

BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION

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TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH
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August 13, 1966

Dr. R.K.Varma,
28, Teakwood Drive,
Newport News,
Virginia,
U.S.A.

My dear Varma,

Thank you very much for your letter of July 26, 1966 and for your kind message of congratulations. I look forward to meeting you on your return in November.

With regard to the NASA contract for research to be carried out at the Institute, my views are the following:

1. We have, in this Institute, accepted in the past grants for research. In particular we received a fairly large sum from the Wellcome Trust (England), for setting up our Molecular Biology group. We are to receive a sizable amount from the National Science Foundation, USA for our large cylindrical radio telescope project. We have received an amount of Rs.15 lakhs from the US Government PL-480 funds (in Indian rupees) for work on oral cancer by our Dental Section. I have recently agreed to Prof. Lal applying to the American Chemical Society for a grant for the oceanographic research programme.

2. From (1) you will notice that we have received grants and there is no objection in principle. The essential point is that the grant should be compatible with the dignity of the Institute and there should be no onerous conditions attached to it. Further, if we receive a large number of small grants, this can lead to difficulties in the maintenance of accounts. You must remember that we receive our basic grant from the Government of India and this is a sizable one, on which practically all of our research has thus far been based.

Dr. R.K.Varma

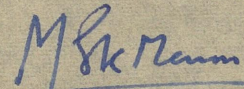
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If you would let me know the approximate size of the grant expected, whether it is to be in dollars or in rupees, and the conditions attached to it (i.e. manner in which it is to be spent etc.), then I could advise you further whether it would be considered acceptable.

Regarding housing, I am afraid the position is very difficult. I shall do whatever I can for you, but I do not promise anything at this stage. I am sure that something can be worked out.

With kindest personal regards to your family and yourself from all of us here,

Yours sincerely,



M.G.K. Menon