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SWATANTRA PARTY

GENERAL COUNCIL

BARODA: NOVEMBER 6, 1971

RESOLUTION ON THE CURRENT SITUATION

By
Mr. Madhu Mehta.

On 15th August, 1972, India will be celebrating its 25th Independence Day. The Swatantra Party is of the opinion that on that day, a serious and sincere attempt should be made by every patriotic and democratic-minded Indian to evaluate the achievements and policies of the Government and should honestly answer the question whether the people are anywhere near the goal set before them by Mahatma Gandhi, to wipe every tear from the eyes of every helpless and poor Indian.

The Congress Party which took over the reins of power on the midnight of 14th August, 1947, pledged itself to achieve this goal. It has enjoyed continuous power without any interruption for the last 24 years. We gave ourselves a fine Constitution but it has been amended 24 times in the last 24 years and when the 25th Amendment to the Constitution Bill passes muster, we the people of India will lose freedom and fundamental rights.

The Congress Party in power has taxed our people mercilessly borrowed and got free aid from our friends abroad and has spent thousands of crores of rupees through various Plans and yet today we find that our economy is stagnant, prices continuously soar, the value of our rupee has run down and been debased, uncertainty and insecurity has spread to all sections of the society.

We are witnessing the social consequences of Socialism, as reflected in mass political defections from all political parties, the pernicious cancer of corruption in all walks of life and the breaking of promises and public commitments by those who have held some of the highest offices in the country. This has shaken the timbre and fabric of our public life, and there is this growing feeling of utter despair and despondency in the youth which is fast losing its faith in democracy. The result is that we are reaching an explosive situation which may result in chaos and anarchy in the country.

The Swatantra Party is convinced that the main cause of this sad state of affairs is the stubborn and outdated obsession of Indian socialists with Marxist dogmas and values. While they have all along been arguing and vying with each other about the extent and degree of their respective radicalism, when defining the role of the State, they have consistently given the least attention to the individual. His basic urges, his capacity to contribute to the society and his natural limitations. The result is the almost total destruction of the individual's spirit to rise against injustice and exploitation.

In these circumstances, the Swatantra Party feels that it would be failing in its duty if it does not start immediately a movement with three main objectives -

- (1) Destroy decadent Marxist values,
- (2) Save the individual and
- (3) present to the people "Our Path" which is a way of life ideally suited for India.

The Swatantra Party therefore pledges to spread the message of "Our Path" in the country, in farms and factories in villages and cities.

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Jale

Draft Minutes of the First Meeting of the newly elected General Council of the Swatantra Party, held at the Gayama Samaja Hall, in Bangalore, on September 17 and 18, 1971.

Present

Mr. N. Dandekar

- in the Chair

ANDHRA

Mr. G. Latchanna
Mr. K. Ramu Naidu
Mr. J. Chandramouli, M.P.
Mr. Pasupuleti Koteswara Rao
Mr. Kandimalla Butchaiah
Mr. Thotakura Sreerama Murthy
Mr. M. Leela Mohan
Mr. P. Rajagopala Naidu
Mr. B. Ratnasabhapathy
Mr. Y. Gadilinga Goud
Mr. S. Sanyasi Appa Rao
Mr. Yedlapati Venketrao

BOMBAY

Mr. Madhu N. Mehta
Mr. Shantilal Thar
Mrs. Sarla Datar
Mr. K.H. Subramaniam
Mr. M.H. Musafir

DELHI

Mr. Mohan Lal Jatav
Mr. M.R. Arya
Mr. Dev Raj Sharma
Mr. R.C. Sharma
Col. H.R. Pasricha

GUJARAT

Mr. H.M. Patel, M.P.
Mr. Piloo Mody, M.P.
Miss Kusum Kumari Joshi
Mr. Narendra Vyas
Mr. Anandbhai Amin
Mr. Dadubhai Amin
Mr. R.B. Gupta
Dr. Jankraj Kulkarni
Mr. Jayantibhai Ravjibhai Patel
Mr. Chinanbhai Kanji Patel

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Mr. Budhi Prakash
Mr. Romesh Mahajan
Major Munshi Ram

KASHMIR

Mr. Krishan Lal Wasir
Mr. Abdul Wahid Raina
Mr. Gulam Ahmed Bhat

KERALA

Mr. C.N. Sudhan
Mr. A.J. Dominic
Mr. Babu Joseph
Mr. C. Mathai
Mr. K.A. Abraham

MAHARASHTRA

Mr. A.R. Deshpande
Mr. Sumatilal P. Shah
Mr. Pandharinath Y. Kanbasgar

MYSORE

Mr. N.K. Ganapaiah
Mr. K.N.V. Rao
Mr. M.R. Janardana
Mr. V.L. Narasinha Moorthy
Mr. T.C. Patil
Mr. Siddayya V. Kashimath
Mr. R.J. Desai
Dr. T.L. Lingaiah
Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
Mrs. Louella Lobo Prabhu
Mr. T. Ananta Rao
Mr. Rajkumar R.Y. Ghorpade
Mr. B.S. Gopalakrishna

