

.R. MASANI

Camp: Madras,
30th May, 1974

(916)

My dear Sundaram,

As you are aware the General Council of the Party has been called to meet in Delhi on June 9 and 10. I do hope you and other friends from the South will be there in view of the crucial decision we shall be asked to take whether or not to dissolve the Party. I understand that you have a local meeting here in the beginning of June before the Delhi meeting and I thought I would share a few thoughts ~~that~~ ^{which} would with you for whatever little they may be worth.

I am not against the dissolution of the Party for a good and worthy purpose, such for instance as strengthening the hands of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan in his non-Party Peoples' Action or an all ~~impressive~~ ^{embracing} consolidation of all non-Marxist Parties in India including the Jan Sangh, Congress O, etc. for the purpose of undoing the mischief of the British Electoral system from which we suffer.

Unfortunately the present proposal that emanates from the Party President is to dissolve the Party in order to enable a new Party to come into existence consisting of Charan Singh ^{of} ~~and~~ the B.K.D., Biju Patnaik ^{of} ~~and~~ the Utkal Congress, Rajnarayan of the Socialist Party, Dr. Ram Subah Singh and Balraj Madhok. This effort is a puny one and will make no impact on the course of India's destiny. So long as the Jan Sangh and Congress are keeping out, as they have decided to, there will still be a divided vote in the Parliamentary elections and the bonus to the Prime Minister's Party will continue. Then again, except for Mr. Balraj Madhok, all the other gentlemen have proved to be undependable and once or more let our Party down. In view of this, I do not think that the Party that Rajaji and we built up should be demolished for such ~~purpose~~ a dubious purpose.

What then is to be done? While I would be inclined to oppose the present move, with the purpose that is in mind I for one would be glad to join in a decision to dissolve the Party either for strengthening Shri Jayaprakash's hands or to wait for a more comprehensive opposition consolidation nearer the Parliamentary elections of 1976.

Mr. K. Sundaram:

It is important that we should be clear in whose favour we are dissolving. Among other things, it will have an implication also for the disposal of the properties and funds of the Party in the various States. I hope you will also consider this matter along with our good friend Sri Chitra S.Narayanaswamy, who, I understand, is the Treasurer of the State Unit.

I would ^{have} liked to see Sri Chitra S.Narayanaswamy in Madras, but since he is away, I hope you will not mind my sending him a copy of this letter along with my request that he should not press his resignation, but let it hang over till these important issues are resolved at the national level.

Yours sincerely,

(M.R. Masani)

Sri K.Sundaram,
President,
Swatantra Party, Tamilnadu Unit,
Coimbatore.

Copy to: Sri Chitra S.Narayanaswamy,
Treasurer,
Swatantra Party, Tamilnadu Unit,
Madras.

M.R. MASANI

Camp: Madras,
30th May, 1974

My dear Sundaram,

As you are aware the General Council of the Party has been called to meet in Delhi on June 9 and 10. I do hope you and other friends from the South will be there in view of the crucial decision we shall be asked to take whether or not to dissolve the Party. I understand that you have a local meeting here in the beginning of June before the Delhi meeting and I thought I would share a few thoughts ~~that would~~ with you for whatever little they may be worth.

I am not against the dissolution of the Party for a good and worthy purpose, such for instance as strengthening the hands of Shri Jayaprakash Narayan in his non-Party Peoples' Action or an all ~~impressive~~ *embracing* consolidation of all non-Marxist Parties in India including the Jan Sangh, Congress O, etc. for the purpose of undoing the mischief of the British Electoral system from which we suffer.

Unfortunately the present proposal that emanates from the Party President is to dissolve the Party in order to enable a new Party to come into existence consisting of Charan Singh ^{of} ~~and~~ the B.K.D., Biju Patnaik ^{of} ~~and~~ the Utkal Congress, Rajnarayan of the Socialist Party, Dr. Ram Subah Singh and Balraj Madhok. This effort is a puny one and will make no impact on the course of India's destiny. So long as the Jan Sangh and Congress are keeping out, as they have decided to, there will still be a divided vote in the Parliamentary elections and the bonus to the Prime Minister's Party will continue. Then again, except for Mr. Balraj Madhok, all the other gentlemen have proved to be undependable and once or more let our Party down. In view of this, I do not think that the Party that Rajaji and we built up should be demolished for such ~~purpose~~ a dubious purpose.

What then is to be done? While I would be inclined to oppose the present move, with the purpose that is in mind I for one would be glad to join in a decision to dissolve the Party either for strengthening Shri Jayaprakash's hands or to wait for a more comprehensive opposition consolidation nearer the Parliamentary elections of 1976.

Mr. K. Sundaram:

It is important that we should be clear in whose favour we are dissolving. Among other things, it will have an implication also for the disposal of the properties and funds of the Party in the various States. I hope you will also consider this matter along with our good friend Sri Chitra S.Narayanaswamy, who, I understand, is the Treasurer of the State Unit.

I would ^{have} liked to see Sri Chitra S.Narayanaswamy in Madras, but since he is away, I hope you will not mind my sending him a copy of this letter along with my request that he should not press his resignation, but let it hang over till these important issues are resolved at the national level.

Yours sincerely,

(M.R. Masani)

Sri K.Sundaram,
President,
Swatantra Party, Tamilnadu Unit,
Coimbatore.

Copy to: Sri Chitra S.Narayanaswamy,
Treasurer,
Swatantra Party, Tamilnadu Unit,
Madras.