

New Delhi  
20 Dec 1966

Dear Mr. Page,

The following para has direct relevancy with your visit to India:

Mr. VIVEK in his book titled "INDIA WITHOUT ILLUSIONS" published by New Book Co. Ltd. Hornby Rd. Bombay wrote dated 2 May 1951 about the Food situation under the caption: "Rhetoric and cruel Facts" Page 181:

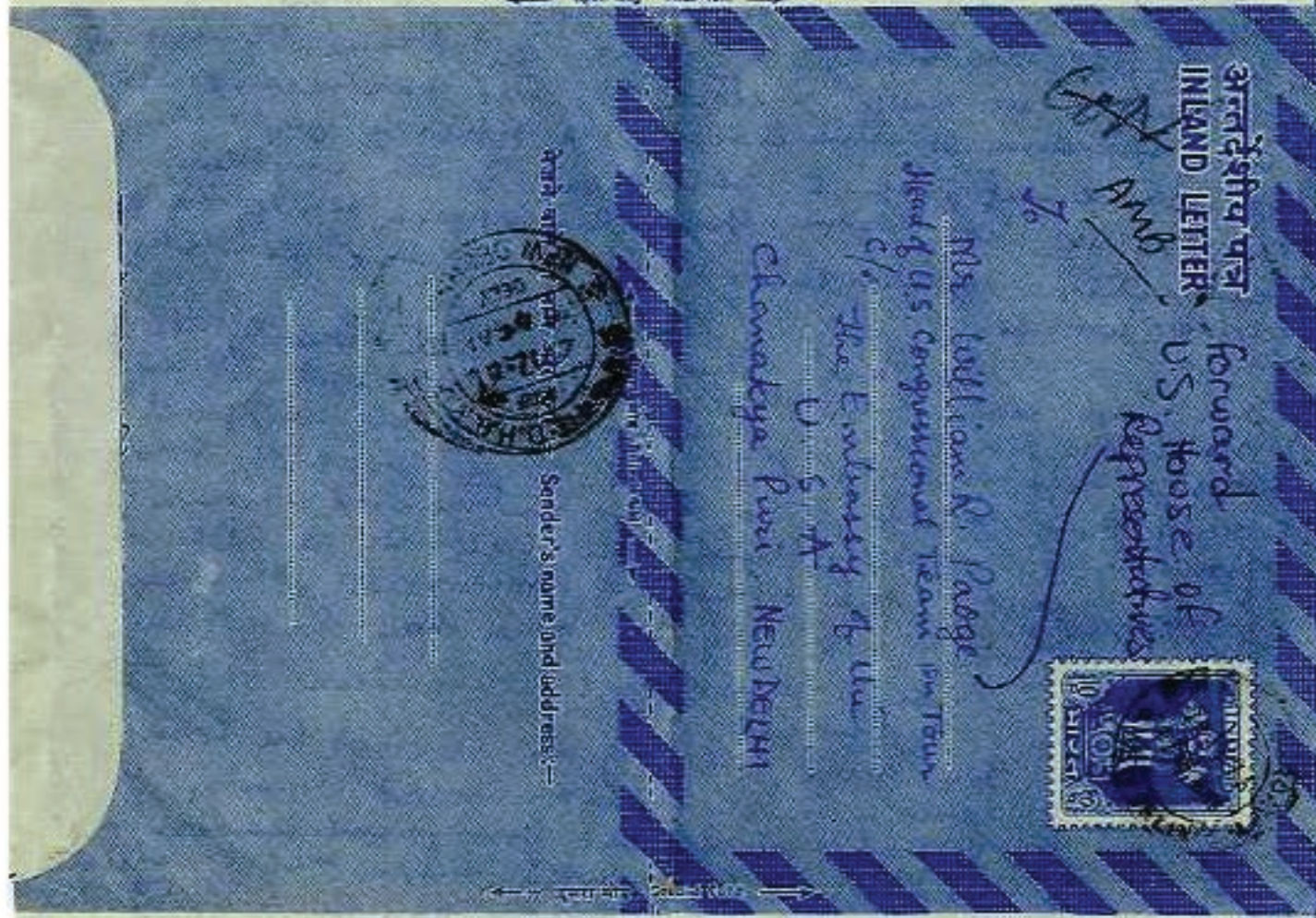
It is difficult to restrain indignation when one reads that the Prime Minister (then Jawahar Lal) has stated recently that he proposes to treat the problem of food 'threatening the country's freedom and future on a war basis'. Time and again ~~trav~~ we have been assured that food production was improving, the economic situation was in hand, conditions were getting better; prices would be reduced. These assurances have proved entirely unfounded. In their light it would not be unfair to regard the Prime Minister's statement as more rhetoric. The politician speaks, the applause is thunderous; he already feels the flush of achievement; is it necessary to do anything more? And so we live from speech to speech while the food situation deteriorates and economic conditions grow worse.

Mr. Page, this was written nearly 16 years ago and since then the country has fed on the Ministers' promises. Thus the people we, find ourselves helpless & in the grip of a gang of power hungry rascals who have entrenched themselves firmly in power and still call it a Democratic govt. They boast of universal franchise. Did somebody not say the other day that "universal franchise without universal education is a shame and nothing to boast of?"

Mr. Page, I hope even through the conducted tour as if you were in a Communist country, you will see the quality of India's govt and leadership. What they need is a kick to wake them out of slumber of complacency. God has placed you in a unique role to recommend this action to the President of the USA on your return to the States. Who else can be better friend of Indian PEOPLE?

God bless and wishing you  
luck.

Yours  
a disillusioned Indian.





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20 Dec 1966

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God bless and wishing you well[?].

Yours  
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