ORISSA

Mr. Tribikram Tripathy
Mr. Banabihari Pati
Mr. Madanmohan Sahoo
Mr. Sarat Chandra Singh Deo
Mr. V. Jagannadham
Mr. Padhashyam Ray
Mr. Guru Charan Tikayat
Mr. Narendra Kumar Mohanty
Mr. Dhirendranath Deb

PUNJAB

Sardar Bhupinder Singh Manh
Sardar Gurbax Singh Bedi

RAJASTHAN

Mr. Kalyansingh Kalvi
Mr. Prathivi Singhji Bisalpoor
Prof. Bhawani Singhji
Mr. Shivraj Singhji Chaksu
Mr. Krishan Singhji Bhilawara

TAMIL NADU

Mr. T. Sadasivam
Mr. V. Devanathan
Dr. H.V. Hande
Mr. P. Sundaresan
Mr. J. Ramabhadran
Mr. V. Padmanabhan
Mr. T.T. Srinivasan
Mr. M.K. Nanja Gowder
Mr. S. Venkatarao
Mr. N. Mohd. Hussain
Mr. M.S. Hamza
Mr. A. Adiseshan
Mr. C. R. Narasimhan
Mr. K.V. Mahadevan

UTTAR PRADESH

Mr. Harbhajan Singh
Mr. Hari Krishna Srivastava
Mr. K.D.R. Pandey
Mr. Shiv Datt Sharma
Mr. Nawabzada Ghali Kamal
Mr. Hari Shanker Vimal
Mr. Bhudeo Sharma
Mr. Lal Pratap Singh
Mr. Puttan Lal Pandey
Mr. Hari Kumar Pathak
Mr. Mutiur Rahman
Mr. Guru Prasad Srivastava
Mr. Hashmat Ali
Mr. Baldeo Singh
Mr. Mohd. Farooq Khan
Mr. Vijaipal Singh Saxena

Mr. M. R. Masani - Past President

Condolence

The meeting condoled the death of Dr. Biharilal Antani a senior member of the Party in the Rajya Sabha from Gujarat who had passed away on September 16.

The President referred to the contribution made by Dr. Antani to the Party both in Gujarat and in the Rajya Sabha. The meeting observed a minute's silence in honour of his memory.

Mr. N. Dandekar welcomed the newly elected members of the General Council. As required by Rajaji he read out Rajaji's letter to the outgoing General Secretary, Dr. R.C. Cooper (attached Annexure 'A') in the course of which he had asked Dr. Cooper to continue in office as General Secretary. Also, at Rajaji's request, the President read out the text of an article Rajaji had written for the Swarajya of September 25 (attached Annexure 'B').

The programme of the meeting particularly the schedule of elections as settled by the National Executive was communicated to members (attached Annexure 'C').

The outgoing President then invited the Returning Officer, Mr. V.S. Natarajan to take the Chair and conduct the election of Office Bearers and Members of the National Executive.

Mr. V.S. Natarajan (Returning Officer) - in the Chair

The Returning Officer called the meeting to Order.

He informed members that the National Executive had made the following recommendations in respect of the number of Office Bearers for the ensuing term, viz.,

Vice-Presidents	5
Joint Secretaries	5
Treasurers	2
Members of the National Executive	20

The meeting approved the recommendation of the outgoing National Executive and decided to have the following Office Bearers and Members of the National Executive :

A President	
Vice Presidents	5
A General Secretary	
Treasurers	2
Joint Secretaries	5
Members of the National Executive	20

The Returning Officer appointed from among those present (who were themselves not candidates for any elective post in the elections being held that day) the following two Scrutineers to scrutinise the nomination and ballot papers :

Mr. K.D.R. Pandey	- Uttar Pradesh
Mr. M. Leela Mohan	- Andhra

The Returning Officer then called for nominations for the offices of

A President	
Vice-Presidents	5
General Secretary	
Treasurers	2
Joint Secretaries	5

President

17 nomination papers were received; of these 6 nomination papers were rejected for one or more of the following reasons :

- (a) they were not properly proposed and seconded, or
- (b) the person nominated though present had declined to give his consent, or
- (c) the person nominated was neither present nor was his letter of consent available with the Returning Officer.

The remaining 11 nomination papers were found valid in respect of the following candidates :

- 1. Mr. Piloo Mody (7 nomination papers)
- 2. Mr. H.M. Patel (4 nomination papers)

Since there were two candidates for one vacancy of the President the Returning Officer ordered elections by secret ballot with the following result :

Mr. H.M. Patel	65 votes
Mr. Piloo Mody	40 votes
Invalid	1 vote

Mr. H.M. Patel was declared duly elected President.

