

.. S ..
T.ARAVAMUDHAN.
State Council Member,
Tamilnadu Swatantra Party.

1/25, Gangu Reddy Lane,
Egmore, Madras.8,
Dated 1--6--1974.

To

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

Dear Sir,

I wish to place before you the following for your kind consideration and necessary action:

The Swatantra party workers in Madras city are on the horns of a dilemma. Already passing through a phase of uncertainty as to the prospects of the party following the passing away of its illustrious founder-leader, it has received the most shocking announcement from Delhi that there is a proposal to merge it with six or seven other parties having policies and programmes quite different from its own. This proposal is sudden in its emergence and has set all the Swatantra workers wondering as to what should have happened overnight to bring about this quite unexpected change-over in the thinking and working of the leadership of the party. Much was expected from our leader, Mr. Piloo Mody, who was blessed by Revered Rajaji on his election as the President of the party: and Mr. Piloo Mody also infused much enthusiasm in the workers by assuring them of his help whenever required. His utterances at the Sixth National Convention and subsequently left no doubt about his sincerity of purpose and devotion to the party and to its founder. But as ill-luck would have it he launched on election campaigns both in U.P. and Orissa without properly estimating the prospects of success for the party and had been mauled so badly in the electioneering that not only money was lost but also the reputation of the party and its leaders. However much Mr. Piloo Mody may try to explain that the elections in U.P. and Orissa did help to build up the party, the fact remains that they exposed the weakness of the party to get votes from the masses and that the electioneering of the party was not well-gearred. This defeat of the Swatantra party and other parties who took part in the elections made the leaders of those parties think of ways and means to retrieve their own individual position in the political field and also the standing of the parties to which they belonged. In this

p.t.o.

situation Mr. Piloo Mody is in the company of such pastmasters in the political game as Mr. Bijou Patnaik, Mr. Raj Narain and Mr. Saran Singh. While Mr. Piloo Mody combines brimming enthusiasm with wisdom, the others mentioned above have by their acts of commission and omission obtained notoriety in the political field that will not accord well with the golden principles of the Swatantra party or the sterling character of its leaders and workers. In the circumstances one stands aghast at the announcement of the merger proposal. Mr. Piloo Mody may perhaps deem the announcement was hasty and was not authorised to be made when the proposal was still in the embryonic stage but it has done the mischief that the other parties to the proposed merger wanted to create viz- to confound the political thinking of the various parties opposed to Indira Congress and to gain in the process an enhancement of their popularity with the deluded electorate. The other parties like B.K.D etc may have numerical strength and monetary backing but they woefully lack the moral strength and stature of the Swatantra party, which only can ultimately win the political warfare. One or two wars lost cannot be taken as the battle has been lost. The party has still to engage itself in many wars before getting success and it requires stout hearts and sincerity of purpose to pursue the fight and take the party to final success.

In this predicament there is need for all the top leaders to come out of their self-imposed seclusion and give the lead to the Swatantrites all over the country and to bring round Mr. Piloo Mody to realise the wrong path he is taking for himself and the party in trying to join hands with parties and leaders who do not have universal reputation for integrity, honesty and correct self-less thinking as the Swatantra party and leaders. And none is so fitted for this purpose as your good self. Your very name will kindle a renewed vigour and inspire confidence among the partymen and instil fear in the minds of those who now seek to take advantage of the circumstances in which Mr. Piloo Mody is placed and of his good and unsuspecting nature.

Your interference at this juncture will save the party and retrieve it from the irredeemable ignominy to which it will be subjected otherwise. May you have the goodness to come to the rescue of the party in this dire need. Your appearance on the scene with others of your stature and line of thinking is the need of the hour. There is no time for pausing for the danger is imminent and likely to spread and expand to a wider field much sooner than we expect-- as the other parties to the proposed merger are alert and are working with an astounding alacrity to push their nefarious scheme. Your quick and decisive interference only can save the party from the disaster to which it is heading. Pray you would heed to this appeal which springs from the heart of a party worker and a responsible office-bearer, who has become unnerved by the announcement of the merger of the party with six or seven other parties and hastens to seek a remedy from leaders like you who have laboured to build up the party.

I therefore request you to attend the forthcoming General council meeting to be held at Delhi without fail -- on the 9th and 10th June, 1974 and save the party from losing its identity, which you were so kind enough to establish along with Revered Rajaji. It is high time that you once again take up active participation in the conduct of the party affairs and guide it to live with its glory undiminished.

Thanking you,

Yours truly,


(T. Aravamudan).

Sri T.Aravamudhan,
State Council member,
Tamilnadu Swatantr Party,
1/25, Gengu Reddy lane, Egmore,
Madras.8.