

M O D Y & C O L G A N A R C H I T E C T S

STADIUM HOUSE 81-83 VEER NARIMAN ROAD BOMBAY-1

July 20, 1959.

1808
My dear Rajaji,

It was a great pleasure meeting you when my father introduced me to you and you asked me if I was an Architect-Engineer or an Architect-Artist!

May I be bold enough to put forward a few points about our Party?

It is very important that any Statement of Policy should not say that we are against something. The same meaning should be conveyed in a positive statement.

In the Madras Statement, paragraphs 1, 5, 14, 15, 17 are a negative assertion, which can very easily be converted to positive statements. Paragraph 2 has a positive as well as a negative, but unfortunately the negative appears first.

I also feel that there should be a Preamble which states our ideas of Democracy. As our party is broadly based from what I can see, on Rousseau's Social Contract, certain fundamental Truths or beliefs should be brought out in such a Preamble. This will help define the four corners of our sphere of operations. It also helps answer several objections or criticisms we receive about why so and so is not done by our Party. We can always explain that there are higher truths or fundamental rights which are effected, and that when there is a conflict between expediency and fundamental beliefs, the latter should always prevail (Gandhiji on "The End Can Never Justify the Means").

TRUSTEESHIP: There seems to be a great deal of mystery and confusion about the concept of Trusteeship. I feel sure that this can be developed into something noble, but its present explanation lacks conviction and is even suspect. The moral education and social conscience of the rich is a vital step forward, but to say that the rich should hold their wealth in Trust for society has an aura of big business and the wealthy finding devious means for continuing to possess large fortunes. We must also make it clear what we expect the wealthy people to do to fulfil their obligations towards society.

I would suggest that large charitable trusts are set up to put up Community Centres run on a non profit basis in urban and rural areas to fill the vacuum that exists in the lives of the people, with sport and recreational facilities. These Community Centres may have health facilities, dispensaries, etc... attached to them, where medical members of our Party may be induced to contribute their services. We may also consider rendering a councillor service for the local people, solving their personal problems, etc... These Community Centres will bring together Communities where problems of local and national nature could be discussed, and the Swatantra views put forward. During election times, these Community Centres can render invaluable service to the party, as a distribution point for our literature and propa-

ganda, and a focal point for the constituency. It might also be an effective recruiting point for volunteers and rural workers.

I have attempted a draft of the Preamble mentioned above.

PREAMBLE: People are born free in a state of Nature and possess all the power. Those powers which are inherent and fundamental are preserved by the People in a Constitution. To live in a state of society, the balance of the Power has been delegated to Society and Governments are instituted to protect the Community.

The judiciary is instituted to protect the people against the violation of the Constitution and to up-hold the Community laws.

All free men enjoy:-

- (a) Life, Liberty and the persuit of Happiness.
- (b) The Freedom of choice, thought, movement and action.
- (c) Equality of opportunity regardless of class, caste or creed.
- (d) Equal protection and the due process of Law.

To uphold these rights the Swatantra Party believes:

- (1) -----
- (2) -----
- (3) -----

I realize that you a very busy man particularly on the eve of the convention so please do not feel obliged to reply. I will be more than satisfied if my letter is read and if it in any way contributes towards the thought that has to be applied in formulating our policy.

Very Sincerely yours,

COPY ^{Original} Signed by **PILOO MODY**

(**PILOO MODY**)

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Ccsto: (1) Prof. Ranga, (2) Mr. M. R. Masani,
(3) Sir H.P. Mody.

1. The Party stands for democratic freedom, social justice and equality of opportunity for all classes of people.
2. It believes that in any plans for national development, the highest priority must be assigned to the satisfaction of the basic needs of the people for food, housing and clothing.
3. It holds that social justice and welfare should not be brought about by violence or State compulsion, with all their necessary accompaniments of injustice, expropriation and repudiation of obligations, but must be fostered by the spread of the doctrine that all productive and other activities must be animated by a social purpose.
4. It is opposed to a purely materialistic philosophy of life which is destructive of all that is good in our culture, and believes that the establishment of a socialist structure based on legislative sanctions involving expropriation and loss of incentive for the individual to work, and increasing dependence on the State and its officials in every walk of life is injurious to the best interests of the country.
5. In agriculture, it recognises the paramount need for increasing food production, but believes that it is best attained through the continuance of the self-employed peasant-proprietor who stands for initiative and freedom and is interested in obtaining the highest yields from the land.
6. It is opposed to the collectivization and bureaucratic management of the rural economy and it stands for the pursuit of a more intensive programme than is now being followed in respect of the supply of material, implements and credit to the farmer without in any way interfering with the rights of ownership, management and cultivation of the land.
7. It believes that the level of life of the farmer can and should be raised by taking steps to maintain a reasonable and fair price for his products.
8. In industry, it believes in the encouragement of incentives for higher production and expansion with adequate safeguards against excessive and unreasonable prices, profits and dividends where competition itself does not secure these ends.

9. It stands for the restriction of State enterprise to undertakings related to national defence and public services and such heavy or pioneering industries as are beyond the capacity of private enterprise to undertake.
10. It is opposed to a programme of development based on crippling taxation, abnormal deficit financing and foreign loans beyond the capacity of the country to repay.
11. It believes that taxation should be kept at levels which do not interfere with reasonable living standards for the people, both rural and urban, and which, while being necessary and sufficient for the carrying on of the administration, nation-building activities and social services, are yet not so high and exacting or ubiquitous as to prevent capital formation and investment by individuals.
12. It is opposed to policies which lead to excessive and immediate inflation.
13. It holds that the guarantees specified in the Constitution in respect of freedom of property, trade, employment and just compensation for acquisition for public purposes, which were taken away by amendments to the Constitution, should be restored.
14. It is against the expansion of bureaucratic services involving the bringing into being of "Statism" and unproductive waste of national resources.
15. It believes that the State will best serve its citizens by giving the maximum freedom to individuals with due regard to the rights and obligations of every section of the people and limiting its regulatory function to the prevention and punishment of anti-social activities.