Vice-Presidents

29 nomination papers duly proposed and seconded nominating between them the following were received :

Mr. R.N. Singh Deo
Rajmata Gayatri Devi
Mr. N. Dandekar
Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
Dr. R.C. Cooper
Mr. H.M. Patel
Mr. Y.G. Goud
Sardar Harbhachan Singh, and
Mr. G. Latchanna

The nominations of two others were rejected on the ground that the persons so nominated were neither present nor were their letters of consent available with the Returning Officer.

Mr. H.M. Patel and Mr. Y.G. Goud declined the nomination, thus leaving seven candidates for five vacancies.

The Returning Officer ordered elections by secret ballot with the following result :

Mr. R.M. Singh Deo	92 votes
Mr. N. Dandekar	90 "
Rajmata Gayatri Devi	89 "
Sardar Harbhachan Singh	79 "
Mr. G. Latchanna	53 "
Dr. R.C. Cooper	49 "
Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu	33 "
Invalid	1 vote

The first five viz.,

Mr. R.M. Singh Deo
Mr. N. Dandekar
Rajmata Gayatri Devi
Sardar Harbhachan Singh, and
Mr. G. Latchanna

were declared duly elected as Vice-Presidents.

General Secretary

18 nomination papers were received of which two were rejected; one of them because the nomination paper was defective and the other because the person nominated was neither present nor was his letter of consent available with the Returning Officer.

The remaining 16 nomination papers duly proposed and seconded nominated between them the following :

Mr. Piloo Mody	(7 nomination papers)
Dr. H.V. Hande	(2 nomination papers)
Mr. Madhu Mehta	(3 nomination papers)
Mr. G. Latchanna	(2 nomination papers)
Mr. Y.G. Goud	(1 nomination paper)
Mr. M.R. Janardhana	(1 nomination paper)

Mr. M.R. Janardhana, Mr. Y.G. Goud, Mr. Piloo Mody, Dr. H.V. Hande, and Mr. G. Latchanna declined their nominations. As there was only one candidate left for the post of General Secretary, the Returning Officer declared Mr. Madhu Mehta duly elected General Secretary.

Treasurers

Four nomination papers were received of which three were rejected on the ground that those nominated were neither present nor were their letters of consent available with the Returning Officer. Only one paper that of Mr. Manubhai Anersey was found valid. As there was only one nomination for two vacancies, Mr. Manubhai Anersey was declared elected as Hon. Treasurer.

Joint Secretaries

Sixteen nomination papers duly proposed and seconded nominating between them the following were received :

Mr. Tribikram Tripathy
Mr. Budhi Prakash
Mr. M.R. Arya
Dr. H.V. Hande
Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
Mr. R.J. Desai
Mr. N.K. Ganapaiah
Mr. Madhu Mehta, and
Mr. Y.G. Goud

The nominations of two others were rejected as both of them were neither present nor were their letters of consent available with the Returning Officer.

Mr. Lobo Prabhu, Mr. R.J. Desai, Mr. N.K. Ganapaiah and Mr. Madhu Mehta declined the nomination. Since there were only five candidates left for the five vacancies, the Returning Officer declared the following five duly elected :

Mr. Tribikram Tripathy
Mr. Budhi Prakash
Mr. M.R. Arya
Dr. H.V. Hande
Mr. Y.G. Goud

The meeting then adjourned for the day.

The adjourned meeting of the General Council met on Saturday, September 18, at 9.30 a.m. at the Gayana Samaja Hall, Bangalore.

Present

Mr. V.S. Natarajan (Returning Officer) - in the Chair

AMHRA

Mr. G. Latchanna,
Mr. K. Ramu Maidu
Mr. J. Chandramouli, M.P.
Mr. Pasupuleti Koteswara Rao
Mr. Kandimalla Butchaiah
Mr. Thotala Sreerama Murthy
Mr. M. Leela Mohan
Mr. P. Rajagopala Maidu
Mr. B. Ratnasabhapathy
Mr. Y. Gadilinga Goud
Mr. S. Sanyasi Appa Rao
Mr. Yedlapati Venketrao

BOMBAY

Mr. N. Dandekar
Mr. Madhu W. Mehta
Mr. Shantilal Thar
Mrs. Sarla Datar
Mr. K.H. Subramaniam
Mr. M.H. Musafir

DELHI

Mr. Mohan Lal Jatav
Mr. M.R. Arya
Mr. Dev Raj Sharma
Mr. R.C. Sharma
Col. H.R. Pasricha

