

OTP/007/0054/13

# COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

## CENTRAL OFFICE

Ajoy Bhavan, Kotla Marg, New Delhi-110002

Phone : PABX : 3315546/3314058/3315543/3314099

Grams : MARXBADI

After Office Hours : 3311801

General Secretary : C. Rajeswara Rao

New Delhi,  
October 24, 1987

The Executive Committee,  
African National Congress  
of South Africa

SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE	
RECEIVED	
DATE:	10 / 11 / 87
BY :	SGO
ANC (SA) BOX 31791	

Dear Comrades,

We are glad to note that Comrade Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress of South Africa completes 70. On behalf of the National Council of the Communist Party of India, I send our warmest fraternal greetings and hearty felicitations on this happy occasion. Comrade Tambo's life is a saga of struggle, dedication and sacrifice and an example for younger generations to emulate.

As a student, Comrade Oliver Tambo was brilliant, setting academic records. He was a good teacher and an eminent lawyer. But history carved a different place for him. He started participating in political activities while a student. He was expelled for leading a strike while a student. Soon his leadership flair was evident in the founding of the African National Congress Youth League. When the ban imposed by the Pretoria regime in 1954 necessitated nominal withdrawal of Walter Sisulu from ANC leadership, the natural choice for the mantle was Comrade Oliver Tambo, first as acting general secretary and then from next year as its General Secretary, he started providing leadership to ANC. He, along with Walter Sisulu, Nelson Mandela and others personified the revolutionary conscience of resurgent Africa. Under his inspiring leadership, the ANC consolidated its position as one of the leading bastions of national liberation movement of the world, leading a valiant battle for dismantling Apartheid, the successor to Nazism in contemporary world. In 1967, ANC elected him Acting President and

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from 1969 he has been leading the organisation as its President. With the severe restrictions and mounting attacks on the ANC and with the efforts to liquidate Comrade Tambo, he was persuaded to leave South Africa and function from outside. His role in mobilising material, political and diplomatic support for the fight being waged by the ANC is universally recognised. The ANC has emerged victorious, foiling all attempts and conspiracies of threat, subversion and disruption.

We, in India, have always taken a special pride in remembering our special relations with the liberation struggle of South Africa. We are historically connected with your struggle from the days of Mahatma Gandhi.

Once again we greet Comrade Oliver Tambo, President of the ANC of South Africa, a true patriot, an ardent anti-imperialist, an outstanding world revolutionary and a staunch internationalist. By greeting Comrade Tambo, we are sending our greetings to the eternal flame of liberty and emancipation. The most fitting tribute to him will be our resolve to rededicate in the struggle to dismantle the apartheid regime of South Africa, which is now one of the principal ~~foet~~ foci of national liberation movement throughout the world. We wish him a long life and all success in his mission.

With warm greetings,

Yours fraternally,

*C. Rajeswara Rao*

(C. Rajeswara Rao)  
General Secretary,  
National Council,  
Communist Party of India