

V.T. SREENIVASAN

"Avanthi",
90, South End Road,
Bangalore-4.
26-10-71.

Dear Mr. Ganapaiah,

22/5
Messrs. K.H. Srinivasan and B.V. Narayana Reddy have shown me the copies of the Proceedings of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Party held on 19-9-71 and signed by Mr. C.L. Rao, Joint Secretary. I do not know why I have not been similarly honoured by a copy being sent to me also - seeing that I held the post of the General Secretary for 12 years (ever since the Party was founded). As these Proceedings have been duplicated only after the Draft had been approved by you as the President of the Party, I am addressing this letter to you.

2. On page 2 of the Proceedings certain remarks are stated to have been made by you as well as other members (the names of only Messrs. T.L. Lingaiah and V.L. Narasimhamoorthy have been quoted) which constitute an insult to me, to Mr. B.V. Narayana Reddy (the previous Treasurer) and Mr. K.H. Srinivasan who was the senior Vice-President of the Party until the Party elections of 1969. I shall explain how utterly unwarranted aspersions have been cast on us by members (including yourself) who are obviously grossly ignorant of the provisions in the Party Constitution. You are stated to have remarked that the Party Accounts have never been audited for the last 12 years. At once there was a hue and cry from the other members as if, as a direct consequence of this, Party funds had been misused during the last 12 years. Have you taken the trouble to read the relevant Article in the Constitution? I shall quote it for your benefit: Article 5(c) says "Every Unit shall maintain appropriate accounts of the receipts and expenditure which shall be available for audit in such manner and at such times as may be prescribed by the National Executive". Is it the contention of yourself and your colleagues in the Committee, who are stated to have felt "shocked and unhappy", that during these 12 years the National Executive wanted the accounts to be audited and that the then Office-Bearers failed to carry out the directive of the National Executive? Or can it be your contention that the previous Office-Bearers should have begged the National Executive to order an audit of the Mysore Party accounts by invoking Article 5(c) of the Constitution when no one cast any suspicion on the financial administration of the Party? Are you also ignorant of the fact that the accounts of a Political Party are not like those of a Co-operative Society the

accounts of which have to be compulsorily audited once a year under the Act? Are you also ignorant of the fact that the Article in our Constitution was deliberately worded in that manner in order that the sources of income to an opposition political party from sympathisers who wished to remain anonymous may not become public property and thus make them targets of attack by the Ruling Party? This is not to say that a confidential audit by a member of the Party should not be undertaken at any time if a need was felt for the same.

However, those who constituted the Executive Committee until the 1971 Party Elections did not consider that such a confidential audit was even called for as they had no reason to suspect that there was any "hanky-panky" in the financial administration of the Party. In the circumstances, remarks such as "the party funds were treated with scant respect, and that too from people who were well versed with the financial procedure", "they were at a loss to understand how the Party funds were diverted at whims and fancies of individuals" are not only in very bad taste but absolutely unwarranted by the facts on record. If the present Committee feels so suspicious about the financial management of the previous Committee, they are welcome to go into the entries in the Cash Book and other records which have been handed over to the present General Secretary. It may also interest you to know that, when I wrote to the Centre as well as to two or three State Units asking whether they had got their accounts audited, I got only negative replies.

3. The Treasurer, Mr. V.L. Narasimhamoorthy is stated to have expressed "his strong opinion that the Party funds have been diverted from time to time, which according to him, was most irregular and unwarranted. He also felt that many of the investments were done in a hush hush manner and the Executive was kept totally in dark as to the finances of the Party".

It is most surprising that you, having been in the Finance Sub-Committee all along and knowing that ^{Every} ~~very~~ investment was made only after the approval of the Members of the Sub-Committee, permitted Mr. Narasimhamoorthy to go on record with such utterly irresponsible and untrue allegations. You were aware of the fact that the Educational Trust was duly constituted by the State Executive in order to safeguard the surplus funds of the Party from being frittered away on Party Elections and to provide a permanent source of income to maintain the Party Office. You are also one of the Trustees and was thus in a position to correct the wrong impression sought to be created by Mr. Narasimhamoorthy by his unwarranted remarks. Why did you not do so?

Because the
new members
whose position is
100% real
like some national
office bearers
that collectors
by their prede-
cessors are
there for the
succession to
throw about
blame in your
case it has
been placed
beyond their
reach. Defreeze
the funds and
see how the
thaw acts in
us - a - vs VT
who can then
be proclaimed
Hera of Swatantra

You also know that the Finance Sub-Committees had full powers in regard to investing the Party funds. In view of this, where is any sense in stating that "the Executive was kept totally in the dark"? If questions had been asked at an Executive Committee meeting, the answers would have been given.

4. It is extremely easy for members attending a meeting to cast aspersions on those who are not present to defend themselves. But such conduct has to be condemned as dishonourable. It is a great pity that, even though you were aware of the facts and knew that the aspersions were unwarranted, you have been a consenting party to their going on record. Elementary courtesy would have demanded that the incoming Executive should have passed a resolution of appreciation of the services rendered to the Party by the outgoing Executive. Instead of doing this, all that you have done is to cast unwarranted aspersions on the previous Office-Bearers. This is something of which the present Executive should be heartily ashamed.

5. Mr. B.V. Narayana Reddy feels very strongly that, after this exhibition of pure malice on the part of the present Executive Committee towards the previous Office-Bearers it is no longer consistent with his self respect to continue as a member of the State Party. I have also come to the same conclusion. If and when an Executive Committee with a proper sense of values and a true sense of proportion comes into existence in this State, it will be time for us to rejoin the Party as we have no grievance against the Party in the principles and Policies of which we have firm faith.

Both Messrs. K.H. Srinivasan and B.V. Narayana Reddy have countersigned this letter in token of their approval of the views expressed by me.

I request an acknowledgement of this letter and request you to place it before the next meeting of your Committee.

I heartily concur with the above views
If the unwarranted remarks in the proceedings
of the Committee are not expunged, I will be
reluctantly constrained to resign from the party

yours sincerely,

V. T. Sreenivasan
(V.T. SREENIVASAN)

To: B.V. Narayana Reddy

Sri N.K. Ganapiah,
President, Swatantra Party,
Harley Estate,
Saklespur Post,
Hassan District.

I agree with the views expressed
by both Mr Reddy and Mr V. T.
Srinivasan
K. H. Srinivasan