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Founder Editor-in-Chief : COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

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## 14th NAM Summit in Cuba

# How far this attempt to revive the Movement can meet with success

From 11th to 15th September last, the 14th Summit of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM) was held at Havana, Cuba in a climate of ominous threats from the U.S. imperialist colossus—particularly against the Movement's member states of Cuba, Iran, Sudan and Venezuela. At a preparatory meeting held in Cairo three months earlier, the criteria for membership were adopted. The main points were for a principle of independent policy and non-alignment; support for movements of national independence; and non-membership in any military alliance.

In this 14th meet, 118 states comprising 53 African countries, 38 Asian, 24 Latin American and the Caribbean, and one from Europe, which is Belarus, participated indicating they represented nearly two-thirds of the UN members and comprised 55% of the world population. According to NAM rules, the host nation is also the chair of the NAM for the next three years. Accordingly, Fidel Castro, President of socialist Cuba and a front ranking leader of anti-imperialist movement, as well as valiant fighter for socialism in the backyard of US imperialism, was elected as next Chairman of the Movement.

### Declaration released after the meet

In the summit's opening, Cuban Vice President Carlos Lage summed up Cuba's expectations for this summit: "Our movement is essential to the quest for a new system of international relations. We do not align ourselves to wars, to terrorism, to injustice, to inequality, to double standards. We align ourselves to peace and to justice. We must fight for a world in which aggression and occupation by any country in search of material or geopolitical gains is unthinkable, in which acts of aggression of the kind the Lebanese people endure today or the atrocities committed by Israel in Palestine are not permitted." The 91-page Declaration that was released after several rounds of discussions among the foreign ministers of these countries followed by a two-day final deliberations of the heads of the states in the summit broadly contained the same tone. The Declaration, inter

alia, opposed hegemonism of the US imperialists, 'terrorism' of any kind by any country alluding obviously to the most diabolic 'terrorism' that the US-led imperialists export with alacrity to the countries which are not pliant to their dictums, denounced the US practice of branding any country opposed to its dictatorial fiat as constituent of an "axis of evils", urged coordination among the NAM members against unipolar hegemonistic intervention impliedly by the US imperialists, stood by the right of any developing

country to produce and use nuclear energy for peaceful purpose and extended full support to Iran's nuclear energy plans and condemned US backed Zionist Israeli military assault on Lebanon. It demanded the UN to be more representative of the smaller member nations.

### History of NAM

Before we proceed to examine the scope, prospect or limitation of this revived NAM in so

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## SUCI supports North Korea's nuke test in self-defence and denounces heinous US imperialist conspiracy to exterminate her socialist system as well as Indian government's appeasing role

Extending full support to the nuclear test conducted by North Korea on October 9, 2006 by giving due prior indication and ensuring no radioactive fall-out, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI, in course of a statement issued on October 11, 2006 said that the socialist government there had no other option but to carry out this test in order to confront the sustained as well as escalated threat of the US imperialists and their allies to subvert socialist system in that country either by engineering counter-revolution from within or mounting external aggression in the form of armed intervention and creating economic blockade. US imperialists who persistently refused to sign non-aggression pact with North Korea and thereby guarantee her sovereignty and territorial integrity and instead encircled her with naval armada of guided missiles, destroyers, bombers and fighter squadrons, nuclear weapons and 30,000 troops stationed in South Korea, are, emphatically stated Comrade Mukherjee, solely and squarely responsible for pushing North Korea to resort to this otherwise avoidable course of action in self-defence.

Comrade Mukherjee also severely condemned the attempted move on the part of the US imperialists and their surrogates to impose

economic sanction on North Korea spurning the plea that by pulling off this nuke test, North Korea has violated the process of implementing the Non-proliferation treaty (NPT) and hence deserves to be meted out such punitive treatment. The fact is, pointed out Comrade Mukherjee, that they themselves have been flouting with impunity this already-shattered shop-worn treaty and cunningly suppressing the all important question of global public opinion in favour of total disarmament including complete elimination of nuclear armament. He also urged upon all democratic-minded, peace and freedom-loving people of the world to come out and stand by the legitimate inalienable right of the brave people of North Korea to defend their socialist system and sovereignty against incessant intimidation and provocation of the imperialist war-mongers and vendors of international gangsterism.

Comrade Mukherjee also strongly denounced the most shameful stand of the Congress-led CPI(M), CPI-backed Indian Government of being in cahoots with US imperialists and their accomplices on this issue in utter disregard to the glorious anti-imperialist tradition of the Indian people solely to appease the US imperialist brigands and death merchants.

## Contradiction of resurgent bourgeois states with imperialism gave rise to NAM

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far as fostering anti-imperialism, it is necessary to trace back the origin and growth of NAM in the post-Second World War scenario and its significance in the international situation obtaining at that time. The term "Non-Alignment" itself was coined by Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru during his speech in 1954 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. In this speech, Nehru described the five pillars to be used as a guide for Sino-Indian relations, which were first put forth by Zhou Enlai, Prime Minister of socialist China. Called *Panchsheel* (five restraints), these principles were slated to serve later as the basis of NAM. The origin of NAM can be traced to a conference hosted in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955. The world's "non-aligned" nations declared their desire not to become involved in the East-West ideological confrontation of the Cold War. Bandung marked a significant milestone for the development of NAM as a political movement. The founding fathers of the NAM were five prominent world leaders: Nehru of India, Tito of Yugoslavia, Sukarno of Indonesia, Nasser of Egypt and Nkrumah of Ghana. Their actions were known as The Initiative of Five. It was six years later in September of 1961, through the voluntary of Tito, then-president of Yugoslavia, that the first official NAM Summit was held in Belgrade with participation of 25 countries and the central principle was to remain independent and neutral from the military blocs of NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

