

Proletarian Era

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Red Salute Comrade Mao Zedong



26 September 1893 – 9 September 1976

“...the capitalists have ‘parliaments’ to pass laws protecting the capitalists and handicapping the proletariat; they have ‘governments’ to apply these laws and to enforce the advantages and the prohibitions that they contain; they have ‘armies’ and ‘police’ to defend the well-being of the capitalists and to repress the demands of the proletariat; they have ‘banks’ to serve as repositories in the circulation of their wealth ; they have ‘factories’, which are the instruments by which they monopolize the production of goods. Thus, if the communists do not seize political power, they will not be able to find any refuge in this world...”

—Mao Zedong
(Communism and Dictatorship
November 1920, January 1921
[Extracted from two letters to Ts’ai
Ho-sen, in November 1920 and
January 1921])

SUCI(C) expresses grave concern at outbreak of communal clashes in Muzaffarnagar, demands immediate steps to contain fratricidal bloodbath and calls upon people to stand united against all divisive incitements and provocations

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 9 September, 2013:—

We express grave concern at the continuing communal riot in Muzaffarnagar, UP, for last 13 days in which 26 people are officially reported to have been killed and many more sustained grievous injury. Such outbreak of communal clashes was expected once the rabid Hindu-communal Sangh Parivar and BJP revived their Hindutva and Ram Mandir agenda in the wake of next parliamentary elections with the sole intention of garnering votes in a communally divided UP, a state having importance in terms of number of MP seats. We are also extremely indignant at the utter failure on the part of the government-administration to contain this frenzy which is now spreading in adjacent areas like Meerat, Ghaziabad and Saharanpur to inflame the situation further. There is no cogent reason to believe that the Army and para-military force which, equipped with most modern sophisticated weaponry and allied infrastructural support do not need even 24 hours to enter into any remote, inaccessible area, could not penetrate into many riot-affected villages and bring the situation under control. This only shows that neither the SP-led state government nor the Congress-led central government has any real intention to quell the fire. Rather all the mainstream vote-seeking bourgeois outfits want such fratricidal bloodbaths and internecine

conflicts on either communal or casteist-parochial-separatist-chauvinist lines to erupt in increasing numbers so that they could create, nurture and appropriate respective vote-banks and subserve class interest of the ruling oppressive capitalists by disrupting people’s unity and fraternity with the ulterior motive of scuttling possibility of growth and development of united powerful democratic movement on the burning problems of life stemming from the exploitative capitalist system.

We strongly demand immediate effective steps on the part of the governments, both central and state, to stop these gory clashes, restore normalcy and confidence among people, establish amity among the various communities, take the instigator culprits into custody, mete out stringent punishment to them and pay adequate compensation to the victims and victim families. We also make a fervent appeal to the toiling sections of the people, irrespective of caste-religion or ethnicity, not to fall prey to the divisive traps laid by the ruling class-backed vote-merchants, not to lend ear to any rumour, understand the sinister bourgeois conspiracy to pit one section of the masses against another with a view to throwing a spanner in their solidarity, cement unity among them and foil all these sinister moves by building up sustained powerful united democratic movement on the pressing demands of life.

SUCI(C) demands immediate resignation, public trial and stringent punishment of Narendra Modi for orchestrating cold-blooded murder and genocide

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C) issued the following statement on 8 September, 2013:—

After IPS officer D.G.Vanzara, presently lodged in jail for nearly seven years on charge of engineering a chain of fake counters, has revealed in his explosive resignation letter, the startling truth unfolded earlier by

other IPS officers like R.B. Sreekumar, and Sanjiv Bhatt, about direct involvement of Narendra Modi, Gujarat’s BJP chief minister in the worst anti-minority pogrom in 2002 and his directive for organizing bogus encounters to eliminate select innocent minority

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8th All India Conference of the AIDSIO in Bhopal



Massive rally of students from all over India in Bhopal at the open session on AIDSIO Conference on 26 August (left) and Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, member, Polit Bureau, SUCI (C) addressing it.

Release intensive struggle to free people from electoral illusions according to the teachings of great leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya in Guwahati

(This is paraphrased text of the speech delivered by Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, Member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C), paying homage to the great departed proletarian leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh on the occasion of observance of his 37th Memorial Day in Guwahati, Assam, on 5th August last)

At the outset, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya said: Today 37 years have passed since we lost Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era and the founder General Secretary of our Party. But for those, both within and outside the Party, whoever had experienced close association of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the acute pain of bereavement, this shocking, immeasurable feeling of loss has not diminished with passage of time, no consolation could bring any solace; every moment and unabatedly this pain, this feeling wells up afresh with renewed intensity. For them, it is so hard to accept his death even today. The goal of world-revolution which great leaders Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Zedong, had upheld before the proletariat of the world, great leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh espoused it with all the strength and vigour he had in him as he remained identified with that cause. It was while he had been throwing new light on and striving to further ennoble this great revolutionary cause through a unique, extraordinary and truly wonderful struggle when death snatched him away prematurely. The leaders and cadres of the party remembering the unique struggle that he conducted everyday draw strength from it, engage themselves in the Indian revolutionary

movement and take on greater responsibility. Today at this Memorial Day also throughout the country they will recall his invaluable teachings, and imbibe a new generation while taking the renewed pledge to apply themselves with utmost dedication to accelerate the cause of Indian revolutionary movement.

International scenario — people are bursting in protest against ruthless capitalist exploitation

In course of examining briefly the present international and national situation in the light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya then highlighted some important aspects. Pointing to the abysmal depth into which the world economic situation has fallen to, he said: Throughout the world the toiling masses are caught in the vortex of a deep economic crisis, with corresponding deep crises in the political and cultural spheres. Nowhere is there any escape from it. The whole world is caught as in a whirlpool; in country after country people live in a suffocating situation. And this all-out crisis gets reflected in different forms in different countries. Starting from Europe and America to Asia and Africa, everywhere people are

coming out in movements onto the streets today. Even some years back, in the USA, the chieftain of the capitalist world, people's movement could not gather strength. Today, people there repeatedly burst into agitation. Unceasingly one after another, meeting, demonstration, and protests are being organized. Acute economic crisis and US imperialist entanglement in wars have become decisive election issues. It is so happening that protestors are occupying streets shouting slogans for days on end. For what reason? The security of people's life and livelihood in America is not only at stake today but has been lost completely. So acute is the economic crisis that the American people are creating strong pressure on their ruling class for withdrawal of soldiers from countries like Iraq, Afghanistan, among others. The common people are no longer willing to bear the economic burden of such wars designed and launched in the interest of the imperialists. And the US imperialists, who cared a fig for people's opinion, are being forced today to give up their desires to loot and plunder Iraq and Afghanistan. Under the pressure of people's forceful demand the US rulers are being compelled to turn back from those countries. From this very fact it can be realized how deeply the USA, that heads the capitalist-imperialist camp, is mired in economic crisis. Unemployment has increased there by leaps and bounds. According to the US government statistics, unemployment figures now hover around 8 percent. In reality, though, they are far higher. It is not alone the USA, but all the European countries, too, are caught in the vortex of economic crisis, like a fleet of ships floundering on the high sea. Nowhere is there any scope for employment. One after another, factories are closing down. The road to industrialization is totally blocked. Under the relentless onslaught of price rise people are feeling lost, rudderless.

