's name is A-I-H. He catches the imagination of the youth of the province, and his name is valuable. He is a graduate, a very good organizer and as chairman of the district committee, he has already gained a good deal of administrative experience. He is energetic and wiry, and has a strong sense of duty and self-reliance, and above all he possesses an amount of idealism that enchants the young mind. Nirajan Singh's name will be a tribute to the August Revolution in Makhosol. It is a generation, a gesture of friendship and recognition from the old leadership to the new, and the new leadership is bound to be a welcome and healthy gesture that will be hailed as eminently right throughout the province. The rights of the people of Kamshoni Agashob (Harjan) in the Cabinet are the sullen youth of Makhosol.

Questions are asked : What will happen to G.S. Gupta? And what about Thakur Chhedilal? Will he be asked to contest once again with the candidature of the Mahakosh Provincial Congress Committee and will the new body elect him once again?

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These are questions to which satisfactory and definite answers are not yet forthcoming.

## TWO PROPOSALS

As regards the numerical strength of the cabinet, two suggestions are being made. The smallest and most compact cabinet can be of six—two from Mahakoshal, one from Nagpur one from Bilar and two representing special interests—Hajirias and Muslims. This to be supported by six Parliamentary Secretaries who should be selected with an eye on efficiency primarily, but also to represent such other interests as have not been represented in the compact cabinet.

But there is a strong argument against this: that such a small cabinet will not be able to tackle the many and effective problems and all good and competent men who will make successful ministers will not be accommodated if the number is so rigidly limited.

CABINET OF NINE

The better alternative suggested by important quarters is that we must have a cabinet of nine consisting of three from Mahakoshal, two from Nagpur Province, two from Berar, one Muslim and one Harijan (the last two to be taken irrespective of the territory they come from). In this second case, it may be possible to dispense with the Parliamentary Secretaries. These two alternative propositions are being closely debated in high political circles of the province.

THE SADDER RAO BAHADUR

As I write this I receive the news that Dr. Hsiao has been elected from the University Constituency by a thumping majority. His three opponents forfeit their deposit. This is a grand news and I am glad that the University Constituency, reputed to be reactionary and anti-national, has made amends for its failure of 1937, and has proved that the intelligentsia of the province too are whole-heartedly with the national struggle.

I am so sorry for my friend, Roshan Bahadur Datar. All his dreams to be the Leader of the Opposition and then to interview the Cabinet mission have been dashed to pieces. Great were his expectations! He had hoped to pocket half the votes of the Nagpur Congress and then to announce that he was confident of securing twice as many votes at Dr. Hsuan would poll! But what a tragedy! The 'treacherous' arithmetic worked havoc against him. He must be feeling that he would have done better by not contesting the election at all. He must be a saddest of men, a man who has lost the hope that in future he will be capable in spheres not really his own.

The lesson learnt by the Rao Bahadur should be an eye-opener to men of his ilk.

## AL.P.E.C.

The construction work of the Stadium and the Pandol for the All India Physical Education Conference has been started on the new year's day of the Shivarashan Shuk.

The Stadium is being named after the late Dr. L. J. Kokardekar, an expert in Physical Education, who was a life-member of the Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal, Amroli, Director of Physical Education of the Nagpur University and Chief Officer of Physical Welfare of the C.P. Government.

The Pandol is named after the late Raja Laxmanrao Bhonsle of Nagpur. The plans of the gates of these two constructions are being drawn up and will be named after the renowned Physical Culturists of this Province, the late Mr. Govindrao Tuladkar, of Warud, late Mr. Marudharipant Pendke of Ellichpur and late Mr. Jiram Patil of Amroli.

A bust statue of the late Dr. Kokardekar is being prepared by Mr. Bashe, the renowned artist of Amroli, for being placed on the dias of the Pandol.

## CREDENTIALS

Mr. Harisharan Deshpande, General Secretary of the All India Physical Education Conference, Amroli, informs that there seems to be some misunderstanding about the convening authority of the All India Physical Education Conference. He wants to make it clear that the All Maharashtra Physical Education Conference, in its Bombay session held in January 1945, under the presidency of Mr. B. G. Kher, Prime Minister, Bombay, resolved that body with to organize an all-India Body like the Indian National Association of Physical Education, an All India Conference be organized under the authority in this matter was dedicated to the local branch of the A.M.S.S. Mandal. This local branch with the help of the Hanuman Vyayam Prasarak Mandal, Amroli, appointed a Provisional Committee, which in its turn organized a meeting of the Reception Committee and did the necessary spade work.

