

# Swatantra Party

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DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE SWATANTRA PARTY ON JANUARY 4, 1962, at 3 P.M. in RAJAJI'S ROOM AT THE OFFICES OF KALKI, MADRAS

Present: Professor N.G.Ranga (in the chair)  
Mr. C.Rajagopalachari  
Mr. K.M.Munshi  
Shri Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh  
Mr. M.R.Masani

1. The Minutes of the last meetings in Agra on 23rd and 27th November, 1961, were confirmed.
2. Arising out of the minutes, the General Secretary reported that he had so far not been able to decide on a Lok Sabha constituency which he could contest without unduly disturbing his work in connection with organising and co-ordinating the Party's election campaign and the sponsoring of its candidates throughout the country. He was of the view that the Party's work must take priority over his own candidature. If, however, some opportunity should arise between now and Nomination day, he would avail himself of it. The Sub-Committee again urged him to try and find a constituency and it was decided by the Sub-Committee that whatever constituency the General Secretary stood for should be fully endorsed by the Party.
3. A communication from the Ganatantra Parishad submitting a list of 11 names of Lok Sabha candidates for approval of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee was considered and the following 11 names were approved:

|               |                             |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Nowrangpur | Sri N.Ransessiah            |
| 2. Koraput    | Sri P.S.Dumba               |
| 3. Kalahandi  | Sri P.K.Deo                 |
| 4. Phulbani   | Sri Rajendra Kohar          |
| 5. Balangir   | Sri Hrushikesh Mahanand     |
| 6. Sambalpur  | Sri Ganga Bhusan Panda      |
| 7. Sundargarh | Sri Yagna Narayan Singh     |
| 8. Angul      | Smt. Jyotimanjari Devi      |
| 9. Dhenkanal  | Sri Sankar Pratap Singh Deo |
| 10. Baripada  | Sri Mahendra Majhi          |
| 11. Keonjhar  | Smt. Rajballabh Misra       |

4. A list of Parliamentary and Vidhan Sabha candidates received from the Mysore State unit was then considered and was approved in the form attached. (Annexure A)

5. The General Secretary's letter to the Bihar State President dated 21st December 1961 and the Bihar State President's telegram in reply of 24th December in regard to the Bank credit for jeeps were then taken up for consideration. The Bihar State President appealed to the Sub-Committee not to burden him with as much as Rs. 2.80 lakhs out of the credit of Rs. 4 lakhs, as suggested in the General Secretary's letter.



The General Secretary pointed out that the proposal made by him in his letter gave priority to the needs of the Party's endorsed candidates in Bihar. He presented the Ways and Means position which showed that, if any amount beyond Rs. 3.75 lakhs was made available to Bihar for repaying the credit or otherwise, it would be unjust to the candidates of the Party in other States who, as at present, were not likely to receive more than Rs. 25,000 per endorsed constituency which was low enough. The General Secretary reported on the failure of the State President, despite repeated requests dating from September, to allot jeeps made available as a result of the Credit to the endorsed candidates of the Party, as also other defaults in implementing the Baroda Award. The Raja of Ramgarh gave an assurance that if whatever money was available for Bihar was earmarked towards repayment of the Credit, he would endeavour to meet the financial needs of the Party's endorsed candidates. It was ascertained that out of the sum of Rs. 3.75 lakhs payable to Bihar in respect of the fifteen endorsed constituencies, Rs. 50,000 had been paid in cash and Rs. 80,000 paid to the Bank on Raja of Ramgarh's request. For Tirhut division, Rs. 75,000 were needed for Darbhanga district, and, assuming a new jeep each was made available to Purnea and Saharsa, which the Raja of Ramgarh promised the Sub-Committee he would supply, Rs. 20,000 would be needed for these districts. These payments and commitments totalled Rs. 2.25 lakhs leaving a balance available of Rs. 1.50 lakhs. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that Mr. K.M. Munshi, after discussion with the President of the Bihar State unit, should draft a resolution and a draft agreement to be entered into between the Treasurer of the Party and Shri Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh setting out the basis on which the matter would be resolved and that these drafts should be presented to the Sub-Committee the following morning.

