

DRAFT RESOLUTION FOR NATIONAL CONVENTION

SWATANTRA PARTY AT DELHI

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AUGUST 4, 5, 1974

The National Executive meeting in Delhi on April 7 and 8 reviewed the State of the Nation on the basis of which it arrived at certain conclusions and recommended a programme of action, which inter alia stated:

"The Party will continue to explore all possibilities to bring about a two-party system in India with a view to remove the chaos prevailing in our political life and the confusion created in the minds of the electorate. In this connection the Swatantra Party urges all political parties and politicians to cooperate in this endeavour and to work for the common good."

In furtherance of this the National Executive authorized the President to pursue this objective, consulting any two senior members of the party that happen to be present in Delhi at the time. Various negotiations were held from time to time in which the President, Mr Madhu Mehta, Mr R N Singh Deo, Mr Dandekar, Mr H M Patel, Mr Loknath Mishra, and Mr D N Patodia participated. A proposal was framed and submitted to the General Council on June 9th and 10th. The General Council debated the pros and cons of the issue, and in its wisdom unanimously passed the following resolution.

"The General Council of the Swatantra Party met in Delhi and discussed the proposal of getting together with various parties with a view to creating a National Alternative. It also discussed the draft programme prepared by the leaders of the new group.

The members of the General Council generally agreed that the present political situation in the country demands that an all out effort should be made for the formation of a National Alternative with a well-defined and clearcut alternative capable of fulfilling the urges and aspirations of the people.

In this context, while it welcomes the attempts made by various parties to come together with a view to ultimately provide a National Alternative it feels that in so far as the Swatantra Party is concerned, the final decision can only be taken at the National Convention. This could give a fair opportunity to as many members as possible to study the proposed programme and carefully examine all the pros and cons of the proposal. The General Council therefore has decided that a copy of the draft programme should be circulated to all the members of all the State Councils.

The General Council also authorises the President to fix the date and venue of the National Convention at the earliest, after giving due notice."

In pursuance of this resolution this National Convention of the Swatantra Party has been called to decide on the future of the Swatantra Party.

The National Convention approves of the idea of the formation of a National Alternative by the coming together of all political parties other than the Congress and the Communists. It welcomes the efforts made in this direction by various parties to come together on a common platform and notes with gratification the fact it has evolved a common programme, acceptable to the Swatantra Party.

In view of this, this National Convention of the Swatantra Party resolves that the Swatantra Party should cease to exist as a political party so that its members may feel free to join the New Party, while leaving it open to such of its members as may wish to retire from active politics to constitute themselves into a Swatantra Forum functioning as a service organization, which eschews all elections and concentrates on educating the public on Swatantra ideology.

This National Convention of the Swatantra Party requests the Chief Election Commission^{er} to take note of this resolution and to freeze the symbol of the Swatantra Party so that its goodwill may not be exploited unfairly.

This Convention of the Swatantra Party authorizes the President and office-bearers to implement this resolution and requests them and its National Headquarters to take all necessary steps to help the members through the transitional stage. It also authorizes the President to declare the date on which the Swatantra Party its office bearers and constitution will formally cease to exist.