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UPADHYAYA CHARGES SWATANTRA WITH VIOLATING COMMITMENT

Bhilwara, May 12.

Shri Deendayal Upadhyaya, General Secretary Bharatiya Jan Sangh has accused the Swatantra Party of "deliberate violation" of an electoral understanding.

Shri Upadhyaya, who was speaking here at an election meeting, said that he and Shri M. R. Masani, Swatantra General Secretary, had agreed to certain conditions in respect of by-elections and written them down jointly. One of the conditions was that where a seat fell vacant, as between the Swatantra and Jan Sangh, that party would be given a prior option to fight the by-election which had contested that particular seat in the 1962 elections. According to this agreement, Bhilwara, where presently a by-election is being held, and where both the Jan Sangh and the Swatantra are pitted against each other, should not have been contested by the Swatantra and should have been left to BJS, he said. The Swatantra Party's action was improper and politically immoral, he said.

Shri Upadhyaya expressed surprise particularly over the candidature of Shri Nathu Singh. He said that Swatantra partymen had come to him in Delhi and said that Shri Nathu Singh was not their candidate, that he was standing of his own accord and determined to contest. Then they proposed that both the parties should withdraw and let Shri Nathu Singh contest independently. Jan Sangh could not accept their proposal. And the same Shri Nathu Singh was now contesting on a Swatantra ticket.

Referring to the Kashmir problem, Shri Upadhyaya said that both the Congress and the Swatantra were equally guilty for the bunglings in Kashmir. He warned the country against the Kashmir deal now being settled in New Delhi between Nehru and Sheikh Abdullah on the one hand and in Madras between Rajaji and Abdullah on the other. He declared that Jan Sangh would spare no sacrifice to save Kashmir.