### The then international scenario

As we are aware, rent with the deepening market crisis endemic of the system, two imperialist power blocs actuated by the desperate need to capture market of the respective adversaries to somehow stave off the problem of overproduction and excess capital and simultaneously gain world supremacy locked horns in the Second World War. But, much to the discomfiture of the imperialists-capitalists belonging to both the warring groups, the turn of events following the war aggravated their market crisis much more. Under the dynamic leadership of great Stalin, the heroic Soviet people and the gallant Soviet Red Army inflicted a crushing defeat on

fascist Germany and responding to the appeal of Marxism-Leninism, one third of the world, embraced socialism. This substantially truncated the traditional market of the imperialist plunderers. Moreover, most of the imperialist colonies broke out the chain of colonial rule to gain national independence. These resurgent sovereign national bourgeois states, though belonging to the capitalist world system and having the same socio-political structure, were confronted with the twin task of protecting and preserving on the one hand, their sovereignty from neo-colonial attacks and domination by the powerful imperialist countries and, on the other, fulfilling their indomitable urge to have unhindered development of their capitalist economy and fast emerge as powerful competitors in the world capitalist market. In comparison to the advanced imperialist-capitalist countries, these new capitalist countries were extremely backward in the field of industrialization. Hence, in order to be self-reliant, they needed to develop certain basic and core industries on their respective own soils in the quickest possible time. They were aware that in setting up such industries, no tangible help would be forthcoming from the traditional imperialist-capitalist countries as the latter were interested in buttressing their own economic interest by exploiting cheap labour and raw material available there through export of capital as well as by selling finished goods produced by them in these markets. Naturally, the imperialist bloc would be loath to advance any co-operation in setting up of such core industries in these resurgent capitalist countries. So the ruling bourgeoisie of these nascent bourgeois states decided to solicit that help from the socialist camp.

Secondly, the aspirant bourgeoisie of these erstwhile colonies and semi-colonies found that to overcome this backwardness and deficiency born out of late appearance in the domain of industrial development, they needed to take certain concrete measures. First of all, they needed to insulate their home markets to the extent possible from imperialist forays by accelerating domestic industrialization. At the same time, they could make out that because of the unimaginably low purchasing

power of their countrymen subjugated under ruthless imperialist exploitation for centuries, sole dependence on home markets would not serve their purpose of fastest development of economic muscle. So they were haunted by the need to capture external market which was then exclusive preserve of the big imperialist powers. But, to meet that need, it was imperative for them to develop strong competitive power within shortest possible time. That is why, they, on one hand, concentrated on coalescence of private capital with state capital to give birth to state monopoly capital and minimize as far as possible the mutual competition among the domestic private capitalists. On the other hand, they tried to forge some kind of unity among themselves to increase their bargaining power. NAM was developed from that class-necessity of theirs so that they could enhance their bargaining capacity in eliciting concessions and leniencies in certain matters from the imperialist powerhouse. Tilt towards the socialist camp, apart from meeting economic and technological requirement for domestic industrialization, also gave them some advantage in such bargain.

And the NAM countries in order to have unhindered speediest development of their respective capitalist economies, were against any fresh break-out of large scale war. Hence they opposed any new move on the part of the imperialist bloc to precipitate war and so supported the international peace movement launched by the socialist camp.

### Alternative tilt of the resurgent bourgeois states

The essential feature of these resurgent bourgeois countries, as we have seen, was that while in contradiction with both the imperialist as well as the socialist blocs, they simultaneously engaged themselves in bargaining with both the camps to buttress their immediate class necessity. Exploiting fully the advantage of the division of the world into two diametrically opposite systems, capitalist and socialist, they were playing between the two, alternating tilt between the two camps and thus influencing the balance of world forces this way or that way with the

sole object of developing their respective capitalist economies as fast as possible in the given international situation. For example, the Indian bourgeoisie after successfully setting up its first state sector mega steel plant in Bhilai, Madhya Pradesh (now Chattisgarh) securing Soviet help, managed to bargain requisite assistance from West Germany in establishing another plant at Rourkela in Orissa (now Jharkhand). Examining the complexities and diverse potentialities of this new contradiction appearing with the emergence of the resurgent national bourgeois states, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, in the process of concretizing Marxism-Leninism in the post-Second World War situation emphasized that in order to correctly grasp the developments in the contemporary world, this two-fold contradiction of the nascent bourgeois states with both the imperialist and socialist camps had to be understood as the fifth major contradiction along with the existing four major contradictions as summed up and explained by Lenin.

### Essence of Soviet foreign policy

Though having not expressed in such concrete a term, socialist camp led by the USSR correctly took due notice of this contradiction between imperialist bloc and this newly independent bourgeois states calling themselves as 'Third World' countries (meaning that they belonged neither to the imperialist bloc nor the socialist camp) and felt the necessity of sharpening this contradiction so as to keep these 'Third World' countries as far as possible away from tilting towards the imperialist camp, draw them within the fold of international peace movement initiated by the socialist camp to frustrate the war manoeuvre of the imperialist bigwigs. The essence of the Soviet foreign policy under Stalin was thus to break the chain of imperialism, create further and deeper antagonism among the imperialists-capitalists, consolidate the forces of socialism, defend and maintain world peace, keep the proletarian revolutionary movements in various countries to the extent possible free from the direct intervention of the imperialist sharks. and thereby

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## In absence of mighty socialist camp, NAM has lost the wall to fall back upon

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create objective conditions for growth, development and success of world proletarian revolution. Hence, the socialist camp led by the USSR took a conscious decision to pursue policy of strengthening diplomatic relations with these 'Third World' countries, offer them economic and other helps to set up core industries, keep them tied to the international peace movement and align with the various regional and other combinations that these countries were trying to build up as part of their consolidation against imperialist super-powers to further their aspiration of fastest growth in the capitalistic way.

