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Sir,

Swatantra's Future.

It is reported that, by an overwhelming majority, the National Convention of the Swatantra Party decided to dissolve itself and merge into the new party called Bharat Lok Dal to be formed by the merger of Seven Opposition parties. The point for consideration is whether the late Rajaji would have approved of this step, had he been alive today. As one of those who had worked with him closely for over 12 years, I can say, without any fear of contradiction, that he would not have approved of the Swatantra Party committing suicide and merging with parties whose leaders do not believe in the principles and policies adumbrated by the Swatantra Party. These principles and policies are similar to those adopted by the Social Democratic Party in West Germany and which have brought that country to the peak of prosperity. It may be that it may take decades before the illiterate and immature electorate in this country is able to appreciate the same and resolve to give its votes to the Swatantra candidates. That was why Rajaji called Swatantra a "Movement" for freedom from statism, controls and the policies of the ruling Congress based on Marxist Ideology. He stated again and again that the education of the electorate was the most important object to be kept in view by the members of the party. Getting into power and office was not the main object. State parties which do not concur with the decision of the National Convention should be enabled to carry on their work of educating the electorate.

Bangalore
6.8.'74

V.T. Sreenivasan

Sent by Mr. V.T. Sreenivasan, (retd) Accountant General, Bangalore-4 for favour of early publication.

My dear Masani,
What is your reaction
to this?

Sincerely yours
V.T. Sreenivasan