## THE TWO REBELS

The election results of C. P. Legislative Assembly began with a hard knock for the League and resounding success for the Congress. In Nimat Muslim Rural constituency the Muslim League candidate Khan Bahadur Syed Hameed Ali Khan received a smashing defeat at the hands of Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Ali, who was recently expelled from the League. The rebel League candidate secured 3459 votes while official Muslim League candidate secured only 1298.

The rebel Congressmen in Ramtek Rural constituency Ranji Mahajan secured his security having polled 483 votes as against 5465 by Dr. W. S. Barlingey. The Maharashtra in this constituency secured only 137 votes.

## EYE-OPENER

It may be mentioned here that in Ramtek, the rebel Congress candidate

Mr. Ranji Mahajan did not rest content merely with his role of a rebel. He went a step further and tried to appeal to the communal susceptibility of the voters. One can understand even a 'rebel' who may avenge a grievance against the injustice done to him individually. But the change of ground by Mr. Mahajan for his election, and the attempt made by him and his supporters to arouse the communal animosities of the voters is something definitely condemnable. Voters of the Ramtek rural constituency deserve to be congratulated for remaining firm in their support to the Congress candidate.

## FOOD-MUDDLE AGAIN

The Provincial Government may well have assured the public to have confidence in them, regarding their food management. But that is perhaps the very thing the public cannot bring itself to do. Otherwise why should it be necessary to form non-official committees for dealing with matters of food?

It is reported that the public in Khandwa have been voicing their grievances against iniquitous distribution and sky-rocketing prices of food articles, since last year, but to no purpose. Now they have appointed a non-official Committee which is trying to alleviate public inconvenience by making enquiries with merchants and consumers.

## CLOTH-SHORTAGE

Last week Government rushed to the press to contradict a report in a local newspaper recently regarding the alleged shortage of foodgrains in a rationshop at Warhda. They invited the public not to harbour any fear of recurrence of food-shortage. Will they shirk their responsibility in allaying the people's fears regarding cloth situation and its distribution in the province?

Here are the reports from various parts of the province, telling of distribution, black-marketing and acute shortage of cloth.

**SHOBHARPUR**—This village reports acute shortage of cloth. Dhosis have disappeared. People's complaints fall on deaf ears of the officials.

**PENDARA**—Out of its usual quota worth Rs. 15,000, threefourths are paid for black-marketing. Public is now disgusted and exasperated with the connivance of the authorities.

**GONDIA**—In spite of the good supply of cloth, the town faces a shortage, as it is not made available to the public.

**GADGWARA**—Local dealers have started distributing coarse cloth. But mismanagement has prevented the villages from getting it.

## THE NATIONAL WEEK

Wardha observed the National Week with enthusiasm. All the national institutions busy in constructive work, especially a cleanup campaign in rural areas. In a meeting arranged in Gondia chowk under the presidency of Sri. T. S. Rao, Mr. Mhatpe explained the implications of the constructive programme. The audience paid their homage to the

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The accused is defended by Sardar Rajendra Singh Bhargava, Sri. Kamal Dube, Mr. Shree Ram and others. In response to the Defence application for adjournment to enable them to prepare defence on account of late supply of amended charge sheet, the case has been adjourned till April 15.





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## An Interim War Out

Russia and Iran were asked by security Council to submit reports on the progress of negotiations between the two. The Council met to consider their replies which were duly submitted. Soviet Union replied "that" direct negotiation had already resulted in an understanding regarding the withdrawal of Red Army from Iran. The reply added that the question of oil concession was raised two years back independently of the question of troops and their evacuation. Iran replied that mutual negotiation had not borne out any tangible result and that Soviet interference in internal affairs of Iran were still going on unabated.

On the other hand, Iranian Government spokesman stated that the negotiations which commenced in Moscow for settling all outstanding questions were being continued in Teheran with the aim of placing Russo-Iranian relation on a firm and permanent foundation. But the Iranian Government has not accepted the Soviet conditions for withdrawal of troops and such the Teheran negotiation had nothing to do with the question of troops evacuation.