GUJARAT

Mr. H.M. Patel, M.P.
Mr. Piloo Mody, M.P.
Miss Kusum Kumari Joshi
Mr. Narendra Vyas
Mr. ~~Abdul~~ Amin
Mr. Dadubhai Amin
Mr. R.B. Gupta
Mr. Janakrai Mankad
Mr. Jayantibhai Ravjibhai Patel
Mr. Chimanbhai Kanji Patel

HIMACHAL PRADESH

Mr. Budhi Prakash
Mr. Romesh Mahajan
Major Munshi Ram

KASHMIR

Mr. Krishan Lal Wazir
Mr. Abdul Wahid Raina
Mr. Gulam Ahmed Bhat

KERALA

Mr. C.N. Sudhan
Mr. A.J. Dominic
Mr. Babu Joseph
Mr. C. Mathai
Mr. K.A. Abraham

MAHARASHTRA

Mr. A.R. Deshpande
Mr. Sumatilal P. Shah
Mr. Pandharinath Y. Kanbhar

MYSORE

Mr. H.K. Ganapaich
Mr. K.N.V. Rao
Mr. M.R. Janardana
Mr. V.L. Marasinha Moorthy
Mr. T.C. Patil
Mr. Siddayya V. Kashimath
Mr. R.J. Desai
Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
Mrs. Louella Lobo Prabhu
Mr. T. Ananta Rao
Mr. Rajkumar R.Y. Ghorpade
Mr. B.S. Gopalakrishna

ORISSA

Mr. Tribikram Tripathy
Mr. Banabihari Pati
Mr. Madanmohan Sahoo
Mr. Sarat Chandra Singh Deo
Mr. V. Jagannathan
Mr. Radhashyam Ray
Mr. Guru Charan Tikayat
Mr. Narendra Kumar Mohanty
Mr. Dhirendranath Deb

PUNJAB

Sardar Bhupinder Singh Mann
Sardar Gurbax Singh Bedi

RAJASTHAN

Mr. Kalyansingh Kalvi
Mr. Prathivi Singhji Bisalpoor
Prof. Bhawani Singhji
Mr. Jai Deo Singh
Mr. Shivraj Singhji Chaksa
Mr. Krishan Singhji

TAMIL NADU

Mr. T. Sadasivam
Mr. V. Devanathan
Dr. H.V. Hande
Mr. P. Sundaresan
Mr. J. Ramabhadran
Mr. V. Padmanabhan
Mr. T.T. Srinivasan
Mr. M.K. Nanja Gowder
Mr. S. Venkatrao
Mr. N. Mohd. Hussain
Mr. M.S. Hamza
Mr. A. Adiseshan
Mr. S. Palaniswamithan
Mr. C.R. Naresimhan
Mr. K.V. Mohadevan

UTTAR PRADESH

Mr. Harbhachan Singh
Mr. Hari Krishna Srivastava
Mr. K.D.R. Pandey
Mr. Shiv Datt Sharma
Mr. Nawabzade Ghaliib Kanai
Mr. Hari Shankar Vimal
Mr. Bhudeo Sharma
Mr. Lal Pratap Singh
Mr. Puttan Lal Pandey
Mr. Hari Kumar Pathak
Mr. Mutiur Rahman
Mr. Guru Prasad Srivastava
Mr. Hashmat Ali
Mr. Baldeo Singh
Mr. Mohd. Farooq Khan
Mr. Vijaipal Singh Saxena

Handwritten signature
Hon. Treasurer

Mr. Masani sought the permission of the Returning Officer to nominate Mr. K. Sundaram for the vacant post of Treasurer which could not be filled earlier as only one nomination had been received for the two vacancies. Mr. Venkatrao, Joint Secretary of the Tamil Nadu Unit informed the Returning Officer in writing that Mr. K. Sundaram had informed him (Mr. Venkatrao) that due to unavoidable reasons he could not be present at the meeting but that he was willing to accept nomination as the Treasurer. Thereupon Mr. Masani proposed and Mr. Dandekar seconded the election of Mr. K. Sundaram as Treasurer.

The proposal was unanimously approved and Mr. K. Sundaram was duly declared elected Hon. Treasurer.

Scrutineers

As one of the two Scrutineers appointed the previous day viz. Mr. K.D.R. Pandey was seeking election to the Executive the Returning Officer appointed Mr. Jayantibhai Ravji Patel as Scrutineer along with Mr. Leela Mohan.

Members of the National Executive :

The Returning Officer then invited nominations for the election of twenty members of the new National Executive.

