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swatantra party

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General Secretary's Letter No. 304

Dear Friend,

With a very successful National Convention behind us we must now get down to the task of building on the morale generated by the Convention.

The situation in our country is deteriorating very rapidly. The supersession of three senior judges and the appointment of a junior justice over their heads, the revolt by the Provincial Armed Constabulary in U.P., the fantastic rise in the prices of essential commodities, the acute shortage of an every increasing range of commodities the latest being kerosene, the disastrous consequences of the foodgrain takeover by government aggravating an already difficult situation on the food front and the problems of maintaining law and order generated by scarcity conditions are all driving the country and the people to an abyss. Of all political parties in India we alone have a set of policies totally different from that advocated by other parties and if we fail the country now we shall deserve to be extinguished.

Therefore every unit of our Party from the Primary to the State level has to exert its maximum to channelise people's discontent and provide responsible leadership to meet the challenge of anarchy which is bound to lead to dictatorship. It is becoming increasingly clear that Mrs. Gandhi and her party with the help of her communist allies are actively subverting democratic institutions. That she is bent on dictatorial rule is also evident from the manner in which State by state is coming under President's rule, the latest to be threatened by President's rule being U.P.

How to meet this challenge and in what manner should we gear up our organisation for this purpose are matters which we should discuss and arising from such discussions settle our strategy.

To assist you in doing this I propose to undertake a tour of most of our States so that I could sit with your State leadership as also as many leading members of our Party from the various Primary and District units in your State. Kindly therefore organise a meeting of your State Council to which you should invite the Presidents and General Secretaries of the various primary and district units as also those who though not office bearers are actively working for the Party. This should be done in June or July at the latest.

Please collect as much information about the various problems afflicting your State which we could discuss at this meeting including those outlined in the second para of this letter.

Kindly suggest two or three alternative dates in June or July when you can convene such a meeting so that I can coordinate my itinerary with visits to other States.

In addition to the above you should call upon all districts having elected or ad hoc committees in your State to arrange district level conferences, culminating in a State Convention.

This should be done within the next three months. Expenditure to meet such conferences must be collected locally. In order to save a little money for organisational activities after meeting the expenses of such

conferences it would be useful if the district units in your State as also your State unit were to publish souvenirs on the occasion of such conferences and collect advertisements locally.

I would appreciate your convening immediately a meeting of your State Executive to--

- (a) call on the district units to organise district conferences, and
- (b) settle the date and venue of a meeting of your regional council to which you will invite the office bearers of the party's committees on the primary and district levels, and at which meeting I shall be present.

As I mentioned earlier kindly give a choice of dates so that I am not required to be in two States on the same day!

Looking forward to your expeditious response to this circular.

Yours truly,

Madhu Mehta

(Madhu Mehta)

General Secretary