

H.H. Maharaja P.K. Deo
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(LOK SABHA)



2889

29-Ferozeshah Road,
New Delhi.
7th August, 1962.

My dear Mr. Masani,

Kindly refer to your letter of 5th July, 1962, regarding Prof. Swell, MP's allegation before John Deng, General Secretary, Swatantra Party, Shillong Branch, regarding my so called unfriendly attitude towards Prof. Swell and the Tribals in general. It is absolutely baseless. I take strong exception to the letter of Shri Deng, which suggests to reprimand me and suggesting you to do something to check me in this regard. Mr. Swell does not belong to our Party and your taking action on that letter against the acting leader of the party is undesirable. You could have easily disposed of that letter stating that Shri Deng should not have passed judgment without knowing the facts. I, however, give below the facts and hope that no such letter should be sent to me from the Central Office without ascertaining the facts.

Just before the election of the Estimates Committee, the Leaders of the various groups in the Lok Sabha wanted to have an unanimous decision for the election to the Estimates Committee. It was agreed that the Independent Parliamentary Group to which Prof. Swell belongs will not set up any candidate but in spite of the request of Shri Frank Anthony and Shri Barrow not to contest, Prof. Swell and David Munzni both of Independent Group filed their nominations and forced an election and so they lost the sympathy of all the Opposition Members in the Lok Sabha and even Mr. Frank Anthony and Shri Barrow had to tell them that they are not going to vote in their favour in view of the unanimous decision of the Opposite Party. David Munzni could get only his personal vote and Prof. Swell could manage to ~~arrange about~~ some first preference votes from Congressman and got elected with the result that a congressman lost.

His allegation that I am against the Tribals in general is completely unfounded. I find Prof. Swell

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to be extremely individualist and can never remain under a party discipline. I remember you having intimated the C.O.C. at Bombay that Prof. Swell has joined the Swatantra Party in Parliament. But ~~you~~ coming to Delhi, I found him sitting with the Independent Members Group.

With sincerest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.K. Do).

Shri M.R. Masani,
Sassoon Buildings,
143-Mahatma Gandhi Road,
Bombay.