

COPY

SWATANTRA PARTY
CENTRAL OFFICE

5359

SASSOON BUILDING,
143 MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD
BOMBAY 1

REF: SPC-UP1

17th May 1968.

My dear Bhanu Bhaiya,

Sub: U.P. Mid-term Election.

Ref: (i) Your letter dated 2.5.1968

(ii) The Minutes of your State
Executive Committee meeting
held on 12.5.1968.

(iii) List of Constituencies (and
candidates) resulting from the
Principles in (ii) above.

My comments are as follows:-

I. General:

(1) Objectives:

- (a) I agree our single objective should be to get in 25 to 30 of our best and most disciplined men; and this may necessitate our having to put up altogether 50 candidates who are serious about trying to win. But at least 20 of them will have to be self-financing. All of them must be already members of our Party; and any new comers must become life members. (I have had to set my sights lower because of the complete rout we have suffered in Haryana, which will make the collection of money extremely difficult).
- (b) We should aim only at our success, regardless of the effect (favourable or otherwise) it may have on any other candidates or Party. In what follows, our best 30 are referred to as "sponsored" candidates; and the remaining 20 as "approved" candidates.
- (c) Our subsidiary aim should be to secure over-all not less than 4% of the total valid votes cast, excluding the votes of those of our candidates who may forfeit their deposits. (Only so shall we regain "recognition" as a Party in U.P., - which we lost in the last General Election, even though we are still recognised as a "multi-State" Party throughout India). This objective may necessitate our having to allow other candidates to use our symbol. Such candidates should be referred to as "supported candidates". But even these must be persons who are already members, or who first become life-members, of our Party; and they must clearly be told in writing that they should expect no financial or other aid from us, - except perhaps some publicity material or flags but even this we cannot promise. So, they must be prepared to provide all this for themselves at their own expense from samples supplied by us. This is an unfortunate necessity for financial reasons.

(2) Electoral Adjustments:

- (a) I agree we cannot have agreements with Communist or Communal Parties. I would add the S.S.P. to the list, because its approach is not constructive but entirely agitational; and I would be inclined to concede a very guarded exception in the case of Jan Sangh.

(b) About the B.K.D., our main difficulty will be their association with all left parties in Bengal. For that very reason, even if we do arrive at an electoral understanding with B.K.D. in U.P. it must expressly exclude all their leftist associates in U.P. (if any), even though it may happen quite fortuitously that we may not in fact put up candidates in those constituencies where the leftists may be contesting. Subject to this, it might be a good idea for consideration whether we should not attempt to arrive at an understanding with B.K.D. on the same lines as our pre-election understanding in Orissa with the Jana Congress; but I doubt it.

(c) Our minimum condition for an electoral understanding with any Party must be that they will straightaway concede to us those constituencies where we may be putting up "our best 25".

(3) Finance:

(a) Neither the Central Office of the Party nor the State Office has any resources for fighting this election. Every paisa we require will have to be raised by donations. And since nothing can be expected to be so raised for this election from Calcutta Delhi or Bombay, all the finance we require will have to be raised in U.P. itself from places like Banpur, Lucknow, Allahabad and Banaras. This is going to be very difficult in view of our total defeat in Haryana.

(b) Our requirements, at a minimum level of 30 "sponsored" candidates, 20 "approved" candidates and 50 "supported" candidates will be:-

	30 sponsored candidates. Rs.	20 approved candidates. Rs.	50 supported candidates. Rs.	100 Total. Rs.
Publicity material @ Rs.1000/- each (flags, posters, handbills).	30,000	20,000	50,000*	100,000
Transport subvention @ Rs.2000/- each.	60,000	40,000	Nil	100,000
Financial Aid @ Rs.5,000/- each.	150,000	Nil	Nil	150,000
For State Office Exp. & travelling.	..	..	..	30,000
For Central Office Exp. & travelling.	..	..	..	20,000
Miscellaneous & contingencies.	..	..	..	50,000

				450,000
				=====

* If possible.

(c) We must therefore aim at raising Rs.500,000/-. Anything less may mean cutting down financial aid correspondingly. So we must get on with this job immediately on the lines I discussed with Sardar Ram Singh on 13th.

(4) Transport.

- (a) The State Party has 10 old Jeeps. In my view there is no point in getting into an involved arrangement such as you have suggested concerning these vehicles. Instead they should, I suggest, be offered for outright sale to those "sponsored" candidates who are prepared to purchase them outright (as soon as their candidate has been approved) at prices ranging from Rs.2,500/- to Rs.3,500/-, depending upon their condition (as shown below). The purchase price will be deducted from the transport subvention and the financial aid we would otherwise give them. Your Jeeps should be classified into three categories, depending upon their condition:-

(a) In fair condition	..	Rs.3,500
(b) In poor condition	..	Rs.3,000
(c) In bad condition	..	Rs.2,500

- (b) It may not be possible for the Central Office or any other State Party Unit to provide any Jeeps for this election. It will be best not to count upon this. However, the Central office will try to provide 6 good jeeps for supervisory work by the State "Election Offices" you will have to set up in three zones of U.P. (2 for each zone); and these should be available for use also by any supervisory staff I may depute from the Central Office.
- (c) For the rest, the candidates will have to make their own arrangements for purchase, or "hire purchase", or to hire whatever transport they wish to use (Jeep, cars, or motor-cycles). The Central Office will endeavour to arrange for supply of new jeeps or motor-cycles or cycles for purchase by our candidates at concessional prices, but can accept no financial responsibility for them, whether as purchasers or hirers or as guarantors.

5. Leadership:

I am glad you have for the present withdrawn your suggestion to relinquish the Presidentship of the Party. To change horses in mid-stream (at this stage) may do us more harm than good; and what should be the shape of things to come will depend upon the developments hereafter, and especially upon the results of the mid-term elections.

II. Specific Matters:

I shall write to you separately about other matters more specifically concerning the organising of the election, the choice of constituencies, the selection of candidates etc.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
N.Dandeker.

Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh,
President,
U.P.Swatantra Party,
Kaiser Bagh,
Lucknow (U.P.)

Copy to: Sardar Ram Singh, M.P. Kanpur.

" Mr.Raju, SP-C.