### Reason behind India performing leading role in NAM

India performed a leading role in developing NAM, because compared to other countries that gained national independence in the post-war period, capitalist development was the highest in India. However, in spite of being closely linked with imperialism, the Indian bourgeoisie could not, all at once, take up a pro-imperialist position in the face of the anti-imperialist tradition of the Indian people. Moreover, like other former colonies, it realized that in its drive to foster speediest industrial development and develop India as a powerful capitalist country, it would be futile expecting tangible help from the mighty imperialist countries. On the other hand, the extent to which Indian capitalism grew and consolidated within a decade of achieving political independence brought it face to face with market crisis as internal market was markedly contracted because of rapidly falling purchasing power of the people under the grinding wheel of capitalist exploitation that followed gruelling imperialist oppression. So it had to eye external market particularly in the Southeast Asia and Middle East. But ousting the powerful imperialist countries from this market single handed based on its then economic strength was a far cry. So it wanted to play on the genuine anti-imperialist sentiment of the people of these countries, establish leadership over these capitalistically weak countries to capture their market and in the process enter into hard bargain with the imperialist

camp to extract various economic and political concessions. It was precisely for this reason that it, maintaining a show of neutrality, pretended befriending with the socialist camp, acted as champion of peace and strove to form a bloc of the nascent capitalist countries under its leadership. So was Nehru, as trusted political representative of aspirant Indian bourgeoisie, so active in Bandung and on NAM front.

It would not be out of context to mention here that failing to understand the nature of the contradiction between the nascent capitalist states and imperialism, the revolutionary significance of the foreign policy of Soviet Union and China in sharpening this contradiction, as well as the class-objective of the ruling Indian bourgeoisie aspiring to rapidly emerge as a powerful capitalist country and desperately attempting to extend the sphere of exploitation of rupee-capital i.e. to become imperialist, the so-called Communist Party of India, then undivided, called for rallying all support behind Nehru and branded the foreign policy of capitalist India as policy of peace. We notice the same confusion prevailing in the CPI(M), the principal faction of the multiply-divided party, even today. In the editorial of People's Democracy, its central organ, of September 10, 2006, it has written that "During the bipolarity of the Cold War period, the NAM was mistakenly viewed by a section as a forum whose main object was to bargain between the two poles — the USA and the USSR. Such vulgar mechanical interpretation of NAM's objectives was often put at rest by the declarations of successive NAM summits. The movement unequivocally declared that it stands for the unity of the countries of the developing world in defence of their political and economic sovereignty and their choice of the political system that they would practice in their respective countries. In short, NAM emerged as a movement defending the rights of the developing countries against any effort to pressurize, intimidate or browbeat them into accepting any diktat of powerful nations. As Indira Gandhi once said in the past, the NAM's essence was essentially anti-imperialist."

### NAM became defunct after dismantling of socialist camp

It is thus clear from the above discussion that it was possible for NAM to gain ground and oppose domination of traditional imperialist-capitalist countries in the economic-political sphere albeit within their class-limitation, because it found in the socialist camp a granite-strong wall to fall back upon. Had not the socialist bloc with all its might been there, it could never be possible for the NAM countries to dare raise voice against the imperialist powers headed by US imperialism. So one can see for oneself what a historic role the socialist camp played that time in weakening the imperialist chain, thwart the war manoeuvres of the imperialist and help revolutionary working class movements to grow in the relatively weaker capitalist countries free from imperialist intervention. But when, as a sequel to worst revisionist conspiracy, the world socialist camp got dismantled, the wall providing backbone to NAM crumbled. Obviously NAM also tumbled down. The fifth major contradiction that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh viewed in the then international situation became inoperative. And there was a widespread discussion in various quarters that as an inevitable consequence of non-existence of the socialist camp, the NAM had lost the pillar it could fall back upon and hence for all intent and purpose was dead.

### Imperialists on a rampage in unipolar world

On the other hand, fall of the socialist camp and setback of the world communist movement, though temporary, as well as the absence of NAM, made world imperialism-capitalism headed by the US imperialists unbridled in pursuance of their hegemonistic aspiration, international gangsterism and naked interference in the internal affairs of various countries including armed aggression and illegal occupation of foreign territory under fraudulent pretext as was recently seen in Iraq. Undeterred in the unipolar world and emboldened by the brute military power, the imperialists led by US imperialists began giving open threat that any country refusing to abide by their dictatorial fiats and reluctant to be pliant with

their whips would be deemed to be 'enemy' countries and should be ready to face the consequences that might entail economic sanctions, blockades and even armed assault. Most of the countries have been tamely but with bountiful of resentment capitulating to the dictum of the imperialist power bloc. To the unyielding, the US imperialism and its allies have been ghastly inimical. It is not unknown to the world how the US imperialists through CIA smuggled and are still smuggling the terrorists into Cuba, to murder its leader Fidel Castro, to topple this solitary socialist state in the American continent, how they created or dispatched the terrorists to Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, Nicaragua, Venezuela and in many other countries to replace the existing governments by their chosen puppets. Only in the last one and half decades several relatively smaller countries like Iraq, Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, Sudan, Somalia, Haiti came under the vicious invasion of the US imperialists and their allies. The latest instances have been the unilateral aggression of Zionist Israel, an US stooge, on Lebanon and continuous warning to North Korea, Cuba, Iran and Syria of dire straits if they dare to oppose US brigandage and expansionist aspirations.

