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REPORT OF THE SWATANTRA PARTY'S
ACTIVITIES FROM 15th NOVEMBER 1960
TO 5th JANUARY 1961.

During the last 1½ months the Swatantra Party in Bombay has been fairly active in Bombay.

Rajaji's visit to Bombay:- Rajaji arrived in Bombay on the 21st November after his tour of Gujerat and left on the 23rd morning on his tour of Maharashtra. On 22nd November a Public Lunch meeting was organised by the Bombay Unit at the Taj Mahal Hotel at which 300 leading citizens, industrialists and businessmen of Bombay heard Rajaji's stirring appeal to help the Party by giving handsome donations. On the evening of the 22nd a Public Meeting was organised at Chowpathy which was attended by about 15,000 to 20,000 people. The Press coverage was very good and all the leading newspapers in Bombay carried photographs of Rajaji and reported his speeches.

Swatantra Party celebrates Founder's Day:- The Bombay Swatantra Party decided to celebrate the Founder's Day in an unique manner. An essay competition has been announced in which all the residents of Maharashtra below 35 years of age will be eligible to participate. The subject of the essay is "The Role of Shri Rajagopalachari in Indian Politics." Dr. C.P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Sir Rustom Masani and Mr. G.L. Mehta will act as judges and declare the winners. Five cash prizes will be awarded to the winners of the essay competition in order of merit. The first prize will be Rs.250/-, the second one Rs.125/- the third Rs.75/- and the fourth and the fifth will be Rs.50/- each.

As a result of the efforts of the Bombay Party, Acharya J.B. Kripalani and Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Maharashtra paid glowing tributes to Rajaji on his birthday. Shri K.M. Munshi and Sir Homi Mody also paid tributes to Rajaji. Dr. R.C. Cooper's article tracing the political career of Shri Rajagopalachari was published in Bombay Samachar, Jam-e-Jamshed and Kaiser-i-Hind with the photographs of Rajaji. Several local vernacular papers came out with editorials on that day paying excellent tributes to Rajaji's role in the Indian Political Scene. On the morning of the 9th some of our volunteers and active workers went round the Fort Area collecting small donations from people and giving away small party paper flags. They collected about Rs.125/-. The response they got from the people was very good and heartening. It will inspire and encourage our active members to put in more vigorous efforts in future for going out in the streets collecting donations for the Party on a suitable occasion.

Advertisement Space Secured for the Essay Competition:- A.C.C. has donated space in three leading newspapers, viz. 'Times of India', Indian Express and Free Press Journal in which the announcement of the Essay Competition will be made. The Times of India of the 5th January already carried the announcement to this effect and it is expected that on the 6th and 7th of January announcements will be given in Free Press Journal and Indian Express.

Nearly 160 colleges and educational institutions in

in Maharashtra have been informed about this Essay Competition and we have sent the circulars announcing the Essay Competition to them with a request to display them on their Notice Boards, so that the students may read and participate in it.

We have also written to various people in Maharashtra requesting them to kindly get this published in the local dailies in Maharashtra.

WARD ORGANISATION

The party has started organising the Constituency Committees in Bombay.

Walkeshwar & Mahalakshmi Constituencies: With the help of Mr. Mahinder Lal, Mr. Jayant Mehta and Mr. Girish Munshi a meeting was held at the Gita Mandir Hall, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan on 17th November, 1960. It has been decided to dissolve the former 'D' Ward Committee of our Party and a circular has already been sent to the 'D' Ward Committee Members to join the Walkeshwar and Mahalakshmi Committee. Mr. Hirji Jehangir has agreed to work actively in this Committee. He has also agreed to allow us the use of his Hall in his Bungalow for conducting Party Meetings.

Matunga Unit:- Under the guidance of Mr. R.V. Murthy, our Hon. Secretary, the Matunga Unit has started working very actively. Everyday one or two of our Active workers attend the Matunga Office and on every Saturday all the Active Members of the Matunga Unit meet and discuss the various problems. Regular monthly donations are also given by the Active Workers for carrying on the activities of the Party there. The Matunga Unit now proposes to take up several constructive activities in Matunga.

Bandra Unit The Bandra Unit as usual has been doing very active work for the Party in Bandra. A debate was organised in Bandra on 12th December, 1960 and the subject of the debate was "The Modern Society needs scrapping of Democracy." The east side of the Bandra Unit is also progressing satisfactorily with the help of Mr. Salvi and Mr. Koppikar, the energetic and enthusiastic Secretary of the Bandra Unit.

