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Lubnan Express. 208/74 (M)

Swat. dissolution 'not possible'

MADRAS, Aug. 19.

Mr. C. Ramakrishnan, Assistant Judge, City Civil Court, held on Saturday that the constitution of the Swatantra Party did not contemplate dissolution and it was doubtful whether even a majority could decide its dissolution.

He was disposing of a petition to restrain the holding of the party's all-India convention at Delhi.

A suit challenging the validity of the move to dissolve the Swatantra Party, filed by the secretary of the Madras District unit of the party and four others, was admitted on July 29. The petitioners had also sought an interim injunction. The judge heard arguments till August 3 and reserved orders. (The convention was held as scheduled on August 4 and 5).

The judge observed that there was no immediate danger of the party being dissolved and it was not for this court to interfere at this stage to prevent the leadership and members from giving their opinion on the question. The petition was hence "closed", the judge said. — PTI.

Swatantra Party, Maharashtra.
143, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay

Copy of Resolution adopted by the State
Council of the Swatantra Party, Maharashtra
at its meeting held on 6th July 1974 at Bombay.

"This meeting of the State Council of the Swatantra Party, Maharashtra, has carefully considered the proposal placed before it that the Swatantra Party be dissolved along with the similar dissolution of six other parties so as to facilitate the formation of a new Party.

The State Council notes that of the seven parties that are expected to dissolve to enable the formation of the new Party the others being confined to particular States or parts of a State.

The State Council is firmly convinced that the Party's principles and policies continue to be valid and that had the policies of Government been formulated on the basis of the same principles, our country would not be in the present critical situation.

The Council is equally convinced that the new Party will mark no advance in the search for a truly national alternative comprising as it does those who, though for the present have consented to get together on a general programme are bound to disagree in regard to the interpretation of a vague and general statement of policy.

Moreover, with opposition parties like the Congress (O) and the Jan Sangh continuing their individual existence, the objective of a two-party system and its electoral benefits will continue to elude us. On the other hand, there is real danger of the ruling Congress on the one side and the Jan Sangh on the other being the direct beneficiaries of such a development.

The State Council of the Swatantra Party, Maharashtra, does not consider the time or occasion opportune for the disappearance of the Swatantra Party from the Indian political scene and is, therefore, opposed to the proposal to dissolve the Party.

The Maharashtra State Council therefore requests the office-bearers of the Party to convene another meeting of the General Council on the eve of the National Convention to enable this matter to be reviewed once again before it is brought up at the Convention.

In the event of a resolution to dissolve the Party being carried in the National Convention, the Maharashtra State Swatantra Party will continue to retain its identity as Swatantra Party and carry on the message and flag of the Party."
