



swatantra party

national headquarters

sassoon building, 143, mahatma gandhi road, bombay 1.

phone: 251424

grams: surajyam

5761

January 9, 1974

Dear Friend,

We send for your information and record text of resolutions
adopted by the General Council at its meeting in Lucknow on
December 15, and 16, 1973.

Yours sincerely,

(V.P. Menon)

The General Secretary
Swatantra Party, Maharashtra
143, Mahatma Gandhi Road
Bombay 1.

Encl: *

SWATANTRA PARTY

General Council

Lucknow, Dec.16,1973

RESOLUTIONS

Revival of Linguistic and Communal Unrest

The Swatantra Party views with grave concern the revival of linguistic and communal unrest engineered by political vested interests who are fomenting these tensions for their narrow, selfish and partisan interests. At a time when there is considerable suffering and so much remains to be done to provide relief to the people, it is criminal to spark off linguistic and communal trouble. The Swatantra Party appeals to the people not to be misled by political vested interests who are working against the interests of the nation. The time has come for people to unite and thwart the evil designs of these people engaged in such anti-national activity.

Proposed by : Mr. Madhu Mehta
Vice President

Seconded by : Mr.N.K.Ganapaiah
President,
Swatantra Party, Mysore

Economic Situation

The General Council of the Swatantra Party expresses its grave concern with the increasing hardships of the people as a result of the rapidly deteriorating economic situation more particularly in respect of -

Soaring Prices of all essential commodities which have risen by no less than 33% in the last 18 months. Even worse is the fact that food articles alone rose by 36%. The inflationary spurt in money supply by as much as Rs.1,600 crores within one year for financing the unproductive expenses of the Central and State Governments on the one hand and the absence of growth in agriculture and industry on the other, have caused widespread rise in the prices of all basic items like food articles, cloth, fertiliser, coal, steel, kerosene and a host of other commodities leaving society gripped in an economy of shortages. The failure of the public distribution system in respect of all essential items like wheat, coal, cement and steel has resulted in maldistribution, undue price rise and rampant corruption.

Continued shortage of power, fertilisers and increasing transport bottlenecks which have brought stagnation to the process of growth and has affected the farmers adversely to such an extent that the current year's crop of foodgrains earlier estimated to be 115 million tons may now finally be reduced to 105 million tons only. Industrial production during the first six months of the current year has shown a distinct decline compared to the same period last year.

Growing Unemployment which within one year has risen to unbearable proportions was 7.3 million in April 1973 of which as much as 3.3 million constitute the educated unemployed.

Growing Unrest in the industrial and non-industrial fronts as evidenced by strikes and lock outs in power stations, steel projects, Airlines, Railways, Industrial Projects and Hospitals and by widespread disturbances in university campuses all over the country.

Defective unimaginative policies based on outdated and imported ideas adopted by the government and the gross ignorance and wrong application of economic laws have all been responsible for the present miserable state of the Indian people. The Swatantra Party is convinced that Mrs. Gandhi's Government obsessed by doctrinaire and personal considerations is bent upon continuing the disastrous socialist policies which is leading India to the stage of complete economic chaos and political slavery. This is evident as not a single step has been taken or is proposed to be taken which may provide some relief to the people.

The Swatantra Party therefore demands that:

- strict discipline should be imposed against any further increase in governmental expenditure for non-productive purposes particularly on administration and to put a stop to deficit financing;
- the country's resources should be diverted more to the growth of agriculture, power and transport upon which the progress of India's economy mainly depends;
- the public distribution system seething with corruption, mismanagement and inefficiency, should be scrapped. The Government should concentrate more on giving incentives and encouragement for production, as increased production alone can remove scarcity, bring down prices and reduce unemployment.

The Swatantra Party emphasises that production and savings alone can be generated only by improving the performance of the public sector, drastic reduction in taxes and substantial removal of constraints on productive activities through licences, permits, quotas and levies.

Moved by: Mr. D.N. Patodia
Member, National Executive

Seconded by: Mr. Lakhan Lal Ambedker
Joint Secretary,
Swatantra Party, Uttar Pradesh

Supported by: Mr. Mohan Lal Jatav,
Vice President,
Swatantra Party, Delhi Pradesh

Repressive Measures of Government:

The Swatantra Party warns the people against the campaign of political oppression launched by the ruling party, particularly against the opposition parties, arbitrarily detaining all those who are legitimately protesting against administrative injustice and economic hardships caused to the people.

The Swatantra Party condemns the use of the draconian powers usurped by government under the pretext of national security - applying such laws as the D.I.R. and the M.I.S.A. against innocent citizens and particularly students - depriving the people of their fundamental right to Habeas Corpus, detaining them without trial.

The Swatantra Party deplores the virtual takeover of various independent administrative machinery, such as the Election Commission of India, which is being freely used as an instrument by the Ruling Party in furthering its election prospects by arbitrary fixation of election dates, delimitation and reservation of constituencies.

Proposed by: Sardar Harbhajan Singh
President,
Swatantra Party, Uttar Pradesh.

Seconded by: Mr. Aizaz Rizvi
President,
Swatantra Party, Lucknow Dist.

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