

Masani: No need to dissolve party

By A Staff Reporter

Members of the national executive of the Swatantra Party feel that the party has received a setback.

But it is not so severe as to cause undue gloom or depression among workers.

Saying this at a press briefing Mr. M. R. Masani, party president, asserted on Friday that there was no need to dissolve the party. It had an important role to play as a responsible opposition.

The executive met in Bombay on Friday and would continue discussions on Saturday. The general council will meet in the afternoon. The Central Parliamentary Board of the party also met for some time to review the election results.

Mr. Masani said the members at the executive meeting stressed the need for a reappraisal of the party's position. The important factor to be considered was how the party could play a constructive role in the present situation.

The executive decided to set up an ad hoc committee for Punjab. It will be headed by Sardar Bhupendra Singh Mann.

Two resolutions, one on Bangala Desh and the other on Ceylon, will be drafted by the executive to be placed before the general council, which will also consider the resignation of Mr. Masani and review the current political situation.

Rajaji sad

By A Staff Reporter

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, in his message to the national executive and the general council of the Swatantra Party, said it was sad that all attempts of Mr. M. R. Masani to bring into existence a consolidated democratic opposition had failed.

"Failure in any good attempt is no disgrace. The effort was our duty and the result is not our fault."

The Swatantra Party's mission remains, and can be summed up briefly—to fight against the totalitarian tendencies at the top and to defend the Constitution."

Punjab