

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF BROOKLYN
99 LIVINGSTON STREET
BROOKLYN 2, NEW YORK

INSTITUTE OF POLYMER RESEARCH
DR. H. MARK, DIRECTOR

TRIANGLE 5-6920

August 17, 1948

Sir K.S. Krishnan, FRS
Director, National Physical Laboratories
University Buildings
Delhi, India

Dear Krishnan:

I am prompted to write to you not for any special reason but for many. In the first place, I have not heard from you in ages -- in fact, I think, since you left the United States, almost 2 years ago and I just thought it would be nice to get a letter from you.

Quite a few of your colleagues have been visiting here recently and I have had the pleasure of entertaining my old friend Lal C. Verman again. Sir Raman has just put in an appearance and he will be staying around New York for the next week or two. This is the first time I have met him, as you probably know, and he certainly is a lively fellow.

The principal reason for writing this letter is the impending departure of Dr. Sham Lal Kapur. Kapur is, as you might guess, an Indian who, before coming to the United States, worked with Verman in the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. He has spent 3 years working at the High Polymer Laboratories with Professor Mark and has been during that period very definitely one of the outstanding students in the group. He has acquired a very thorough, all around understanding in both the organic and physical aspects of high polymers. It seems to me that a man of his capabilities and training should not be wasted in an unsuitable job, and India certainly needs people of his qualifications to do the jobs they are trained to do. Kapur has as yet made no definite plans as to what he will do in India and I am sure that you will not only be doing him a good turn, but will help the technical development of India. If you can make any recommendations which would help place him where he should be placed.

I have been talking to Kapur and the information at his disposal suggest that probably the best place for him would be the high polymer division of the National Chemical Laboratories. I don't know anyone there and it is for that reason I am writing you about him. I would appreciate it ever so much if you could bring Kapur's training and background to the attention of the proper people at these laboratories or any other laboratories where you think he will be of use.

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I have no hesitancy in recommending him in the highest terms and I know Dr. Mark feels about him as I do.

Now for some personal matters. We have gotten a small private house five minutes walk from the lab. Dina and Arthur are quite well. We have a lovely guest room which we hope you will be occupying in the near future. Raman is my house guest now and he can give you full details of the suite which you will occupy when you come to visit us! Dina sends her best regards and Arthur plans to visit you in India very soon!!!

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am, as always,

Very sincerely yours,

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I. Fankuchen

IF:JG

P.S. For the next three months Kapur can be contacted at:
Dr. E.R. Blout
Polaroid Corporation
730 Main Street
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts