

Swatantra Party Parliamentary Office

53 North Avenue,
New Delhi.

July 28, 1967.

A meeting of the General Body of the Party in Parliament was held at 6.00 P.M on Monday, 25th July, 1967 in Room No. 50 1st floor, Parliament House, New Delhi. The following Members attended:

1. Prof. N.G. Ranga (in the Chair)
2. Mr. J.M. Lobo Prabhu
3. Mr. C.C. Desai
4. Mr. Y.G. Gowd
5. Mr. D.N. Deb
6. Mr. D. Amat
7. Prof. R.K. Amin
8. Mr. N.K. Somani
9. Mr. D.N. Patodia
10. Mr. K.M. Kaushik
11. Raja Venkatappa Naik
12. Mr. Surinder Tapuriah
13. Mr. G.C. Naik
14. Shri Meghrajji
15. Mr. S.S. Mariswamy
16. Mr. Dahyabhai Patel
17. Mr. P.K. Deo
18. Mr. Meetha Lal Meera

The following Members were requested to speak on the subjects mentioned against each of their names:

The Indian Official Secrets
(Amendment) Bill

Mr. D.N. Patodia

Motion by Sarvashri S.M. Banerjee
and Madhu Limaye for annulment of
Police Forces (Motion to be opposed) Shri Meghrajji

Madhya Pradesh Crisis

Shri K.M. Kaushik

There was a brief discussion on Hazare report and report of the Monopolies Enquiry Commission. Prof. R.K. Amin expressed a desire to speak on these motions. A decision in this regard however was postponed for the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Some Members were of the opinion that they should have freedom at times to express opinions in the House different from those of the Party. The consensus of opinion however was against such an idea as the Swatantra Party cannot afford the freedom which a bigger party like the Congress may allow. The new views of members can be considered when important issues are discussed by the Executive on General body. The Leader explained that outside the 21 principles of the Party, there was no restriction on the freedom of the members to speak on uncontroversial subjects.

Shri D.N. Patodia who had earlier along with Mr. N. Dandekar visited Naxalbari reported on the political assessment of the situation there and the various factors contributing to the present unrest in that area in particular and West Bengal in general. He said the whole movement there was politically motivated by the Communist Party (Marxist) and there was no such thing as an agitation against Jotedar's and in favour of the agrarian reforms. There were three alternatives; firstly, that the Congress be allowed to form the Government; second, there should be President's rule and thirdly that the present Chief Minister be allowed to form a government with the help of the Congress. The third alternative was preferred by the Party.

The Members were informed of the earlier decision of the Party that they should give no notice of the bills or resolutions without prior permission of the Party.

J. M. Lobo Prabhu
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Secretary