After dismantling of socialism in Soviet Union and East European countries through counter-revolution, the think tank of the imperialist camp thought they had the entire world in their grip. But in spite of it, they are unable to set the

ship afloat. In one country after another the capitalist economy is tumbling down like a pack of cards. Just as people rush out madly when their homes are on fire, similarly they cannot stay put at home shattered by the economic crisis, crisis in life and livelihood. Almost every day they are bursting out in resentment on the streets. Be it Asia, Africa, Latin America – practically in every country the situation is like that. People are getting restless. You have seen what happened recently in Brazil. Starting from China, Japan to Iraq, Syria, Tunisia, Egypt – at whatever country you look – it is mainly because of the economic reason that people are feeling restless, have become rudderless. In different countries this agitation is manifesting itself in different forms. But if you go for an in-depth search for roots of even those problems which apparently appear as purely non-economic you will surely find that the root ultimately lies in economic factor. However, taking advantage of the relatively low standard of people's political consciousness, the capitalist-imperialist rulers are using brute force to suppress these mass movements or are instigating one section of the people against another section, embroiling them in fratricidal bloodbath; or with the evil intention of cunningly diverting people's attention from the real issue and the cause of their problems, the rulers are resorting to snap polls and in this way are trying to take the steam out of these movements. From Marxist point of view such is the quintessence of the international scenario dominated by the capitalist-imperialist rulers.

National scene—equally perilous

Dealing with the national situation, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya said: The condition of economic and political spheres in our country is no different from this. The country is aflame with price rise. Unemployment problem has assumed dreadful dimension. In comparison to Europe and the USA there has been no industrialization worth the name in India. And the few industries that did come up on people's money in the public sector are either closing down or else are

SUCI(C) demands stringent punishment of Narendra Modi

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persons as well as his staunch opponents, only gets substantiated. It is utterly reprehensible that a person like Modi who is an arch communal element with a gifted instinct of killing innocent people without compunction and shows even today the audacity of justifying the carnage, orchestrated by him, his government as well as his mentors, the Sangh Parivar and RSS, is being projected by an influential section of the ruling class as the country's next prime ministerial candidate.

In view of *prima facie*

establishment of the charge of committing horrendous crime against humanity by him, we strongly demand that he should immediately step down on moral grounds, made to face public trial and meted out most stringent of punishments befitting a cold-blooded murderer.

We call upon the people of the country to rise in support of this demand and build up powerful movement to foil the conspiracy of the ruling capitalist class to foist an arch criminal and killer on the countrymen as the Prime Minister.

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Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech in Guwahati

All capitalist-imperialist countries are mired in acute insoluble crisis

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being handed over to the capitalist class for a song. The demand that has been raised from the days of the freedom movement for confiscation of foreign capital and stopping the entry of foreign capital so as to bring an end of exploitation of foreign capital, is being trampled allowing foreign capital to freely enter. As a result neo-colonial exploitation is getting even more ruthless by the day. Not only that, the government is not even trying to create any labour intensive industries, rather it is lavishly supporting foreign tycoons with people's money. Throughout the country, millions of workers are being retrenched. They are left with no means of livelihood, no avenues for employment. The very term permanent job has been practically written off today. Be it physical or mental labour, in both spheres it is contract service that has been introduced. And how many are lucky enough to get even that? The bourgeois economist, Adam Smith had once said that every human being is born with two hands and a head and is capable to be self-reliant, independently supporting himself through his own labour. What are needed are just the right ingredients. And he was right; it is actually so. But throughout the world in capitalist countries, which holds true for our country too, there are millions upon millions of people who are jobless. If the numbers of unemployed, semi-employed and practically unemployed people are added up in our country, it will be that even half the population are without job for all practical terms. No avenues for obtaining means of livelihood, no opening up before them. The situation is driving people totally out of their mind. Under its pressure, in larger and larger numbers people are choosing suicide as the last resort. Another huge section is taking recourse to unethical means of livelihood and turning into anti-socials. Every day thousands of young women are forced to sell their bodies — the main reason behind this too is that they do not find any sure means to eke out a living for themselves. On the other hand, for the same reason it is found that inhuman incidents of husbands killing wives, sons and daughters and thereafter committing suicides are fast increasing. In the same way, failing to feed their children, even mothers are killing their children and then are

committing suicides themselves. Such unthinkable heart breaking incidents of self-annihilation are going beyond all counts. Who are responsible for this unthinkable cruel and hellish situation? What else than capitalist rule and exploitation can be blamed for it? It is the capitalist rulers who control the economy and politics are responsible. It is they who decide over the fate of 1.25 billion people of the country. Whether or not people get a means of livelihood, have provision for food, clothing, education, health, housing — everything is decided and controlled by the ruling capitalist class and the subservient political parties acting as their agents. All the power is vested and concentrated in the handful of capitalists and their watchdog — political parties, and above all, the state. And this attack on people's life is not confined only to the economic and political sphere. In the cultural and ethical sphere the attack has assumed an even more horrendous unbearable character. The capitalist class is employing different stratagems, hatching different conspiracies. Their design is to see that students and youth do never realize that the capitalist rule and exploitation is the main cause of this all out crisis in people's life, in their lives; to see that they do not realize it is this crisis which is pushing people every moment into the jaws of death. The capitalist class intends to see and ensure that youth and students do not develop fighting spirit to confront this enemy. So they are robbing the essence of everything, from education to art, literature everything. Through books, magazines and mass media they are propagating obscenity in such a way as to ensure that every student, every youth becomes a rapist, but never gets endowed with fighting spirit, never becomes a revolution-ary, conscious and educated.

even if a nation goes without food it can stand up against injustice if its moral backbone remains intact. That is why the bourgeois class is ceaselessly hatching one conspiracy after another to shatter the moral backbone. With this end in view, to how many stratagems they are taking recourse, ceaselessly spinning one conspiratorial web or trap after another! And they do not lack in hiring pundits capable of creating such conspiratorial webs. Yet at the same time it can also be seen that despite their frantic efforts to destroy the protest and resistance move-ments, every state of this country is aflame with



*Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya
addressing in Guwahati*

agitation. From east to west, north to south, people's accumulated anger is bursting out with explosive force. Is there any state where people are feeling relieved and secure? They have no food, no proper clothes, no shelter to live in. In one word no assured livelihood, no security in life. Feeling lost and rudderless, people are coming out on streets, staging sit-ins on railway tracks shouting slogans. In this situation, the agents of capitalism and the hiring self styled 'intellectuals' of the capitalist class are confusing people by dubious means. They are instigating one section of people against another. Creating division and disunity among people on grounds of caste, creed, community, religion and region, they are dragging them on along the path of self-annihilation.

through an exemplary struggle he had become the undisputed leader and teacher of his compatriots. At that time he showed that the country was going to achieve independence alright. Unable to hold out against the powerful struggle of the patriotic people the British imperialist rulers were being forced to leave the country. But the hopes and aspirations of freedom from all sorts of exploitation that people cherished during the independence movement were going to be frustrated and foiled. Because a new exploitative class — the Tatas, Birlas and others, the capitalist class of this country — was going to take the place of British imperialism as new oppressors. Hence in order to obtain true emancipation, a new course of struggle would have to be launched. No one else but Comrade Shibdas Ghosh could realize this startling and crucial truth. Not to speak of the so called communist party of India, then undivided, even famous M N Roy who, at that time, still believed in communist ideology and who had at one time even attracted great Lenin's attention, failed to do so.