Twenty nine nomination papers duly proposed and seconded were received nominating between them the following :

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Mr. V. Devanathan | - Tamil Nadu |
| 2. Mr. C.R. Narasimhan | - Tamil Nadu |
| 3. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari | - Tamil Nadu |
| 4. Dr. M. Santhoshan | - Tamil Nadu |
| 5. Mr. V. Padmanabhan | - Tamil Nadu |
| 6. Mr. Guru Charan Tilakayat | - Orissa |
| 7. Dr. R.C. Cooper | - Bombay |
| 8. Mr. V.T. Sreenivasan | - Mysore |
| 9. Mr. D.N. Patodia | - Rajasthan |
| 10. Sardar Bhupinder Singh Mann | - Punjab |
| 11. Mr. T. Sadasivan | - Tamil Nadu |
| 12. Mr. G.B. Sulhee | - Bombay |

13. Mr. K.H. Subramaniam	- Bombay
14. Mr. H.K. Srivastava	- Uttar Pradesh
15. Mr. Abdul Wahid Rains	- Kashmir
16. Major Munshi Ram	- Himachal Pradesh
17. Miss Kusum Kumari Joshi	- Gujarat
18. Mr. C.W. Sudhan	- Kerala
19. Col. H.R. Pasricha	- Delhi
20. Mr. R.Y. Ghorpade	- Mysore
21. Mr. Kalyan Singh Kalvi	- Rajasthan
22. Mr. V. Jagannadham	- Orissa
23. Mr. J. Mohammed Imam	- Mysore
24. Mr. J. Chandrenouli	- Andhra
25. Mrs. Louella Lobo Prabhu	- Mysore
26. Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu	- Mysore
27. Mr. K.D.R. Pandey	- Uttar Pradesh
28. Mr. P.K. Deo	- Orissa
29. Mr. Piloo Mody	- Gujarat
30. Mr. Rajagopala Naidu	- Andhra
31. Mr. Venkat Rao	- Tamil Nadu
32. Mr. K.V. Mahadevan	- Tamil Nadu
33. Mr. T.T. Srinivasan	- Tamil Nadu
34. Mr. P. Koteswara Rao	- Andhra
35. Mr. Hashmat Ali	- Uttar Pradesh
36. Mr. Arambhai Amin	- Gujarat
37. Mr. N.K. Ganapathiah	- Mysore
38. Mr. Gurbax Singh Bedi	- Punjab
39. Mr. R.J. Desai	- Mysore
40. Mr. M.R. Janardhana	- Mysore
41. Mr. B.S. Gopala Krishna	- Mysore
42. Mrs. Sarla Datar	- Bombay
43. Mr. A.R. Deshpande	- Maharashtra

Seven other nominations were rejected either on the ground that the nominations had been declined or the persons nominated were neither present nor were their letters of consent available with the Returning Officer.

Of the 43 nominations above, the following 14 were withdrawn either by the proposers and seconders or the nominees themselves leaving 29 candidates in the field for the 20 vacancies :

1. Mr. V. Devanathan
2. Mr. T. Sadasivam
3. Mr. C.W. Sudhan
4. Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
5. Mr. Rajagopala Naidu
6. Mr. Venkat Rao
7. Mr. K.V. Mahadevan
8. Mr. T.T. Srinivasan
9. Mr. Hashmat Ali
10. Mr. Gurbax Singh Bedi
11. Mr. R.J. Desai
12. Mr. M.R. Janardhana
13. Mr. Gopala Krishna
14. Mr. V. Padmanabhan

Simultaneously with the preparation of ballot papers the Council began its deliberations.

The outgoing President, Mr. H. Dandekar invited the newly elected President, Mr. H.M. Patel to take the Chair.

Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting of the General Council held in Bombay on April 17 and 18, 1971 were confirmed.

The President, Mr. Patel, after ascertaining the views of members decided to take up matters relating to Party organisation.

In the discussion that followed the following members participated :

Mr. N.K. Ganapath, Mr. Mohanlal Jatav, Mr. A.R. Deshpande
Mr. Ratnasabhapaty, Mr. Babu Joseph and Mr. Gurucharan Tilak

Various suggestions were made for activating the Party and gearing it for the forthcoming elections to several State Assemblies.

At 11.30 a.m. the Returning Officer announced that balloting would begin and continue upto 12.30 p.m. for elections to membership of the National Executive.

At 12.30 p.m. the Council adjourned for lunch, after the conclusion of balloting.

The meeting reconvened at 2 p.m.

At the invitation of the Mysore State Executive, Mr. M.R. Masani unveiled the portrait of the late Mr. K.B. Jinaraja Hegde, who was President of the Mysore State Unit of the Party for eight years.

Mr. Masani recalled that the late Mr. Hegde and the late Sardar Lal Singh of the All India Agriculturists Association were among those present at the meeting in Madras in June 1959, when the decision was taken to form the Swatantra Party. Mr. Masani spoke of the signal services rendered by Mr. Hegde to the masses of India by giving them a Party for protecting their rights.