Alongside this brazen overlordism, the imperialist-capitalist superpowers headed by US imperialism, in order to stave off the accentuating market crisis endemic of the capitalist system in its present moribund decadent stage, came out with a newer form of neo-colonial exploitation in the name of globalization. The sinister formulations of capitalist globalization, implemented and imposed through GATT and WTO, enabled the powerful imperialists, particularly US imperialism to persistently raid and capture the markets of the relatively weaker capitalist countries. On the other hand, the ruling bourgeoisie of the relatively backward capitalist countries many of whom had been erstwhile NAM members haunted by the class urge to prosper with due expediency and having little bargaining power due to the collapse of the socialist camp are found to be taking the line of least resistance to imperialism by accepting, albeit with grudge, the

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# Revived NAM can meet object only if backed by powerful anti-imperialist people's movement

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dictates of WTO and GATT. Again, the aspirant monopolists in power at the comparatively developed of the lot having considerably advanced industries and national finance capital are adopting the course of hard bargaining with the imperialist bigwigs for collaborations, concessions and agreements on joint exploitation of national and international markets.

## Brewing contradiction between developing countries and imperialist big shots

In this economic-political scenario, there has been a brewing contradiction between the imperialist super league headed by US imperialism and the relatively backward capitalist countries. Perturbed at the increasing instances of interference and meddling in the internal affairs of various countries as well incidents of military intervention in and armed invasion of foreign territory by US imperialists and their stooges, the weak capitalist countries are seriously concerned about defending their freedom and sovereignty. Side by side, imposed and bound by the sermons of GATT and WTO, which have practically become agencies of big imperialists, the ruling capitalists of these countries are seething in anger.

On the other hand, as a sequel to that, toiling millions of these countries are devastated beyond limit. Lest these people rise in protest against all malice and aberration, injustice and humiliation spawning from the worn-out stinking imperialist-capitalist system plaguing their life, the imperialists are merrily exporting rotten degraded culture of sex-perversion, social alienation and crude self-centeredness to these countries so as to incapacitate and emasculate the oppressed people from within. Despite such imperialist intrigues and machinations, there is simmering discontent and resentment among the people and often this accumulated wrath and ire is bursting forth in the form of widespread protest movements scaling unprecedented height and assuming even forms of barricade fights on streets and factories and offices. The capitalist world as a whole has been seething in tension of such mounting people's stirs and

agitations. Particularly in many of the relatively weaker and smaller capitalist countries, people's protest as well as resistance movements are assuming such dimension as to pose real threat to the rulers there. Even waves of protest movements against various anti-people policies stemming from globalization-liberalization and escalation of global tension and perpetration of war crimes on other countries by their governments as well as massive anti-imperialist demonstrations are sweeping across US, UK, France and other traditional imperialist countries.

Faced with this growing and at times uncontrollable burst of the rage and fury of the exploited millions, the rulers of these smaller capitalist countries have nowadays been seeking some kind of relent from the pressure of globalization foisted on them by the imperialist superpowers. For this they are seen opposing the powerful imperialist countries in the WTO to elicit concession in several areas of their economy. Not only this. They have even been found putting up blockade against imperialist penetration into some areas of their economy citing examples of protectionism in the imperialist countries themselves in the form of tariff wall, exorbitant duties etc. to insulate their respective home markets from infiltration of foreign merchandises. This opposition, on occasions, have resulted in squabbling and violent dissolution of the WTO meets. Seattle, Quebec, Doha where the imperialist powers met with stern opposition and inconclusive end of the conferences, are a few such examples. Apart from that, they are also trying to form various regional combinations like SAARC etc. to unite on a common platform to combat the overlordism of US imperialists and their bosom pals and increase their bargaining power.

## Relevance of current NAM summit

It is in this backdrop that there was a fresh move to revive NAM in 2003 in its 13th Summit at Malaysia. The Havana summit came in the sequence and based on the ground reality explained above. Notwithstanding the limitations, there is no denying to the fact that there is an anti-imperialist content

of this revived alliance.

But, as we have already explained in the preceding paragraphs, the absence of the mighty socialist camp that 'Third World' countries were falling back upon in opposing imperialist bloc in the post-second world period, the renewed attempt to roll out NAM is, so to say, crippled by birth. Moreover there is another serious inner contradiction that the current combination of Havana meet has been suffering from. During the last four decades, many of the leading members of erstwhile NAM have themselves attained imperialist character, may be weak compared to the imperialist superpowers, but nevertheless have assumed all the requisite features. Though to augment their negotiating power with the imperialism, these countries are remaining within the fold of NAM, they are not keen on pursuing a resolute anti-imperialist particularly anti-US imperialist line. Rather it would be their endeavour to contain the movement from within and diffuse the anti-imperialist fervour while using it for increasing their bargain and market. Hence the intensity of anti-US imperialism of this revived NAM is surely to be discernibly feeble and coupled with a tendency to compromise at the slightest of opportunity.

