

T. ARAVAMUDHAN.
MEMBER, TAMILNADU
GENERAL COUNCIL.

1/25, Gengu Reddy Lane,
Egmore, Madras-8,
Dated 22nd July 1974.

Mr. Piloo Mody, M.P.,
President,
All India Swatantra Party,
2, Lodi Estate,
New Delhi.

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Dear Sir,

I am surprised to find from the newspapers and also from All India Radio news that a new party under the name of Bharatiya Lok Dal is to be formally inaugurated on August 14, 1974 at New Delhi the Swatantra party being dissolved for the purpose of forming the new party. You have also stated according to the Press reports that the new party will not be a federal type of party and that it will be a single party. This indicates that you have already committed to the birth of the new party and that the National Convention which is going to meet on the 4th & 5th August 1974 at New Delhi will only be a formal affair to put a rubber stamp for the commitment of yours.

As President of the Swatantra party you will normally be presiding over the National Convention. ~~As~~ ^{The} Chairman of the meeting should be someone who does not take sides or at least is not publicly identified with a particular point of view.

In regard to the vital issue coming up before the National Convention on August 4th and 5th 1974 it is not out of place to mention that already you have committed yourself to a position that of advocating the party's dissolution very actively in order to facilitate the birth of a new party. Your latest letter of July 6th and also the press report that appeared this morning confirm this attitude of yours.

As you are aware there are a large number of party members who do not share your views. Even the General Council of the Tamilnadu unit which met at Vellore yesterday and day-before-yesterday had by an overwhelming majority passed a resolution that it is against the ~~merge~~ the dissolution of the party. As such I apprehend along with other members of the General council that your presiding over the ensuing National Convention may prevent members from expressing their view-points freely and frankly, which may be ~~expressed~~ opposed to yours.

In view of this and also to enable you to fully participate in the debate, may I request you not to take the Chair at this Convention when this matter of dissolution comes up for discussion but to ask one of the Vice Presidents who has an open mind and who has not yet committed himself/herself to take the Chair and conduct the proceedings.

I trust you will give an earnest consideration of my appeal to you made in the best traditions of the Swatantra.

Thanking you and with my kind regards,

Yours truly,


(T. Aravamudan)

Would -be Delegate.

c.c. to Mr. M. R. Masani,
148, Mahatma Gandhi Road,
Bombay.