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53 North Avenue
New Delhi - 1.

9th December '65

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

A meeting of the members of both Houses of our Party was held this afternoon in the Party Committee Room, Central Hall, Parliament House, New Delhi.

The following members were present:

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| 1. Mr M.R. Masani (in the Chair) | 9. Mr Himmat Singhji |
| 2. Mr Dahyabhai V Patel | 10. Mr Krishanpal Singh |
| 3. Mr Ramgopal Gupta | 11. Prof M. Ruthnaswamy |
| 4. Mr S.S. Mariswamy | 12. Mr N. Dandekar |
| 5. Mr C.L. Narasimha Reddy | 13. Mr Devi Singh |
| 6. Mr P.K. Deo | 14. Mr P.H. Bheel |
| 7. Mr Ram Singh | 15. Mr D.S. Gulshan |
| 8. Mr Kapur Singh | |

The following resolution was adopted regarding the misuse of the Defence of India Rules:

"The Swatantra Party in Parliament, at its meeting held on Thursday, December 9, 1965, noted with concern the widespread misuse of the Defence of India Rules and in particular the improper resort to the far-reaching powers acquired under them for penalising expression of opinion and suppressing criticism of the policies and actions of the Union Government. In this connection, particular note was taken of two glaring cases of such gross abuse of powers by these Governments. One such is the recent prosecution launched against the editors and publishers of Swarajya and Kalki for carrying articles and a cartoon critical of the policies of the Congress Government. The other is the continued detention of Mr A.G. Noorani, the well-known patriotic commentator on legal and international affairs."

RESOLUTION on the following lines was also adopted regarding Orissa elections:

~~"The Party also took a note of the fact that repeated efforts to prevail upon the Prime Minister to announce the date of Orissa elections, have been of no avail. It was considered most unfair that while elections were due in early 1966, no indication, as to whether the same would be held by due date or not, was given by the government".~~

The following members were chosen to speak on the items indicated against their names:

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| 1. Resolution regarding nationalisation of oil industry - | Mr N. Dandekar |
| 2. Resolution regarding national integration - | Mr P.K. Deo (to oppose the motion) |

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It was decided that if there was a motion asking for the approval of the food policy of the Government of India, our members in Rajya Sabha should oppose such a motion.

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

KAPUR SINGH
SECRETARY

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