

EXPRESS DELIVERY

2894

4th August 1962.

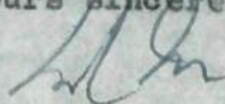
My dear Maharajasaheb,

I notice that a Hindu Mahasabha Member, Mr. B.C. Seth, has written to 55 members of the Opposition including our Members suggesting a meeting next week to discuss the possibilities of an Opposition Party consisting of Swatantra, Jan Sangh and Independent Members being brought into existence for the purpose of combating appeasement of Communist China and Pakistan, as also to attack the secular policy of the Government and to denounce the "appeasement" of Muslims, Christians and other minorities in India.

co-operation
I trust you and your colleagues will not attend such a meeting, in view of the basis on which it is called. I hope you will explain both verbally to Mr. Seth and in a letter replying to his letter that the Parliamentary Board of the Swatantra Party at its meeting in Madras on July 21 and 22 has turned down the suggestion for the Party in Lok Sabha to merge in the larger bloc and that the Party would function under its own banner and programme. At the same time the Party has developed liaison with the Jan Sangh and other Independents and even with the P.S.P. in order to develop ~~ideas~~ *co-operation* to offer resistance to Chinese aggression and opposition to Statism. On the other hand the Party cannot associate with a communal point of view which is anti-minorities and contrary to the Party's policy of seeking friendship with Pakistan. As you know, all this was discussed and made clear at the recent meeting in Madras when you were present, but in view of a news item about Mr. Seth's move, I thought I should drop you this line to re-state the matter.

I would suggest that a meeting of our Lok Sabha Members be called and my letter placed before them, before any Member replies to Mr. Seth's letter. In view of the urgency of this matter, I have today sent you a telegram, copy attached.

Yours sincerely,



H.H. Maharaja P.K. Deo of Kalahandi,
29, Ferozeshah Road,
New Delhi.

(M.R. Masani)

Copy to Mr. Narendra Singh Mahida, M.P.,
133, South Avenue,
New Delhi.