



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

771

November 25, 1970

Dear Mrs. Daftary,

Thank you for your letter of 28th October. The National Convention of the Party is the Party's Parliament. Delegates who represent the rank and file on a ratio of 1 delegate for every 10 members subject to a maximum of 200 meet to discuss and decide on matters relating to policy and to attend to amendments to the Party's Constitution. The Convention is an occasion for stock taking.

There are two types of sessions. One the open session where resolutions with political, economic or social content are debated and adopted. The session is open to the press. The public is also allowed to be present provided they pay a visitor's fee.

The closed session primarily deals with organisation. There is a frank exchange of views on matters relating to Party organisation. It is at the delegates' session that you, for example, could discuss the role of women in the Swatantra Party and particularly the activities of a Women's Wing. Youth representatives for example will also get an opportunity to ventilate their views. Delegates will have an opportunity to explain their problems and difficulties both in regard to day to day matters and issues of Party policy.

The inaugural session which is open is an occasion for the front rank leadership of the Party to speak and moves various resolutions. An inaugural session programme would be somewhat like this :

1. Flag hoisting by the Party's President
2. Invocation song
3. Welcome address by the Chairman of the Convention Committee
4. Inaugural address (in case Rajaji attends)
5. Presidential address
6. Presentation of General Secretary's Report
7. Political Resolutions.

A closed session would have a programme on the following lines :

1. Discussion on the General Secretary's Report (Speeches by delegates from various States)
2. Amendments to the Constitution as recommended by the General Council
3. All other matters relating to Party organisation.

I trust the above would give you an idea of what the National Convention is about.

Yours sincerely,


(S. V. Raju)
Executive Secretary

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