

PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS
AND MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE
GENERAL SECRETARY'S PROPOSALS

39/8

1. The National Executive should ratify the following decisions already approved in response to Circular No....

(a) The numbers of various Office Bearers should be:-

- 1 President
- 4 Vice-Presidents
- 1 General Secretary
- 4 Joint Secretaries
- 2 Treasurers.

(b) In addition, the number of members of the new National Executive should be 20.

2. The National Executive should approve the following procedure for the election of Office Bearers by the General Council (in so far as there is a contest for any office):-

(a) At about 3.30 p.m. on 25-11-67 the General Council should adjourn for half-an-hour:-

To enable nominations to be filed in the prescribed form which has been devised.

Consent of Nominees to be presumed unless, in the case of such of the nominees who may be present, they decline on the spot.

(b) The meeting of the General Council may be resumed at 4 p.m. to proceed with other items on the Agenda, while the Returning Officer scrutinises the Nomination Papers and the Office prepares the Ballot Papers and distributes them.

(c) The General Council should adjourn again for half-an-hour at 4.30 p.m. for Tea.

Voting will take place by Secret Ballot for the contested Office Bearer's positions.

(d) The voting will be by the system of single non-transferable vote where each voter will have as many votes of equal preference as there are vacancies to be filled from among candidates shown on the ballot paper, as follows:-

- (i) For each Office Bearer's election each voter will have as many votes as there are vacancies to be filled up; (e.g. for the election of 4 Vice-Presidents, each voter will have 4 votes);
- (ii) He may not give more than one vote to any one candidate;
- (iii) He may not cast more votes than the number of vacancies to be filled up;
- (iv) Any ballot paper not in conformity with conditions (i) to (iv) above will be declared invalid.

- (e) Shri..... will be the Returning Officer for the conduct of the election of the Members, including Scrutiny of Nomination Papers, Ballot papers and declaration of results on the same day by about 6 p.m.
3. The National Executive should approve the following procedure for election of members of the new National Executive by the General Council:-
- (a) At the close of the General Council meeting on 25-11-1967, nominations will be invited in the prescribed form to fill up 20 vacancies on the National Executive. [Time allowed: up to 30 minutes after the close of the General Council meeting].
 - (b) The nomination papers will be scrutinised and Ballot Papers will be prepared overnight.
 - (c) Voting by Secret Ballot will commence at 9.30 a.m. on 26-11-1967 and will close at 10.00 a.m.
 - (d) The voting will be by the system of single non-transferable vote where each voter has 20 votes of equal preference, and the votes may be allotted from among candidates shown in the ballot paper, as follows:-
 - (i) Each voter will have 20 votes.
 - (ii) He may not give more than one vote to any one candidate.
 - (iii) He may not cast more than 20 votes in all.
 - (iv) Any ballot paper not in conformity with conditions (i) to (iii) above will be declared invalid.
 - (e) Shri..... will be the Returning Officer for the conduct of this election, including the Scrutiny of Nomination Papers and Ballot Papers, and the declaration of the results on the same day.
4. The following names are recommended to the incoming President for nomination to the General Council to represent the areas under clause 11(c) of the Constitution:
- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Assam | Prof. Martin Narayan |
| Bengal | Shri Rajendra Singh Singhi |
| Bihar | Shri T. Parmanand |
| Himachal Pradesh | Shri B. B. Prakash |
| Jammu & Kashmir | Mrs. Goolie Oberoi (or Saddiqui). |
| Madhya Pradesh | |
| Haryana | |
5. To recommend to the General Council to delegate the power to coopt additional members of the General Council to the new National Executive.

PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTIONS OF OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS OF
THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

I. Procedure followed by the General Council (at its meeting on February 13, 1965) where it elected the present National Executive.

- a) Prof. Ranga presided over the entire meeting of the National Executive
- b) various persons proposed and seconded names of office bearers. All nominations were carried unanimously;
- c) Rajaji proposed and Mr. Munshi seconded the 20 members of the Executive - also carried unanimously;
- d) Neither nomination papers nor ballot papers were either prepared or distributed ~~thence~~ since everything was unanimous.

II. Procedure recommended for the forthcoming
General Council Meeting on 25 and 26 November:-

While it is possible that elections of the National Executive office bearers and members may be unanimous as on the last occasion, it would wise to be prepared with a prescribed procedure (to be prescribed by the out-going National Executive at its meeting on 25th morning) for the conduct of the elections:

- 2
- (a) Presiding Officers: Whether there is a contest or not it would be advisable to stick to the rule we have laid down (for the lower levels) that a presiding officer should not be a contestant. We should therefore secure someone in Delhi who is neither a member of the General Council nor a candidate for office to preside over that part of the meeting pertaining to elections on November 25. In my view such a person could be Mr. K.M. Kaushik, M.P.

(b) Nominations: There are two alternatives :

- (i) to adopt the pattern followed on the last occasion viz. to call for nominations on the floor of the House and to immediately ascertain the wishes of members, or
- (ii) to adjourn the House for half an hour immediately after the minutes of the last meeting have been adopted and to distribute nomination papers to all those present (specimen attached).

