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Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the National Executive held on Saturday, 27th December, at Kallai Buildings, Dr. C. Madaliar Road, Chetput, Madras-7.

Present

Prof. N. G. Ranga - In the Chair
Mr. C. Rajagopalachari
Prof. M. Kuthnaswamy
Smt. Gayatri Devi of Jaipur
Mr. Dahyabhai V. Patel
Mr. H.M. Patel
Mr. T. Krishnamma Choudhary
Mr. K.K. Kuruvilla
Mr. Sundermani Patel
Mr. G. Manumantha Rao
Mr. G. Latchanna
Mr. S.S. Mariswamy
Sardar Basant Singh
Dr. R.C. Cooper

By Special Invitation

Mr. M.R. Masani
Mr. Harihar Patel

The Minutes of the National Executive meeting held in Bombay on November 12, 1969, were confirmed.

2. The business before the first meeting of the newly elected General Council to be held at 3 p.m. that day was considered and the following recommendations were made in regard to Office Bearers and members of the new Executive to be elected by the General Council :

Number of Vice-Presidents	:	5
" " Joint Secretaries	:	upto 5
" " Treasurers	:	2
" " Members of the Executive	:	20

Mr. Masani praised the services rendered to the Party by Prof. Ranga who had been the Party's President for a decade. The Executive whole-heartedly endorsed the tribute paid to him.

Prof. Ranga regretted Mr. Dandekar's inability to be present due to ill-health. While hoping for his speedy recovery, Prof. Ranga paid compliments to the hard work put in by Mr. Dandekar as General Secretary. The Executive fully endorsed the sentiments expressed by the President and resolved to place on record his valuable services to the Party.

Rajaji spoke on the need for the Party to remain united and felt that the split in the Congress Party had made the Party's educative role easier.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the General Council of the Swatantra Party held on November 15 and 16, at the Vithalbhai Patel Bhavan, New Delhi.

Present

Prof. H.G. Ranga (in the Chair)

Bombay

Dr. R.C. Cooper
Mr. M.R. Masani
Mr. Piloo Mody
Mr. R.V. Murthy
Mr. Madhu Mehta

Delhi

Col. H.R. Pasricha
Mrs. Kailash Reelhi

Gujarat

Prof. R.K. Amin,
Mr. C.C. Desai
Mr. H.M. Patel
Mr. Dahyabhai V. Patel
Mr. Sukhetu J. Shah,
Mr. Viren J. Shah

Madras

Mr. S.S. Mariswamy
Mr. C. Muthuswamy
Mr. C.R. Narsimhan
Mr. P. Ramamoorthy
Mr. T. Sadasivam
Mr. K. Sundaram
Mr. S. Venkata Rao

Mysore

Mr. N. Ganapaiah
Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu

Orissa

Mr. Dabanand Amat
Mr. Harihar Das
Mr. P.K. Deo
Mr. R.B. Misra
Mr. Lok Nath Misra
Mr. Gurucharan Naik
Mr. Sundermani Patel
Mr. P.K. Rath
Mr. R.R. Singh Deo
Mr. Tribikram Tripathy

Punjab

Sardar Basant Singh
Sardar Gurbaksh Singh Bedi
Sardar Uttam Singh

Rajasthan

Chauhan Singh Babel
Mr. Digvijaysingh
Mr. Laxman Singh of Dungarpur
Mr. Vikramsingh Pokaran
Mr. Ramlal Saran
Mr. Satyanarayan Sharma
Mr. Devi Singh
Mr. Giriraj Singh
Mr. Mandhata Singh

Uttar Pradesh

Mr. A.C. Modwel
Mr. O.P. Pathik
Mr. B.P. Singh

By Special Invitation - Members of Parliament

Mr. Dhirendranath Deb
Mr. M.K. Nanja Gowder
Mr. Dharnidhar Jena
Mr. K.M. Koushik
Mr. Mahendra Majhi
Mr. M.K. Mohta
Mr. D.M. Patodia
Mr. K.C. Panda
Prof. M. Ruthnaswamy
Mr. N.K. Somani

Presidents/General Secretaries of State/Regional Units

Mr. Lalchand Hirachand - President Bombay Regional Unit

1. Condolence

Sardar Darshan Singh Pheruman:

The President, Prof. Ranga, paid tributes to the memory of the late Sardar Darshan Singh Pheruman who had died while observing a fast. Recalling that Sardar Pheruman was among the first three M.P.s who had responded to the call of the Swatantra Party at the time of its formation, Prof. Ranga observed that while Sardar Pheruman had resigned from the Presidentship of the Punjab State Unit of the Party, he had continued as a member of the General Council. The Council observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the departed leader.

In this connection, Sardar Basant Singh deplored the fact that the Party's central leadership had been indifferent to Sardar Pheruman while he was on fast and thereafter when he passed away. No leading Swatantra member was present at the funeral ceremony nor was any statement issued to the Press. The President, Prof. Ranga, after explaining the circumstances which had prevented senior leaders from attending the funeral ceremony, agreed that this was indeed a serious lapse and offered his apologies on behalf of the Party's leadership.

Sardar Ram Singh:

The services of the late Sardar Ram Singh, M.P. to the Party were eulogised by the President while paying tributes to the former. Sardar Ram Singh was, at the time of his untimely death, President of the U.P. State Unit of the Party. The Council observed a Minute's silence in honour of his memory.

