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New life for Swatantra

912 MADRAS, Dec. 8.
Members of the Swatantra Party general council who have not joined the Bharatia Lok Dal met here today and decided to keep the Swatantra Party going.

The meeting elected Mr. G. K. Sundaram, president of the Tamil Nadu unit, as the all-India president in place of Mr. Piloo Mody, who has joined the BLD. Twelve vacancies in the national executive were also filled up.

Briefing newsmen after the day-long session, Mr. Sundaram said it had been resolved to remove from the rolls of the party all those who had crossed over to the BLD.

He said today's meeting was attended by 30 representatives from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Kerala, Karnataka and Orissa.—UNI.

Swatantra Party, Maharashtra.
143, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay 1

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 said 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."
