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2nd April, 1962

Dear Mr. Kaul,

I am writing to you in connection with the seating arrangements for members of the Swatantra Party in the new Lok Sabha. Those who form part of the Swatantra Party group in the Lok Sabha now number 28. A list of these members is attached.

The first 18 stood as official candidates of the Swatantra Party. The next four were candidates of the Ganatantra Parishad which merged with the Swatantra Party on 3rd March 1962, as anticipated in my letter to the Honourable Speaker last December in which I had informed him that these candidates would be standing for election on the Manifesto of the Swatantra Party. If it is so desired, letters will be obtained from Nos. 23 to 28 confirming their joining the Swatantra Party as Members or Associate Members and expressing their desire to sit in the block of seats reserved for the Swatantra Party.

It will be noted that the Swatantra Party is, on the Opposition side, only next in numbers to the Communist Party. It is assumed, therefore, that it will occupy the seats hitherto occupied by the P.S.P. next to the Communist Party and we shall be obliged if you will kindly make arrangements accordingly.

We would like to request that two seats may be reserved on the Opposition Front Bench for our Leader and Deputy Leader respectively. Now that certain unattached members who used to sit on the Opposition Front Bench, like Acharya Kripalani and Professor Shibbanlal Saxena, will no longer be in the House, we think it would be appropriate that the two largest Opposition Parties including ours should be given two seats each on the Front Bench and not just one as has hitherto been the case. We do not think it is appropriate for non-official members of the party in office to overflow to the front benches on the Opposition side as has hitherto been the case, and this is particularly so now that the number of members of the Congress Party has dropped somewhat compared to that in the last Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

encl:

Mr. M.N.Kaul,
Secretary,
Lok Sabha,
Parliament House,
New Delhi.


(M. R. MASANI)
General Secretary

List of Swatantra Party Members in the Lok Sabha.

1. Mr. C.L.Narasimha Reddy	(Andhra)
2. Mr. P.K.Ghosh	(Bihar)
3. Rani Lalita Rajya Laxmi	"
4. Thakur Bateshwar Singh	"
5. Kunwarani Vijaya Raje	"
6. Dr. Basant Narain Singh	"
7. Mr. David Munjni	"
8. Rajmata Sashank Manjari Devi	"
9. Mr. Pravinsingh N. Solanki	(Gujarat)
10. Mr. H.K.Baria	"
11. Mr. Narendra R. Mahida	"
12. Maharajkumar Himmatsingh	"
13. Mr. Kesar Lal	(Rajasthan)
14. Maharani Gayatri Devi	"
15. Maharajkumar Prithvi Raj	"
16. Rao Krishna Pal Singh	(Uttar Pradesh)
17. Kunwar Ram Singh	"
18. Rani Basant Kumari	"
19. Mr. Pratap Kesari Deo	(Orissa)
20. Mr. Yagnya Narayan Singh	"
21. Mr. Rajendra Kohor	"
22. Mr. Hrishikesh Mahananda	"
23. Sardar Buta Singh	(Punjab)
24. Sardar Dhanna Singh Gulshan	"
25. Sardar Kapur Singh	"
26. Dr. M.S.Aney	(Maharashtra)
27. Mr. Muthuramalinga Thevar	(Madras)
28. Professor G.G.Swell	(Assam)