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for suggestions
And Mr
11/12/76

SWATANTRA PARTY
ORISSA UNIT
BHUBANESWAR.

LINGARAJ MISHRA
JT. SECRETARY

CAMP: PURI
November 30, 1976.

Palate to
refuse
10/3/77

Respected Masaniji,

Let me thank you at the outset for your kind blessings on the occasion of Puri District Conference held on 14.11.1976. In the mean time you might have received a copy of the proceedings. Your prompt response of my request for the blessing encourages me to write a few lines for your knowledge about our activities here, so that we can have your advice and guidance from time to time in future.

Please let me reintroduce myself. I joined the Swatantra Party in the year 1959 when Late Mr. Hemendranath Kanungo organised the Party in Orissa.

I on behalf of the Party obtained a jeep from Bombay Office for Shri Ghashiram Majhi, to be used in the 1961 election. You may recall that Sri Majhi was the only Party candidate elected to the Orissa Assembly.

In 1962 the Ganatantra Parisad merged in the Swatantra Party with a promise to highlight the principles of the Party. But I, along with some of my colleagues opposed the merger, as I was aware of the character of the Ex-state rulers and other leaders of Ganatantra Parisad who were engineered by their own selfish motives. However in 1967 they formed a Coalition Ministry with Jana Congress formed by some dissident Congress leaders of Orissa.

As you are aware, these leaders became instruments declaring the dissolution of the Party and joined the newly formed B.L.D. They did not leave any stone

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unturned to harass me and damage my political career by taking unjustified disciplinary action due to my opposition to merger proposals. Mr.S.V.Raju, the then Executive Secretary of our Party was in the know of all their rebarious activities. My predictions at that time became true and the surviving rulers with their henchmen have now joined the Congress as they found the opposition uncomfortable for selfseekers.

They took away all the assets of the Party including the Press and the Daily newspaper Swarajya, the Oriya mouth piece of the Party at the time of joining the B.L.D.

I, with a set of trusted and devoted workers under the leadership of our President Shri Harihar Patel however chose to carry on the Swatantra Standard and have kept the flag flying in the State till now.

But we are very much handicaped to run the Party separately as most of us live almost below the poverty line. Not withstanding our difficulties we meet from time to time even during the emergency and take faithful decisions. Due to lack of publicity media our activities are not brought to light. We have now come to a decision to varry on propaganda work and teach the people Swatantra Ideology by way of organising Seminars and Symposia on various subjects like Social, Economic and Cultural.

Prominent intellectuals like Mr.Sriram Chandra Das, Retired Prof., Political Science, Utkal University, Mr.Barodakanta Mishra, Retired District Judge now practising in the Orissa High Court, Mr.Madhabananda Das, Ex-Government Advocate, Shri Harihar Patel, Our Vice-Prisident, Mr.Sarata Chandra

Mohapatra, the convenor for the Forum of Free Enterprises in Orissa and other respected persons have agreed to speak in our Seminar and Symposia in future. They all appreciate the idea of forming the State Branch of Democratic Research Service.

I have also collected fifty students and youths of various Colleges and Universities eager to have training in Democratic liberal ideologies and attend youth parades. We have decided to start a ' PADAJATRA ' for propagating our ideas among the masses and give them proper advice to overcome the economic crisis and to protect themselves from the onslaught of the totalitarian rule.

We now await your suggestions for our future activities and hope you will kindly extend your guidance through our General Secretary, Mr. Munshi for speedy action in the matter.

The Puri District workers have decided to observe the 98th birth day of our late lamented leader Rajaji on the 8th December, 1976, and organise a Public Meeting at the Lion's Gate, Puri and to pray to Lord Jagannath from which our Padajatra will start. On this auspicious occasion a Souvenir for our great leader is being published for which I seek your co-operation earnestly and beg to invite a message and article for the same.

Our colleagues are very anxious to meet you sometime in near future and I myself also desire to meet you in December, 1976 at a time convenient to you.

Excuse me please for intruding upon your valuable time and pray that you will kindly extend your blessings for all our efforts.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Milna 30.11.76
(LINGARAJ MISHRA)
JOINT SECRETARY

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