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CONFIDENTIAL

March 15, 1973.

My dear Chasiran,

I received your letter of the 8th only this morning and hasten to reply. Fortunately it is possible for me to send you my reply by hand so as to reach you tomorrow before your State Executive meets.

As you may have surmised I have been extremely sad to read about developments in Orissa. I enclose a copy of the March issue of Freedom First where you will see an editorial note which I wrote myself entitled 'Playing the Fool' which was my description of what your State Unit has been doing.

Fortunately, I understand that the President, the General Secretary and the Treasurer of the Swatantra Party at the National level also felt distressed at these developments and indeed that when the President and the Treasurer met Mr. R.N. Singh Deo and Mr. P.K. Deo on 6th and 7th March the whole matter was put right by your State leaders agreeing to cut away from the Orissa Pragati Dal and to the Swatantra Party functioning under its own name, banner and symbol both from now on and the general elections as and when they come. Since you may not be aware of this I enclose a copy of the agreement which was signed in Delhi which I have obtained from Mr. Mann Amersey.

I do hope that when your State Executive meets tomorrow it will endorse the whole agreement and break away from the Orissa Pragati Party.

Mr. Mann Amersey is carrying a draft resolution which has been prepared for your meeting tomorrow. I am in full agreement with Mr. Amersey's proposal and hope you will help him to get it carried.

If the worst happens and there is ^ano move as you say in your letter for the State branch to sever relations with the National Party, I hope loyal members of the Party like you and many others will stand by the Party and refuse to follow such a disruptive move.

You are welcome to show this to our good

friends like Harihar Patel, Ainthoo Salim, Tribikram
Trapathy and others.

Yours sincerely,

Encl,

(M.R. Masani)

Mr. G.R. Majhi
General Secretary
Swatantra Party
BHUBANESWAR - 1.

cc:

Mr. Manu Amersey
Swatantra Party
Bombay 1.

MRM:rdp