The members of security Council formally met in a private meeting and concluded an interim agreement for a peaceful solution of this long-drawn-out controversy. The members agreed to accept the Russian assurance that all Soviet troops would unconditionally leave Iran by May 6 and to defer the discussion of this question until that date. Iran was willing not to press the question further at this stage, provided it remained on the agenda for final disposal.

## Agreement at Last

While security Council was trying its best to crack the hard-nut problem, Iran and Russia signed an agreement in Teheran much to the dismay of the English-speaking countries.

The Agreement stipulates: (1) "Unconditional evacuation of Iran by Red Army within six weeks from March 24;

(2) The proposal for granting oil concessions to Russia must be submitted to the Iranian Majlis within seven months;

(3) A Joint Russo-Iranian oil company shall be organised to exploit the

BY  
S. CHOUHURI

oil resources. The terms and profits of oil production shall be shared by Russia and Iran in equal proportion. Iran shall have right to sell her share to the highest bidder which, for geographical reasons, shall be Russia. Soviet right to oil concessions, shall be in force for half a century.

An amazing provision of the new oil stipulates, it is reported, that a minimum of 50 per cent Russian Deputies should have seats in the Iranian Parliament. Perhaps the Government spokesman had in mind this very provision when he referred to some aspects of the negotiation "which were of no interest to United Nations".

## Another Soviet Triumph

In common with the Anglo-American diplomats, the right-wing Iranians have been indignant that Russia has by this pact succeeded in securing all she wanted to secure. They air a strong suspicion that similar to her secret economic pacts with the Eastern European countries, Russia may have incorporated in this agreement some undisclosed clauses which would ultimately make Iran completely subservient to the Union of Soviet Republics. Elements went so far as to attempt an abortive Coup d'Etat in all towns evacuated by Red Army. The attempt was, however, nipped in the bud by the swift and timely action of the Premier.

Soviet Union has made Iran violate her own law. Iranian law forbids any agreement or even any discussion on oil concessions so long as foreign troops remain in the country. Soviet troops are still in various parts of Iran, but the discussion on oil concession was undertaken and even the agreement has been signed.

Anglo-America were greatly afraid of being presented with a fait accompli in the shape of a Russo-Iranian rapprochement. The fear has materialised and the agreement has dealt a mortal blow to the prestige of the Big Two. Now if the Soviet demand for dropping the question from the agenda is accepted, it will be conclusively proved and admitted that the Security Council was on the wrong side. As such, the prestige of the Security Council is also at stake. Russia has not only achieved her

ends, but has also served a slap straight on the face of Britain and America, the effect of which the latter will take time to digest.

## No Peace For China

China knows no peace. The age-old tug-of-war between Kuomintang and Communists is still going on with full fury. The present dispute is all about the implementation of the all-party decisions arrived at the Political consultation of the all-party Conference with special regard to reorganisation of army and reoccupation of Manchuria.

A civil war between Kuomintang and Communists, it is widely feared, may break out in Manchuria, the moment Russian army shall have left. As the Russians withdraw, the Communists are intensifying their military operations and are capturing town after town. While the Chingching Government is determined to secure control of the whole of Manchuria, the Communists have reiterated their demand for democratic joint army and popular administration. This demand is summarily rejected by the Generalissimo.

## War Not Far Off

The Communist propaganda reached its climax when they direct attack on the Generalissimo was made by the Communist organ "Emancipation Daily". In this paper, Chiang Kai Shek was pictured as "a dictator, hypocrite, rumour-monger and of peridious character." It added that the

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New Delhi. 20th April 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 17th inst. You have never been in the Congress before and all along being in military service, you have not got the training for working in a democratic organisation like the Congress. The selection of ministers rests with the Prime Minister, who has to select his own team, which must be homogeneous, as there is joint responsibility and any one who cannot fit in there cannot be accepted. You are too junior to think of straightaway being a minister and you must put in apprenticeship in the Congress till you qualify yourself. This post is secured by commanding confidence of all the party, in which you have to work, but you seem to have already a very low opinion of all the people in the party and therefore perhaps you will have to trudge your lonely furrow. You must learn to suppress your ambition and to show your ability by doing some solid work as a soldier of the Congress instead of straightaway attempting to become a leader.

Yours sincerely,

Capt. K.D. Paranjape,  
Dharampath,  
Nagpur.

