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SWATANTRA PARTY IN PARLIAMENT

November 13, 1967.

MINUTES OF MEETING

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Swatantra Party in Parliament was held on Sunday, the 12th November, 1967, at the residence of Shri C.C. Desai. The following M.Ps were present:

1. Prof. N.G. Ranga.
2. Mr. M.R. Masani.
3. Mr. N. Dandekar.
4. Mr. Charanjit Rai.
5. Mr. K.M. Kaushik.
6. Mr. K.P. Singh Deo.
7. Mr. C.C. Desai.
8. Prof M. Ruthnaswamy.
9. Mr. Y.G. Goud.
10. Mr. Loka Nath Misra.

The Members at the outset observed silence over the demise of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia and G.D. Patil, M.Ps.

2. Prof. Ranga was requested to speak on behalf of the Party in the Lok Sabha expressing Party's condolences over the demise of several sitting and ex-M.Ps.

3. The Party considered the latest developments in West Bengal. The Members strongly condemned the Government of India for not taking timely action to safeguard lives and property of the people and ensure normal law and order conditions in the State. The Union Government should have moved into West Bengal at the time of the Communists open sabotage activities in Naxalbari and other areas. All the same it was high time that some initiative was taken by the Government of India now to dismiss the unpopular Government of the United Front and restore normal conditions in the State.

The Party, however, decided to oppose the Adjournment Motion which was understood to have been tabled by the Communist Parties.

4. The Executive Committee expressed sympathy to the people affected by the cyclone and gale in certain parts of Orissa. It condemned the Union Government for its failure to provide adequate and timely assistance for the rehabilitation of the people so affected. The party decided to issue an appeal to the public to donate generously for relief measures in the affected areas.

5. The adjournment motion tabled on the subject by Shri K.P. Singh Deo was approved by the Party.

6. The Party gave freedom to the Members to express their views according to their conscience on the Maharan Commission Report on Maharashtra-Mysore border dispute. Mr. Dandekar undertook to study the report and then report to the Party.

7. The Party Members were in favour of Nehru's assurance being incorporated in the proposed Languages Bill.

8. Shri Mohammed Imam's Bill re: Office Languages was approved by the Party. The permission was subject to the Party being not in any way committed to the provisions of the Bill as such.

9. The following M.Ps were requested to speak on the items shown against their names:

1. Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Bill:

Shri Charanjit Rai (for Select Committee)
Shri M.R. Masani to speak.

2. Cotton Textile Companies Bill - Shri Manubhai Amersey.

3. Patents Bill: The Party decided to move a motion for reference of the Bill to the Select Committee;

Shri C.C. Desai to go on the Select Committee
Shri M.R. Masani to speak.

4. Taxation Laws Amendment Bill: Shri Dandekar or Shri Masani.

5. Cotton Fabrics Additional Excise Repeal Bill:
Shri N.K. Somani.

6. Tea Districts Immigrant Labour Bill: Shri K.P. Singh Deo.

7. Displaced Persons Compensation Rehabilitation Bill:
Shri Charanjit Rai.

8. Education Commission Report: Shri J.M. Lobo Prabhu.
Shri Mohammed Imam.

9. Hazari's Committee Report: Prof. R.K. Amin.

10. The Party decided to hold elections to the Executive Committee on Wednesday, 22nd November, 1967.

11. Shri C.C. Desai and Shri Dahyabani Patel were authorised to operate Parliamentary Party's account.

12. The Executive Committee decided that the matter of Prime Minister's recent Visit to Moscow in connection with the 50th anniversary of the October Revolution be brought up for discussion in the Lok Sabha through a No-Day-Yet-Named Motion.

13. The Party decided to oppose the introduction of the Essential Commodities Second Amendment Bill.

14. Vote of thanks to the Motions.

C.C. DESAI
Secretary.