This was eloquent during the Havana conference which found detractors lurking within. Governments with friendly ties to Washington, among them India, Pakistan, Malaysia, Chile, Peru and Colombia, sought to steer the summit away from confrontation and finger-pointing at US imperialism. The Indian Prime Minister could not hide what was lurking in his mind and openly indicated that NAM could no longer be seen only as an anti-US platform for that may go against the grain of independent judgment and the NAM countries today have a great opportunity to forge long-term economic cooperation within the rapidly globalizing market framework. "I don't regard this summit as anti-US, or for that matter anti-anybody," told Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi in a news conference. The US imperialists also gratefully recognized this noting there are "a few friends (or read it : 'agents') like India, Malaysia in the NAM".

## Imperativeness to build up worldwide anti-imperialist people's movement

But whatever may be the nature of the various inner-contradictions, pulls and pushes, NAM in its current form has been carrying with, there is a necessity of this movement to crystallize and accentuate to combat imperialist buccaneers particularly US imperialism, the bastion of world reaction and international gendarme. Notwithstanding all the efforts of host socialist Cuba supported by socialist North Korea and Venezuela to give the movement a direction, if NAM is confined within the precincts of convention, conference, mutual talks and statements, appeal and parleys, it would prove to be abortive in this unipolar world dominated by the imperialist sharks headed by US imperialists. To ensure that the movement in the absence of the socialist camp grows from strength to strength and discharge an effective anti-imperialist role, it is necessary to provide it with a kind of supportive rest it can fall back upon. That is why it has become an imperative necessity to build up a worldwide massive sustained well-integrated anti-imperialist movement involving all sections of the thinking people and toiling masses right from the grass root level with communists forming the core and intensify it with every passing hour. This movement would make people aware of each and every pernicious move and sinister design of the imperialist powers headed by US imperialism, unravel all their nasty games and intrigues and create hatred against them. It is the power of such a sustained well-knit people's movement that can provide a pedestal to NAM in the face of bared tooth and claw of demonic imperialism. Assured of the support of this people's movement round the globe including from within the imperialist countries, NAM members would feel powered to extract more in their bargain with imperialism and exercise some restraint on their pursuance of brigandage and overlordism. It is only under the pressure of this worldwide people's movement that the NAM countries tending to compromise with the imperialist brigands could be kept under check

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## Inaugural programme of yearlong celebration of Birth Centenary year of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh observed in a most befitting manner in Delhi

The beginning of Birth Centenary year of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh was observed today at Shaheed Park, Ferozeshah Kotla, Delhi in a most befitting manner under the banner of Shaheed Bhagat Singh Birth Centenary Celebration Committee. A day-long programme was organized. Members of All India Democratic Students' Organization (AIDSO), All India Mahila Sanskritik Sangathana (AIMSS) and All India Democratic Youth Organization (AIDYO), United Trade Union Centre-Lenin Sarani (UTUC-LS) and All India Anti-Imperialist Forum (AIAIF) actively participated in it.

The day-long programme started at ten O'clock in the morning with the inauguration of an exhibition of selected quotations from Bhagat Singh's writings and photos on his life and struggle by Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, All India President, UTUC-LS. The exhibition kept open throughout the rest of the day and observed by thousands of people with keen interest. Inaugurating the exhibition Comrade Chakraborty said: "The photographs and quotations exhibited here only give you a glimpse of the aims and objectives of the historic struggle of Bhagat Singh and other revolutionaries. The entire works and activities of these revolutionaries belonging to the uncompromising trend of India's freedom struggle, who were hounded and killed by the British imperialists, could be recovered if the Govt. of India was so interested and provided the clues from the available police records during

British period. But since the present ruling bourgeoisie of our country and their servitors are mortally afraid of anti-capitalist working class revolution, they apprehend that publication of these invaluable Works and a proper purposive cult thereof might inspire the people to join that revolutionary movement. That is why, we could display only the material we could gather from other sources. Our search for further material is on." He added, "The British imperialists did not leave the country because of any fear of non-violence movement of Indian National Congress headed by Gandhiji. The ignominious defeat of the fascist Axis of Germany-Japan-Italy at the hands of the Soviet Red Army and heroic Soviet people led by great Stalin not only destroyed the military might of the Axis Powers but also weakened and cornered imperialism to a significant extent. Moreover, with Chinese revolution on the threshold of victory and powerful anti-imperialist revolutionary movements surging forth in almost all the colonies, the British imperialist rulers realized that if the uncompromising struggle of the likes of Khudiram Bose, Prafulla Chaki, Masterda Surya Sen, Netaji Subhash, Ram Prasad Bismil, Ashfaqullah Khan, Chandrashekhar Azad, Bhagat Singh and his comrade-in-arms as well as innumerable such other revolutionaries of India was allowed to grow and gain strength, it would not only throw the British imperialism out of the country but might also stall the Indian

bourgeoisie from capturing power through compromise and brighten the possibility of working class rule getting established in India. That is why they left the country handing over the power to their fellow-brothers, the Indian national bourgeoisie." In conclusion of his speech, Comrade Chakraborty concluded by saying: 'No organization other than Shaheed Bhagat Singh Birth Centenary Celebration Committee has taken initiative to organize such programmes to make people acquainted with the objective and life-struggle of the revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh and his comrade-in-arms who not only wanted to throw the British imperialists out of the country but also longed to put an end to all sorts of exploitation and oppression of man by man. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, in course of his penetrating analysis showed that after independence, the revolutionary struggle in India has assumed a new form and content. It is now a struggle for overthrowing the capitalist exploitative system by accomplishing anti-capitalist proletarian revolution under the leadership of working class. It is only by strengthening this struggle and leading to its logical culmination that we can fulfil the dreams of Bhagat Singh and other revolutionaries. AIDSO, AIDYO, AIMSS, UTUC-LS and AIAIF as true inheritors of this revolutionary struggle ought to discharge their revolutionary obligation with a firm resolve, grit and determination.'