So it was a changed situation in which the new exploiters, the Indian capitalist class had usurped power through conspiracies and betrayal and depriving people of the fruits of their struggle. Determining the strategy of people's struggle in this changed context, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh called on the exploited toiling masses to knock down that class from power at the stroke of revolution. This task cannot be achieved through elections. Again and again he exhorted people that revolution and election is not one and the same thing. Through election merely the government gets changed; instead of one party another party forms the government. But the class entrenched in power is not dislodged thereby; the exploitative capitalist economic and political system is not abolished. It is at the stroke of revolution alone that the capitalist class can be knocked down from power and that can be done only under the leadership of a genuine communist party. Comrade Ghosh further pointed out that had there been a true revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party during the freedom movement, people might not have been put anew into the fetters of exploitative capitalist rule instead of being liberated from

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's concrete analysis of the concrete national situation

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's concrete analysis of the concrete national situation

Drawing attention to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's penetrating insight and correct analysis and his repeated warning that this outcome was inevitable for the country and its people, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya pointed out: On the eve of independence of the country, it was him, the lone individual, who could realize that this was the future awaiting the country. At that time, he had barely stepped out of adolescence into manhood. A young soldier of the freedom movement. Even at that stage he had developed the revolutionary Marxist knowledge and consciousness and

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's pointer towards moral-cultural degeneration

Continuing further, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya observed: Long back Comrade Shibdas Ghosh again and again resoundingly warned that

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Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech in Guwahati

Ruling capitalists are employing different stratagems, hatching different conspiracies to squarely pass on burden of their crisis on suffering people

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exploitation. Even though there existed a party by the name communist (the undivided CPI) at that time in India, it was actually a petit-bourgeois social democratic party. They could not build themselves up at all as a genuine communist party along the correct path having failed to grasp the basic teachings of Marxism-Leninism. For the same reason they could not correctly determine which class needed to be overthrown from power at the stroke of revolution. With firm determination Comrade Ghosh said that it was necessary to build up a genuine communist party and under its leadership to conduct a revolutionary struggle rapidly in order to hasten up preparation for the anti-capitalist revolution. Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya said that the international and national situation which we are witnessing at present proves beyond doubt the correctness of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's analysis. People are frantically trying to somehow survive. Oppression and exploitation has become so unbearable that they cannot stay back at home. I have already mentioned the case of Europe and America. Along with Egypt, in Arab countries also people want an end to all oppressive autocratic rule and dictatorship. But in spite of it, not to speak of finding a true solution to their problems, they do not even get some relief. The struggles meet with defeat. At the instigation of the capitalist class, the governments are coming down heavily upon people.

Why was people's cause betrayed?

Explaining why the exploited masses fall into this suicidal trap Comrade Bhattacharyya pointed out that till his last day Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had reminded time and again Lenin's invaluable teaching that without a revolutionary party revolution could not be achieved and without a correct revolutionary theory it was impossible to build up a revolutionary party. And based on it Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had again and again exhorted that in order to build up legitimate united movement of people, irrespective of caste, creed, religion and community, it was necessary first to give birth to the correct leadership.

Today such a leadership can grow only on the basis of Marxist-Leninist ideology. Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya stressed that under the leadership of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong the task of building up a genuine communist party, a truly revolutionary party was advancing at a fast pace in different countries. Following this course of uniting common people, revolution of the proletariat was accomplished in 1917 in Russia and in 1949 in China. After the Second World War socialism was established in quite a few countries of East Europe. You know that after the death of great leader Stalin, the party and subsequently the state power also came under the control of modern revisionists at first in the Soviet Union, then East Europe and finally in China also. And in many countries worldwide the communist parties fell under the sway of modern revisionism. Mass movement and class struggle began to lag. And as its disastrous fallout the socialist systems in Soviet Union, East Europe and finally China imploded as counter-revolution brought on the restoration of capitalism there. Long back, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had shown that if the level and standard of communist consciousness through intense philosophical movement, in-depth interaction between all leaders and cadres of the party is not continuously uplifted, if the character does not get continuously changed by acquiring ever higher consciousness, then in today's era of moribund capitalism bourgeois vices like bourgeois individualism and economism would strike at the root of communist movement. That is what is happening in the world communist movement today. That is why although the objective condition conducive to revolution exists in country after country, revolution remains far away. In many of these countries real revolutionary leadership with strength and vigour is yet to emerge defeating and liquidating totally the modern revisionist, reformist forces.

Farce of bourgeois parliamentary election

Comrade Bhattacharyya said that it is the capitalist class which is taking advantage of this situation. Very cunningly they are enticing

people into the trap of electoral illusions, thus keeping them arrested within the confines of capitalism. The agents of the capitalist class and their intellectual hirelings keep up a constant stream of propaganda that all problems would get resolved through elections. But what are the present conditions of this election like? I have already mentioned the fundamental Marxist teaching that through election the government can be changed but the capitalist system cannot be touched even. This is an undeniable truth. The people need to realize this truth; it has to be explained to them. On the other hand, through elections one can defeat a sitting MP or MLA and elect new ones in their place or even change a government, but it is impossible to dislodge or overthrow a running capitalist system being backed by a permanent all powerful mercenary army, a bureaucracy and a judiciary, thereby making it impossible for the people to free themselves from the rule and exploitation of the capitalist class, which rule and exploitation are becoming more intolerable, more suffocating with each passing day. In the past a voter could and would cast his or her vote in accordance with his clear conscience on the basis of his or her own idea on what was good for people. But to what a sorry pass has election come, you have surely observed. Today, barring an insignificant conscientious minority, it will be difficult to find a voter who is free from the influence of caste-creed-religion, or is not motivated by calculations of petty immediate gain and personal interest. And in this election war money is becoming a most formidable weapon. Just as a young woman unable to bear the abject destitution, and trying to save herself and her family, tramples her honour, self-respect and motherhood and takes up prostitution, thereby destroys herself bit by bit, so also the pauperized, gasping proletarian voters finding no other way out are pushed into throttling their conscience for money. Armed with crores of rupees obtained from the capitalists their agent parties as well as parties like CPI, CPI(M) masquerading as Marxists are entering into the election battles. Even a trace of whatever little debates and discussions on

principles, ideology and programmes used to take place some 60-70 years back centring on elections, is not found today.

This or that party of the capitalist class are manipulating election result as per their wish, just like taking a print-out of an already composed material from a computer. This is how at ease they are 'winning' elections after elections, establishing thereby the absolute rule of the capitalist class. But how and in what process? They spin a web of a thousand and one conspiracies to completely shatter people's moral backbone right to the last person gasping under suffocative, exploitative capitalism: be it with free flow of heaps of money, or through murder, threatening for life, brute physical force and by unleashing a reign of extreme terror; or they may be utilizing all kinds of other latest means of propaganda and media apart from the print and electronic media owned by the capitalist class; they may be buying out a major section of government employees deputed to conduct elections; or may be taking to hundreds and one means of rigging starting from booth capturing. All these, singly or in combination, lie behind the victory of this or that party of the capitalist class. The Panchayat elections in West Bengal have just been held, and you will not only be astonished but rather horrified to hear some news from a most trustworthy source. In Joynagar constituency of South 24 Parganas the CPI(M) bought 42 votes in one particular compact hub for a full 14 lakh (1.4 million) rupees. So, just imagine, if in panchayat elections this kind of selling and buying goes on, what dizzying amounts of money the capitalists and their agents would pour into the Assembly or Lok Sabha elections.

