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SWATANTRA PARTY

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

February 17, 1970

KERALA LAND REFORMS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1969

The National Executive of the Swatantra Party views with considerable apprehension the enactment of the Kerala Land Reforms (Amendment) Act which provides, inter alia

- (a) That voluntary transfers effected after the date of publication of the Kerala Land Reforms Bill, 1963, in the Gazette shall be invalid thus reducing to penury or rendering homeless all those who had purchased land or built homes on such lands after the prescribed date, and
- (b) for illusory compensation which is really expropriation.

The present Coalition Ministry in the State, led by the Communist Party of India, and unfortunately other Parties like the Organisation Congress and the Kerala Congress, have not only lent support to this expropriatory and unconstitutional measure but adopted a resolution in the State Assembly requesting the Central Government to include the amended act in the 9th Schedule of the Constitution in order to prevent the expropriatory provisions of this act from being struck down by the Judiciary.

The National Executive fully supports the Kerala Unit of the Party in its opposition to this obnoxious measure. It calls upon

- (a) The Party's Units elsewhere in the country to educate the farmers in their States on the injustice being done to their brethren in Kerala ; and
- (b) the Party's Group in Parliament to oppose inclusion of this Act in the 9th Schedule of the Constitution.