The counting of votes for the members of the National Executive having been completed the Returning Officer announced the following results :

1. Rajaji	94 votes
2. Mr. R.C. Cooper	88 "
3. Mr. Piloo Mody	88 "
4. Mrs. Louella Lobo Prabhu	84 "
5. Mr. P.K. Deo	83 "
6. Miss Kusumamari Joshi	69 "
7. Mr. D.N. Patodia	66 "
8. Mr. Abdul Wahid Rana	62 "
9. Mr. N.K. Ganapath	56 "
10. Mr. G.B. Sukhee	54 "
11. Mr. K.D.R. Pandey	53 "
12. Dr. M. Santhoshan	50 "
13. Mr. Kalyansingh Kalvi	50 "
14. Major Murchi Ram	48 "
15. Mr. Bhupinder Singh Mann	47 "
16. Mr. Gurucharan Tilak	45 "
17. Mr. Anandbhai Amin	44 "
18. Mr. Harilrishna Srivastava	44 "
19. Mr. R.Y. Chorpade	43 "
20. Col. H.R. Pasricha	42 "
21. Mr. J. Mohammed Imam	42 "

22. Mr. J. Chandranouli	41 votes
23. Mr. V. Jaganadham	39 "
24. Mr. P. Koteswara Rao	38 "
25. Mr. C.R. Narasimhan	32 "
26. Mrs. Sarla Datar	32 "
27. Mr. V.T. Sreenivasan	28 "
28. Mr. K.H. Subramaniam	27 "
29. Mr. A.R. Deshpande	13 "

After declaring the first 19 elected, the Returning Officer pointed out that there was a tie between the 20th and 21st candidates, each of whom had polled 42 votes. He suggested that lots be drawn to decide the tie. Thereupon Mr. Masani moved that as both Mr. J. Mohammed Inam and Col. H. R. Pasricha were senior members of the Party the number of members of the Executive be increased to 21 to enable the Returning Officer to declare both elected.

Mr. Masani's proposal was unanimously approved and the Returning Officer declared the following 21 members duly elected to the National Executive :

1. Rajaji
2. Dr. R.C. Cooper
3. Mr. Piloo Mody
4. Mrs. Louella Lobo Prabhu
5. Mr. P.K. Deo
6. Miss Kusumakumari Joshi
7. Mr. D.N. Petodia
8. Mr. Abdul Wahid Rana
9. Mr. N.K. Ganapath
10. Mr. G.B. Sudhee
11. Mr. K.D.R. Pandey
12. Dr. M. Santhoshan
13. Mr. Kalyansingh Kalvi
14. Major Munshi Ram
15. Mr. Bhupinder Singh Mann
16. Mr. Gurucharan Tilak
17. Mr. Anandbhai Amin
18. Mr. Harikrishna Srivastava
19. Mr. R.Y. Ghorpade
20. Col. H.R. Pasricha
21. Mr. J. Mohammed Inam

The President thanked the Returning Officer, Mr. V. S. Matarajan for sparing the time and conducting the elections.

The meeting then went on to consider the following political resolutions which after discussion were adopted unanimously :

1. Resolution on Fundamental Rights
2. Resolution on Bangla Desh
3. Resolution on Indo-Soviet Treaty
4. Resolution on Press Bill
5. Resolution on Unemployment
6. Resolution on Flood Havoc in Northern India and drought in Southern India.

The texts of these resolutions are attached (Annexure 'D').

The President conveyed the grateful thanks of the General Council to the outgoing President, Mr. N. Dandekar and Dr. R.C. Cooper the outgoing General Secretary for their tremendous services as President and General Secretary. He hoped that they would continue to give their advice and counsel in the difficult months ahead of the Party, particularly with the Assembly elections in several States round the corner.

The President also conveyed the Council's thanks to the Mysore State Unit and in particular Mr. V.T. Sreenivasan who had been entrusted with the arrangements by the National Headquarters and his colleagues Messrs. K.N.V. Rao, Mr. C.R. Ananda Rao, Mr. Sivasubramanian and his youth wing volunteers and Mr. K. Narayan Rao, for the excellent arrangements made in connection with the meeting.

The meeting then terminated.

Rajaj

Rajaji's letter
re: N. Dandekar
as Vice President
&
RC Congress as
general secy.
14 Sept 1971

C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

Nareroji Road
Chetput
Madras-31

14th September 71

My dear Cooper,

I cannot refrain from giving my advice when the General Council meets in Bangalore on the 17th, even though my advice may not be accepted and be rejected or ignored. I feel it is my duty to tell the assembled members how I feel.

I am sending this through Sri Sadasivan and not through Sri Dandekar for reasons which you will understand when you finish reading this letter.

