

SWATANTRA PARTY

N. G. RANGA, M.P.

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5-11-63.

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My dear Masani,

Thank you for your replies of the 31st and 1st Nov.

Yes, we may be content with only the meeting of the Organisation Subcommittee.

Yes
What about the answers to be given to the State units regarding the bye-elections to Assemblies as in Mysore and Bihar and parliament as in Madras (caused by the death of Shri Therar) and Cooh Behar? Do you suggest that they can be given, after ascertaining the opinions of members by circulation?

Regarding the convention, you seem to estimate the expenses of the Convention at too high figure, whereas Rajajee does not want it to be higher than Rs. 10 to 15 thousand and Menon's estimate seems to be somewhat reasonably high. I agree with Rajajee that we should make it a business-like function, without the paraphenatia of a procession and big pandal and huge volunteer force and should also collect Rs. 8 to 10 from each delegate for boarding charges for 2 days and provide bus-transport etc. If we adopt such a moderate idea of the convention, we need not budget for more than 15 to 20 thousands. But Menon would like to keep another five thousands in reserve and I feel that the Centre should be prepared to contribute that reserve.

So far as I can see, neither Madras nor Coimbatore will be too willing to shoulder this huge burden.

Yet another point for consideration is whether the convention at this stage at such a huge cost, especially when the centre is unable to contribute even half the estimated expenditure is so absolutely necessary. It is not so business like to be so particular about the need for the convention alone to ratify the change in the basis for the membership and its fee. I have known many precedents in Indian National practice, when the AICC decided upon such big changes, pending the final endorsement by the National convention. So I want you, Rajajee and Munshijee to consider these possibilities also.

You mention how Agra and Patna did not demand any central contribution. Those occasions evoked greater local as well as national enthusiasm. That is not the position to-day.

We had a splendid State convention against the 17th Amendment with 2,000 delegates (each one paying Rs.2) and a public meeting with ~~₹~~ ₹ 70,000 to 100,000 at Vijayawada on the 3rd instant and Rajajee, Hegde, Reddi, Latchanna were also there.

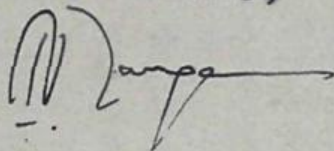
By the way, would you not like to give a talk on your experiences abroad and impressions of Democratic Forces and Trends all over the world, say under the auspices of the Swatantra club, who would only be too glad to organise a Meet, just when Rajajee will also be in Delhi.

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Please inform Jain about your willingness to my ~~xx~~ suggestion so that he can contact Mrs. Rikhi.

I am requesting Rajajee to spare a day for punjab so that Basant Singhjee can ~~xx~~ arrange a good meeting on the 17th Amendment.

Yours affectionately,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'M. D. Singh' or similar, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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