M.L.A.,

7

To  
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

365  
From  
Capt. K.D. Paranjape,  
Dharampeth Nagpur,  
17th April 1946.

Subject - REQUEST FOR MINISTERSHIP.

Dear Sir,

1. MY ELECTION FIGURES . On the 13th instant I sent you a telegram intimating my success in the election. I secured 13850 votes out of a poll of 16760 from a total list of 25978. My scheduled caste opponent saved his deposit securing 2368 votes; the Hindu Mahasabha and the congress renegade candidates secured 378 and 105 votes respectively.

2. THE REQUEST - I am however writing this letter to request you to consider my suitability for holding the Food Labour and Development Portfolios in the forthcoming congress ministry in this Province. I assure you that so far I had no intention of seeking a place in the ministry and had in fact decided not to accept one in the unlikely event of its being offered me, so as to devote myself to my scheme of an international Exhibition in Bombay. But the reasons and the recent Political developments outlined below now compell me to approach you with this request at such a late hour.

3. IMMEDIATE REFORMS REQUIRED. In my recent election tours and the contacts I have so far had with the Political and social groups in this Province I discerned that -

(a) Though the Province is still backward economically and socially and Politics centres round personalities rather than propositions, the electorate is no more backward in its expectations for immediate rectifications of the chronic inconveniences, artificial deficiencies, maldistributions, neglects and petty despotism of the bureaucratic Section 93 administration. Irrespective of the glowing national attitudes of the Congress the Parochial and yet awakened people of this Province will stand by it in future programmes only if the Congress administration affects salutary and comprehensive improvements most immediately.

0 - 7 -



(b) - Though Sewagram and the National Planning Committee may initiate workable principles of planning for general improvement, I have not found anybody in the Congress MLAs who has worked out their detailed application for the needs of the Province neither can I find any one who has considered the various problems impartially and comprehensively.

(c) - Already the Congress MLAs seem to be forming themselves into groups and clicks round persons. This only ensures bitter internal struggles which will sap the congress time and strength for immediate constructive reorientation of the Provincial administration.

(d) - In case the congress proclaims another struggle at the termination of the present Lawrence deliberations at Delhi, our Congress Assembly members may get shut up in gaols without having appreciably relieved the public distress or even having organised the public to withstand further economic and social oppression, while the bureaucracy is sure to maintain the distress if only to keep the public too weak and too disorganised to support the congress effectively.

4. METHODS FOR IMMEDIATE REFORMS - It is therefore necessary to affect immediate improvement in the socio-economic conditions. This will involve reorganisation of essential supplies machinery, rationalisation and redistribution of labour means and materials of production training particularly the rural population to self sufficiency, self help and co-operative transactions in products and wants, so as to ensure their economic well being and self respect in any forthcoming national struggle and to give them an earnest of congress administrative efficiency. This must however be accomplished within the next six months, <sup>and</sup> can be done -

(a) - not so much by legislation or planning committees both of which are necessary but laborious and time taking processes

(b) - not so much through the congress organisation because the local congress workers are steeped deep in personal politics and have to be trained for coordinated constructive work and comprehension of national magnitudes

304  
(c) - but by departmental reorganisation and changes in administrative routines to be supplemented as soon as possible by legislation, planning and constructive congress work.

5. DEPARTMENTAL APATHY - Fortunately this Province has well chosen Government cadres and the officials personally will welcome more systematic and beneficial work. It seems that present the war time distress, patch work improvements, preoccupation of the directing officials with war work, over centralisation and denial of initiative to the field official have caused 80 % of the official efficiency to be wasted in office red tape and routine 20 % in supervision over actual workers while only 10 % each is left for creative work and actual surveys and planning. The departments longed for public support to their otherwise workable regulations.

6. DEPTT REFORMS POSSIBLE - A properly selected minister who is known to be free from any bias self interest etc. can immediately enthuse and lead at least the subordinate cadres to constructive reorganisation and actual public welfare. By assuring them of public support and due appreciation through the congress he can really make them destroy all the usual bureaucratic ills and compel the senior officials to follow suit.

