

(S) Singh

34, Mall Avenue,  
LUCKNOW,

15 April 1960

My dear Shri Bajpai,

According to a press report vide the 'Hindustan Times' dated April 11, 1960, you have asked why people first "form new parties and then start discussing merger". Inasmuch as it has not been contradicted till date, I am entitled to presume that the report is correct. Obviously, the question has been directed at me. My reply is: Because the interest of the nation today so demands. If we remain attached to our minor loyalties, the coming generation will want to know why their forefathers were so steeped in their toys and self-interest that they could not see the writing on the wall.

Also, the 'Panchjanya', an organ of the Jan Sangh, wrote in the above strain about our resolution of March 23. You will please pardon me if I say that all this bespeaks of a complex on your part which is contemptuous of other parties. But you are labouring under an illusion if you think you can, by your own efforts, arrest the threat posed by communism, or the downward trend to chaos and disorder with which our Motherland is beset. You will perhaps agree that the apprehension that I entertained and voiced during our talk with you and other friends, probably on March 30, has only come too true. The storm is about to break sooner than anybody could expect. The communists are on the swell.

I further understand from the above press report that a meeting of your Working Committee is scheduled for April 24, in Danby. If you are at all pleased to discuss the proposal made in our resolution of March 23, then kindly produce this my letter also before the Committee.

I was greatly pained to learn during my recent visit to Indore on April 10 and 11, that you had been pleased to say from a public platform in January last in Indore that IND was dominated by a certain caste or castes and was accentuating caste feelings, and you made a suggestion, which was not lost upon the audience, to the effect that the vast sums that we were allegedly spending in the mid-term poll could possibly come only from the CIA. I had been told by my friends of some such statement made by you at a press conference in the fourth week of January, which I myself could not read owing to pressure upon my time. I thought it was a lone statement made in order to explain away the bleak prospects of the Jan Sangh but it seems you made a consistent campaign of it. Well, none of it when we meet next to discuss public affairs.

With best wishes,

I am,  
Yours



Sri Atal Behari Bajpai,  
President, Bharatiya Jan Sangh,  
NEW DELHI.

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