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Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Swatantra Party, Maharashtra held on Monday September 26, 1994 in the Party Office, 143, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay 400 023.

Present

Mr. J. Venkiteswaran - in the Chair *J. Venkiteswaran*
Mr. L.R. Sampat
Mr. K.H. Subramaniam
Mr. S.L. Popa^T
Mr. P.N. Subramanian
Mr. S.V. Raju

The Committee discussed at length the letter dated September 14, 1994 from the Election Commission of India in reply to our letter dated June 28, 1994 which in effect amounted to a negative reply as the reply insists on our adhering to Section 29A which means swearing by socialism. In this connection it was decided that the Party should seek legal redress and file a writ petition on the ground that asking us to swear by socialism which we have sworn to oppose was illegal.

In this connection the following resolution was passed:

"This meeting of the Executive Committee of Swatantra Party Maharashtra, meeting on September 26, 1994 expresses its deep sense of disappointment with the reply dated September 14, 1994 from the Election Commission of India in reply to our letter of June 28, 1994 in which we had, inter alia specifically asked: "In view of the fact that our very political purpose is the repudiation of socialism in all its forms, variations and manifestations, we would like to know, before we complete your application form for registration if our application for registration as a political party will be accepted by the Election Commission of India if we reject the "socialism" part of sub-section 5 of 29A."

"The Election Commission by its ~~routine~~ reply inviting our "attention to the provisions of Section 29-A(5) and 29A(7) of Representation of People Act..." has in effect answered in the negative.

"The Executive Committee of the Swatantra Party, Maharashtra considering this to be highly discriminatory and violative of the fundamental right of the citizen decides to contest this arbitrary provision in the Bombay High Court. It authorised its General Secretary, Mr. L.R. Sampat to seek legal redress through a writ petition to be filed in the Bombay High Court to get declared this requirement illegal, discriminatory and violative of the fundamental right of the citizen."

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.