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SWATANTRA PARTY GENERAL COUNCIL
April 17 & 18, Bombay

Comments and suggestions of Mr. N. Parthasarathy, Swatantra Party Parliamentary candidate from Tamil Nadu in a letter to Mr. Masani dated 6th April, 1971:

" Hereafterwards we should not have any alliance with any party in any of the general elections-State or Centre. Our party's separate entity and image are spoiled thereby and we are unable to put forth our Party's programme before the voting public. Further we seem to support morally and monetarily too other parties in the alliance, which fact when carried to its logical conclusion means we exist only for helping others without helping ourselves during elections. Such a sorry state of affairs exists and our position is exploited by others because we do not have the Party organisation to work for the candidates. This basic fault of not building the party can be rectified, in my opinion, as follows :

The Swatantra Party should be made up of four independent wings, (a) the Agriculturists, (b) the small traders and merchants, (c) the professionalists like Doctors, Lawyers, Engineers, etc., and (d) the Industrialists. Let me take up one by one (a) The Agriculturists: Since the majority of our people belong to this sector I would suggest the formation of Assembly constituency units as base with subsidiary branches at village levels. This wing will have the District State and All India committees; (b) the small traders and merchants shall have the District Unit as the base. The state and All India committees will be formed from the elected members from the base units; (c) Doctors, Lawyers, Engineers and other professionalists will also have the District unit as their base leading to the State and All India committees; (d) The Industrialists can have the state unit as the base with an All India committee.

The labour class need not have a separate wing. Normally the labour belongs to two groups namely Agriculture and Industry. So it can have representation in each of them. For example, the agricultural labourers who become the party members will have their representation in the Agricultural wing. Similarly the Industrial labour in the industrial wing. Others who are left over can be suitably accommodated in any of the four wings.

There should be only two guiding principles for our party namely (i) fundamental right to individual property and (2) freedom of speech and action accepted as good by society not running contra to the traditions and culture that exclusively belongs to India and that have been the cumulative effect of all religions and manners.

The economic policies that should be followed by the party will be chalked out by the representatives from the four wings of the Party. The wings themselves will have contact with the masses in their respective fields and do liaison work. For example, the Agricultural wing will have contact with the Agricultural masses, elicit their opinion and send them in a codified manner to the party higher ups for policy making. The reverse process can also be applied, that is to say, the Party at the higher level pronounces a policy and the particular wing gathers opinion. When a policy is made out this way, it will have a true democratic following and mass support. This applies to all the wings. In other words, policies themselves need not be rigid and will become flexible.

During general elections, the number of candidates the party sets up should be dispersed among the four wings in a proportional manner; according to the percentage of Indian Population that goes to make that wing. Naturally the Agricultural wing will get the maximum. Each wing should find its own resources to meet the election expenditure. The candidates should not be over burdened and should share the minimum portion.

Our Party constitution can be suitably amended and the above suggestions can be given a trial.

You have said your resignation is irrevocable. I plead that you reconsider the matter. "