Without a genuine revolutionary party, revolution cannot be accomplished

Raising a pertinent point, Comrade Bhattacharyya said: Thinking people may wonder if the oppressed people who have been enslaved in this way could ever rise up for the cause of revolution. Evidently this is a reflection at the conscientious minds arising from

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Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech in Guwahati

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's penetrating analyses of national and international situations are vindicated

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deep anxiety. The first thing we are to remind them is that in discharging a noble historic mission obviously one must not lose patience and confidence. Side by side with these, truth exists with its inexorable strength, and finally it is this truth that is invincible. Though people in China were pushed into opium addiction to keep them down, in the end nothing could obstruct the advance of revolution there. You see, along with the thesis there also exists its anti-thesis with indomitable strength. In opposition to this present situation, as the SUCI(C) is developing and consolidating itself a higher, healthy unstinted fighting spirit is also growing. People are increasingly associating themselves with the Party and acquiring higher qualities. Not to forget for a moment that it is idea that governs minds and that ideas are in constant mode of change either to the positive or negative. Capitalism and its chosen parties have made life of people unbearable and are playing with it like a toy ball. But it was the forefathers of those very people who drove British imperialism out of this country to make it free, not through elections but with the help of stubborn militant struggle. So, we have to realize that common people are falling victim to the deceptions and backstabbing orchestrated by the capitalists because of their not coming in touch with higher ideology- morality and ethics. You must have noted that for the very same reason the capitalist class is giving birth every moment to worst type of individualism and self-interest. They are trying frantically to throttle humanity in people and turn them into slaves of money. To resist and uproot this, it is a crying need to bring every human being in touch with the higher unpolluted thoughts and healthy attitude as its antidote. A tide of revolutionary thoughts and culture will have to be generated. People must be freed from incorrect thoughts, must be brought back from going astray. Only then changes can be brought about. At the same time we, the leaders and cadres of the revolutionary party must keep at the fore the struggle Comrade Shibdas Ghosh carried on till his last breath to free people from illusion of election, the struggle he conducted every moment, every day with all his might and ability to dispel people's thousand and one

confusions explaining and convincing them from different sides and thereby to make them conscious. With it as a beacon, we have to engage ourselves in that struggle with all our strength and following desired correct process.

Obtaining situation in Assam

Pointing to the situation in Assam, Comrade Bhattacharyya said: I have been requested to discuss the grave situation in this state. On several occasions, I have discussed in details about different aspects of the situation in the state. Even though it still remains necessary today, for want of time I shall not be able to deal with all the aspects of this volcanic situation. At present the state is aflame with demands raised for separate Bodoland, Karbiland, Kamtapur etc. This inflamed situation has created deep apprehension in people of the state. Fratricidal strife and indiscriminate killings have increased manifold. You know that ever since 1979 the Assamese speaking people are being haunted by this explosive situation. With what outlook, for what reason, by whom and in whose interest this situation has been created – we have highlighted this analysis before the people. The movement of Assamese chauvinism and parochialism unleashed by the AASU and later carried on by the Ulfa which has gripped Assam since 1979 has shattered the political ambience of the state and pushed people into utter ruin and despair. It is from there that the explosive separatism of today – at the root of which lies secessionist tendency – had its origin. Since then, peace and tranquility in people's life have disappeared; what remains today is only the peace of the graveyard. Who will snatch what from whom, who will drive out whom from their homesteads turning them into beggars, who will kill whom by stealth or in open daylight – the situation in Assam is torn with these vicious thoughts. What stands out in particular is that the fire of extreme chauvinism, parochialism and separatism ravaging the state today are in the process of devouring the very state of Assam itself. Right now if one were to go to Kokrajhar or KarbiAnlong one would hardly conclude that exploited people are all alike. Dark or fair, Hindu or Muslim, these were no differences, the real difference is whether you are rich or poor,

exploiter or exploited: Workers of the world unite! Such was the clarion call of Karl Marx. In Assam today there is no scope for explaining to people this vital truth and need of fighting against oppressive rulers forging unity of all the exploited people on the basis and strength of this historic clarion call. Yet all the pauperized people, be they Bodos, Rabhas, Dimachas, Karbis, or whoever else they may be, all are the victims of capitalist exploitation and are falling prey to the heinous conspiracies of the capitalist class and their subservient parties. But, despite this hellish situation what is of paramount importance is that we cannot for a moment flee away from the situation, stay isolated from these people who are suffering from extreme confusion and being thrown into the cauldron of self destruction. With infinite patience we have to try to create an atmosphere for ideological struggle and free these people from their confusion by developing their class consciousness, a task which history has bestowed on SUCI(C) as the genuine revolutionary party. Who else would discharge this responsibility? The CPI(M), CPI from the very outset have been pandering to rabid Assamese chauvinism under cover of Marxism. And the other bourgeois parties have incited fratricidal conflicts, large-scale arson and killings one after another. You must have noted that barring our Party, no other party is uttering a single word expressing any real concern about the volcanic situation that every moment generates separatist thoughts. Evidently they have nothing to do about this sprouting of divisive thinking giving birth to demands of new states, one after another added each day; and all the while this continuously harping upon and propagating the grand lie that a new state will solve all the problems of different linguistic communities and tribes. Leave aside speaking against it, all the other parties have succumbed to this vicious propaganda and are even giving full support to it.

We need to remember that the wave of separatist movement that is sweeping the state was not created in one day. A glance through history will show that since long before our independence movement, there was influence of chauvinist, parochial outlook and divisive thoughts in Assam inhabited by so many tribes,

and communities of different languages or religions. Because of its historical limitations the independence movement did not embark on the struggle to eradicate all these separatist thoughts and outlook. Rather, after independence all the governments that rose to the chair, starting from the Congress government lead by Gopinath Bordoloi, have only got busy with perpetrating rule of capitalist class, have only robbed people to the benefit of the capitalists and have themselves grown into capitalists. And to cover up this misdeeds and to get rid of people's anger against their anti people rule, they have sown and fanned up the poisons of Bengali speaking people baiting, Muslim baiting and racial and tribal conflicts and in that way to remain safe in power. This way, they made the separatist, divisive thoughts grow stronger. Rabid provincialism has been given fillip each day in a well-calculated manner. Not only Congress, each and every political party, not excluding CPI(M), CPI, CPI(M- Liberation) none of them could shun Assamese chauvinism in their politics. As a result of that, fanatic provincialism, separatism, secessionism assumed violent form in 1979. In reaction to it, the different tribes, races and communities like Bodos, Ravas, Karbis, Michings, Dimacha, Lalungs, Chutiyas and others, who had once voluntarily accepted the Assamese language and culture to live in Assam, and had thus been hastening up the process of integration, were shaken in confidence. At the instigation of the agents of capitalism a tremendous anti-Assamese mindset was fostered in them. Since then the more the slogan of "Assam for the Assamese" has been cultivated and practised, in reaction to it and in a similar manner, the same brand of separatist, fanatic and meaningless concepts of independent racial entity have raised their heads more and more violently in these tribes, races and communities. It only made divisive thoughts grow more and more powerful. The cunning capitalist class has cleverly stoked up these divisive thoughts and has even lent support to these movements only with a view to smoothen their rule and exploitation.

Bourgeois ploy to divide people

Comrade Bhattacharyya said: You are aware that to gain

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Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech in Guwahati

Cunning precipitation and fomenting of divisiveness by vested interest blocking desired development of powerful democratic movement

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advantage in the Lok Sabha election of 2014, the Congress conceded to the demands of a separate state of Telangana bifurcating united Telugu speaking Andhra Pradesh that was formed on linguistic basis in culmination of a mass movement and by that, has fomented a spate of separatist movements throughout the country. These divisive movements have assumed menacing form not only in Assam, but also in different other states including UP, Maharashtra, West Bengal and others. Conflict between two sections of common people is appearing as an imminent danger. We have been repeatedly pointing out that in a situation where the rule and exploitation by the capitalist class are the root causes of all the problems and sufferings of common people, formation of a new state keeping that system intact does not bring about any change in the basic problems of people's life and livelihood. Rather with these states growing up into instruments of exploitation, injustice and oppression, a new class of moneyed people crop up there. They start to rob people's wealth to a greater extent. Which of the problems of

people's life have been solved in states like Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland or more recently formed Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh? People of Pakistan have been disillusioned of Jinnah's 'theory' that formation of Pakistan on religion will solve all the problems of the Muslims; albeit it took some time for them to reach at it. East Pakistan has become Bangladesh; in West Pakistan itself separatism and provincialism have assumed dangerous dimension. People of Assam too need to free themselves from such separatist secessionist mentality. And for that it is required to give birth to genuine leftist outlook on the strength of Marxism-Leninism – Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thoughts. Every single person of Assam must be imbued this way. But none other than SUCI (C) is engaged in the ideological struggle for generating this outlook. Which of the other parties are boldly and firmly pronouncing that we won't allow to divide Assam further, we don't want divisions, no to separatism, we look for unity of toiling people? Who else is professing for keeping Assam united? And just professing does not suffice. What should be the

correct process, correct method of bringing unity and keeping it alive? The great litterateur Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyaya once said: Only desire and heartfelt emotion cannot produce noble acts. It requires to follow correct methodology. In Assam too, it is urgently required today that sustained democratic movement be built up on the edifice of higher morality and ethics bringing about unity of all sections of exploited people irrespective of caste-religion- race – creed to solve the burning problems of their life. And in course of this movement it is required to give birth to a newer sense of unity and fraternity in exploited masses of all castes, religion, language or race, to give birth to political consciousness, class consciousness in them.