7. DEPTTS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE REFORMS - Essential and controlled supplies (foods, cloth, yarn and other controlled and rationed articles) procurement and distribution departments, along with labour and development departments, if properly handled, will bring about the necessary immediate improvement in the condition of the people and the economic well being of the Province. Though together, these form a voluminous responsibility for one Minister the separation of their port folios will lose all essence of promise of improvement. Labour problem in this province is most acute and vicious requiring immediate redistribution and rationalisation. Development at present is mainly planning but has to be coordinated comprehensively and intensively with the actual indiginous requirements of the people rather than let it become a dictate from above.

MY

8. CONCRETE MINIST COMPETANCY - I am approaching you for these portfolios because -

30/1/54  
(a) I do not think any local leader is free enough from the click mentality, even Mr. Dharmadhikari seems to be now deep in it, to consider the problem mainly on the above lines.

(b)- These departments want a minister who is not in any such click. I seem to be the only such person.

(c)- I am enclosing a copy of my memorandum submitted to you in November last. It will show you that my previous experience and aptitude in addressing myself successfully to unforeseen problems in major procurement and distribution of grain, transportation and labour. [ My comprehensive study and training in development schemes should ensure efficient and immediate handling of this tricky subject. ]

Awaiting your favour

Yours obediently,

Encl. 1

  
(K.D. Paranjape)

DRAFT-MEMORANDUM

CANDIDATURE FOR C.P. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

BY

CAPT. K.D. PARANJPE, 14th PUNJAB

ON

CONGRESS TICKET

INTENTION

1. AIM - I intend to stand in the forthcoming elections as an Indian National Congress candidate for election to the Central Provinces & Berar Legislative Assembly.

2. OBJECTS - In doing so my objects are -

- (a) to apply my services, experience and talents most effectively to the national cause through an organisation for which I have the highest admiration.
- (b) to manifest the general desire of the Indian Army to support the Congress in the struggle for Indian Independence and betterment of India.
- (c) to represent the case of the almost three million Indian personnel soon to be demobilised so as to ensure for them a fair deal in the Congress reorientation of Indian socio-political post-war reconstruction and thereby secure the grateful acceptance to the Congress of such a large body of men of disciplined habits and rational values.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

3. MERIT - While aspiring for a Congress ticket, I am fully aware that though I am in agreement with the Congress policies and attitudes, I have to-date taken no active part in Congress work and that preference in selecting Congress candidates for the Legislatures should be given to those who have served and sacrificed in the Congress struggle. At the same time, I humbly point out that -

- (a) many such Congress candidates have had little opportunity or leisure to study systematically legislative and administrative sides and problems of the redress they intend to obtain either for their respective constituencies or for the province in general.
- (b) in the new legislature these members will also have to speedily and adroitly retrieve many of the economic and social prospects jeopardised by the unrestrained bureaucratic administration of the province and will have to reorientate the post-war reconstruction plans and their intricate ramifications already set up by the bureaucracy under the aegis of the D.I.R. and Section 98 rule.
- (c) The electorate have suffered very considerably in the war period and have acquired keen sense of appraisal of not only their representative's ability to appreciate their exact grievances but also his talents for obtaining proper implementation and articulation of Congress policy to their particular requirements.
- (d) Therefore previous active work in the Congress cannot be made the only test of merit. On the other hand, persons potentially able to satisfy the above mentioned requirements irrespective of their sacrifice in Congress struggle will be infinitely more suitable as M.L.As. than mere leaders turned legislators.

4. POST-WAR PROBLEMS -

Though able Congress Ministries will administer the Province on general policies set down by the Congress High Command in this respect, its detailed execution in the hands of a bureaucracy may not always bring about the desired results. The Congress M.L.A. therefore will have to exert most tactfully between moribund & power habituated albeit suspect executive official and an impatient constituency not yet trained to weigh comprehensively its demands in constitutional manner, before he can achieve the harmony between established routine and departures for new possibilities.

## 5. RELATIVES OF SERVICE PERSONNEL -

The bogie of Government displeasure which in previous elections deterred so many relatives of government servants from casting their votes for the Congress is now increased a hundredfold due to the D.I.R. administration and the much larger proportion of the population now having relations in the Defence Services, Railways and such other employments.