I have had a talk with Sri Dandekar in Madras who has been here since Monday last. I have talked to him very seriously and he has also promised to give what I told him his deepest thought. Although I shall be very glad if active and enthusiastic young men will be elected to the offices in the Party, I do not want the country to imagine that the older leaders have abandoned the Party to its fate and have retired to private and personal work and have given up fighting Smt. Indira Gandhi. I therefore earnestly pleaded with Sri Dandekar that if he has finally decided not to accept the Presidentship he should at least consent to be Vice President whoever may be elected as President. You, the General Secretary, must continue with the assistance of a young Joint or Assistant Secretary who should be proposed and elected. This will prevent any public impression that the Party has gone bankrupt and has given up hope on account of the difficulty of the present situation. I hope Sri Dandekar will be Vice President and you will continue as General Secretary with a good Joint or Assistant younger Secretary to help you. It is to this that Sri Dandekar has promised to give his deepest thought and consideration.

I enclose herein what I have just written for Swarajya (September 25) which will go to print on 20th evening. I shall be grateful if you read all this out to the assembled members. I am sorry I am not able to attend the meeting in person. Indeed it is better I do not attend but request you all to appreciate my feelings.

Yours sincerely,

Sa/-

(C. Rajagopalachari)

encl:

Dr. R.C. Cooper
Genl. Secretary, Swatantra Party
Bombay

Rajaji's note in Swarajya of September 25, 1971

Prime Minister Srimati Indira Gandhi has unrestricted power and is exercising it in exerting a great gravitational pull on all the seekers of positions, money and power. She has brought about an atrophy of conscience all round. Leaders and bosses in all parties have come to think one way, talk another way, and act in yet another way. When the "elite" of a nation have no hesitation to do this the common folk, who are 90 per cent ill-informed and wholly ignorant of economic laws and the state of our country in respect of foreign affairs, have no real share in shaping our destiny whatever the forms may be. Smt. Indira Gandhi enjoys the powers of a dictator. But when all is over, she will have no reason for satisfaction. She will find she has done nothing by way of uplifting our nation from poverty and uncleanness and national bankruptcy. Smt. Indira must change her course of conduct if she wishes when she retires from office to have a sense of satisfaction. Transient glory, she will see then, is worth nothing. History will have nothing to say about what she achieved for the people. The worse thing that she has done is that she has made all opposition bosses into satellites of government. If in spite of all this, the national economy had been in better shape, we need not have bothered about the temporary phase of Smt. Indira's regime. But the national economy is in even a worse state than our politics and the morality of our "elite". There is however a Power above which may yet save us. Let us hope, watch and pray. There is one party whose pledged dharma is to guard the Constitution and the fundamental rights. The fathers of our Constitution intended that the fundamental rights of citizens should never be nullified by Parliament. They also wanted minority communities to feel perfectly safe in India and be sure there will be no discrimination against them on account of their religion. Let me hope that this party and its leaders, young and old, will be true to the aims for which the Party was started and not mind the travails of standing firm even if left alone. In any case, even if all others conspire against the Constitution, I shall not ever let Vallabhbhai Patel, Rajan Babu, K.M. Munshi, Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar and others down, but will protest against the desecration and the unwisdom of it as long as my breath lasts.

PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE
FOR THE ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND MEMBERS
OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

Friday, September 17.

3 P.M. to 3.30 P.M.

1. Returning Officer takes the Chair and calls meeting to order:

Number of Office Bearers.

2. Returning Officer conveys recommendation of outgoing National Executive in regard to number of --

- (a) Vice-Presidents
- (b) Treasurers
- (c) Joint Secretaries
- (d) Members of the National Executive

3. The Council settles the number of Office Bearers and Members of the National Executive.

Scrutineers

4. The Returning Officer appoints two scrutineers from among the members present (who are not candidates themselves) to scrutinise nominations and ballot papers.

ELECTIONS (IN TWO PARTS)

5. According to Paragraph 48 of the Procedure for Party Elections, the election of office bearers shall be completed before the election of Members of the National Executive.

Consequently, the elections will be held in two parts :-

first, the election of Office Bearers and

next, the election of members of the National Executive.

I. Election of Office Bearers.

- 3.30 p.m.) Nominations for the Offices of the President,
to) Vice-Presidents, Treasurers and Joint Secretaries.
4.00 p.m.)
- 4.00 p.m.) Scrutiny and announcement of lists of valid nominations.
to)
4.30 p.m.)
- Upto) Withdrawals.
5.00 p.m.)
- 5.00 p.m.) "AT HOME" by the Mysore State Executive at
to) Madras Woodlands Hotel.
6.00 p.m.)
- 6.15 p.m.) Balloting.
to)
7.00 p.m.)
- 7.30 p.m. Declaration of Results.