The meeting then adjourned.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SUB-COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 5, 1962, at 10.30 a.m.

PRESENT: Professor N.G. Ranga  
Mr. C. Rajagopalachari  
Mr. M.R. Masani

6. The Sub-Committee proceeded to take up lists of Parliamentary and Assembly candidatures received from various States. Lists in regard to the following States were approved in the forms attached:

- |           |              |
|-----------|--------------|
| 1. Andhra | (Annexure B) |
| 2. Madras | (Annexure C) |

In the case of the Madras unit, it was reported that, in addition to the list which was presented to the meeting, there would be a second list of candidates from certain districts. In order to avoid delay, the Sub-Committee decided that Mr. C. Rajagopalachari should be authorised, on behalf of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee, to approve the second list in such form as he considered desirable as also to make changes or modifications in both the first and second lists between now and Nomination day.

7. At this state, the meeting was joined by Mr. K.M. Munshi and Shri Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh.

8. Mr. Munshi presented a draft resolution and a draft agreement and, after further discussion, the following resolution was adopted by the Sub-Committee:



" The Parliamentary Sub-Committee considered the correspondence between the Raja Saheb of Ramgarh and the General Secretary in regard to delivery of Jeeps to candidates and the question of payment to the Central Bank of India Limited on behalf of the Raja Saheb.

" The Parliamentary Sub Committee took into consideration the fact that the expectations in regard to funds to be raised for the elections have not been fully realised and that the number of endorsed constituencies in Bihar has been reduced from 25 to 15. The payment, therefore, to be made to Bihar would be Rs. 3,75,000/- in all. Allowing for various payments and commitments made, a sum of Rs.1,50,000/- remains available for payment towards the loan raised from the Central Bank of India Limited for the Purchase of jeeps.

" (1) The Parliamentary Sub-Committee, therefore resolves that a sum of Rs. 1,50,000/- should be paid to the Central Bank of India in monthly instalments of Rs. 20,000/- each, on behalf of the Raja Saheb, provided the 15 jeeps are delivered for use by the endorsed candidates in Bihar, by the 18th of January 1962, to the satisfaction of the General Secretary or his nominees.

" (2) The Raja Saheb guarantees that on the Bank being paid off, the said 15 jeeps shall be the property of the Party.

" (3) The Parliamentary Sub-Committee further is of the view that an arrangement should be made with the Raja Saheb substantially in terms mentioned in the draft Agreement and that as soon as possible the parties should pay off their shares of the amounts due to the Bank in terms of Clause 7 of the draft Agreement." (Annexure D)

9. As the reduction of the amount which the Swatantra Party would pay to the Central Bank might affect the interests of the pledgor who has pledged the jeeps to the Central Bank and as the Raja of Ramgarh was associated with the pledgor, he thought it would be legally correct for him to abstain from voting in so far as the aforesaid part of the Resolution is concerned.

10. It was arranged that Shri Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh would, on his return to Patna, send a telegram to the General Secretary within the next two or three days indicating the date on which the General secretary should send his representative to Patna to take charge by January 18 of 15 jeeps referred to in the Resolution and to ensure that they were placed in the possession of the Party's endorsed candidates in Bihar, whether in the Tirhut division or elsewhere. The allocation of these fifteen jeeps would be according to the discretion of the General Secretary. Shri Kama khya Narain Singh, on his part, promised to designate a responsible person who would meet the General Secretary's representative in Patna on his arrival and facilitate the execution of the necessary documents from the endorsed candidates who would hold the jeeps from the Central Office of the Party and who would promise to return them immediately after polling concluded to the General Secretary of the Party through the President of the Bihar State Party. The following form to be signed by the candidates concerned was drafted:

"Shri Kamakhya Narain Singh of Ramgarh has delivered  
Jeep No. \_\_\_\_\_ to me on \_\_\_\_\_. I will  
Keep it in good working order and promise to return  
it at the end of the campaign to the President of the  
State Party for handing over to the General Secretary  
of the Party."



