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March of the Nation

BANGALORE

Masani's Resignation

24/4/71

Sir: While the news that M. R. Masani resigned his chairmanship of the Swatantra Party came as a shock to Party workers throughout India, it is necessary to recognise the fact that he did so out of motives of a lofty nature.

As he explained to the Press, he took full responsibility, as head of the organisation, for the poor showing of Party candidates in the mid-term Lok Sabha elections.

Winning 44 seats in 1967 and getting only 8 in 1971 shocked all members of the Party.

That the so-called Alliance would be more a hindrance than a help was the opinion of several Party workers but they were in a minority.

There is no doubt that the Party would have fared much better had it fought the elections

on the basis of its own principles and policies which have appealed to all thinking people.

It will not be easy for the Party to find another chairman with the brilliance of Masani.

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