6. DEMOBILIZED PERSONNEL -

It is a pity that no political organisation, <sup>in India</sup> seems to have adequately realised the immense socio-political post-war importance the demobilized personnel will assume in India. These well disciplined, well trained personnel both in the combatant services and in the semi-military organisation will be diffused all over the country where they will carry easy comprehension of subjects and issues of larger impact than those affecting their routine local lives. Unfortunately, in the strenuous years of war, they were almost completely ignored by all political parties & yet such is their willingness to co-operate in constructive planning that if any party would only take notice of <sup>under their</sup> legitimate grievances they will do their grateful utmost to support and actively work for that party.

7. A MILITARY CANDIDATE -

An Officer in the Army leaving his well salaried and dignified post to join the Congress would in itself be first rate election propaganda. His example will also largely help in winning over the large proportion of the electorate who are wavering about voting for the Congress owing to their serving relatives. He will be in a position to inform the local Congress and his colleagues in the legislature as to which redresses of the grievances of the demobilized personnel are most urgent or salutary. His military training & career ensures that he has the power of command and qualities of leadership to obtain disciplined and sustained action willingly from people even in the most strained circumstances and unforeseen hardships. He does it as the first rate tact initiative qualities of character honour & will sacrifice for an avowed cause.

MY QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE CANDIDATURE

## 8. QUALIFICATIONS OF MERIT -

The ~~analysis~~ <sup>given below</sup> synopsis of my personal particulars will, I hope, show that I possess the potentiality of being a useful member of the legislature.

## 9. MILITARY QUALIFICATIONS

Being a Captain of the 14th PUNJAB REGIMENT and an officer who has taken a keen interest in the conditions and prospects of the Indian Sepoy, I am sure I shall satisfy all requirements as indicated in para 7 above.

## PERSONAL PARTICULARS &amp; QUALIFICATIONS OF

Capt. K. D. PARANJAPE, 14th PUNJAB REGIMENT.

10 QUALIFICATIONS

## PERSONAL PARTICULARS

(a) University Studies -

- (4) B.A. Hons: First-class with highest record, Bombay University 1934. Subjects- Indian, Ancient Greek, Modern European and British Histories, Economics, Political Science Constitution.
- (11) M.Sc.(Econ), LONDON University 1937. Subject - 'Comparative local government with particular attention to local Govt. organisations and administration in U.K., British Empire, France, Germany, U.S.A.' Being then the first student to take up a subject of such magnitude, I had to prepare for the degree by apprenticing and attending over twenty local government bodies in Britain and Europe, visiting every country in Europe (except Russia) by travelling over 40,000 miles in my car and studying on the spot almost all types of local Government organisations and administration besides attending twelve European Universities for short instructions. This gave me a comprehensive understanding of a thorough cross section of all types of local Govt: & their efficiency in respect to any set of circumstances.

(b) Other Education -

- (i) Incomplete research in Economic History of India since 1860 in 1934-35.
- (ii) Study of Public Law in India - 1937-38.
- (iii) Research on Philosophy of History 1938 for D.Litt. for Cambridge.
- (iv) Research on Principles & Problems of Road Transport for D.Sc.London.

} Left incomplete due to the war.

(c) Special Studies -

- (i) In Europe - Cooperatives, handicraft organisations in Germany and Central Europe, Land resettlement in Holland, Eastern Europe and Balkans, Nazi self sufficiency efforts, International Exhibitions & Fairs at Brussels, Paris, Lipzig, Rome, Road Transport systems, electric rural tramways in Belgium, mining development in Central Europe & Balkans etc.
- (ii) In India - Development & marketing of rural handicrafts, trade development of perishable commodities, Indian Paichayat System, Traditional Folk educations, river transport, rural transport, Indian minerological and hydroelectric surveys, forest utilisation, tribal administration & rehabilitation.

(d) Military Career -

- (i) Unsuccessfully tried to obtain permission in 1940-41 for raising a contingent of Indian volunteers for the Polish Army.
- (ii) Joined the Indian Army in August 1941 as 2/Lt. in the 14th Punjab Regt. Went overseas in Iraq-Persia Sept. 1941, Promoted Capt. Nov. 1941, Staff appointments in Movement Control in Iraq-Persia upto August 1943 since posted to the Burma Front in Movement Control. Served in that field area todate.
- (iii) Useful studies and experiences in Military career - In Iraq and Persia apart from the rapidly growing and complex military movements problems I ~~in~~ <sup>immediately participated</sup> reorganising almost single-handed the U.K.C.C. Road Transport in N.W. Persia carrying Russian supplies, arrange ~~evacuation~~ <sup>evacuation</sup> of 50,000 Polish exiles from Russia. Worked as Mov.Control and Liaison Officer in Anti-Locust Campaign in Persia in 1943. My work also included large grain transportations between Iraq, Syria, Turkey and Persia. In India I have done exemplary work in managing Rail Transportation in the anxious 1944 Imphal invasion days. While in Assam and Bengal I closely studied the grain distribution and transportation problems and my suggestions were most highly commended by Civil Authorities.

