

Personal & Confidential

27th March

My dear Mathur,

I must warn you about the construction of the rest of the National Physical Laboratory. Apart from irregularities about constructing things which were not sanctioned, it has not been realised by you inspite of my warning that Lecture Theatre and the Library have taken a long time to build and are going to cost very much more than anticipated in the original estimates. You might explain that the Library will now cost less, but I do not see that this is the case. Big pillars had to be pulled down in order to give this new idea a chance and all that is not too good. Even now as I notice from day to day sufficient number of people are not working on these two buildings and the Cafeteria and the Basement section is not progressing at the rate at which it should have proceeded.

The portion that was sanctioned before the connecting link was started should be finished as quickly as possible and I am not thinking in terms of six months or so as if it is not completed within a couple of months, I shall not be able to get you any other funds for finishing the Central Wing. Please see that immediate efforts are made to concentrate upon the building programme which must be completed so that Members of the Parliament and the public may see what we have done. I should like you to concentrate also on the lights outside the building and on fitting the Lecture Theatre as early as possible. Dilly Dallying and too much experimenting is not necessary especially when we know that a perfect Lecture Theatre has been made by the National Chemical Laboratory.

You have promised that air-conditioning will work regularly from the 1st April. I do not see any signs of it but I am willing to give you a chance and I hope you will kindly

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see that all openings and non-concealed portions of the conduit for cold air filled up readily so that they do not spoil the looks of the building <sup>At present</sup> and bring dust and dirt inside in large quantities.

I have written this letter because I have a feeling that I say so many things to you that you forget to take action. I am sending a copy of this letter to Dr. Krishnan because the matter is becoming so serious that there may be uncomfortable critics who will take cudgels against us. I shall therefore be grateful if you kindly take immediate steps to complete the portion that was envisaged to be completed.

With best regards,

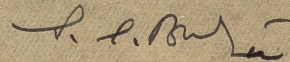
Yours sincerely,

sdl:

(S.S.BHATNAGAR)

Dr. K.N. Mathur,  
National Physical Laboratory,  
NEW DELHI.

Copy forwarded for information to Dr. K.S. Krishnan, F.R.S., Director, National Physical Laboratory.

  
(S.S.BHATNAGAR)