Proclamation of His Highness Sawai Man singhji Bahadur II, Maharaja of Jaipur.





Proclamation

His Highness Saramad-i-Rajaha-i-Hindustan Raj Rajendra Shri Maharaja Dhiraj Sawai Man Singhji Bahadur II, G. C. I. E., Maharaja of Jaipur

THIS SIXTH DAY OF PAUSH SHUKLA OF THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND OF THE VIKRAM SAMVAT

CORRESPONDING TO

THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND FORTY FOUR IN THE TWENTY-SECOND YEAR OF MY RULE.

My beloved subjects,

It has been the cherished aim and endeavour of my life to promote, in every way open to me, the happiness, prosperity and political advancement of my people. Among the measures sanctioned by me towards the fulfilment of that aim, I may recall the establishment, four years ago, of the Central and District Advisory Boards with a view to enabling my Government to ascertain the wishes of my people and affording them opportunities for bringing matters affecting their interests to the notice of my Government. I realize that these institutions, however useful and effective when they were created four years ago, can no longer satisfy the aspirations of my people; and firmly believing that the strength of a State lies in its being broadbased on the contentment and co-operation of the people, I have decided, after taking due counsel, that further steps should now be taken to associate my people more closely with my Government in the administration of the State.

Accordingly, I hereby ordain as follows:---

The Central and District Advisory Boards as well as the Consultative Committee of Sardars shall be abolished, and there shall be established a Legislative Council consisting of fifty-one members with an elected majority, and with my Prime Minister as President. Of the fifty-one members, thirty-seven will be elected by constituencies specifically formed for the purpose; and the remaining fourteen will consist of my Ministers, and nominated members both official and non-official. Of the elected members, twenty-five will be returned by territorial constituencies:

and in recognition of their special position in the State, my Sardars will be entitled to elect nine members; and three members will be returned by special constituencies representing respectively Trade and Industry, Women, and Labour.

Subject to prescribed limitations, the Council shall have the power of making laws, of discussing and voting on the State Budget, of eliciting information from Government by means of interpellations and of moving resolutions on matters of public interest, including motions for adjournment to discuss definite matters of urgent public importance.

There shall also be established a Representative Assembly consisting of one hundred and twenty five members with my Prime Minister as President and my Ministers as Vice-Presidents, ex-officio. Of the one hundred and twenty five members, eighty-nine will be elected by territorial constituencies, twenty-five by the Sardars, and two each by the special constituencies of Trade and Industry, Women, and Labour. The remaining five will be filled by nomination. The power to nominate in this case, as in the case of the Legislative Council, is reserved in order to provide a means of enlisting the services, as members of the Legislature, of men whose advice and guidance may be useful to the Council and the Assembly and to provide for the representation of such interests as may not otherwise be represented.

Subject to prescribed limitations, the Assembly will have power to make representations to Government and to elicit by means of interpellations information on matters of public interest.

The question of providing adequate representation for my Muslim subjects in the two Houses has engaged my careful attention. Happily, communal discord has not disfigured the history of Jaipur. Politically, the interests of the Muslims and the Hindus are identical; and in spite of the Muslim demand for separate electorates, the outcome of newborn political consciousness, it is my firm conviction that given the mutual confidence which has been a marked characteristic of my people throughout the years, the Muslims do not stand in need of any special statutory protection. I have, therefore, decided that my Muslim subjects should seek election to the legislature on the basis of joint electorates. Nevertheless, to ensure the return of an adequate number of Muslims, I consider that four out of the twenty-five general seats in the Legislative Council and eleven out of the eighty-nine general seats in the Representative Assembly should be reserved for the Muslim community. I trust that my Muslim subjects will recognise the fairness of this decision.

The term of both Houses will be three years.

My Government shall summon the Legislative Council not less than twice, and the Representative Assembly at least once in a year.

It is my desire that the members of both Houses shall enjoy, subject toprescribed conditions, freedom of speech and freedom from arrest under civil process.

My Council of Ministers, with the Prime Minister as President, ex-officio, shall continue to function as hitherto. I am, however, conscious of the public

demand for the introduction of a popular element in the Ministry; and it is, therefore, my desire that in the new constitution there should be no bar to the appointment, as Minister or Ministers, of one or more non-officials qualified by their character and ability duly to discharge the duties of this high office. The choice of such Minister or Ministers shall not be restricted to any class or community or description of my people.

The reforms which I have briefly outlined above will be given effect to immediately through a Constitution Act which will be duly promulgated by me.

I have endeavoured at all times faithfully to bear in mind the motto of my House, यतो धर्म्म स्ततो जयः "Where there is Righteousness there is Success", and in inaugurating these reforms, I have attempted to do justice to all communities and interests in the State.

I trust that my people, on whom now rests the responsibility of working the new institutions, will rise to the occasion, forget all differences, and take the opportunity provided by the new constitution for building a noble edifice of statesmanship upon the foundations already laid. If they work with toleration and goodwill, subordinating personal, local or class interests to the greater good of the State, they will certainly build better than they know.

May the measures now inaugurated bring prosperity, happiness and contentment to my people under the benign Providence of God!



SAWAI MAN SINGH