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(11)

Future of Swatantra

The national convention of the Swatantra Party will be called upon, at its meeting in Delhi next month, to decide on a proposal to convert itself into a non-party, service organisation, "eschewing electoral and parliamentary activities at both the Union and state levels."

This proposal, in the form of a draft resolution, was submitted on Tuesday by Mr. M. R. Masani, one of the founders of the 15-year-old party, to the party's central office in Bombay, in a bid to avert an open split over the issue of joining the new multi-party opposition's "national alternative to the Congress" which the party president, Mr. Piloo Mody, M.P., has been canvassing.

COMPROMISE MOVE

The merger move has already been rejected by the Bombay, Madras and Delhi units of the party in resolutions adopted at state level meetings. They have stated that the party would continue to function at state levels even if the president's proposal to merge the party with others were to be adopted at the convention due to meet at Delhi on August 4 and 5.

Mr. Masani's move, if his draft resolution is adopted by the convention,

will leave individual Swatantra members the freedom to join the new opposition party with a "good conscience," as the draft resolution puts it.

The resolution was seen as a compromise move which at the same time would mean the end of the Swatantra as a political party but party sources emphasised that it would continue to be a "political force."

The name of the proposed service organisation "the Swatantra Seva Sangh."

According to party sources, "a large part of the membership of the party" in Bombay and elsewhere is in "revolt" against the party president's proposal to dissolve the party to facilitate the formation of a multi-party opposition.—P.T.I.

श्री एल. एन. भिसरा और जॉर्ज फरनानडिस,

मान्यवर,

हम हिन्दुस्थान के नागरिक रेल्वे स्ट्रोक के कारण उता
गये है क्योंकि इससे असहनीय कठिनाइयों सहन इति की सीमा पार
कर चुकी है.

हम मांग करते हैं कि आप दोनों माहनुभाव शीघ्रतिशीघ्र
कुछ समझौता करें.

नाम:

हस्ताक्षर: