

2555

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Swatantra Party, Bombay Region, held on 17th January 1973 at 6.15 p.m.

Present:

1. Mr. Madhu Mehta (Chairman)
2. Mr. Parmanand Kejriwal
3. Mrs. Manorama Dandekar.
4. Mr. Shantilal Thar.
5. Mr. F.C. Cama
6. Mr. Hiren Shah
7. Mr. K.B. Magodia.
8. Mr. Pramod Tejookaya
9. Mr. J. Venkiteswaran
10. Mr. Dhiraj Shah
11. Mr. Ramachandran (by invitation).

1. The minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 1972 were read and confirmed.
2. The Chairman mentioned that the main item on the Agenda being the "forthcoming Municipal Elections", we should confine our discussions to that matter.

The meeting discussed at length all aspects of the situation and came to the conclusion that the civic elections should be fought on merits. While the members were of the opinion that politics should be kept off from civic matters, it was thought that those members who would like to contest the elections as independents, could do so with the support of our Party and that they could be given the Swatantra symbol. Shri. Shantilal Thar reiterated his earlier stand that we should either contest as independents supported by the Party or under the banner of the Party but not in both the ways.

The meeting then appointed a Parliamentary Board with the following members:

- Mr. Shantilal L. Thar (convenor)
- Mr. J. Venkiteswaran
- Mr. Dhiraj Shah

Based on the various discussion, it was decided that since the Party did not believe that politics should be injected into civic affairs, it would be proper that the civic elections be fought on non-party level. However, if the members of the Party or even non-members approach us for our support, we should extend support, provided the candidates have a good image and who are ~~xxxx~~ able to raise adequate finance to contest the elections.

It was further accepted that the Party might consider giving minimum financial assistance to the candidates, provided the Parliamentary Board is satisfied that the candidates are in a position to raise adequate finance. It is, therefore, the duty of sponsoring unit to ensure that the candidates recommended by them have a good image and are capable of raising the required funds.

The General Secretary was advised to send a circular to all units asking the units to communicate to the Regional Office the names of candidates they would like to recommend to contest the elections, so as to reach the Party office by Monday the 22nd January 1973 to enable the Parliamentary Board to give further thought.

Maclan Mubwa
Chairman