2. Minutes Confirmed:

The Minutes of the last meeting of the General Council held in Bhubaneswar on October 4, 1968 were confirmed.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes:

Arising from the Minutes of the last meeting of the General Council, the Acting General Secretary, Dr. R.C. Cooper, regretted that the National Executive had been unable to consider the report submitted by a Sub-Committee appointed by it to study the problems of linguistic states in terms of a draft resolution moved by Mr. Girish Munshi and which was pending disposal by the General Council. The Council decided to carry forward consideration of this matter to the next meeting.

4. Mid-Term Report:

The President invited Mr. M.R. Masani to present the Mid-Term Report (as settled by the National Executive at its meeting in Bombay on November 12) to the General Council. Mr. Masani briefly summarised the report and commended its adoption by the Council.

It was decided to have a general discussion to be followed by a consideration of amendments sought to be moved by members.

Among those who participated in the general discussion were :

Mr. Harihar Das, Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu, Prof. R.K. Amin,
Mr. S. Venkata Rao, Mr. N.K. Ganapiah, Mr. P.K. Deo,
Mr. Piloo Mody, Mr. Madhu Mehta, Mr. C.C. Desai and
Prof. Ranga.

The meeting then adjourned for the day.

The adjourned meeting of the General Council met on November 16, 1969 at 10 a.m. at the Vithalbhai Patel Bhavan:

Present

Prof. N.G. Ranga (in the Chair)

Bombay

Dr. R.C. Cooper
Mr. M.R. Masani
Mr. Madhu Mehta
Mr. Piloo Mody
Mr. R.V. Murthy

Delhi

Col. H.R. Pasricha
Mrs. Kailash Reldhi

Madras

Mr. H. Ajmal Khan
Mr. S.S. Mariswamy
Mr. C. Mithuswamy
Mr. C.R. Narsimhan
Mr. T. Sadasivam
Mr. K. Sundaram
Mr. S. Venkata Rao

Mysore

Mr. N.K. Ganapaiah
Mr. J. M. Lobo Prabhu

Orissa

Mr. Debanand Amat
Mr. Harihar Das
Mr. P.K. Deo
Mr. Lok Nath Misra
Mr. Gurucharan Naik
Mr. Sundermani Patel
Mr. P.K. Rath
Mr. Tribikram Tripathy

Punjab

Sardar Basant Singh
Sardar Gurbaksh Singh Bedi
Sardar Uttam Singh

Rajasthan

Chausar Singh Dabel
Mr. Digvijaysingh
Mr. Laxman Singh of Dungarpur
Mr. Vikramsingh Polran
Mr. Ramlal Saran
Mr. Satyanarayan Sharma
Mr. Devi Singh
Mr. Giriraj Singh
Mr. Mandhata Singh

Uttar Pradesh

Mr. A.C. Modwel
Mr. O.P. Pathik
Mr. B.P. Singh

Members of Parliament

Mr. Dhirendranath Deb
Mr. Y.G. Gowd
Mr. M.K. Nanja Gowder
Mr. Dharnidhar Jena
Mr. K.M. Koushik
Mr. H.K. Mohta
Mr. D.N. Patodia
Mr. K.C. Panda
Mr. Pashabhai Patel
Prof. M. Ruthnaswamy
Mr. N.K. Somani
Mr. S.K. Tapuriah

Presidents/General Secretaries of State/Regional Units

Mr. Lalchand Hirachand - President, Swatantra Party, Bombay Region

By Special Invitation

Mr. Mathuradas Mehta

The general discussion of the Mid-Term Report was resumed with the following participating :

Mr. B.P. Singh, Mr. Ixman Singh of Durgapur, and
Mr. H.M. Patel.

Mr. M.R. Masani, who had initiated the discussion, then replied to the points made by the various Speakers.

The Council then took up for consideration various amendments that had been moved. The following members who had tabled amendments spoke :

Mr. Hari Hara Das, Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu, Mr. Piloo Mody,
Mr. N.K. Ganapdiah, Mr. P.K. Dec, Mr. Loknath Misra.

While some amendments were accepted, some others were withdrawn and a few were pressed to a vote and rejected. The Report as revised (Annexure A) was then adopted unanimously alongwith the following Resolution :

"Having adopted the Mid-Term Report, the General Council leaves it to the new National Executive to spell out in greater detail a programme of action for Party workers based on the general recommendations made in the Report."

Committee to study Agriculture Resolution

The General Council appointed a Committee consisting of the following persons to examine the Resolution on Agriculture adopted at the Fifth National Convention in Bhubaneswar and to report to the General Council on whatever implications and/or modifications might be considered necessary or desirable in order to give effect to the Resolution :

1. Prof. H.G. Ranga
2. Mr. M.R. Masani
3. Mr. B.P. Singh
4. Mr. H.M. Patel
5. Mr. Dhyabhai V. Patel
6. Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
7. Mr. Hari Hara Das
8. Mr. C. Muthuswamy
9. Mr. Y.G. Gowd

5. Resolutions

The following resolutions were, after discussion, adopted unanimously:

- i. Misuse of Preventive Detention Act
- ii. Communal Disturbances in Ahmedabad
- iii. Violence in West Bengal
- iv. Sardar Darshan Singh Pharaman's Ashes
- v. Natural Calamities.

The texts of these Resolutions are attached (Annexure B).

6. The General Secretary's Health

Prof. Ranga informed the General Council that the strain of organising the Party's campaign in the Mini-General Elections earlier this year had affected Mr. Dandeker's health from which he had not yet fully recovered. Appreciating the hard work put in by the General Secretary, the President hoped that Mr. Dandeker (who could not be present at the meeting) would soon be restored to normal health. At the same time the President conveyed the Party's gratitude to Dr. R.C. Cooper who had responded to Mr. Dandeker's request to officiate on his behalf and had taken on the burden in addition to his duties as the Hon. Treasurer.

7. The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.