Call for building up powerful democratic movement

Comrade Bhattacharyya concluded by saying: In this

context the most vital teaching of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh is that the democratic movement must develop on the edifice of higher morality and ethics. It will be through this process that the ground for revolutionary upsurge will be made fertile and then one day anti-capitalist socialist revolution will be accomplished. The tense situation that presently prevails in Assam will also slowly and gradually change only if on the strength of newer realization of Marxism-Leninism, on the edifice of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh thoughts genuine Marxist movement is developed and strengthened here, if all sections of exploited people are imbued with genuine leftist ideology and outlook. So is our appeal to the toiling people of Assam and particularly the thinking section of people of the state to come forward to accomplish this historic task.

Corrigendum

Through inadvertence, in our last issue, the name of our main speaker at the Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day meeting in Delhi was mentioned as Comrade C K Lukose, Member, Central Committee and Kerala State Secretary in place of Comrade K Radhakrishna, Member, Central Committee and Karnataka State Secretary. This vital mistake is sincerely regretted.

Citizens' Conference in Uttarakhand

Eminent citizens of the state of Uttarakhand, from their deepest sympathy and compassion for the hapless thousand affected by the cloud burst and resulting deluge in the state in June 2013 and appealing for their proper rehabilitation, organized a Citizens' Conference on 3 August at the city of Srinagar.

Renowned poet of Uttarakhand, Narendra Singh Negi presided over the conference which was attended by litterateurs, writers, historians, scientists and affected common people of the state. Professor RC Dimri placed a proposal to the conference to undertake discussions and discourse on the cause of calamity, measures to control losses due to such calamities, immediate relief and long term plans for rehabilitation, etc. The proposal also highlighted vital demands like exemption of all kinds of fees for students of the affected areas, reconstruction of damaged roads and bridges on war-footing, free ration for essential items for at least a year, supply of diesel at subsidized rate to keep low the cost of public transports and such

others. Nirmal Chowdhury, Prof. Surekha Dongwal and Comrade Pratap Samal, Delhi State Secretary, SUCI(C), addressed the conference. At the end of the deliberations '*Uttarakhand Biparjaya Pumarbasan Jan Samity*' (People's Committee for Rehabilitation for Uttarakhand Calamity) was formed with Narendra Singh Negi as the secretary, Prof. Pratul Sankalani, B Mohan Negi, OP Semwal and Uttam Singh Chowdhury as the assistant secretaries and Mukesh Semwal as the coordinator. Its other members included Prof. RC Dimri, Dr. SP Sati, Dr. SS Bisht, Suresh Bhatta, Rajendra Noutial, Sishupal Powar, Dr. PC Chamouli, Ghanshyam Purokit, Sudarshan Semwal, Nirmal Chowdhury, Avtar Singh Bhandari among others.

It must be mentioned here that the conference was organized on the strength of the connections developed during the extensive relief work that the Medical Service Centre, a voluntary organization, has been carrying on for nearly two months in different parts of Uttarakhand, aided and guided by our Party SUCI(C).

AIUTUC condemns draconian Pension Fund Bill and calls upon working people to build up sustained long-drawn united struggle

Condemning the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Bill, introduced by the Congress-led UPA government with support of the BJP, Comrade Sankar Saha, General Secretary, AIUTUC stressed in a statement on 5 September, 2013, that the Bill, one of the most draconian ones in independent India, stands for the interest of the domestic and foreign capital and snatches away the most powerful social security right of the government employees achieved by them through prolonged struggle. By this, the workers will have to buy pension out of their own money and will be deprived of the right to have definite amount of

pension every month. It makes room for increase of FDI in the Insurance Sector. Unlike at present, it also makes pension, at least 60% of the accumulation, subject to deduction of income tax, and compels the employee / subscriber to buy Annuity with the rest 40%, whose return called 'pension' remains undefined, hence uncertain. The system will be made to cover the entire working population even the unorganized sector and those under Employees Provident Fund Scheme. Comrade Saha called upon all sectors of the working people to build up sustained united struggle against this heinous calculated conspiracy.

8th All India Conference of AIDS0 raises voice against anti-people educational policies, takes pledge for protracted movement

Bhopal, on the occasion of 8th All India Students' Conference convened by AIDS0, turned into an India in miniature. Thousands of students from 26 provinces of India traversed all the long way to reach the city and march along its roads to take part in the conference. In different languages they raised slogans and held banners high. Rallies they made, were ebullient with militant spirit, yet disciplined and firm from dedication to their cause. People of Bhopal who had seen many big rallies, but had forgotten them in the recent past, courtesy CPI – CPI(M) and other pseudo left parties, could again hear the epoch-making bold slogan: *Long Live Revolution!* They looked with wide eyes how months-long campaign by the AIDS0 volunteers was going to culminate in a massive show of strength and resolve for building up formidable movement against attacks on education.

With a well decorated tableau at the lead the main rally started for the open session at the 'Chandraskhar Azad Maidan' (Dashera Maidan, T.T.Nagar) at 12 noon on 26 August. The lead banner announcing the Conference was followed by eight volunteers holding eight red flags of AIDS0 high. Then marched the AIDS0 leaders; next the rally in four deep lines with girl students at the front followed by the rest carrying banners of their respective states. Students from the devastated areas of Uttarakhand were there, coming right from the rescue-relief operations and conduction of medical camps in their state they were involved in. There were physically challenged sightless students from West Bengal and Munshi, a student of Delhi in wheel chair. They all proceeded with revolutionary zeal.

As it had been the experience on all previous occasions, preparation for the Bhopal conference too had to face obstacles. Shaken at the



tremendous response of common students and people, the BJP Government of the state and its mentor the BJP – RSS clique left no stone unturned to disturb, even foil it. They pressurized the AIDS0 leadership to cancel the rally even after granting permission, announced government programmes involving students and even teachers on the very same date of the open session to debar them from joining the conference; they cancelled the originally approved route for the rally for a longer one through the outskirt of the city. Yet, undeterred, there was the massive rally leaving deep impression on the city inhabitants.

Heavy rain on the night before made the ground wet and muddy to sit upon. Yet the spirit was not dampened. The ground had a photo-exhibition of student movements conducted by AIDS0 throughout the country and quotations of great personalities of the world, both evoking

great interest among the students. It was inaugurated by Justice RD Shukla of Madhya Pradesh High Court. In his inaugural speech he told that he had firm belief that the students would rise up against the attack on education and humanity.