1. Personal Particulars -

- (a) Full name - Kashinath Dhundiraj PARAMJAFE,
- (b) Birth place & age ARWI, DIST WARDEHA C.P. Age 34 running.

366  
16th April 46

My dear Ravi Shankar,

I have received your letter of the 12th inst. Regarding the formation of ministry, I think it will be better for you to come here with Dada Dharmadhikari and Biyaniji, soon after your election as Leader, as is convenient, so that we can discuss the question in all its aspects. Most of the points affecting its formation have been discussed when you were here on the last occasion. But you have raised some points which require consideration. If there is conflict between Biyaniji and Dada Dharmadhikari regarding selection of ministers from Berar, I would like to hear both of them before final advice is given. If they both agree amongst themselves, you are also agreeable, there could be no difficulty, but if there are differences, we must hear all concerned before decision is taken. About Thakur Cheddilal, Maulana Saheb holds a very low opinion and the change of Central Board's decision in the matter of selection of one candidate was due to Thakur Cheddilal's indiscretion. I do not think it would be wise to expand the ministry at this stage, except for the inclusion of one Harijan, if necessary. You must therefore inform Dada Dharmadhikari and Biyaniji and fix up a date for coming here.

Yours sincerely,

Pt. Ravi Shankar Shukla,  
Raipur.

पंडित रविशंकर शुक्ल

369

रायपुर

12-4-46.

Dear Sardar Sahib,

Your wire was duly received. The voting for Landholders and Commerce constituencies is over to-day. Every thing is alright here. Results of elections are turning out satisfactorily.

We are holding our party meeting on the 21st instant. Is it necessary to inform the Maulana Sahib and invite him? or will it do to send information to the office of the Parliamentary Board at Bombay?

Although I have not met Mr. Dharmadhikari I am reliably informed that he and his friends want Gekhale (Brahmin) and (T.K. Deshmukh (Non-Brahmin) as ministers from Berar. This of course means that both ministers would be from East Berar. I however, think this should not stand in the way of their selection. I am inclined to agree to this proposal. On the otherhand Berar friends inform me that Mr. Biyani wants Mr. Kanade Chastri and Dr. Khoskar. Mr. Chastri has all his lifetime an anti-Sandhite and in my opinion his selection as a candidate was a mistake. Dr. Khoskar is a man of no education ~~and~~



3691A  
so far as I know. He has picked up some knowledge of Homeopathy and calls himself a Doctor. He is ~~thoroughly~~ thoroughly lacking in culture and is not expected to be a good member of a united team.

I am told in order to ~~thrust~~ these two undesirables upon us Mr. Biyani is planning to call a meeting of the M.L.A's from Berar before we meet as a Party.

No such Group meeting has taken place in Mahakoshal. I understand the Marathi C.P. friends also do not approve of such regional grouping. Mr. Joshi, I am informed, is also opposed to this move. But I think he can not persuade Mr. Biyani to give up the idea.

In Mahakoshal a number of friends are pressing me to include Thakur Chhedilal in addition to Messrs. Mishra and Mehta. No one from Mandsal is opposed to Mr. Mishra but some want Mr. Mehta to be dropped out. Both myself and Mishraji do not wish to sacrifice Mr. Mehta. Will it be possible to include Thakur Chhedilal in addition to Mishraji and Mehtaji? We shall have a cabinet of nine instead of eight. That is all. I would like to have your final advice regarding Thakur Chhedilal.

पंडित रविशंकर शुक्ल

रायपुर

370-371

I may inform you that by his inclusion some complications which may otherwise arise will be avoided. But I shall abide by your advice.

Yours sincerely,

*R. Shukla*

P.S. In order to avoid delay I am also sending a copy of this letter to your Bombay address. I shall be in Raipur till the 19th and in Nagpur from the 20th onwards.

