

4887

Draft Minutes of the Central Organising Committee
held on February 9, 1963 at 10 a.m. at Sir Homi
Mody's residence in Bombay.

Present:-

- 1) Prof. N.G. Ranga (in the chair)
- 2) Mr. C. Rajagopalachari
- 3) Mr. K.M. Munshi
- 4) Mr. Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh
- 5) Mr. S.K.D. Paliwal
- 6) Sir H.P. Mody
- 7) Mr. Bhailalbhair Patel
- 8) Mr. Dahyabhai Patel
- 9) Mr. R.N. Singh Deo of Patna
- 10) Mr. P.K. Deo of Kalahandi
- 11) Jathedar Udham Singh Nagoke
- 12) Sardar Basant Singh
- 13) Mr. Hari Hara Das
- 14) Mr. K.B. Jinaraja Hegde
- 15) Mr. V.P. Menon
- 16) Prof. M. Ruthnaswamy
- 17) Mr. Laxman Singh of Dungarpur
- 18) Mr. Raghavendra Pratap Singh of Mankapur
- 19) Mr. Saw Ganesan
- 20) Mr. R. Agnibhoj
- 21) Mr. M.R. Masani

By special invitation:

Mr. N. Dandekar

Mr. Piloo Mody.

The minutes of the last meeting held in Bombay on
March 15, 1962, were confirmed.

Cooptions:

Mr. R.N. Singh Deo was coopted into the Central
Organising Committee on the recommendation of the Organisation
Sub-Committee.

Mr. P.K. Deo was nominated to the General Council.

Reconstitution of State Committees:

The General Secretary reported that there were no recommendations in regard to the reconstitution of State Committees that called for the consideration of the Central Organising Committee and that no action was therefore called for in regard to this item on the agenda.

National Emergency:

Various developments in connection with the National Emergency and the Colombo proposals were discussed. The discussion covered various other connected issues such as the Party's attitude to proposals for excessive taxation and the Government's gold policy.

Two draft resolutions prepared by the General Secretary were placed before the meeting. It was decided that Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and Mr. K.M. Munshi should prepare a draft in the light of the discussion and these draft resolutions and bring it up again in the afternoon session.

Developments in Bihar:

The report of the Organisation Sub-Committee and a letter addressed to the President, the General Secretary and the other members of the C.O.C. by the President of the Bihar State unit, Mr. Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh (copy attached) were placed before the meeting. After certain verbal changes had been made in the letter by the Bihar State President, the C.O.C. noted the regret expressed by the State President, his assurance that he was implementing the Madras Resolution of July 22 and also that he would secure the withdrawal of the Appeal addressed to the General Council.

Further consideration of the matter was left over for the afternoon session.

Election of Party Committees:

The General Secretary placed before the meeting a note on the Election of Party Committees (copy attached). In the discussion that followed, members referred to various difficulties in the enrolment of 25 NP members and especially the problem of getting back membership books distributed. It was decided that no decision should be taken in regard to establishing a program for Party Elections but that the Central Office should make a study of the possibilities of the adoption of a scheme of selective active members and the enrolment of sympathisers on the basis of their signing Party pledge forms without payment of any membership fee. The scheme should be placed before the next meeting of the Organisation Sub-Committee and of the Central Organising Committee. It was noted that these changes involved amendment of the Constitution and that this could be considered by the next National Convention of the Party.

State Councils:

Mr. Laxman Singh of Durgapur then drew the attention of the meeting to the necessity of guiding the State units in more precise terms than set out in Circular No. 54 with regard to the appointment of State Councils. The meeting decided to ask the Central Office to prepare a set of model rules for the benefit of different State units. These rules should serve as a guide to the formation of

such Councils. It was suggested that State Councils should have, as far as possible, at least one representative from each Assembly constituency.

Finances:

The Hon. Treasurer, Sir Homy Mody, regretted that many members of our Group in Parliament had defaulted in the payment of their monthly subscription of Rs.40/-.

He outlined the difficult position of finances available with him and suggested that, unless our Party's groups in the various Legislatures in the country showed more activity and worked with a greater sense of purpose, it would be difficult for funds to be collected.

In regard to the payment of salary of an Information Assistant in the Parliamentary Group's Office in Delhi, the Treasurer stated that for the present he would pay it, although in the context of the present financial circumstances it was difficult.

He referred to the decision arrived at at a meeting of the Parliamentary Board in New Delhi on November 7, where Mr. Punyanand Jha's misuse of party funds had been ignored and expressed his surprise that such indifference was shown by the Parliamentary Board to an act of gross indiscipline.

He also expressed surprise at the fact that Mr. R. Agnihotri, a member of the Central Organising Committee, had been permitted to sit as an Independent member in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly and over and above, had been given the extra benefit by the Party of a II Class and/railway fare/from the places of C.O.C. meetings.

The meeting then adjourned for lunch.

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The adjourned meeting met again at 4 p.m.

Political Resolution:

A resolution drafted by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and Mr. K.M. Munshi on the political situation to be placed before the meeting of the General Council the following day was discussed and approved with some modifications (copy attached).

Bihar State Reorganisation:

The Bihar State President tendered a letter signed by Mr. Jagat Kishore Prasad Narain Singh of Maksudpur, the principal signatory of the Appeal to the General Council against the Madras Resolution, withdrawing the Appeal (copy attached). In the light of this, a Resolution was drafted for placing before the meeting of the General Council the following day, noting the withdrawal of the Appeal and reaffirming confidence in the Central Organising Committee, the Organisation Sub-Committee, the Parliamentary Board and the members including Shri K.M. Munshi and Mr. M.R. Masani, against whom unjustified allegations had been made (copy attached). It was decided that this Resolution would be moved at the meeting of the General Council the next day by Mr. N. Dandekar and seconded by Mr. Saw Ganesan.

The meeting then terminated.