Open Session

On the dais was placed the garlanded portrait of Chandrasekhar Azad, the great martyr. The venue of the open session was named after him in honour of his historic role in the freedom movement and in memory of his many activities he performed from this city. The session was presided over by Comrade MN Sriram, President, AIDS0. Prof. A A Abbasi, the former Vice-Chancellor of Devi Ahilla University, Indore (MP) and Prof. Anil Sadgopal, Delhi University were the honoured guests. In his speech Prof. Abbasi said recently while he was getting depressed and confused from the all-pervading degradation, he happened to meet AIDS0 activists campaigning for the conference. It constituted a silver line for him. He regained the belief that there are boys and girls still today in our country who dare to confront and combat the ever-deepening crisis of our country; who, with marked differences from others, can stand up to erase the scars of degradation. Prof. Anil Sadgopal recollected the memory of mass movement after Bhopal Gas Tragedy in course of which he had the chance of coming into association with AIDS0 activists behind bars. He then showed how in the interest of the capitalist class, the governments, UPA or NDA or else, are privatizing and commercializing education, depriving the poor of any decent education. He referred to militant resistance that students of advanced western countries are staging against the attack on education. Advocate Mr. Anil Trivedi, the Vice-President of the Reception Committee unveiled the memento of the conference.

Comrade Sourav Mukherjee, the General Secretary of AIDS0, said in his speech that braving torrential rain for consecutive 6/7 days and opposition from the state government, thousands and thousands of students assembled in Bhopal to organize movement in demand of re-introduction of pass-fail system up to class VIII, against the implementation of semester- trimester and gradation system and privatization – commercialization of education, against the attack on the democratic rights of the students and teachers and atrocities on women. He appealed to the students to carry the message of the conference to the student community and build up protracted movement.

Comrade Ranjit Dhar, veteran Polit Bureau Member of SUCI(C) who was initially associated with SUCI (Students' Bureau) and was also a founding member of the AIDS0, said in his address that then it was tiny without even a mass membership and any recognition. It had to fight hard for its right in joint meetings with other bigger students organizations like AISF, SB, PSU. At that initial stage it was the immense love, care, affection and very high cultural-ethical values of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh which

drew students like Comrade Dhar to the organization. Now, that today AIDS0 has spread across the country, has been possible only due to the thoughts and teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. It was he who taught that without active participation of the students and youth revolution is not possible and the soul of revolutionary



politics is its higher values, ethics and culture. Comrade Ranjit Dhar appealed to the students to rise to the occasion and acquire that higher standard of culture.

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, the Polit Bureau Member of SUCI(C) and one of the founder members of the AIDS0 pressed the button to log on the website of AIDS0. In his address Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya told that AIDS0 launched student movement since its inception. In the 1950s when the Central government curtailed education in order to minimize the number of educated unemployed, it was AIDS0 who released militant movement with full determination. Today education is being attacked, privatized and commercialized. When 70% of our total population has not enough money to spend more than Rs. 20 per day, there is exorbitant fee hike. It will totally shatter any scope for education of students from poorer families. He appealed to the AIDS0 activists to resist this foul design by all means.

Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Polit Bureau Member of SUCI(C) and also one of the founder members of AIDS0 addressed the open session as its main speaker. He addressed the gathering



in Hindi. We separately enclose a brief synopsis of his address translated into English.

Delegate Session

The delegate session of the conference was held at Saheed Bhagat Singh Manch (Railway Community Hall, Bhopal). After hoisting of AIDS0 flag by Comrade M N Sriram on 27 August morning, All India leaders garlanded the Martyr's Column. More than two thousand delegates present, then participated in the discussion on the draft main resolution and the organizational report. Resolutions were passed on atrocities on women, threat of imperialist attack on Syria, the barbaric murder of anti superstition

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8th All India Conference of AIDS0

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activist and rationalist Dr. Narendra Davolkar, and condemning central government's decision not to include Bhagat Singh's name in the list of Martyrs, etc. The conference elected the new 36 member-strong all India Executive Committee and the 77 member All India Council with Comrade Kamal Sain as the President and Comrade Ashoke Mishra as the General



Secretary.

The delegate session was addressed by Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Member, Polit Bureau, SUCI (C), Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, Member, Central Committee, SUCI(C) and former General Secretary of AIDS0, Sri HL Hardenya, Senior Journalist of Bhopal, Sri Shirubhai Mistry, noted Human Right activist of Gujarat and Sri GS Ashiwal, Vice-President,

Reception Committee.

Speaking to the delegates, Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, who had been the General Secretary of AIDS0 in the 1970s said: I have been associated with AIDS0 since my school days in West Bengal. At that time, students' movement had mainly a left orientation. Though AIDS0 did not have that strength then, we could, based on the ennobling thoughts and teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, attract many students and could form unions in many colleges. But now, in the name of students' movement and college union elections, what is happening is rowdiness, muscle flexing, spread of terror and capturing unions by sheer brute power backed by the mainstream vote-based parties irrespective of hues. Coupled with this, there is a persistent attempt on the part of the ruling capitalist class to not only disgorge education of its essence, curtail scope of education, commercialize and privatize education but also to break the moral backbone of the students through incessant propagation of obscenity, vulgarity, sex-perversion and career-oriented mentality so that they are dispossessed of the power to protest and excommunicated from the legacy of Kshudiram-Bhagat Singh-Subhash Chandra and such other legendary figures. It is incumbent on AIDS0 to unleash

waves of new militant students' movement based on higher culture and morality in demand for true scientific, democratic and secular education which alone can act as a deterrent to rising crime, violence, atrocities on women, disparaging



attitude towards the elders and such other social-cultural-moral evils.

Comrade Provas Ghosh, beloved General Secretary of SUCI(C) and one of the founder members of the AIDS0, was the scheduled main speaker at the delegate session. We will publish Comrade Provas Ghosh's speech in a later issue.

A condolence resolution in memory of those who had laid down their life in course of freedom struggle and democratic mass movements was adopted at the outset. The conference ended with firm resolution to resist the onslaughts on education.

Whenever society is in crisis, students dare to confront it

— Comrade Krishna Chakraborty

[Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Polit Bureau member, SUCI(C) and the main speaker at the open session of the 8th All India Conference of AIDS0 at Bhopal, delivered his address in Hindi. Here we bring out a brief synopsis of that address translated in English]

At the outset Comrade Krishna Chakraborty said: Whenever society is in crisis, it is the students who dare to rise up to it. I believe, such a need of our society has prompted you to take the challenge as the present crisis ridden capitalist system of our country has posed before you.

The capitalist society has become totally decadent today. It has bogged down into all-out crisis, generating extreme cultural degradation. A section of the youths is falling victim to it. Women's dignity and honour are being trampled every moment, day in and day out. Perpetrators of these crimes come from nowhere else but the very households of the society. The society itself has given birth to such beastly instincts in them.

In education, it is the privatization-commercialization that stands out as one of the gravest offences by the government. The education

policies pursued by the Central Government have unleashed the worst form of it; those policies have turned the field of education into a hunting ground for the capital of corporate houses both Indian and foreign to reap freely the maximum profits. The education has been made very costly and thus pushed beyond reach of the common people.

Comrade Chakraborty went on to say: Education builds up a man of character; it generates knowledge. The term *man* applies to one who has the power to think and analyse and find out truth of Nature, Society and Life as well as who possesses higher cultural-moral-ethical standard as to fight for social good and justice. But capitalism is fearful about such an education which builds up a man. So in a capitalist set up education is imparted to catering and gathering of information only. That way, power of thinking is being throttled. Informative knowledge cannot give a correct and comprehensive knowledge of the material world. It can make one a skilled labourer or at best a technocrat. Hence the vocational education which the capitalists flaunt, promote neither vocation nor proper education.

