

H.H. Maharaja P.K. Deo

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(LOK SABHA)

2909



29-Ferozeshah Road,
New Delhi.
2.6.1962.

My dear Mr. Masani,

Kindly refer to your letter of the 30th May, '62. I share the views expressed by you regarding our attitude towards Shri Krishna Menon. Lately, you must have noticed my point of order on the Defence Minister's criticism of the Auditor General, while replying to the Defence debate. However, the Speaker has reserved his ruling on the subject for a future date.

On that day an unfortunate incident took place. The whole question came all of a sudden. No previous consultation was possible. While putting the admissibility of the adjournment motion on vote of the House, the Speaker took all of us unaware. He said that all those who want admissibility of the adjournment motion should stand. When I looked up, our entire row had stood. They should have marked me and so long as I was sitting, they should not have stood up. Anyway, most reluctantly I had to stand, and gave an explanation to the press people that we wanted a discussion on the Ambassador's statement in K. TV Interview, so that his correctness of remarks regarding India's inadequate defence could be proved. Even then the press people did not spare me and in the morning it came out that Swatantra leader was led by his followers.

Immediately after the admissibility of the adjournment motion was negatived by the House, the communist block staged a walk-out and in spite of my instructions to Shri Kapur Singh, who was sitting behind me, not to follow them, he actually walked out with them. This was also reported in some papers.

I am afraid, the Swatantra Party has not yet

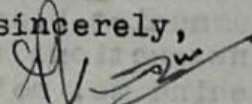
developed as a Party. Many individual members act according to their own impulse. I wanted to bring this matter at our next weekly meeting but as the attendance was very poor, I have kept it for a future occasion. I hope, when you come here on the 7th, you will kindly convince them the desirability of more discipline /of in the party.

In spite of the assertion of the Akali members that they will give a joint statement contradicting the sinister news appearing some time back that they are about to quit our party, they have not yet done so. I have shown your letter in this regard to Shri Kapur Singh and other two are /the not here.

Most of our members are not here. Those 4 or 5 of us, who are here, are trying their best to project the Swatantra 's point of view in the Lok Sabha and in every debate we have participated since I have come. Though the standard of our performance is so so, I would say, it is not ~~but~~ taking into consideration the fact that all of them are new excepting myself. Lately, I have been able to create interest in some of our back benchers in the Lok Sabha. They are keen but they want to be brief and it is very difficult on my part to coach every member. Anyway, I am trying my best. I request you to kindly set up a Research Bureau immediately at Delhi, if you want the Swatantra Party in the Lok Sabha to function effectively.

Hope it finds you in enjoyment of excellent health.

Yours sincerely,


(P.K. Deo).

Shri M.R. Masani,
Genl. Secy. Swatantra Party.