

Press Report published in the Pioneer dated 20.6.68

NO FURTHER TALKS ON MERGER, SAYS CHARAN SINGH.

Lucknow, June 18- Contradicting a report in a section of the Press that he proposed to hold talks with Swatantra Party leaders in Delhi some time in July, Mr. Charan Singh said, " There was no question of holding any further talks with Swatantra Party leaders. Mr. N.G.Ranga and Mr. Dandekar on behalf of the Swatantra Party and Mr. Gopala Shastri and I on behalf of the BKD and already had a talk in Delhi on June 15.

On our part we proposed that all the all-India Parties and all the groups at the State level other than Congress, Jan Sangh and Marxists, may come together in order to form a new nationalistic democratic party, believing broadly in a decentralised economy of the Gandhian conception and a rule of law.

"This was not acceptable to Swatantra Party leaders. On their part, they proposed that the BKD should merge with the Swatantra Party. This was not acceptable to us. There the matter ended."