Training Camp for Bandra and Khar As a result of suggestions made by Mr. A.N. Sharma, it has now been decided to hold a training Camp for our Party workers and Members on 5th February 1961 at Khar at the Sardar Dharmasala Hall. A nominal fee of Rs. 0.50 NP. per head will be charged for attending this Camp. The Camp will begin in the morning of 5th February, 1961 with a Prayer. There will be lectures by eminent leaders of our Party which will be followed up by discussions and questions and answers. Arrangements will be made to distribute the membership forms and sale of literatures. There will be enrolling of Members on the spot. This Camp will culminate in the evening with a Public Meeting at Khar. This is the first training Camp that the Party will be organising in Bombay and all efforts are being made by our members to make it a grand success. It is proposed to organise two similar camps afterwards in various other constituencies of Bombay.

Malad Unit:- Mr. Manilal Patel, a prominent resident of Malad and a member of our Party has agreed to allow us the use of his two rooms in his bungalow at Malad to be used as our Party Office in Malad. He has also agreed

to give a monthly donation also to the Malad Unit.

Ghatkopar Unit:- A group of our members in Ghatkopar area has decided to start a Party Unit there. The group was organised by Mr. Bhagwandas Seth, a prominent member of our Party from Junagadh who has a house at Ghatkopar. Arrangements for the Party's office there have been finalised.

Delisle Road:- A Group of people have been contacted in Delisle Road and very shortly a Party Unit will be formed in the area with the help of one Mr. Laxman who is a very prominent social worker in the area.

Colaba Unit:- With the help of Mr. R.L. Pandey the Colaba Unit organised a Public Meeting at First Pasta Lane at the Sindhi Temple. Shri Murarji J. Vaidya, Mr. B.K. Mistry and Mr. Ramesh Kulkarni addressed this meeting.

'C' Ward Unit:- Mr. Paramanand Khatiwala has agreed to get for the 'C' Ward Unit of our Party, office-space in Kalbadevi and he is taking all pains to look for a suitable place at Kalbadevi. It is hoped that within about a fortnight or a month's time the vast space will be secured and after that the organisation of 'C' Ward will be taken in hand effectively.

Mr. Ramanlal Zaveri, a prominent businessman residing at Zaveri Bazar has become a member of our Party and started campaigning for membership in 'C' Ward from house to house.

Vile Parle:- With the help of Mr. Pravinchandra Kapadia, one of our active members in Vile Parle, a group meeting was organised on the 3rd January 1961. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Koppikker, Mr. Raju and Mr. Madhu Mehta. The response at this meeting was very good and it has now been decided to hold another meeting on the 14th of January, with a view to form a bigger group for our Party in Vile Parle. Several prominent businessmen in Vile Parle were present at the last meeting and have promised to extend their support and cooperation for the success of our Party in Vile Parle. Mr. J. Doshi, Managing Director of Messrs. Amar Dye-Chem has agreed to help our Party Unit by giving us workers for the Party in Vile Parle.

Mandvi Unit:- The Secretary of the Grain Dealers Association Mr. Vallabhdas Peraj has become a member of our Party and has agreed to start a Party Unit in Mandvi. He is now searching for a suitable office premises in Mandvi and after that a fullfledged Party Office will be started in the area.

Contacts in Colleges:- Several interesting contacts have been made in various colleges of Bombay and as a result of which the Swatantra Party Unit has been started in Siddhardh College where there is already a Students Parliament in existence. The Secretaries of the Students Unions of Khalsa College and K.C. College and St. Xavier's College have become members of our Party and are already doing lot of propaganda about

our Party among the students. Prof. Denis of St. Xavier's College who is a lieutenant of the N.C.C. has agreed to enrol more members for our Party and also to strengthen our Swatantra Dal by giving the members of our Swatantra Dal training in the maintenance of discipline, controlling crowds etc.. This work will be started in the third week of January as only after that period Prof. Denis will be available.

Donations Drive:- A monthly donations drive has been launched by the Party in Bombay and several individuals have been contacted who have promised to give regular monthly donations amounting to Rs.250/- to Rs.300/-. Already a good sum has been collected and more efforts will be made to bring in small monthly donations from various individuals.

Municipal Elections:- Several independent candidates have been contacted by our Party's Hon. Secretary, Mr. B.K. Mistry and Mr. Ramesh Kulkarni. Jan Sangh has agreed to support these independent candidates where their candidates are not contesting.

Renewal of Membership:- The renewal of membership for the year 1961 is now taken in hand and it has been decided to send out a reply-paid post-card to each and every member of our Party requesting them to fill in the reply card and send it to our Party Office. He is requested to instruct us whether we should send to his house an enroller or whether he will himself come personally to the Party Office and renew his membership. The total strength of membership as it is on the General Register is 5946, (This excludes the 184 members who have enrolled themselves here but who are residents of other States such as Madras, Mysore etc.

The total number of subscribers for November is 40 persons.

This in brief is the report of our Party's activities in Bombay.