In its rising period capitalism did not have the crisis that you see today. Rather it was the period of rapid industrialization for which development of technology and hence of theoretical sciences was essential. So the bourgeoisie in those days introduced secular-democratic and scientific education as against the religious education that prevailed during feudalism. This very bourgeoisie which are fearful of science and scientific bent of mind today encouraged cultivation of sciences in those days. But today's capitalism has got engulfed in insoluble crises and has become decadent. Now capitalists are deadly afraid of science because it develops power of analysis with

which people can see the truth. It is the truth which says that whatever has become old must die and go out of being; so capitalism, too, must die. This is a historical process of development of society. Again history shows that nothing goes out of being simply — a form of society goes out yielding place to a newer and higher form of society which develops in its own womb. This precisely is the truth that the bourgeoisie fear and try to hide. But they cannot altogether discard science because in their mutual contest among different imperialist countries in the global market, the capitalists need and want technological development to an extent. So the bourgeoisie today as Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, a great Marxist thinker and our teacher, showed are trying to bring about a fusion between technical aspects of science and spiritualism that gives birth to regimentation of thought which is the cultural basis of fascism. Today both the Central and State Governments which are lead by the parties of the ruling bourgeoisie are introducing such education which makes students fit not only for serving their system but also makes them totally devoid of values and social concern.

At the end Comrade Chakraborty said that attack on education is part of the all-out attack of capitalism. At all ages, the ruling class has tried to thwart advancement of knowledge, to suppress the truth. Today, capitalism is trying to develop regimentation of thoughts and thus trying to develop fascist conditions in the society and Comrade Ghosh pointed out that if fascism develops there will remain very few who could be called Man because fascism obstructs the very process of development of manhood. This is why the capitalist rulers are opposed to secular-democratic and scientific education. In our



Delegate Session in progress

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SUCI(C) strongly criticizes Food Security Bill as a hoax, calls upon people to demand a revised Bill incorporating all legitimate demands

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 27 August, 2013 :

We have noted with grave concern that the National Food Security Bill, passed by the parliament yesterday in a tearing hurry virtually through guillotine motion is virtually a hoax notwithstanding all apparent stunt, camouflages and mouthful assurance providing for food and nutritional security by ensuring access to adequate quantity of food at affordable prices to people. It is also a matter of grave concern that on such a vital issue concerning lives of millions of people, including starving poor and downtrodden, no meaningful discussion could take place because of prolonged stalling of the House proceedings first by TDP and then BJP simply for deriving propaganda mileage by seeking to hit the headlines without making any effort whatsoever for developing powerful extra-parliamentary movement on the demands they were raising.

The Bill, it can be observed, fails to address most of the pertinent issues in regard to guaranteeing availability of sufficient quantity of quality foodgrains at affordable price to the downtrodden people through a proper corruption-free delivery mechanism. First of all, the Bill referred to as a right-based approach is a misnomer as 'right to food' is not a constitutionally enforceable or justiciable right. Secondly, the quantum of allocation per head is too meagre. The proposed 5 kg of food-grains per person per month falls far short of required food intake of at least 15 kg for survival with a light to average amount of activity. This under provisioning of allotted quota has been skillfully suppressed under loud drum-beating as the aim of the Congress-led ruling coalition is not to meet people's need but to elicit accolade for brightening electoral prospects. Thirdly, the Bill does not take any cognizance of the crucial problem of acute malnutrition millions of Indian poor particularly the large BPL (Below Poverty Line) populaces are afflicted with silently courting premature painful death. Fourthly, the Bill does not ensure the budgetary allocation of fund to guarantee sure supply of the quantum of food however inadequate that may be.

Moreover, the Bill does not negate rather indicates towards more

privatization of both procurement as well as delivery mechanisms, nor does it mention how it will free the process from the utterly corrupt nexus of administration-police-unscrupulous traders-hoarders-blackmarketers-ruling party satraps which has gripped the existing Public Distribution System (PDS) and made it virtually dysfunctional. Even the much-clamoured direct cash transfer through 'Aadhaar' scheme besides not being a readymade appropriate delivery mechanism and on the contrary, being fraught with other sinister consequences of unscrupulous middleman intervention and other imperfection, is vulnerable in every respect to subversive activities like sabotage, tampering with the system and undercover manipulation. So, the Bill would not make the people 'live a life with dignity' as claimed by the government, but would degrade them to a most undignified life of surviving on pity, benevolence and gratis, on the arm-twisting of the aforesaid corrupt 'nexus' as 'hapless' creatures denied all opportunities to procure basic necessities of life by acquiring adequate purchasing power through gainful employment, the right to which is also sought to be buried underneath by this subtle manoeuvre. This whole episode is thus a fraud committed on people and nothing but a deceitful vote-catching device. Need of the hour is determined efforts on the part of the government required to provide people with permanent remunerative employment for having necessary purchasing power and thus be able to lead a normal healthy life of and eking out a decent living without being at all dependent upon this type of gratis. What is imperative is to supply quality food articles at affordable price to each citizen through a corruption-free middleman-free delivery mechanism by introducing urgently needed all-out state trading in food and other essential items, whereby the government must assume total responsibility of feeding the entire people of the country.

We, therefore, demand that the present Bill be withdrawn and a new Bill free from all trickeries, lacunae, inadequacies and vital omissions and with due incorporation of all legitimate demands in a full-proof manner and ensuring supply of sufficient quantity of quality foodgrains through effective implementable delivery mechanism, be introduced.

Call for maintaining unity and amity of toiling people of Assam and Meghalaya

Tension mounted in different parts of Goalpara and Dhubri districts of Assam, owing to a sudden exodus of thousands of working people leaving their job-sites, when following a certain incident at Tura of the Garo Hills district in Meghalaya, on 21 June, miscreants murdered several people of adjacent Hatingimari and Mankachar areas of Assam including 8 from Goalpara district of the latter state. In a rare bid for restoration of amity and fraternity witnessed by toiling people in Assam, Comrade Surat Jaman, Member Assam State Committee of SUCI (C) submitted a proposal at a deputation led by him and acting thereupon the SDO (Civil) of Hatingimari Block held a tripartite meeting with Meghalaya and Assam administrations and different political parties, as also distinguished individuals of the two states. The 6-point charter of demands placed at the meeting by Comrade Minher Ali Mondal, Secretary, Dhubri District Committee and Member, State Committee of the Party was accepted unanimously. But, as no effective steps were taken even after two months, more than thousand people from Hatingimari, Baghapara and Mankachar areas led by the respective local committees of SUCI(C) staged a demonstration on 20 August in front of

the SDO office. Addressing a public meeting there, speakers pointed out that poor toiling people from Assam who used to work in Meghalaya had been pushed to starvation because of the incidents perpetrated by some politically protected miscreants. The Garo people, at large, are by no means involved in it, rather they had tried to protect life of those attacked. So the need of the hour was to preserve firm unity and profound amity between the common people of the Garo Hills and Assam. It was demanded from the meeting that the Assam Government, in consultation with the Meghalaya Government must ensure the safety and security of these workers. It must allot compensation worth 10 lacs to the families of those killed, mete out help to the workers involved till normalcy returns and must immediately arrest the miscreants and extend exemplary punishment to them. It was further emphasized that democratic movement imbued with genuine leftism sans revengeful attitude and rising above communalism, will have to be developed to pressurize the government. Thereafter, a memorandum was submitted by a team led by Comrade Minher Ali to the SDO who gave assurance of taking necessary steps to solve the problem.

Comrade Krishna Chakraborty

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country, all political parties, even the so-called communist parties when come to Governmental power, serve the ruling class and do act this way without exception. They frame and implement policies on education that fit the designs of the ruling class.

Making a fervent appeal to the students comrade Chakraborty said: "you the members of the All India DSO have the great tradition of fighting against all the anti-people policies. I believe, today also, you will wage a resolute and sustained struggle against this conspiracy concerning education."

