

1836

Ismail Building
4th Floor
381, Dadabhai Naoroji Road
Bombay 1.

June 10, 1959.

Dear Friend:

As you are aware, at a recent meeting at Madras, presided over by our distinguished elder statesman, Shri C. Rajagopalachari, it was decided that a broad-based democratic opposition party should be brought into existence as early as possible. It is tentatively proposed to call this party the "Swatantra" party. A conference to take steps for the establishment of such a party is being organised in Ahmedabad on Saturday, August 1st and Sunday, August 2nd. The principles on which such a party would be based are attached for your information.

We believe you will agree that this development is of the greatest value and significance from the point of view of business and industry as also those who are employed in business concerns.

An informal meeting of those interested in this development is being called on 15th June 1959 at 6 p.m. at Geeta Mandir, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Chowpatty, Bombay, at which Mr. M.R. Masani who is associated with the establishment of the party will be glad to explain the purposes of the party and its objectives. The meeting will also discuss ways and means in which business cooperation can be enlisted for establishing a strong branch of the party in Greater Bombay.

You are cordially invited to depute say, five members to represent your Association/Firm at this meeting. An indication of the measure of your cooperation will be very much appreciated, if it reaches the undersigned at the above address not later than 15th June.

Yours sincerely,

N.H. MAPARA
J.M. PATEL
CONVENORS

BOOK-POST.



BOOK-POST.

Sin H. P. H. H.

Bonney House
Bruce Street

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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.

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7. It believes that the level of life of the people and should be raised by taking steps to establish a minimum and fair price for the products.

8. In industry, it believes in the substitution of labour for capital production and expansion with adequate compensation against excessive and unreasonable prices, profits and dividends where competition itself does not ensure these ends.

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It believes that the level of life of the farmer can and should be raised by taking steps to establish a co-operative and fair price for his products.

In industry, it believes in the encouragement of incentives for higher production and expansion with adequate safeguards against excessive and unreasonable profits, prices and dividends. Free competition should not mean free trade.

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16. It believes that the level of life of the farmer should be raised by taking steps to maintain a remunerative and fair price for his produce.
17. In industry, it believes in the encouragement of enterprise for higher production and expansion with adequate compensation to workers and reasonable prices, provided that the workers themselves do not demand excessive wages.

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