

स्वतंत्र पक्ष

महाराष्ट्र

समुद्र बिल्डिंग, १४३, महात्मा गांधी रोड, मुंबई - ४०० ०२३. दूरध्वनी क्रमांक २५३०८५

SASSOON BUILDING, 143, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, BOMBAY-400023

Swatantra
Party

MAHARASHTRA

Phone: 253085



12th August 1974

To
The Editor
Times of India
Bombay.

Dear Sir:

"SWATANTRA PARTY"

I read with interest the sentiments expressed in your Editorial "TOO FRAGMENTED" in the issue of the Times of India of 12th August 1974 which in fact reflect the views of those of the Swatantra Party members who opposed the resolution for the dissolution of the Party and merging with other regional political parties with a view to forming a National Alternative to the ruling Congress, passed at the National Convention of the Swatantra Party held on August 4 and 5, 1974 at New Delhi.

In this connection, I give below the text of the Resolution moved at the Convention by the Maharashtra State Unit of the Swatantra Party which substantiate your analysis:

'The 7th National Convention of the Swatantra Party has carefully considered the proposal placed before it that the Swatantra Party be dissolved along with the similar dissolution of six other parties so as to facilitate the formation of a new Party.

The Convention notes that of the seven parties that are expected to dissolve to enable the formation of the new Party, Swatantra Party is the only National Party, others being confined to particular States or parties of a State.

The Convention is firmly convinced that the Party's principles and policies continue to be valid and had the policies of Government been formulated on the basis of the said principles, our country would not be in the present critical situation.

The Convention is equally convinced that the new Party will mark no advance in the search for a truly national alternative comprising as it does those who, though for the present have consented to get together on a general programme are bound to disagree in regard to the interpretation of a vague and general statement of policy.

Moreover, with opposition parties like the Congress (O) and the Jan Sangh continuing their individual existence, the objective of a two Party system and its electoral benefits will continue to elude us. On the other hand, there is real danger of the ruling Congress on the one side and the Jan Sangh on the other being the direct beneficiaries of such a development.

The National Convention of the Swatantra Party does not consider the time or occasion opportune for the disappearance of the Swatantra Party from the Indian political scene and therefore rejects the proposal to dissolve the Party'.

Girish Munehi

General Secretary, Maharashtra Unit of
the Swatantra Party.

12.8.1974