In the cultural programme that

took place in the afternoon, mass songs were presented by individuals and groups in different state languages and dramas were staged by troupes from Delhi and Punjab. Thereafter, a public meeting was held with Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, President, AIMSS on the chair and addressed by Justice Rajindar Sachar, former Chief Justice, Delhi High Court, Prof. Dhruvajyoti Mukherjee, Member, AIAIF, Comrade Satyawan, Haryana State President, UTUC-LS, Prof. Sudhanshu Malviya of Allahabad University, Prof. Narendra Sharma, Member, AIAIF, Comrade Pratap Samal, President, AIDSO, Comrade Arun Kumar Singh, former President, AIDSO and a renowned mass leader from Bihar.

Paying glowing tribute to Shaheed-e-Azam, Justice Sachar called upon students and youths to take lesson from the life struggle of the great martyr and revolutionary and come forward to fight against all the ills and aberrations afflicting the present-day society. Prof. D. Mukherjee criticized the pernicious anti-people policies of the present rulers of the country who are collaborating with the imperialist powers, particularly the Anglo-American clique, and are thus maligning the glorious tradition of anti-imperialist struggle of our revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh and others. Trade Union leader Satyawan dwelt on how the policies of globalization-liberalization are running havoc in the life of all sections of working people

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*Justice Sachar addressing the audience in the birth centenary observance of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh in Delhi*

## AIDYO represents India in Youth Camp at Turkey

Comrade BR Manjunath, President, Karnataka state AIDYO and a prominent leader of youth movement of the country attended a Youth Camp at Mandirma near Istanbul in Turkey. The Camp was organized by the Socialist Youth Federation, affiliated to the party MLKP-and was held from August 20 to 27 last. It was attended by over two hundred delegates from all the seven provinces of Turkey. They included about 30% of women and a large number of Kurdish youth. Incidentally, of the four major city level Youth associations of the country, three are headed by Women Presidents. In the Camp, apart from Comrade Manjunath representing India, there were representatives from C.A.R.C., a front of the New Communist Party of Italy (NPCI), from French student movement and from Palestine.

In addition to the Inaugural Cultural session, there were sessions devoted to students' movement in France, the impact of Globalization and Neo-liberalization on Indian youth, the situation in the Middle East, recent developments in Nepal, women in history, love and freedom, the role of mass media, commercialization of football, revolutionary theatre and finally the concluding session. The camp also had several workshops on theatre, music, dance, filmmaking and painting. Comrade Manjunath presented papers on globalization and Indian youth as well as recent developments in Nepal and participated in other debates as well.

He also had opportunity for informal exchanges with the Turkish comrades as well as comrades from other countries. It came out during such discussions that the military junta in Turkey calls all the shots in the politics of the country while there is a farce of parliament presented before the world. The situation has remained so since 1993 coup d'état. Apart from the bourgeois parties, there are also revisionist parties operating in that soil. A few others, of which the MLKP constituted a major force, are mostly not legal and have to suffer severe losses from State oppression and persecution. During his brief stay in Turkey, Comrade Manjunath also witnessed people fighting pitched street battles with the police against a black law purportedly against terrorism. There were also some bomb explosions reportedly by the Kurdish activists in different parts of Turkey. The situation in Turkey appeared far from being calm, rather turbulent.

Beyond the official sessions, in warm exchanges with the Turkish, Italian and French comrades, Comrade Manjunath was deeply impressed to find their interests in the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the founder General Secretary, SUCI and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the post-Lenin days, particularly in regard to his analysis and teachings on democratic centralism, collective leadership, communist culture, the genesis of modern revisionism and the correct way of fighting it out.

## NAM Summit

*Contd. from page 4*

and humanity and civilization can be saved from the disaster imperialism headed by US imperialism is pushing them into. From that point of view, this movement will provide some kind of a substitute for the much yearned socialist camp. It has been for this reason that our party, as genuine proletarian revolutionary outfit on the soil, armed with the invincible weapon of Marxism-Leninism, guided by the illumining thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, and ably led by Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, our beloved General secretary and compatriot of Comrade Ghosh, has

been repeatedly stressing upon the imperativeness to release this anti-imperialist people's movement throughout the world with communists as its core and exhorting upon all well-minded anti-imperialist people round the world to take up the task in right earnest with due expediency. It is incumbent on all progressive democratic-minded peace-loving people as well as true communists to immediately come forward and take initiative to develop this movement, the only course to abate the frenzy of imperialist rampage. In the context of revived NAM, this has become yet more a pressing necessity.

## Irrigation Departments Task Works Employees' movement achieves glorious victory

Led by Karnataka Irrigation Department Task Works Employees Association, more than one thousand Task Works employees, backbone in managing distribution of canal water scored a significant victory by forcing the state government to concede to some of their vital demands. Though the nature of their job is permanent, they are employed on ad hoc basis against payment at a rate much lower to the stipulated quantum and that too after they resort to agitation in the form of Dharna, Rally etc. The movement launched by the Task Works workers association in demand of, inter alia, making the workers permanent, disbursement of salary on time and at statutory rate and payment of suitable compensation to the family upon death of any worker, gained momentum as it progressed. Many

factory unions leaders of Raichur, Bellary, Koppala districts as well as local government employees associations & other organizations extended support to the movement. Meanwhile a few workers in the movement who were on fast were hospitalized as their condition deteriorated. After nine days of the struggle, the authorities under pressure of movement, agreed to talk on the demands.

