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SWATANTRA PARTY

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL COUNCIL ON MAY 28, 1966

BASTAR

The whole nation has been outraged by the terrible tragedy perpetrated by Government in Bastar, resulting in the shooting down of Maharaja Pravir Chandra Dev, whom the Adibasis have looked upon as the personification of God and so many of his loyal Adibasi followers on the 24th and 25th April, All the Opposition Parties in Madhya Pradesh Assembly and both Houses of Parliament have expressed their extreme dissatisfaction with the inhuman manner in which Government have dealt with the Adibasis and their Maharajah over so many years and with the unholy haste and suspicious manner in which the victims of the outrage were cremated and the one-man Commission of Enquiry was appointed by the very Government whose omissions and commissions are widely believed to have been responsible for this tragedy.

Therefore this General Council demands that the whole administration of the Bastar District should be immediately taken over **for** some time by the President. The present set of officers of the Police and Revenue Departments transferred or suspended and the Enquiry Commission be strengthened by adding one or more Judges of the Supreme Court and terms of reference suitably amended so as to cover the direct or indirect responsibility of the Governments at Bhopal and Delhi for this tragedy and the situation leading to it.

This Council expresses its deep sympathy for the Adibasis of Bastar at this moment of their sorrow over the loss of their beloved leader, Pravir Chandra Bhanj Deo of Kakatiya who died as a martyr to their cause.

Moved from the Chair