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S.B.De.
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25. 4. 49.

Sir,

Years ago, in the Dacca University I was elected General Secretary of the Dacca Hall Student's Union and in that capacity very often I used to have the good fortune of coming in close touch with your good-self. Dr. J.C.Ghose was our Provost and president of the union.

Since those days, I received his kindness in abundance in variety of lifes' stages. Until very recently I had been to Delhi and called on him in order to pay respects of my gratitude. To my utter disappointment I could not call on you because at that time you were not at Delhi.

Time was when you Sir, not only knew me very intimately but showed me kindness in various ways. These long intervening years, there was for me no need to worry you in any manner which I feel has arisen now out of most cruel travesty of my fate.

In 1935, I got myself enrolled as an Advocate in the Calcutta High Court. In June 1945, I was appointed joint Civil & Sessions Judge for a Group of States in Orissa, then known as Eastern States Agency. Thereafter I became Chief-Minister to Athmallik State (Orissa) on 1st October 1947. Along with the rest of 24 states, my Athmallik state also merged with the Province of Orissa on Jan. 1, 1948. In those days when transfer of Power & Asministration took place, I was struck down with grave illness and all but I, have since been absorbed suitably under the Orissa Govt. services. The fact of my very serious illness might be in the remembrance of the present Orissa Premier and some other top-ranking officials who were then connected with the States-Asministration in Orissa. For treatment I came away to Calcutta and struggle for survival went on in various Hospitals. Illness and convalescence unfortunately covered a long time of 14 months.

On discharge from Hospital completely restored to health, I tried my utmost to get absorbed in Orissa Govt. services but to no avail at all. It was in this connection that I went to Delhi and there also I met the same fate. Pity is that I can not revert to Bar also because, due to Partition, prospects in Calcutta High Court for Acvocates are so little today and there are already so many in the field from long before

(Over leaf)

Sir, at a time when there seems to be no hope for me and my miserable dependants any where, as a last resort I have taken this desperate course of worrying your goodself with the following prayer.

As you are Sir, very well aware of the fact that of late, almost all Native States have either merged with their neighbouring provinces or formed big Unions. Independent of provincial questions, on basis of merit, Executive or Judicial Experiences, good number of appointments have been made and in the prevailing circumstances, many more suitable appointments will be made for services in the various Unions either by the Ministry of States direct or on their advices. Consistent with public reports which we see in Press from time to time, it seems permissible to hold that Sri V.P.Menon, now, Political Adviser to the Ministry of States can provide me with a suitable Employment in the States Union - any where in India - provided again I could get an opportunity to convince him about the justice of my case.

As a lawyer, I can realise that it must seem awfully curious and quite out of place to approach a personage of your eminence, of all persons with a prayer to help me in a matter with which you do not have the slightest official connection.

With my wretched dependants completely at sea, may I appeal to you to treat me as a younger which in fact I am always and was once treated as such. In that context, I venture to hope it would be at once possible for you to be kind to all of us, (my dependents) and even forgive this boring performance of a pitiable letter.

I will prize the favour all my life if you could put in a word for me either to Sri V.P.Menon or in any othe Ministry as one does so as a father or as a brother sheerly ~~out~~ of genuine humane considerations for a suitable Employment.

I have no doubt you will grant me a few lines in reply advising as to what I should do in such terrible curcumstances. Trusting this finds you in excellent health and spirits. With profound respects.

Yours very obediently,

S. S.