*R. Shukla*

Reason  
12-4-46.

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mistake. *Dr. Khodkar is a man of my class*

31/1/47  
K. H. H. has picked up some knowledge of Homeopathy and calls himself a Doctor. He is ~~thoroughly~~ thoroughly lacking in culture and is not expected to be a good member of a united team. I am told in order to thrust these two undesirables upon us Mr. Biyani is planning to call a meeting of the M.L.A.'s from Berar before we meet as a party. No such Group meeting has taken place in Mahakoshal. I understand the Marathi C.P. friends also do not approve of such regional grouping. Mr. Joshi, I am informed, is also opposed to this move. But I think he can not persuade Mr. Biyani to give up the idea.

In Mahakoshal a number of friends are pressing me to include Thakur Chhedilal in addition to Messrs. Mishra and Mehta. No one from Mahakoshal is opposed to Mr. Mishra but some want Mr. Mehta to be dropped out. Both myself and Mishraji do not wish to sacrifice Mr. Mehta. Will it be possible to include Thakur Chhedilal in addition to Mishraji and Mehta? We shall have a cabinet of nine instead of eight. That is all I would like to have your final advice regarding Thakur Chhedilal.

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I may inform you that by his inclusion some complications which may otherwise arise will be avoided. But I shall abide by your advice.

Yours sincerely,

*Asmussen*

P.S. In order to avoid delay I am also sending a copy of this letter to your Bombay address. I shall be in Raipur till the 19th and in Nagpur from the 20th onwards.

*Asmussen*

37<sup>2</sup>

Camp:  
Birla House,  
Albuquerque Rd.,  
New Delhi  
18th Apr. 46

My dear Biyaniji,

I have authorised Shuklaji to call a meeting of the Assembly Party on the 21st. inst. The elections in Berar must now have been over. I do not know what has been the results but I expect you must have secured all the seats. The formation of the ministry has to be settled and soon after the election of the Leader is over, you, Dada Dharmadhikari and Shuklaji must come here for consultation. In Mahakhsal probably the old ministers will continue. In Nagpur Shri Patil and Dr. Hassan may be selected but I have to consult Nagpur opinion before I can give advice. In Berar Shri Gokhale, the old minister, will probably continue and the question of another minister will have to be settled. It may be necessary to take one Scheduled Caste man also but looking to the strength of the Scheduled Caste members, Mahakhsal would have a claim, as they have the largest number of scheduled Caste members from their province. In any case there is no final decision taken so far and I have written to Shuklaji to fix a date in consultation with you and Dada Sahab and he has been asked to come here with you.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Brijlal Biyani,  
Rajasthan Bhuvan,  
Akola, Berar.

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Camp: Birla House,  
Albuquerque Rd.,  
New Delhi.

16th April 48

My dear Dadasaheb,

During the course of the week, I have received many telegrams from Damodar giving me information about the election results and I think now they are all over. It seems the Congress there has won almost all the seats and that too with great credit. I am glad about the results and I congratulate you and your colleagues for the good work that you have been able to do in organising the election campaign.

I have asked Shuklaji to call a meeting of the Congress Assembly Party on the 21st for the purpose of electing a Leader. The election of the Leader will, I hope, be unanimous, as there is no one in the party who has any intention of standing against Shuklaji. The question of formation of ministry has to be settled, and after the Leader is elected, it would be better if Shuklaji, you and Biyaniji would come here to discuss this question. So far as Mahakhosai is concerned, probably the old ministers will continue. In Nagpur we may have no difficulty but I should like to know your views before I can give any advice. In Berar there may be some differences of opinion between Biyaniji and Vir Wamanrao but this should form no impediment. I have written to Shuklaji to

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Express

RAVISHANKAR SHUKLA

RAIPUR

YOU ARE AUTHORISED TO CALL PARTY MEETING TWENTYFIRST FOR  
ELECTION LEADER

15.4.46

VALLABHRAJ



S. I. B.

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X PH RAIPUR 14 24 SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI

= KINDLY GIVE AUTHORITY FOR CONVEYING CONGRESS MEMBERS MEETING FOR

ELECTING LEADER ON 21 ST TO AVOID OBJECTIONS = SHUKLA =

*you are authorized to call Party meeting  
21st for election leader etc*