

4/12/47
The Nat'l 7/12/47
Sl No. 9.
Bar Council, Seci, 19
High Court,
Allahabad
17/12/47 The 27th Nov 47.

Dear Sir,

I shall be obliged
for information as to whether
draft copies of the Constitution
of the Dominion of India will
be published and made avail-
-able to the public before its
being discussed & finally passed
by the Constituent Assembly.

Soliciting a Reply

Yours truly
Shrihar Sahai
Secretary

Bar Council,
Allahabad.



DEPARTMENT/OFFICE.

Draft ^{Letter}
Memorandum
Telegram

File No.

Serial No. 10

1. Date of despatch

No. CA/108/Cons/47.

Dated

December, 1947

2. List of enclosures

To

The Secretary,
Bar Council,
High Court,
Allahabad.

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the
27th November, 1947 I ^{regret} ~~am~~ ~~desired~~ to say that at
this stage no positive reply can be given to your
enquiry whether the draft Constitution will be
published for general information before it is
actually considered by the Constituent Assembly.

Yours truly,

A.S.

Done

for

3/12

Miss/CC

No. 2721

for

5/12/47

102
H.D. Dya 103982/Coms
10/12

S. No 11

Bar Council Office

Shri Const
Allahabad
The 8th Dec 47.



Dear Sir,

Thanks for yours of the 4th
Dec 47, in reply to an enquiry
about publication of the Draft
Constitution.

Will you please place the
matter for consideration of the
Constituent Assembly, so that
the Draft Constitution may be
only published, and the
Assembly may have the ~~advantage~~
advantage of the public

Express their opinion about the draft constitution.

13
reaction to its proposal at
the time of passing the Constitution
^{Prepublication}
~~Preparation~~ of the Draft
Constitution is in consonance
with the democratic principles
and in accordance with the
procedure of legislation, and
in view of the importance of
the Constitution to the public,
I hope that the Government
Assembly will approve
the suggestion + order its publication
before it is considered + passed.
In giving a sanction

Adnan Khan
The 14th Dec 47

Yours truly
Shrihat Sahai
Secy.
Bar Council.

13th December, '47.

To:-

The Secretary,
Bar Council,
High Court,
ALLAHABAD.

Dear Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge your letter dated 8-12-47 urging the desirability of the publication of the Draft Constitution of India before it is considered by the Constituent Assembly. No final decision has yet been taken on the question.

Yours truly,

(X.V. PADMANABHAN)
UNDER SECRETARY.

File No 2912
13/12/47

'SHARMA'

By Mr. 3977/Cons.
1/12/46

Mr. K.K.

S. No 13

To The Secretary, Constituent Assembly, Bharatbasa Dominion
Delhi.

Dated Pachonia, P.O. Jogighopa Goalpara, Assam, The 1st November
1946.

Sir,

I have the honour to approach ^{you} to know whether the public have any right, apart from their representation through elected members, to suggest any improvement, ^{or} pointing out any defect in the draft constitution, this by directly addressing you some letter, or indirectly informing the Assembly through news papers.

Sir, if the news-paper reports of the proceedings of the Constituent Assembly be relied upon, there are some grave defects in the draft constitution upon which the future Government is likely to founder. The attempt to fit some features of the unitary Government in the federal structure has not been successful, and the result will produce anomaly in actual administration.

So, may I know whether the public be allowed to express their opinion about the draft constitution before final enactment, and if be supplied with copies of the draft whenever that is sought for? If the enactment be not taken as expeditious, the best course will be to invite public opinion.

If there be no in no direction to the contrary, may I request you to supply me a copy of the draft constitution to ~~discuss~~ ^{discuss} all aspects of the constitution?



I remain, Sir, yours truly,
Paramananda Das.

12th December, 47.

To:
Shri Paramananda Das,
Village Pachoria,
P.O. Jogighopa,
Goalpora (ASSAM).

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the
1st November 1947, I regret to say that at
this stage no ^{definite} positive reply can be given to
your enquiry whether the Draft Constitution
will be published for general information &
comments before it is actually considered by
the Constituent Assembly. I may however add
that this question will receive due consideration
at the appropriate time.

Yours truly,

(K. V. PADMANABHAN)
UNDER SECRETARY.

purpose. I know all may not agree. It strikes

T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRI

S. No 15

(17)

EDWARD ELLIOT ROAD,
MYLAPORE, MADRAS.

2 FEB 1948

No. 48748 PCA

Dear Dr. Rajendra Prasad,

On the 25th inst. the Council of the Liberal Federation passed a resolution to the effect that at least a month's time should be given to the general public to study and offer suggestions as to the final draft of the constitution to be submitted to the constituent assembly for final adoption. Even a month is perhaps insufficient for the purpose. I have some reason to think that people who may not agree to some provisions, or who may seriously differ ~~with~~ do not feel it possible to raise their voice against the leaders at the top. For example, I may give ^{an} election of Governors by adult suffrage. Many disagree but none seems to have raised any objection. Speaking for myself, the time is not yet when adult suffrage can be introduced in this country for any purpose. I know all may not agree. It strikes me that publication in February when the

Dy. No. 141/const
3/2/

12
when the draft is expected to be ready
may be useful.

Feeling some doubt as to whether
those in authority may or may not agree
with our views as to publication, I cite
a great writer :

2/2
1029-Lang
"How, when and by whom is the consti-
tution of a resuscitated country to
be drawn. Too frequently the answer
is: by the people, and at once."

This is both simple and popular ***
A moment's reflection is enough to show
how fallacious it is. A constitution
is the fundamental law of the nation.
* * *. It should be prepared in an
atmosphere of peace and order, leisurely
studied, allowed to remain on the
nation's desk for a long time and in
part at least tried as an experiment
before being declared binding on
future generations."

13
6/3
I know constitutions might be amended but
the first one should not be framed in a
hurry. We are not asking for anything like
what Madariaga thinks it right and necessary.
Please therefore direct it to be printed
and sold to the public at a small price

I write this in support of our suggestion
which does not argue the suggestion made

yours sincerely

W. S. Carter

P.S.
Copy of the resolution
will have been for-
warded from Bombay,

1
5/10/16
19/1/16

THE NATIONAL LIBERAL FEDERATION OF INDIA

107, ESPLANADE ROAD,
(OPP. THE CLOCK TOWER).

BOMBAY. 26th January 1948 193x.
(NO. 1.)

The Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad,
President, Constituent Assembly,
NEW DELHI.

Dear Sir,

I have the honour to communicate to you for your information and necessary action, the following resolution --
passed at a meeting of the Council of the National Liberal Federation of India held yesterday afternoon:

"The Council of the National Liberal Federation of India is of opinion that the draft Constitution for a free India should be published at least one month before it is placed before the Constituent Assembly for its final consideration and adoption in order to enable the public to offer constructive suggestions".

Yours faithfully,

T.R. Venkatarama Sastri
(T.R. Venkatarama Sastri)

CHAIRMAN.

11/10
1/2
103
1036-Cons
Dy. No. 133/Cons
3/21

3/2
1036-Cons