Memorandum on ASHA Workers' demands submitted to the Health Minister in Delhi

A delegation from the all India Committee of AIUTUC led by Comrade K Radhakrishna, Vice President of AIUTUC and including Comrades D Nagalakshmi (Secretary, Karnataka), Poornachandra Bera and Krishna Pradhan (West Bengal), Palendra Katiyar and Archana Bhosle (U P), Raja Bala and Mamatha Rao (Delhi) and Raj Bal Jadhav (Haryana) staged a deputation to the Union Minister of State for Health & Family Planning at Delhi on 29 August, 2013 on various demands of the ASHA workers. Unable to meet the minister, despite prior appointment, the delegation submitted a memorandum to the Officer on Special Duty to hand it over to the minister. The memorandum and the discussion with the OSD highlighted the demands like recognition of the ASHA workers as government employees, fixation, thereupon, of minimum wages and all other benefits, pending that revision of the incentive amount which remains static for the last 7 years, introduction of a simplified, transparent procedure for payment of incentives and social security net coverage for the ASHAs, etc. The OSD assured consideration.

SUCI(C) strongly opposes anti-people Land Acquisition Bill facilitating grabbing of agricultural land by monopolist sharks evicting poor peasants and reducing them into paupers

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 29th August, 2013:

We strongly oppose the out and out anti-people Land acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Bill, 2011 passed in the parliament today again virtually through a guillotine motion without having any serious debate and discussion on such a crucial Bill dealing with the lives of millions of peasants of our country, rather with a clear understanding between the Congress-led ruling coalition and the BJP-led opposition including the pseudo-Marxists like CPI (M), CPI. Most despicably, this has been done in the name of introduction of a humane, participatory and transparent process in land acquisition.

In the wake of mounting protest against forcible landgrab by the quarters of vested interest after historic Singur-Nandigram movement, the government, bent upon rejecting people's legitimate demands, has floated this Bill which continues the same hoax of 'industrialization' and 'urbanization', akin to 'square peg in a round hole' in the existing capitalist system. Moreover, this Bill under cover of sweet-coated words, glaringly arms the government to go ahead for land acquisition virtually without consent of the poor peasants, and empower it to grab land for handing over to the foreign monopolists and the rich as a whole. The clause about 'acquisition needing mandatory consent of 80 per cent of people' is another deception par excellence. Wherever land acquisitions have taken place been attempted at, the vested interest, land sharks, monopoly houses and their hired criminals, ruling party goons and other interested lobbies have joined hands to brutally crush all resistance movements flouting all norms and crossing all limits of civility and went ahead with grabbing land with the governments including the government of the pseudo-Marxist CPI(M), conniving in such inhuman illegal forcible acquisition. In the obtaining capitalist system, where not only legitimacy but even legality is overrun with alacrity with the government in tow, it is only natural that this forced land acquisition by flexing of muscle and setting all laws at naught would continue unabated. Similarly, the much-clamoured provision of compensation package claimed to be decided and disbursed through mutual consent, besides dumping the vast number of landless labours, sharecroppers and such others associated with land and

agriculture as 'other affected families' and hence prone to be left out of compensation and rehabilitation schemes, is, in the existing system pervaded by malpractices, corruption, bureaucratic and legal hurdles, also a pittance compared to the value of the acquired land after commercial development.

Another point of grave concern is that indiscriminate acquisition of fertile cultivable land without mechanization and modernization of agriculture for increased production is fraught with the danger of food production level declining sharply instead of increasing day by day because of increasing demand thereby posing a serious threat to meeting people's minimum food requirement and completely abandoning the avowed object of the country becoming self-sufficient in food production. What is most reprehensible is that such a vital point is neither even raised nor addressed to with due importance by either the ruling side or the opposition irrespective of hues. Moreover, the authors of the Bill have once again suppressed the legitimate demand of setting up new industries in the vast stretch of non-agricultural, fallow or unused lands of closed-down industries. They have scrupulously avoided these crucial aspects because in the crisis-ridden capitalist system marked by acute industrial stagnation and recession, there is hardly any scope for industrialization which means spurt in setting up of newer industries offering permanent gainful employment in adequate number and not just stray establishment of a few capital-intensive high-tech sophisticated industries with virtually 'nil' scope for employment. So, what the Bill successfully conceals is the sinister bourgeois design of smoothening the road for the monopolists and their lackeys, the affluent, to take hold of vast stretches of agricultural land to promote lucrative real estate business for the land sharks. Even the stipulation of acquiring land for 'public interest' is vague and opaque since the word 'public interest' is not clearly defined and hence all and sundry in the interest of domestic and foreign monopolists could well be placed under that category to legitimize any acquisition unless there is pressure of united resistance from the people.

We, therefore, demand that this anti-people Bill be rescinded and a new one free from all these anti-people, anti-peasant provisions be enacted.

Murder of Dr. Davolkar only brings shame to the country

Strongly condemning the brutal murder of Dr. Narendra Davolkar, renowned rationalist, leading personality of anti-superstition movement, and a front-ranking leader of the recent movement in demand of giving effect to the "Anti-Superstitions and Black Magic Bill", at Pune on 20 August last by a band of unidentified miscreants and demanding stringent punishment of the culprits, whosever and however powerful they might be, the Mumbai Unit of the SUCI(C) in a statement said that this ghastly killing is a severe blow to all those engaged in developing progressive movements in the country. The commendable role of Dr. Davolkar towards dissemination of thoughts based on science and reason and towards eradication of all kinds of superstitions and evil practices had irked the BJP, Shiv Sena, BJP and other fanatic and fundamentalist organizations who were obstructing the aforesaid Bill. SUCI(C), Mumbai unit, calls upon all sections of democratic and progressive minded people to raise powerful people's opinion against this dastardly killing and demands justice.

Convention at Ranchi against police firing

In a move to step up movement against eviction at Ranchi and its adjoining areas SUCI (Communist) along with several other political parties held a joint convention at Ranchi on 8 August against wanton police firing resulting in killing of two and seriously injuring several villagers agitating against building of NTPC office on land evicting villagers at Pagar village in Hazaribagh district. Earlier, SUCI (C) along with CPI(ML), Janmukti Sangharsh Bahini and Samajwadi Jan Parishad burnt effigy of the Chief Minister in a demonstration at Ranchi and sent a team to Hazaribagh village to meet the agitating villagers. With pledge for continuing movement, the Ranchi convention demanded stalling construction of NTPC office, stringent punishment for the policemen who had fired, compensation to the families of the deceased and proper medical treatment for the injured etc.

SUCI(C) vehemently opposes ruinous Pension Fund Bill and calls for rising up against bourgeois conspiracy to rob social security

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 5th September, 2013:

We vehemently oppose the atrocious Pension Fund and Regulatory Development Authority (PFRDA) Bill 2011 passed in the parliament on 4th September last in the same guillotine as was the case with previous Food Security and Land Acquisition Bills, which opens up the route of FDI in management of funds garnered under the New Pension Scheme and thus further deals a severe blow to the life-protecting social security system of pension by allowing even foreign monopolists and speculators to gamble with the corpus and expose the pensioners to the vagaries of the speculative capital market. Let alone guaranteeing an assured steady decent return, the pensioners now are in danger of losing even their capital i.e. the savings in the Pension Fund if the capital market, slides or collapses. The latest crash of capital market all over the world following outbreak of sub-prime crisis in US that turned many giant Pension Funds bankrupt overnight, bears glaring testimony to that. The government also through such a highly sinister legislation seeks to shake off all its responsibility of not only assuring a reasonable regular return to the pensioners as social security but even protecting the hard-earned saving of the pensioners invested in Pension Fund.

We, therefore, call upon the working class as well as all other sections of the toiling people not to accept this dangerous attack on their life and livelihood by lying low but build up powerful movement demanding immediate rescission of this atrocious Bill that intends to snatch away their hard-earned savings in Pension Fund and force the Government yield to the demand.

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