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swatantra party
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April 16, 1974

General Council Circular No. 53

Dear Friend,

An urgent meeting of the General Council has been called on Wednesday, the 1st May, 1974, at New Delhi at 10 am at the Vithalbhai Patel House. This meeting may continue till late at night and may be continued the next day, if found necessary.

At this meeting we have to discuss and finally decide about ratifying the proposed merger of Swatantra Party, Utkal Congress, Samyukta Socialist Party (Raj Narain's Group), the Muslim Majlis, the Bharatiya Khetihar Sangh, the Loktantrik Dal, the Bharatiya Kranti Dal and the Harijan Sangharsh Samiti. In this connection, I must inform you that at the last meeting of the National Executive held in New Delhi on April 6 and 7, 1974, it was decided that "the Party will continue to explore all possibilities of bringing about a two-Party system in India with a view to removing the chaos prevailing in our political life in the confusion created in the minds of the electorate."

The National Executive had authorised the President Mr. Piloo Mody to take all possible steps to carry on talks with leaders of all democratic opposition parties with a view to bringing about a two-Party system.

You must have all read in the newspapers that a meeting of several opposition parties, mentioned above, took place in New Delhi. At this meeting, the Swatantra Party was represented by Mr. R.N. Singh Deo. The reported outcome of the meeting was that it was decided that all the above-mentioned parties should merge. This is of course subject to official ratification by all parties concerned.

This meeting has therefore been called to finally discuss and decide about ratifying the proposed move for merger. This is a very important issue and I hope you will attend this meeting without fail so that a proper decision can be arrived at after an honest and frank discussion about the rôle and the future of the Swatantra Party in Indian politics.

A set of Resolutions adopted at the National Executive meeting on April 6 and 7 in New Delhi are enclosed herewith for your perusal.

Please let us know immediately whether you will be attending this meeting or not.

For rail/air and hotel bookings, kindly contact Mr. Mewaram Arya, General Secretary, Swatantra Party Delhi Unit, 1E/14 Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi 55.

Yours sincerely,

Madhu Mehta

(Madhu Mehta)
Vice-President