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Notes of Discussion of First Meeting of Joint Secretaries

Present

Mr. M.R. Masani	---	President
Dr. R.C. Cooper	---	General Secretary
Mr. Harihar Patel	}	--- Joint Secretaries
Dr. H.V. Hande		
Prof. R.K. Amin		
Mr. N.K. Somani		
Mr. Madhu Mehta		
Mr. S.V. Raju	--	Executive Secretary

Publicity and Research

The need for a systematic approach to public relations and research was stressed. In this connection, Mr. Masani informed those present that Mr. & Mrs. Vinod Wadia had offered assistance in helping the Party's public relations effort.

Mr. Masani's Press Conference

Mr. Masani stated that he would be addressing a Press Conference in Bombay on 2nd January and invited subjects that he should cover at the Conference.

The following suggestions were made :

1. The Bombay and Ahmedabad Sessions of the two Congress factions. The Economic Policy decisions of the Bombay Congress should be criticised *inter alia* on the ground that the policies would only lead to increasing unemployment and affect stability of prices.
2. The recent stand taken by the Jan Sangh vis-a-vis the ruling Congress and the Congress in Opposition.
3. Dissolution of Parliament. Mr. Masani should call for the dissolution of Parliament.
4. The proposal to delete property from the Fundamental Rights.

(Refer to Justice Hegde's Speech in the Hindu and the Circular issued by Dr. Cooper)

Functions of Joint Secretaries

Tentatively, it was decided that the following areas should be allocated to the Joint Secretaries.

Mr. Harihar Patel	---	Assam, Bihar, Bengal, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.
Dr. H.V. Hande	--	Mysore, Andhra, Kerala and Tamilnadu
Prof. R.K. Amin	---	Gujarat. In addition, Mr. Amin agreed to assist in the preparation of background papers on various matters of economic policy.

Mr. N.K. Somani

- Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh

Mr. Madhu Mehta

--- Maharashtra. In addition, Mr. Mehta should devote attention to the training of cadres (he was requested to get in touch with the Leslie Sawhney Programme in this connection) and constructive work at the grass roots level.