11. A list of candidates submitted by the President of the Bihar State unit was considered and approved in the form attached. (Annexure E)

12. Two consequential decisions in regard to the Bihar list were taken by the Sub-Committee. The first of these was that the Treasurer should be requested to arrange for a sum of Rs. 5,000 to be made available to the President of the Bihar State unit for the personal expenses of one of the Lok Sabha candidates, namely, Mr. R. Agnibhoj from the Sassaram Parliamentary constituency, in the event of Mr. Agnibhoj filling in the pledge form of the Party and filing his nomination.

13. The second decision was that, if Mr. Mahamaya Prasad Sinha should decide to contest the Basantpur East or Basantpur West Assembly constituency as an Independent and agrees to support the Party's parliamentary candidate in the Maharajganj Parliamentary constituency, the Party should not put up any candidate from the Basantpur East or Basantpur West Assembly constituency, as the case may be.

The Committee then adjourned.

ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SUB-COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 5, 1962, at 2 P.M.

PRESENT: Professor N.G. Ranga (in the Chair)  
Mr. C. Rajagopalachari  
Mr. M.R. Masani

13. The General Secretary reported on his correspondence with the Election Commission and the Chief Electoral Officers of various States in regard to the nomination of the person or persons in each State who would convey to the Electoral Officers and the Returning Officers the final decision of the Party as to its authorised candidates for the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha. The attached list of such persons was adopted by the Sub-Committee. (Annexure F)

14. The facilities likely to be extended to the Party in regard to broadcasting on All India Radio were then discussed and it was decided that if only 20 or 30 minutes were available, they should be availed of by a speech in English by Rajaji for 10 or 15 minutes and the remaining time might be utilised for one or two short speeches in Hindustani by such persons as Mr. S.K.D. Paliwal and Jathedar Udham Singh Nagoke. The General Secretary was asked to make arrangements on these lines.

16. Lists of candidates received from various State units were then considered and approved in the form attached:

Orissa  
Gujarat

Annexure G  
Annexure H

17. In the case of the list from Gujarat, the Sub-Committee decided that the President of the Gujarat unit should be requested not to put up any candidate from the Sabarmati Scheduled Caste Parliamentary Constituency which Mr. Parmar of the Republican Party was contesting or against Miss Maniben Patel who was standing from Anand. It was decided that the half endorsement for Anand should be withdrawn by reason of the candidate's withdrawal.

17. Madhya Pradesh Annexure I

In view of the encouraging developments reported from Mandsaar, the Sub-Committee decided that the constituency may be half endorsed with Mr. Virendra Nahla as candidate for the Lok Sabha, subject to the necessary forms being filled and the Assembly candidates being finalised to the General Secretary's satisfaction.

18. Punjab Annexure J

At the request of the Punjab unit, the Sub-Committee approved Chaudhury Inder Singh as candidate for the Kaithal Parliamentary Constituency. It may be endorsed wither half or in full by the General Secretary in consultation with the Punjab State unit.

|     |               |            |
|-----|---------------|------------|
| 19. | Rajasthan     | Annexure K |
|     | Uttar Pradesh | " L        |
|     | West Bengal   | " M        |

20. In the case of the West Bengal list, in view of the circumstances reported to the Sub-Committee, it was decided that Mr. A.C.Kumar's candidature might be half-endorsed from the Malda Parliamentary Constituency

21. The General Secretary then obtained the views of those present in regard to the drafts of posters, press advertisements and cartoon strips, which had been prepared for the Central Office.

The proceedings then terminated.

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