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DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL
EXECUTIVE OF THE SWATANTRA PARTY HELD ON 22nd
JANUARY 1975 AT THE RESIDENCE OF SHRI. GIRISH
MUNSHI, BOMBAY AT 2.30 P.M.

Present

1. Shri. G. K. Sundaram - in the Chair.
2. " Parmanand Kejriwal.
3. " Harihar Patel
4. " Girish Munshi
5. " V.S. Srikumar
6. " Jagannadham
7. " S.V. Raju
8. " K.H. Subramaniam (invitees.
9. " R.S. Bharati (

Leave of absence was granted to Shri. Babu Joseph, Shri. Ajmal Khan, Shri. V. Devanathan & Col. H.R. Pasricha.

1. The minutes of the last meeting of the National Executive held on August 28, 1974 at Delhi were considered. It was decided that as the alleged dissolution of the Swatantra Party was unconstitutional, the decisions taken thereat should be disregarded and considered as illegal, null and void and of no consequence. The minutes were, therefore, not confirmed.

2. As some of the members of the Central Parliamentary Board had, in violation of the Party's Constitution, become members of another party and consequently had ceased to be the members of the Swatantra Party, the National Executive reconstituted the Central Parliamentary Board comprising of the following members:

1. Shri. G. K. Sundaram
2. " Parmanand Kejriwal
3. " Harihar Patel
4. " Girish Munshi
5. " V.S. Srikumar.

3. In pursuance of the authority vested in it by the General Council of the Party at its meeting held in Madras on 8th Dec. 1974, the National Executive decided to write to Shri. G. Hanumanta Rao to join as a member of the National Executive. Simultaneously it was decided to invite Shri. I.S. Bhargava to join the National Executive. Shri. S.V. Raju was directed to get in touch with these gentlemen in pursuance of this decision.

4. The National Executive approved of the steps being taken by the Tamil Nadu Unit to contest the arbitrary decision of the Election Commission in freezing the Party's symbol "STAR". Shri. V.S. Srikumar, Jt. Secretary reported on the legal steps proposed to be taken in the matter.

In this connection, the National Executive while endorsing the steps being taken by the Tamil Nadu Unit, recorded its strong resentment and disapproval of the arbitrary and ex parte decision of the Election Commission which were unacceptable to the Swatantra Party.

5. Funds. The difficult financial position of the Party was reviewed. Various steps to meet the situation were decided upon. The President, Shri. Sundaram agreed to address letters to potential donors to contribute funds for the Party's activities.

6. Party organisation Reviewing the Party organisation in UP, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Delhi, it was decided that Shri. Girish Munshi would undertake visits to Gujarat and Rajasthan, while Shri. Harihar Patel would visit Uttar Pradesh with a view to rally

the Party's supporters who might have been discouraged by the recent developments within the Party and to reconstitute Committees.

Shri. Sundaram would, on his next visit to Delhi, meet the Party workers there and the National Headquarters would get in touch with Dr. Pasricha and Shri. Arya in this regard.

7. JP Movement. The National Executive was informed that Shri. Sundaram, Shri. Parmanand Kejriwal, Shri. Harihar Patel, Shri. Girish Munshi, Shri. Jagannadham & Shri. Srikumar had met Shri. Jayaprakash Narayan earlier that day. Shri. Minoo Masani was present at the discussions in the course of which the Party's support to the Bihar movement had been communicated to him.

The National Executive while reiterating the earlier decision taken by the General Council extending support to JP's movement, approved the initiative taken by the Tamil Nadu Unit in forming an All-Party Co-ordination Committee in Tamil Nadu to support JP's movement in Bihar.

8. Bank Accounts. Regarding the Party's Bank Accounts, in view of the changes in office-bearers, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted.

"Resolved that the current accounts of the Swatantra Party, National Headquarters with (1) Bank of India, Head Office (2) Andhra Bank Ltd. Bombay and (3) Central Bank of India, Khan Market, Delhi be operated only by any one of the following office-bearers.

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|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Shri. G.K. Sundaram | - President |
| 2. Shri. Parmanand Kejriwal | - Vice-President |
| 3. Shri. Girish Munshi | - General Secretary |
| 4. Shri. V.S. Srikumar | - Jt. Secretary |

Shri. Girish Munshi, General Secretary was authorised to communicate to each of these banks along with the copy of resolution accordingly.

9. General. The current political and economic situation was discussed. After discussion, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted on:

1. Shri. Jayaprakash Narayan's movement.
2. Electoral Reforms
3. Food Policy
4. Revision of Electoral Rolls
5. Industrial Production.

(the texts of the resolutions are attached hereto)

10. The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Chairman

Resolutions adopted by the National Executive
of the Swatantra Party at its meeting held
at Bombay on 22nd January 1975.

1. The National Executive of the Swatantra Party which had the benefit of meeting Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan before its meeting, reaffirms that the Swatantra Party would give its fullest co-operation and support to the movement led by him for cleansing public life of corruption, nepotism and oppression.

The Party feels that progress in the country cannot be achieved unless the movement for uprooting corruption succeeds.

The Party feels that Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan at present represents not only the voice of dissent but also moral values which alone can restore confidence in our countrymen about their future.

The Swatantra Party urges upon all patriotic people in the country to give up partisan attitude and join the movement under the leadership of Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan.

2. The Swatantra Party approves of the Electoral Reforms spelt out by the Electoral Reforms Committee appointed by Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan, consisting of Messrs. V. M. Tarkunde, M.R. Masani, Purushottam Ganes', Mavlankar, A.G. Noorani, Kirtideo Desai and E.P.W. D'Costa. The National Executive is of the view that without the safeguards for free and fair vote suggested by that Committee, confidence in the fairness of elections will not be restored.

The Swatantra Party urges upon the Government to adopt these electoral reforms without delay in the interest of fair elections.

3. The Swatantra Party is of the view that there is enough food grains in the country to meet the requirements of its people. It feels that the farmers of India, if given adequate water supply, fertilizers, and seeds of high yielding variety in time, are capable of producing surplus food grains.

The Party is opposed to existing restrictions on the inter-State movement of food grains, monopoly procurement by some States and on the imposition of levy on farmers in some areas of the country at uneconomic prices.

The Swatantra Party is of the view that unimaginative working of these restrictions and measures adopted by the Government have resulted in acute food shortage in many areas of the country and glut in others. On account of unimaginative food policy adopted by the Government, the consumers have to pay abnormally high prices for food grains and at the same time, farmers are deprived of remunerative prices for their produce.

The Swatantra Party urges upon the Government to reassess their food policy and to adopt suitable measures which will obviate the necessity of looking to foreign countries for our food requirements.

4. The Swatantra Party is much concerned that some of the steps recently taken by the Election Commission to rush through the preparation of electoral rolls by // short-circuiting the established procedures will not help to produce a correct and complete list of eligible voters and that this will vitiate the elections to be held in future even before they are held.

The Swatantra Party demands full enumeration of all eligible voters from house to house before publication of the preliminary rolls and sufficient notice to the people to lodge objections and applications before publication of the final rolls as contemplated under the rules.

5. The Swatantra Party notes with dismay that industrial production has been stagnating for the last many years. Most of the industries are working much below the installed capacity due to either want of raw materials, working capital and because of unnecessary controls on prices and distribution.

The Swatantra Party demands that all unnecessary controls, quota system hampering production should be abolished immediately and industries should be helped to achieve maximum production with optimum efficiency.