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Masani quits party posts

New Delhi, March 29 (UNI)—Mr M. R. Masani, deputy leader of the Swatantra Party in Parliament, has resigned from the party's National Executive and the Central Parliamentary Board.

The resignation is in protest against the defeat of the official Swatantra candidate in the Rajya Sabha elections in Gujarat.

In a letter to party secretary N. Dandekar, Mr Masani said his resignation was because of the failure of a large number of party members in the Gujarat Assembly to vote for the party candidate in the elections to the Rajya Sabha.

Mr Masani's resignation from the party posts followed relinquishing of the leadership and deputy leadership of the party in the Gujarat Assembly by Mr Bha-
llabhai Patel and Mr Jaldeepsingh for similar reasons.

Support assured

Mr Masani has, however, assured Mr Dandekar of his fullest support to the party, particularly in upholding its "disciplined and effective functioning."

He recalled his assurances to the Gujarat leaders, as the general secretary of the party in 1966, that the then leader of the Independent Progressive group in the State Assembly, Mr Babubhai Vaidya, would be the party's candidate for the biennial elections to the Rajya Sabha and deplored the violation of this "solemn promise by a score of our members in the Gujarat Legislature in joining hands with the Congress Party's candidate."

"This is unfortunately not an isolated case, but one more example of how the general demoralization in the political life of the country is finding its way into our ranks," he said.

According to Mr Masani, his resignation is "an act of atonement to those who have been let down by this breach of faith on the part of some of our colleagues and in the hope that this may stimulate the conscience of our party."

Mr Masani's letter is expected to be placed before the Executive and the Parliamentary Board when they meet on April 13 and 14.

SWATANTRA PARTY

List of Office Bearers and members of the newly elected
National Executive for the period 1967-69

PRESIDENT:	Prof. N.G.Ranga
VICE PRESIDENTS:	Dr. K.M.Munshi Prof. M.Buthnaswamy Smt. Gayatri Devi Mr. R.N.Singh Deo Mr. Bhailalbhai Patel
GENERAL SECRETARY:	Mr. N.Dandekar
JOINT SECRETARIES:	Mr. Charanjit Rai Mr. Sundermani Patel Mr. T.Krishnamma Mr. G.R.Irani
TREASURERS:	Dr. R.C.Cooper Mr. H.P.Nanda
MEMBERS:	Mr. C.Rajagopalachari Mr. M.R.Masani Mr. C.Latchanna Sardar Basant Singh Mr. P.K.Deo Mr. Lakshman Singh of Dungarpur Mr. S.S.Meriswamy Mr. K.K.Kuruville Mr. J.Mohammed Imam Mr. H.M.Patel Sardar Ram Singh Mr. K.Sundaram Mr. B.P.Singh Mr. C.Hammantha Rao Mr. Dahyabhai Patel Mr. Martin Narayan Majaw Mrs. Kailesh Rekhi Mr. J.M.Lobo Prabhu Mr. C.C.Desai Mr. Loknath Misra