



SWATANTRA PARTY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

24, PALLAS ROAD, TROMORE, MADRAS 600008

26th April 1975.

10-A, Flowers Road, Madras. 84.

Dear Sir,

Perhaps you are aware that I attended the last meeting of the National Coordinating Committee for People's struggle under J.P.'s leadership held at New Delhi on the 14th April as an observer on behalf of our President, Mr. G.K. Sundaram. One of the important subjects considered at this meeting was a letter addressed to the committee jointly by Mr. George Fernandes and Mr. Surendra Mohan of the Socialist party. A true copy of this letter is enclosed herewith for your perusal. The committee discussed the contents, especially the suggestion to launch a nation wide Civil Disobedience movement in support of the Charter of Demands presented to Parliament in about six weeks' time. Many of the members felt that without proper organisation it will be very difficult to launch a civil disobedience movement successfully throughout India. The situation in the States vary from one to the other. Only few States may be ready for civil disobedience movement as contemplated by socialist friends. Mr. J.P. felt that if we could enrol at least a minimum of 5 lakhs volunteers to join this civil disobedience movement the movement will make a big impression. Even for enlisting this number of volunteers it will need at least 4 to 6 months even if all the parties supporting this People's movement whole-heartedly plunge into this matter. Ultimately it was decided that the parties represented on the Coordinating committee may discuss this suggestion in their respective executive committee and give their considered opinion at the next meeting of the National Coordinating Committee to be held at New Delhi on the 22nd May. Hence I request you to kindly let the National Headquarters know your considered opinion in this matter so that our President may put forth our party's views before the National Coordinating Committee at its next meeting in New Delhi. Please send your reply to the National Head Quarters before the 5th of next month and oblige.

Thanking you and with my best regards,

Yours truly,

(V.S. Srikumar)

Joint Secretary.

SOCIALIST PARTY

16-17, Vithalbhai Patel House
Rafi Marg,
New Delhi-110001.

7th April 1975.

Dear friend,

In view of the forthcoming meeting of the National Coordination Committee on 14th April, we wish to invite your attention to the following:

Although the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ^{convention} of various political Parties and individuals on November 25-26, had decided to launch struggles in various states as also to organise Jan Sangharsh Samavaya samitis for the purpose, the present position in respect of both these decisions is depressing.

Even though state level samitis have been formed in UP, Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, M.P., J&K, Gujarat and Orissa, in most cases they are not active. Not only have they not given thought to the setting up lower level samitis with a view to ultimately making the entire structure genuine representative of the people from village upwards, they have failed even to chalk out concrete forms of struggle. The only exception to this is U.P. where district level committees are being formed, and a programme of Satyagrahas has also been finalised. In most other cases, even the decision to hold state level demonstrations has not been followed. In the Punjab, the position is that the call to observe anti emergency day on 8th April has found no response from the state Jan Sangharsh Samiti. In Delhi, the call was first received enthusiastically, and it was announced that over a thousand will take part in the dharna involving defiance of section 144, but ultimately the decision was watered down to this extent that only a dozen leaders will defy the ban, if need be.

It appears to us that although the conditions in the country are deteriorating fast, and the ruling party and its ally, the CPI, are taking recourse to the most deplorable means, this fact is not registering with the lower range of party organisations. Even when the people are extremely troubled and restless, their leaders at various levels appear unprepared to lead them.

Whatever be the reasons for the hesitation on behalf of those concerned to launch struggles in various States, we believe that time has come when the National Coordination Committee must think not in terms of gradually extending the people's movement to this state and the next nor leave the timing etc. of such struggles to state level leaderships of Jan Sangharsh Samitis and their constituent political parties, but do something to harness the people's readiness to participate in mass actions in the particular background of the happenings in Orissa and Calcutta and the

Government's persistent refusal to hold elections in Gujarat inspite of Morarji Bhai's fast, which are indicative of the trend of thought in the ruling party.

It is therefore our submission that this meeting should give a call for nationwide civil disobedience movement to start in not more than six weeks' time on the issues framed in the People's Charter. During the intervening period, national leaders of various parties and other eminent public-men will have to undertake extensive tours for preparing the people for this great battle. These leaders will also have to initiate the struggles by offering arrests.

One reason why a C.D. movement is urgently called for is that as time passes, the attention of political parties is shifting away from the struggle on to election preparations. This is indeed a piquant situation that while there is no certainty of the holding of the elections, we are busy preparing for them; even though one does not know whether they will be free and fair if held.

We earnestly hope that you will take all the factors into serious consideration and agree to our proposal. This, in our view, would alter the present situation basically in favour of the people's power.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- George Fernandes.

Sd/- Surendra Mohan

Members of the
NCC-PS

Shri Badhakrishna,
Convener,
National Coordination Committee for People's Struggle
New Delhi.