Led by Comrade K. Somashekar Association general secretary; a workers' delegation participated in the discussions with government officials and succeeded in eliciting assurance of fulfilling the key demands.

This glorious movement was conducted under the leadership of Dr. T. S. Suneeth Kumar, Association President in Yaramaras and Comrade K. Somashekar.

## Memorandum to the Prime Minister by All India Save Education Committee, Karnataka

On 13th September, 2006, a delegation of the Karnataka State Committee of All India Save Education Committee (AISEC), comprising of Dr. K. Muralasiddappa (Retired Professor & Director of centre of Kannada Studies, Bangalore University), Mrs. K. Uma (Secretary, AISEC, Karnataka), Mr. V. N. Rahasekhar (Social Activist), Dr. B. N. Hemadevi (Physician), met the Honourable Governor of Karnataka. The delegation submitted a memorandum addressed to the Prime Minister and signed by eminent personalities like H.S. Doreswamy (Veteran freedom fighter, President AISEC, Karnataka), Vysaraya Ballal (Novelist honoured by Central Sahitya Academy, Maharashtra government and Karnataka Sahitya Academy), Prof. K. Marulasiddappa (Retired professor and Director Centre of Kannada Studies, Bangalore University), Prof. Alladi Sitaram (Emeritus Prof, Indian Statistical Institute, NBHM visiting Prof. IISc, Bangalore), Dr. P. N. Shankar (Emeritus Scientist, NAL, Bangalore), Dr. Priti Shankar (Professor, Department of CSA,

IISc, Bangalore), Dr. S. Balachandra Rao (Mathematics Professor, Honourary Director Gandhi Centre of Science & Human Values, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bangalore) and others urging upon the union government to keep education away from the GATS. The honourable Governor after long deliberations with the delegation expressed his concern over the alarming developments in education and responded to the views of the delegation that under the GATS regime the education would become a tradable service, basic literature & humanities would be neglected, with the entry of the foreign universities indigenous development of education, democratic and autonomous functioning of universities will be jeopardized. Later he assured the delegation that he would forward the memorandum and convey the sentiments of the educationists to the honourable Prime Minister.

In reply to the memorandum, Dr. Krishna Gupta (Director, Ministry of Commerce & Industry) wrote a letter to the Committee on 25 September accepting many of the points raised in the memorandum.

## Peasants' Rally demanding adequate compensation to flood victims in Orissa

A.I.K.K.M.S, Orissa State Council organised a demonstration before the Orissa Secretariat on 28.09.06 demanding adequate compensation to flood affected farmers, permanent control of flood, free supply of seeds, pesticides, fertilisers to the peasants, control of price rise etc. The organised peasants of different districts of the state came out in a decorative and disciplined procession from the Bhubaneswar Railway station and

education fees, examination fees including all other fees for the flood affected students, immediate repairing of damaged lift points, immediate construction of approved irrigation Dam projects, construction of damaged schools, colleges and roads, allotment of work to agricultural workers throughout the year, supply of tax free diesel and kerosene to the farmers.

The leaders of AIKKMS, Orissa



marched to Orissa Secretariat shouting slogans on the genuine 17 point demands and demonstrated at PMG square before the Secretariat. A meeting of the demonstrators was held at PMG square under the Presidentship of Comrade Shambhu Nath Naik, Vice President, Orissa State Council, AIKKMS and SUCI, MLA, where Comrade Raghunath Das, State Secretary, AIKKMS and Comrade Surendra Mallik, Secretary, Jajpur district committee, AIKKMS addressed the rally. After the meeting a delegation team consisting of Comrades Shambhu Nath Naik, Raghunath Das and Gobinda Moharana submitted a 17 point charter of demand to the Revenue Minister. The demand charter included adequate compensation to flood victims for loss of crop, compensation to the farmers for drazing sand, supply of seeds, fertilisers and pesticides at subsidised rate, interest free loans to the peasants, exemption of

State urged upon the peasants and Khet Majdoors to build up grassroots level organisation and initiate resistance movement throughout the state under the guidance of the teachings of the great Proletarian leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh for fulfilment of genuine demands of the farmers and agricultural workers.

## Birth Centenary of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh

*Contd. from page 5*

reminding us the need of fulfilling the dreams of Shaheed-e-Azam. Arun K. Singh said that because on one hand, Central State governments irrespective of their hues are brutally suppressing all legitimate democratic movements of students-youths-workers-peasants and other sections of toiling masses, while on the other, whole society is being pushed into the abyss of all-out cultural degradation to emasculate people from within. Prof. Malviya referred to the systematic curtailment of all hard earned democratic rights and civil rights. Prof. Narendra Sharma expressed his deep concern over the worsening of economic-political-social-cultural and educational situation in the country.

Pratap Samal, the Convener of Shaheed Bhagat Singh Birth Centenary Celebration Committee, moved the resolution in the meeting demanding of the government to (i) give up all existing anti-people policies and to implement pro-people policies so that food, shelter, clothing, health and education could be ensured to every citizen and different forms of injustice and crimes could be stopped; (ii) include life struggles of Bhagat Singh and other revolutionaries in syllabi and in the history of Indian freedom struggle without any distortion as is being done at present and giving them correct and due importance; (iii) install statues of the revolutionaries at important road junctions and name roads and

institutions after the revolutionaries; and (iv) declare 23rd March, the martyrdom day of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, as National Youth Day. An appeal was also made to the people of the country to observe the Birth Centenary programme in a befitting manner and propagate as well as cultivate the revolutionary thoughts and ideas of Bhagat Singh and his compatriots.

