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EXHIBIT A.

Dated 18.11.67 Rajkot 10.15 p.m.

Statement of Mr. Bhupatbhai D. Gohil

One month before the 1967 elections, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel and (Mr. Gohil) ⁹ were sitting in an office of a Congress worker in Jetpur, Mr. Jammadas Velcaria. At this time it was about 11 in the morning. (Mr. Gohil) ⁹ was going on tour when Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel raised his hand and called me aside and asked, "what are the prospects of Mr. Masani in the elections?" (Mr. Gohil) ⁹ replied "the atmosphere is good". Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel then said "the atmosphere for Mr. Masani may be good in the cities but it is not good in the villages. He does not tour the villages but he comes by plane and goes away and only addresses press conferences. It is not possible to win elections in this manner. If elections are to be won, then he (Masani) should keep along with him workers from the villages like myself and then only can the elections be won".

Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel had also met the Vice-President of the Jetput Taluka Swatantra Party, Mr. Kantilal Bhupatlal Seth at Jamjodhpur during the elections. At that time many people had gone from here (Rajkot) to address public meetings for the elections of Mr. Nathalal and one of them was Mr. Kantibhai. Mr. Kantibhai told (Mr. Gohil) ^{me} "Mr. Dandeker, Mr. Virendra Shah and Mr. Masani are outsiders and they are fighting the elections on the power of money, but there are no chances for them to win".

ANNEXURE I

Jetpur dated 19.11.67

Statement of Mr. Kantilal Bhupatlal Rathod

"About one month before the elections, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel had met me. I had gone to Jamjodhpur two or three times during the elections of Mr. Nathalal. At that time at about 1.30 in the night, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel had said on one occasion that he did not think Mr. Masani could be elected. That this Party was a Party of princes, but if this election is to be won then he should give the money to us and we would fight the elections. But any outsider could not win the elections in this way. Over and above this, it was not proper that outsiders should be brought in". At that time Mr. Ramniklal Bhanjibhai Patel was also present.'

ANNEXURE II

Dhoraji dated 19.11.67

Statement of Mr. Maganbhai Dholakia (a goldsmith not a member of the Party)

" I have filled my form but I have not received my identity card. During the elections nobody informed the supporters of the Party at that time. During Mr. Masani's elections, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel did not give us any information. Mr. Aba Latif Panwala who is a life member also did not inform us. Mr. Ahmed Kassar Dunda, Mr. Ahmed Ganā Badela are all life members of the Party but they are out of station and during the previous election they had given good help. Mr. Champakbhai was not at all kept informed. I have filled my Party's membership form in the month of December and had handed it over to Mr. Jasmathbai Patel. These forms were sent directly to the Gujarat Swatantra Party office by Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel without at first sending them to the district office and I know this is a fact. I do not know whether any bogus members have been enrolled. All these forms were filled in in December. In December when nominations were filed for the Party's organisational elections, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel ~~when~~ was criticising the Parliamentary Board then I had told him not to do so because Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel was himself a member of the Parliamentary Board and ~~now~~ he could not speak anything against the Board now.

Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel used to say " Mr. Masani does not solve the problems of the villages neither does he tour the villages. Mr. Masani does not have any interest in the villages, he is only interested in the cities". This was the type of propaganda carried on by Bhagwanjibhai Patel at the time of the elections.

ANNEXURE III

Statement of Ladubha Jorsingh Jadeja (Vadodar)