The first proposal would be alright if we can be reasonably sure that :

- (i) elections would be unanimous, and
- (ii) that members will not get the feeling that they have not been allowed to exercise their right.

On the other hand if we are reasonably sure that there is to be a contest then the second method might have to be followed.

(c) Method of Voting: Article 10(a) of the Constitution does not specify the kind of voting both for office bearers and membership of the National Executive that ought to be followed in the event of a contest viz. simple majority or by proportional representation.

Simple Majority: Where the position to be filled up is only one and there are not more than two contestants, a simple majority would suffice, but where there are more than two candidates for a single post then we might have to resort to a method of proportional representation.

In so far as the elections of the 4 Vice Presidents, 4 Joint Secretaries, 2 Treasurers and 20 members of the Executive are concerned, we might follow the method of proportional representation on the basis of the single transferable vote.

As mentioned earlier the General Council can decide whether elections should be by proportional representation or by single majority since the Constitution is silent on this point.

- (d) Who decides the Procedure to be followed: While the National Executive in the morning can recommend the procedure, it is for the General Council to decide on the procedure in the light of the National Executive's recommendation.

- (e) Voting: When the Council reassembles after the half hour break for nominations, the presiding officers should list nominations received for each office asked whether there are any withdrawals and proceed to distribute ballot papers to members. (specimen attached). Once the nominations are available the presiding officer should distribute as many ballot papers as there are officers and one ballot paper for the 20 members of the Executive. Members should indicate their choice and put them in the box that will be kept in the hall for the purpose.

- (f) Counting: The presiding officer will appoint counting officers for each of the offices; one each for each of the offices and two for members of the Committee.

The number depends on the number of officers that are contesting.

- (g) Results: The presiding officer will announce the results as and when counting for each office is completed. Once he has completed the elections the presiding officers can invite the newly elected President to take the chair.

NOMINATION PAPER

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT

I (in block letters please) _____

hereby nominate Mr./Mrs./Miss _____ to

be candidate for the Presidentship of the Swatantra Party. I certify
that the candidate has been enrolled on or before June 30, 1967.

Signature:

I second the nomination

State:

Signature:

State:

I agree to be a candidate for the Presidentship of the Party.

- Signature:

State:

N.B. It is not compulsory for you to nominate all four Vice-
Presidents. You are free to nominate any number upto four.

NOMINATION PAPER

ELECTION OF FOUR VICE-PRESIDENTS

I (in block letters) _____

hereby nominate the following:

1.

2.

3.

4.

as candidates for the Vice-Presidency of the Swatantra Party.

I certify that the candidate/s mentioned above have been enrolled
on or before June 30, 1967

Signature:

Signature

State:

State

I second the nomination/s

Signature: To be a candidate for the General Secretaryship

State:

I/we agree to be candidate/s for the Vice-Presidency
of the Party.

Signature:

Signature/s

State/s

N.B. It is not compulsory for you to nominate all four Vice-
Presidents. You are free to nominate any number upto four.

NOMINATION PAPER

ELECTION OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

I (in block letters) _____
hereby nominate Mr./Mrs./Miss _____ to
be the candidate for the General Secretaryship of the Swatantra
Party. I certify that the candidate has been enrolled on or
before June 30, 1967.

Signature:

State

I second the nomination

Signature:

State:

I agree to be a candidate for the General Secretaryship
of the Party.

Signature:

State:

Note: It is not compulsory for you to be a member of the Party.
Secretaries: You are free to nominate any person you like.

NOMINATION PAPER

ELECTION OF FOUR JOINT SECRETARIES

I (in block letters) _____

hereby nominate the following:

1.

2.

3.

4.

as candidates for the office of Joint Secretary/ies of the Swatantra Party. I certify that the candidate/s mentioned above have been enrolled on or before June 30, 1967

Signature

State

I second the nomination/s

Signature

State

I/We agree to be candidate/s for the Joint Secretaryship of the Party

Signature/s

State/s

N.B: It is not compulsory for you to nominate all four Joint Secretaries. You are free to nominate any number upto four

NOMINATION PAPER

ELECTION OF TWO TREASURERS

I (in block letters) _____

hereby nominate the following:

1.

2.

as candidates for the offices of Treasurer/s of the Swatantra Party.

I certify that the candidate/s mentioned above have been enrolled on or before June 30, 1967.

Signature

State

I second the nomination/s

Signature

State

I/We agree to be candidates for the office of Treasurers of the Party.

Signature/s

State/s

N.B: It is not compulsory for you to nominate both Treasurers.
You are free to nominate even one.

NOMINATION PAPER

ELECTION OF TWENTY MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

I (in block letters please) _____

hereby nominate the following to be candidates for membership of the National Executive. I certify that all candidates mentioned below have been duly enrolled on or before June 30, 1967

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.
- 17.
- 18.
- 19.
- 20.

Signature:

State:

I second the nominations:

Signature _____

State _____

I/We agree to be candidates for membership of the National Executive

Signature/s

N.B. It is not compulsory for you to nominate all twenty.
You are free to nominate any number upto twenty