

Report to the Central Organising Committee on their Visit to Bihar by Mr. M. R. Masani and Mr. Dahyabhai Patel

1. We visited Patna from noon on the 19th till noon on the 20th.
2. We were greatly cheered by the warm reception we were given at the airport and throughout our stay by a large number of loyal members of the Party who had collected in Patna without any invitation or notice, but entirely on the basis of press reports of our arrival.
3. On the evening of the 19th, when an informal meeting was organised at Mr. Ram Binod Singh's residence, we found that no less than twelve out of seventeen districts in the State were represented by District Presidents, Secretaries or other spokesmen.
4. Our efforts to contact State Legislators failed. Eight of them had expressed a desire to meet us, but they were spirited out of Patna on the eve of our arrival in a bus procured for the purpose. Even so, some re-thinking on their part need not be ruled out. As at present, one member of the Legislative Council, Sardar Harihar Singh, and two members of the Legislative Assembly, viz., M/s N. N. Singh Deo of Seraikella and Mr. Jagadhatri Sahdeo of Palamau, are with us.
5. On the morning of the 20th, we met the Press whom we found friendly and responsive to our point of view. There have been good reports in the Indian Nation and Searchlight.
6. As a result of the individual and group discussions we had with all concerned, we are agreed on the following recommendations to be put before the Central Organising Committee :
 - (i) We feel that the Central Organising Committee should respond to the universal request made to us by all our friends and sympathisers that the Central Office should immediately open a Branch Office in Patna for, say, three months, i.e. till the end of 1964 and that the Office should be manned by someone deputed by the Central Office to Patna for the purpose. This office might later be converted into the office of the State Party, as and when the latter is in a position to resume functioning. There was an insistent demand that Mr. Raju of the Central Office should visit Patna twice a month for 2 or 3 days at a time and we recommend that this may be arranged to the extent possible.
 - (ii) In order that the Patna branch of the Central Office should be able to help effectively in the task of reconstitution of the State Unit, particularly at district level, it was felt that one or two field Workers may be attached to the Central Office from among our Bihar colleagues. We recommend that Mr. Budhan Rai Verma should be immediately appointed as a Field Organiser and that his efforts may be supplemented, if funds permit, by another field appointment at a more junior level.

(iii)

In order that the work of the Bihar Branch of the Central Office may during the interim period have the fullest cooperation of our local colleagues, it is desirable that there should be the fullest consultation between the Central Office and our local friends. It is the desire of our local colleagues that no Convenor or Office bearer should for the present be appointed from Bihar since the Central Office will perform the executive function. What would find favour with our Bihar colleagues would be the constitution by the Central Organising Committee of an Advisory Committee. We feel that an Advisory Committee consisting of the following be nominated by the Central Organising Committee, with power to the General Secretary to add to the number as and when it is deemed necessary or helpful :

1. Mr. Ram Binod Singh
2. Mr. Jaleshwar Prasad
3. Sardar Harihar Singh, MLC
4. Mr. N. Bakshi
5. Mr. N. N. Singh Deo of Seraikella, MLA
6. Mr. Jagadhatri Sahdeo of Palamau, MLA
7. Mr. Maheshwar Prasad Naran Singh, Muzaffarpur
8. Mr. Parmanand Kejriwal
9. Mr. Harishchandra Mishra, Darbhanga
10. Mr. M. V. Shastri, Jamshedpur
11. Mr. Bashir Ul Haque, Gaya
12. Mr. Budhan Rai Verma, Shahbag
13. Dr. Azazi, Muzaffarpur
14. Mr. Ganga Prasad Singh, Chapra
15. Mr. Gajadhar Singh, Champaran
16. Mr. A. S. Chaudhari, Khunti, Ranchi.

(iv) We recommend that those who have been enrolled as Workers by the defunct Unit prior to 31st July 1964 and have paid their subscription may be given an opportunity to be considered to be duly enrolled Workers on their being screened by the Central Office provided they complete two forms, viz., a) a letter addressed to the Party giving the relevant particulars such as receipt numbers and date of enrolment and indicating their wish to be Party Workers, and b) a letter addressed to the previous President of the State Unit with a copy to the Central Office calling on Mr. Kamakhya Narain Singh either to pay their subscription to the Central Office of the Party or to return it to the applicant concerned.

(v) We recommend that the MP's, MLA's and MLC's of the Party should be assumed to remain members of the Party so long as they have not addressed an individual communication direct to the Central Office resigning from the Party. They should be called upon, however, to withdraw without any further delay any signature they may have been made to append to any document as a result of false representations or coercion. It should be made clear to them that if any member applied for admission to any other Party and his application is not accepted, he will not be allowed to continue as a member of the Swatantra Party.