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SWATANTRA PARTY-PARLIAMENTARY OFFICE

53, North Avenue,  
New Delhi.

February 19, 1964.

C I R C U L A R

A Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Swatantra Party in Parliament was held this morning in the Committee Room, Central Hall, Parliament House. The following were present:-

- 1) Prof. N.G. Ranga
- 2) Shri M.R. Masani
- 3) Shri Loknath Misra
- 4) S. Kapur Singh
- 5) Shri C.L.N. Reddi
- 6) Maharani Gayatri Devi
- 7) Shri Raja Anand Chand
- 8) Prof. Kutnaswamy
- 9) Shri P.K. Deo

Prof. Ranga took the Chair.

1. It was suggested that our Members, who will participate in the discussions on the Railway budget, should emphasise the following points:-

- i) More amenities for 3rd class passengers;
- ii) 2 per cent increase in freight is not justified and hence should be opposed;
- iii) Wasteful expenditure in the Railway Administration;
- iv) Providing more new broad-gauge railway lines;
- v) Doubling of railway lines;

2. The attitude to be taken towards Non-official Resolution on 22nd February was considered.

3. Arising out of some confusion about speakers in the Debate on the President's address, it was decided that the Chief Whip should inform the Members, who have been listed to speak on various discussions, of the decision in writing so that there may be no ambiguity in the matter.

4. After discussion, it was agreed that the Party should not support any move for increase of salary or allowances of Members, but final decision on this subject was postponed till a concrete proposal came up before the House, either in the form of a Resolution or a Bill. When such a proposal comes up before the House, our Members may either abstain or we may give an alternative proposal by tabling an amendment to the effect that in lieu of the proposed increase of D.A., Members may be provided with more amenities in the shape of Secretarial assistance, air travel, free postage etc., which will help a member to discharge his functions more effectively.

5. Arising out of Prof. Ranga's non-acceptance of the Planning Minister's invitation for an informal meeting and S. Kapur Singh's meeting the British High Commissioner along with a few Congress Members to protest against the attitude of the British Spokesman in the Security Council on the Kashmir question, it was felt that there should be more frequent meetings of the Executive Committee for informal discussions among Members. No Member may normally take independent decision on such subjects unless the matter is discussed in the Executive Committee Meeting.

6. Shri P.K. Deo brought to the notice of the Committee that there was a move that India should sever its diplomatic relations with the Commonwealth because of the recent attitude of the United

Kingdom Representative in the Security Council in regard to the Kashmir question. It was agreed that such a move was un-called for. The United Kingdom has a right to take a line of independent thinking. Membership of the Commonwealth was in our interest because of a number of economic and other benefits we derive by virtue of being in this Institution. Moreover, it was the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia, besides the United States, which rushed to our help when the Chinese Aggressor reached almost at the foot-hill of Issam last year.

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

KAPUR SINGH  
SECRETARY.