" I know Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel for many years. I know that he has joined the Swatantra Party. I was a member of the Swatantra Party in 1965-66, but I am not a member now. During the elections, Mr. Masani had asked for my help and I had worked with him. Because of his regard for me I had become the Party's member. At that time Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel was not even a member of the Swatantra Party, but I had some relations with him even then. A Khedut Samelan was organised to protest against the Government's policy regarding groundnuts, and I am a member of the Khedut Samaj. At that time I along with Mr. Dharamsi Patel and Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel had worked together. When the elections came and when it was decided to put up Mr. Masani, from Central Saurashtra then Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel and the present President of the Jilla Panchayat Mr. Vallabhbhai and Mr. Govindbhai Jetabhai, Chairman of the Education Committee, and because his relations with them were good, they desired that Mr. Masani should not stand from Central Saurashtra and in case he did stand then they conspired to defeat Mr. Masani anyhow and they were saying very openly. One of the reason given was that from Central Saurashtra only a son of Kanbi should stand. After that all his moves were against the Swatantra Party and I can say that from my experience. When I was in Kandorana area, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel deliberately acted in such a manner so as to put the Kshetriyas against the Patels. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel used to say that all his efforts were directed towards the defeat of Mr. Masani and our candidate from Dhoraji Mr. Champaklal Vyas.

During the elections the then President of the Dhoraji Taluka Committee and the Vice President and the Treasurer were not informed about ~~the~~ anything. I am under the impression that during the agitation about groundnuts, about 250 members had to be enrolled and these forms were with Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel. These forms were not sent to the District office nor were they sent to the Council (State Office) but they remained with him. When the Party elections drew near

then Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel sent these forms directly to Ahmedabad. Life members in Dhoraji were also not informed. Now they are not present here. For the Party elections at that time only about 10 to 12 members were present. Very few people know the situation here. I am a member of the Khedut Samaj. Its membership at present is about 300 to 400. The present President of the Khedut Samaj is Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai has abilities but he is full of hatred and due to his pride he cannot do any concrete work. In order to defeat Mr. Masani he had discussions with Mr. Chiman Mehta.

ANNEXURE IV

Statement of Champaklal ^HMirji Vyas, Advocate, Dhoraji

I am an advocate. During the last general elections I was a Swatantra Party candidate. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel neither worked against me nor for me. He never used to take interest in the Central Saurashtra Parliamentary seat or Assembly seat. I used to get reports from some people that during the elections Mr. Bhagwanjibhai used to act against the interests of the Party. Many people from the villages and the cities were talking that Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel instead of working for the Party's candidates, ~~he~~ was doing propaganda against them. I had not drawn the attention of the party's leaders but some other people had done so. I had not even talked to Mr. Bhaibaka about it. I joined the Party before the elections.

During the elections for the Dhoraji Taluka seat, I was not aware of what was going on but I came to know about certain things only after the elections were over. I am not aware of any irregularities committed during these elections but after the elections I had heard about these irregularities. I had heard that Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel was against Mr. Masani and was of the opinion that Mr. Masani could not win. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai never used to meet me. His lodgings were in the residence of one Mr. Arvindbhai, son of Mr. Mohanbhai. Bhagwanjibhai used to believe that I would get about 3000 votes. During the last elections all my polling agents were absent. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai was not the cause of the absence ~~and~~ of the polling agents but he was more against Mr. Masani than myself.

Gist

ANNEXURE V

Dated 21.11.67

Gist of the Statement of Mr. Mithabhai Navjibhai Parsanna of Rajkot

During the last general elections there was a demand for the separate State of Saurashtra and in order to put forward that demand Mr. Ratibhai Tanna had formed a Janta Paksh. Mr. Tanna wanted to contest all the seats in the Rajkot Parliamentary constituencies. Mr. Tanna could not find a candidate for Dhoraji seat and just one day before the filing of nomination, Mr. Ratilal Tanna's supporters met Mr. Bhagwanjibhai at Dhoraji in the office of the Khedut Samaj. Mr. Tanna requested Bhagwanjibhai to find him a candidate for Dhoraji and asked him to help the candidate. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel said " this time I am going to use all my energy to defeat Mr. Masani, and I would support any candidate who stands against Mr. Masani. Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel was instrumental in putting up one Mr. Kanjibhai Patel as a candidate from Dhoraji and Mr. Bhagwanjibhai came to an agreement with Mr. Tanna about the finances. When I went there, Mr. Bhagwanjibhai was speaking against Mr. Masani.

ANNEXURES VI & VII , are the copies of the Resolutions passed by the District Committee of the Rajkot District Swatantra Party which held its meeting on 6.9.67.

