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SANDESH

29.3.68

AHMEDABAD*Myraant Rappa Sahha*

Mr. Bhailalbhai Patel said that looking at the first preference votes, it seems as that because Mr. Mahida got 40 votes it appears that 38 Swatantra Party M.L.A.'s have rebelled.

Mr. Bhailalbhai Patel said that he has resigned as the leader of the opposition from 28.3.68. He said now, he is not concerned what the Party would do.

Because Mr. Vaidya was the Party's official candidate, vote against him was a rebellion.

Bhailalbhai said that a promise was given to Mr. Vaidya with the consent of 26 M.L.A.s and this was confirmed by the Central Party.

He said that because that promise could not be fulfilled, now ~~no~~ no one will trust the Party and anyone who does so will be a fool. He said that it is a matter of gratification that like them the Central Parliamentary Board has kept its promise.

Mr. H.M. Patel said that when the promise was given to Mr. Vaidya, the position was such because of his group's help the Party was able to elect two members to the Rajya Sabha. He said that people will come and go but the Party would remain, and therefore the past promises of the Party have to be fulfilled by those who have joined later on. Thus even though the majority of our members were opposed to it, the office-bearers have stuck to the promise.

Mr. H.M. Patel said that those who have signed Mr. Mahida's nomination papers have broken the Party's discipline. But Mr. H.M. said that he could not say what steps the Party would take against them. He said that even Bhaikaka and Mr. Jaideepsinhji are sore.

It is true that there was a crisis in the party, and all should behave in such a way so that people could place their trust in the Party.

Mr. Jaideepsinhji said that the results have shown the lack of confidence in the leaders lip. But it is for the Central Party to decide what to do. But it is not true that he would resign from the Assembly.

Mr. Pravinsinhji Solanki said that it seemed that at first Mr. Vaidya would win. But the results have shown that it was not to be. He said that the whole matter will have to be reviewed.

Mr. Piloo Mody said that this was a complicated matter, and ~~any~~ one can only guess why the majority have voted against the Party's official candidate. They tried to persuade Mr. Mahida to withdraw but he said that because he (Mahida) had the support of the majority he would not withdraw until they told him to do so. Mr. Piloo Mody said that ~~th~~ he too felt that Mr. Mahida had the support of the majority.