

Appendix-VIKAMARAJ PLAN RESOLUTION

The following is the text of the resolution passed by the All India Congress Committee at its meeting on August 10, 1963 :

"The All India Congress Committee, having considered the resolution of the Working Committee given below, welcomes and endorses it. The AICC authorises the Working Committee to take early steps to give effect to it :

"The Indian National Congress played a historic role in attaining freedom from alien rule. After the attainment of freedom the Congress has carried on the heavy burden of administration of the country and has striven to give the fruits of freedom to the millions of our people and to bring about rapid social and economic development in the country. Meanwhile the country is faced with a grave crisis on account of external aggression and the growth of internally fissiparous and reactionary forces."

"At this juncture the Indian National Congress has a grave responsibility to discharge. That responsibility can be successfully discharged only when the party is well-disciplined and puts forth a united effort. Unfortunately in the recent past there has been a loosening of the Congress Organisation, leading to the formation of groups and factions in the party. These unhealthy tendencies must be arrested. This can be achieved only by steps in accordance with the great traditions of the Congress, built up under the leadership of Gandhiji."

"In this context Shri Kamaraj made a proposal that leading Congressmen who are in Government should voluntarily relinquish their ministerial posts and offer themselves for full time organisational work. The Working Committee general^{ly} welcomes the proposal and decided to take action along these lines."

"The first to offer his resignation, as would be expected was Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister. The Working Committee considered the offer of resignation by the Prime Minister in all its bearings and unanimously came to the conclusion that it would be totally opposed to the interests of the Nation and would defeat the purpose in view. It is necessary to ensure in this process that the administration of the country is in no way weakened. Under the circumstances the Working Committee unanimously resolved that the Prime Minister should not press his resignation."

"Many Chief Ministers and Union and State Cabinet Ministers have responded spontaneously intimating their readiness to give up their office and shoulder the responsibilities of the Organisation. The Working Committee has requested the Prime Minister to take decisions in regard to these offers of resignation.

"While the relinquishment of office by Ministers would provide a new atmosphere for the country this will have to be followed up by a programme of action which will revitalise and strengthen the organisation. Such a programme will have to be fully considered and drawn up. The Working Committee decided to take early steps to implement the above proposal."

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