

Swatantra Party

CENTRAL OFFICE

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3358
Points to be noted re: the four lakh credit
arranged for the Raja of Ramgarh.

1. Swatantra Party does not enter directly into the picture viz. so far as the actual transaction between the Raja and the Bank and New India Assnce. is concerned.
2. The combined note of MRM and Raja of 2nd August to the Hon. Treasurer makes the following points:
 - a. That the credit of Rs. 4 lakhs is to be paid off by the Party at the rate of Rs. 20,000 per month and the entire credit should if possible be paid back to the bank by the end of November.
 - b. Pending this repayment the Central Office should send Bihar only the routine contribution of Rs. 2,475 per month.
 - c. Raja's suggestion (accepted by MRM) that after elections 1/5th of the jeeps to be retained by the Raja (in view of his payment of Rs. 1 lakh) and the balance of the 4/5th to be returned to the Central Office.
3. The Raja concluded an agreement with the Central Bank. Among other papers are a promissory note accepting the liability of repaying Rs. 4 lakhs and and promising to pay it back, a hypothecation detailing the transaction and accepting that until the credit is repaid the jeeps are the property of the Central Bank and detailing the numbers of the vehicles has been signed by the Raja. On a Rs. 1.50 stamped paper, the Raja has given the following undertaking to the Central Bank:
 - a. that further to the letter of hypothecation, he ~~unde~~ declares that he holds the 33 vehicles as the Bank's exclusive property ~~the~~ and cannot dispose them off in any manner without the permission of the Bank
 - b. Credit of 4 lakhs to be repaid either on demand or in monthly instalments of Rs. 20,000/- in addition to any interest on the credit when it falls due.
 - c. Undertaking to take out comprehensive insurance policies with New India and keep them in force until the credit is paid off.
4. ~~1.~~ In the months of May and June we have advanced to the Raja a total sum of Rs. 50,000.00 and a sum of Rs. 80,000.00 in four monthly instalments has been repaid to the Central Bank on the Raja's behalf.

There is no time limit specified in any of the documents signed by the Raja with the Bank. The amount is to be repaid by him at Rs. 20,000.00 per month until the whole amount is wiped off or whenever the Bank demands it.

Legally there appears to be no commitment involving the Party.

Insofar as moral commitment is concerned the following facts may be considered

1. The credit arranged was to assist candidates of the Party in Bihar to commence campaigning. The Centre's acceptance to repay was on the understanding that these jeeps would be placed at the disposal of candidates who would be endorsed by the P.S.C.

Mr. Masani wrote to the Raja of Ramgarh on 5th September requesting that pending ~~admittance~~ endorsements of candidates a new jeep each may be handed over to the following constituencies: (copy attached)

However the Raja took no notice of this request. The following complaints from various candidates re. failure to obtain jeeps on the lines of the Centre's request would point out the Raja's refusal to accept the Centre's desires:

1. 22.10.1961. - Letter from Mr. Nand Kishore Narain - candidates from the Gopalganj constituency in Saran dist.- "No jeep allotted so far".

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On second November MRM conveyed the decision of the PSC meeting (Bangalore) and asked the Raja to deliver a new jeep to the following Constituencies:

Bhagalpur, Bagaha, Palamau, Siwan, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Jainagar, Chapra, Gopalganj, ~~Aurangabad~~ Aurangabad.

1. On 11.11.1961 Mr. Nand Kishore Narain endorsed candidate from Gopalganj informed MRM that "all the new jeeps have been allotted and sent to respective places and in absence of any information from the President, they showed their helplessness to do anything. (in short no new jeep delivered)
2. Mr. Hari Nandan Yadav ~~was~~ candidate to the Lok Sabha from the Chapra Parliamentary constituency complained in his letter of 16th December that he had not till that date received a new jeep from the State President.
He ~~however~~ ~~is~~
3. Janki Nandan Singh's telegram of 13th November complaining of non delivery of jeeps.

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