II. Election of National Executive Committee.

- Upto) Nominations for membership of the National Executive.
8.00 p.m.)
- Meeting adjourns.
- Upto) Scrutiny of Nomination papers and withdrawals.
9.00 p.m.)

18th September 1971

- 9.30 a.m.) Balloting for N.E. Membership*
to)
10.15 a.m.) Coffee.
- 10.30 a.m. Business of General Council begins with the new
President in the Chair and with the confirmation
of the Minutes of the last meeting.
- 1.00 p.m. Lunch hosted by the Bangalore City Unit of the
Party at the Kalyana Mandap (adjoining the Meeting
Hall.
- 2.30 p.m. (Meeting reconvenes .
(Unveiling the Portrait of Late Shri K.B.Jinaraja
(Hegde who was President of the Mysore Unit of the
(Party for 8 years, by Mr.M.R.Masani.

* The results of the Election will be announced
immediately after completion of counting.

SWATANTRA PARTY
NATIONAL HEAD QUARTERS
GENERAL COUNCIL

Bangalore,
18.9.1971.

RESOLUTION ON FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS.

The Swatantra Party is firmly of the view that the Fundamental Rights given to the people by the Constitution of the country are essential for the preservation of democracy and in particular for the protection of the weaker sections of the people from abuse of authority by parties in power. The Swatantra Party considers it to be its duty to ask the people of India to recognise the 24th and 25th Amendments of the Constitution for what they are: they violate the Constitution and the rule of law, frustrate democracy, expose all property to unjust and unfair erosion and jeopardise the freedom of religion education and speech. The Swatantra Party urges every citizen who values the freedom to which he has become entitled because of the great Constitution of India, to resist with all his might this attempt to deprive him of these rights and their freedom.

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S W A T A N T R A P A R T Y
G E N E R A L C O U N C I L

Bangalore: 18-9-1971

RESOLUTION ON BANGLA DESH

The General Council of the Swatantra Party views with grave concern the present position in regard to the refugees from Bangla Desh. The Government keeps reiterating its determination to see that the refugees return to Bangla Desh but has taken no steps yet which could in any sense be considered as designed to achieve their return. Since the Government itself claims that the Treaty with Soviet Russia was entered into for other and more long term reasons, the present situation cannot but cause deep anxiety to the people of this country.

The Swatantra Party deploras the attitude of all those countries who continue to give help, aid and military hardware to Pakistan and who do not grasp the significance of giving succour to Pakistan and its effects on peace in the sub-continent.

On the other hand, we see that the flow of refugees into India is incessant; and we see on the other, partly because of the burdens imposed by the refugees mainly because of the continued pursuit of unrealistic economic policies, that the country's economy far from growing is threatening to come to a grinding halt.

The General Council of the Swatantra Party, therefore urges the Government to put an end to its policy of drift and set a time limit within which it should call upon all the foreign powers particularly the Soviet Union, who have been counselling restraint, that after the expiry of the time limit if they have not succeeded in creating conditions for the refugees to go back, it will take firm steps on its own, to resolve the problem of refugees.

SWATANTRA PARTY

GENERAL COUNCIL

BANGALORE:

SEPTEMBER 18, 1971.

RESOLUTION ON INDO-SOVIET TREATY.

The General Council of the Swatantra Party views with concern the conclusion of the Indo-Soviet Treaty. The Council apprehends that the long term effects of the Treaty will be injurious to the free way of life of the Indian people and to our country's international relations and prestige.

The Treaty fetters India's freedom of action and narrows the options open to this country at a time when international relationships are in a state of flux. The Treaty, which threatens to reduce India to a position of a satellite, will needlessly narrow the number of India's friends and tend to isolate it.

The effects of the Treaty on the domestic front will be equally deleterious. It will facilitate further infiltration into the cultural and economic life of our country. It will accelerate the threat to our Constitution and the Fundamental Rights of the citizen already posed by the 24th and 25th Constitutional Amendment Bills. The fact that the Indian Government which has concluded the Treaty contains several ex-Communists and fellow travellers of international communism gives the Treaty a particularly dangerous character.

SWATANTRA PARTY
NATIONAL HEAD QUARTERS
GENERAL COUNCIL - Bangalore: 18.9.1971.

RESOLUTION ON PRESS BILL

The Swatantra Party strongly condemns the published draft of the proposed Press Bill as one more attempt by the Government to abrogate the Fundamental Rights of the common man. Under the pretext of diffusing ownership, the Government seeks to take power to manipulate shareholdings so as to ensure a dominant position for itself and for the leftist elements it supports. The result will be the stifling of independent projection and interpretation of news and views.

The Swatantra Party calls upon the Press, whose existence as a free institution is so seriously threatened, as also upon the people of this country who value freedom of speech and expression, to fight this dangerous piece of legislation as they would fight for democracy itself.

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