

V. R. Krishna Iyer
(Former Judge, Supreme Court)

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Venerable Prime Minister,

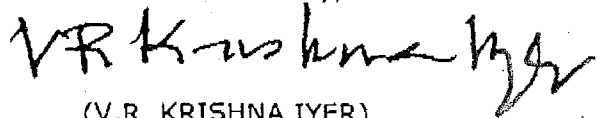
I have always addressed you as a statesman. This time I supplement that compliment with an additional assumption that you are a well-wisher of the unorganized working class who are a huge majority but do not have the advantages of the organized working class. The Constitution, which binds you and me, is all in favour of the working class as a whole, although some of your Government policies disclose a favourable inclination for wealthy investors and MNCs, Indian and foreign. I beseech you to give priority for the welfare legislation promotive of the well-being, security, fair wages and better conditions of service of unorganized workers. Do remember, dear Prime Minister, that you are oath-bound by our Constitution which is socialist and, therefore, your goodwill and power of office should be devoted to the interests of the aforesaid working class. I am the Chairman of the National Campaign Committee for Unorganised Sector Workers (NCC-USW) which has striven for a protective legislation in favour of the unorganized working class; and now, there is a Bill pending in Parliament relating to this category of workers. That bill is weak and hardly fulfills the constitutional expectations and legitimate provisions. The Campaign Committee hopes from a legislation of our Parliament. If it is to be faithful to the Preamble and Part III and IV of the Constitution a set of moderate amendments have been circulated by the Secretary of the NCC-USW Sri. Subhash Bhatnagar. A copy of that I am enclosing herewith. Nothing short of it will be a welfare deal for the masses of the working class. In my poor health and ailment (I am 93 and too old to travel). I cannot write more. With all the emphasise at my command, I plead with you to give serious consideration to and fair approval of these amendatory recommendations.

I hope you will not disappoint me; and your Coalition, which is in power, will stand by the values of the tryst with destiny Nehru, the first Prime Minister, proclaimed in 1947.

Once again, I entreat you to stand by the people, the have-not humanity of India, whose hard work, and not of the billionaires and millionaires, will make India Bharat Mahan. Meanwhile, I congratulate you, as representing the country, for the grand wonder of lunar adventure which our scientists have made yesterday.

With high regards,

Yours sincerely,



(V.R. KRISHNA IYER)

Encl : as above
To,

Dr. Manmohan Singh
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
Government of India
New Delhi