ANNEXURE VIII , is the copy of the Resolution No.4 passed at the meeting of the Rajkot District Swatantra Party Committee on 11.10.67 under the Presidentship of the Yuvraj of Wankaner, Mr. Digvijay Singhji.

ANNEXURE IX & X , are the clippings from Nutan Saurashtra and Ful-Chhab respectively dated 28.9.67

ANNEXURE XI

Dhoraji dated 19.11.67

Statement of Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel

The membership forms from Dhoraji Taluka were filled in by Mr. Radhmi Patel, Mr. Ramlal and myself. These forms were filled in ~~mm~~ in 1966 before the general elections. These forms were filled with a view to becoming members of the Party en masse. I did not know that these forms were to be sent to the District office because many other people were under the impression that the forms could be sent directly to the State office and also Mr. Dharamsi Patel and Mr. Barai and others had sent the forms directly to the State office and this is a fact. The membership fees along with the forms were also sent directly to the State office. The State office sent these forms back to the District office. All these forms which I had submitted were before the date line stated in the Party's procedure for elections. I am not aware of what happened to the other forms. If you look at the records it would be seen that so far no one has filled in the membership forms from Dhoraji taluka. Because the Party in Dhoraji Taluka should not get a bad name I sent all these forms on the last date directly to the State office. When the Party elections in Dhoraji Taluka were held about 40 members were present and the minutes had been recorded by the returning officer. The President, Vice President, Treasurer, etc. of the past Committee are not members of the Party in this year and they were not present in that meeting. For the Party elections in Dhoraji Taluka, I was elected the President and Mr. Aba Latif Panwala was also a member of the Taluka Committee. At present Mr. Aba Latif is in Pakistan.

General Election in the Rajkot District:

From the time when Mr. Masani's candidature was announced I was not present in the Rajkot District. I was present ^{for} in the elections of Mr. Narendrasinh Jhala, Mr. Nathalal of Jamjodhpur, Mr. Becharbhai Patel of Kutiyana, therefore it could be seen that I was not at all present in Central Saurashtra, and I can prove this date-wise. Neither Mr. Masani nor the candidates from Dhoraji Mr. Champakbhai

asked ~~for~~ my cooperation and therefore I did not go there to canvass for them. But I had gone to help the Swatantra Party's other candidates.

Mr. Masani had put up Mr. Manohar Singhji and Mr. Babubhai ~~Sanku~~Shah as the candidates on the Swatantra Party's symbol. These last two persons with the support of Mr. Masani by their public speeches and in Samelans had officially announced that they were out to defeat the Swatantra Party's candidates Mr. Ajmera from Babra and Mr. Naranbhai from Ambeli and they had the blessings of Mr. Masani ~~was~~ to see that the last two ~~named~~ named candidates were defeated.

Walkout by Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel at the election
meeting of Rajkot District Swatantra Party Committee:

I had walked out from the election meeting of the Rajkot District Swatantra Party Committee by saying that in this committee there was not a single representative from the villages. I had walked out on a principle. At that time I had said that this was a "Masani Committee".

Gist

ANNEXURE XII

Gist of the letter from Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel to the President of the Gujarat Swatantra Party, dated 9.12.67.

In this letter Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel goes on to give various reasons ~~while~~ why he had walked out during the elections for the Rajkot District Swatantra Party Committee. The reasons given are that on the Rajkot District Swatantra Party Committee, its office bearers and the 9 members elected to the State Council, there was not a single Representative of the villages. Therefore Mr. Bhagwanjibhai Patel had called this a "Masani Committee" and that he wanted to keep hold on the Swatantra Party and that he was acting against the interest of the Party workers from the villages. Bhagwanjibhai Patel goes on to say that he had not made any propaganda against Mr. Masani or the Party's candidates from Upleta and Dhoraji. He says that the chief election Officer nominated by Mr. Masani for him was a Socialist namely Mr. Babubhai Vaidya and therefore it was not possible for Bhagwanjibhai to support Masani in this election, neither had Mr. Masani ~~had~~ asked for his signature on public appeals nor had he asked for his help.