Also paying tributes to the great martyr were leaders of students, women and youths from different states.

Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, in her presidential address, appealed to all sections of common people, particularly students & youths to observe the Birth Centenary Year of Shaheed-e-Azam Bhagat Singh throughout the year and to carry forward the struggle left behind by the revolutionaries.

Student, woman and youth leaders from different states who also paid their tributes to this great martyr included T. K. Sudhir Kumar (Kerala State Secretary, AIDYO), Aminder Pal Singh [Member, All India Save Education Committee (AISEC), Punjab Chapter], Binapani Das (Orissa State President, AIMSS), Swapan Debnath (West Bengal State Secretary, AIDYO), Dr. Ram Avatar Sharma (State President, AIDS, Madhya Pradesh), Keya Dey (Vice President, AIMSS, Jharkhand), G. Satish (AIDYO, Karnataka), M. P. Ganeshan (Secretary, AIDYO, Tamilnadu) and Rajmal Sharma (President, AIDS, Rajasthan).

## North India School of Politics held with much enthusiasm

A 3-day School of Politics was held from 29th September to 1st October, 2006 in Sonapat, Haryana. Party comrades from Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Guna and Gwalior districts of Madhya Pradesh participated in the School conducted by Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Member, Central Committee, SUCI. Other leaders present were Comrades Chhaya Mukherjee, President, AIMSS, Binapani Das, Pratap Samal, Aminder Pal Singh, Hari Prakash & others.

The first session of the school was mainly on the importance of objective study, origin of thought and idea, difference between

objective and subjective thinkings and theory of truth. In the second session, discussions were centered on the question of philosophy as a world outlook, the philosophical aspects of materialism and idealism and contradiction theories.

Third session was devoted to the concept of matter, part played by labour in social transition and related areas of historical materialism. Fourth session concentrated on the principles of dialectical materialism while the fifth one dwelt on the various aspects of building up and developing a true monolithic proletarian class party on Leninist model as enriched by Comrade

Shibdas Ghosh, concepts of ideological and democratic centralism and other organizational questions.

In the final session, Comrade Chakraborty discussed the need of strengthening the party, class and mass organizations and successfully carrying out the programme of revitalization and consolidation covering all aspects of life. Successful conduction of this struggle, emphasized Comrade Chakraborty, can only guarantee that the party as genuine working class party on Indian soil will lead the anti-capitalist working class revolution in the country to success.

### Corrigendum

Inadvertently, Utsav Patnaik was spelt as Usha Patnaik in last issue of Proletarian Era. Mistake regretted.

## General Strike on October 9, in West Bengal

# Magnificent response to SUCI's call

The West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI called upon the toiling people of all sections to observe a general strike in the state on October 9 last in protest against the eviction of hundreds of thousands of peasants from their land in the name of so-called industrialization, the barbarous police terror unleashed by the CPI(M)-led state government on the fighting peasants about to be evicted at Singur, Hoogly district to make room for the proposed automobile plant of the Tatas, the utter failure of the government in controlling flood and drought and the rampant government negligence and narrow partisan approach in distributing even the meagre relief materials.

During the past 30 years of rule of the CPI(M)-led government, over 5.8 millions of peasants in the state have been evicted from land and pauperized. Over 55,000 factories have been closed down throwing over 1.2 million workers-employees out of employment. In this situation, the claim of the CPI(M) leaders to bring about prosperity through a spree of industrialization by private monopolists is nothing but a hoax and cruel joke. Crisis-ridden, decadent moribund capitalism is incapable of fostering true industrialization anywhere in this era. Even if a few industrial units are set-up, those will be capital-intensive and hi-tech providing very little employment, far outnumbered by the people who will lose their living and become pauperized due to the land acquisition in the name of industrialization. It is no secret that

most of the land thus acquired will be used to put up luxury apartments, nursing homes, tourist lodges, bars, shopping malls, discotheques and entertainment facilities for the privileged rich. By this, the way will be cleared for the capitalists to reap hundreds of crore rupees super profit but no benefit will accrue to the people. The state government, on its part, is acquiring huge areas of land at cheap rates from the peasants and handing over the same to the indigenous and foreign monopolists to reap profit at the cost of the people. To mislead the people, the CPI(M) general secretary has knowingly issued an untrue statement saying that the land being acquired at Singur is mostly uncultivated or growing just one crop, whereas the fact is that most of these lands grow 2, 3 or even 4 crops.

Mass movement is on throughout West Bengal against eviction of peasants from land, on the demands of effective flood and drought control measures and for proper impartial relief measures. Our party, the SUCI, is at this helm of the movement. Krishi Jami Bachao Committees (Save agricultural land committees) have been formed by representatives of the peasants and agricultural labourers, with the SUCI peasant wing, the KKMS at the forefront. These people's committees formed at our initiative have been spearheading the historic resistance movement against the criminal attempt of the state government to grab acres of arable land in the name of so-called industrialization. The

KKMS organized a state level peasant convention to strengthen the movement.

It was with the object of taking the movement further ahead that our party issued the call for a statewide general strike on October 9 last. The police and the organized anti-socials of the CPI(M) tried their best to foil the general strike brutally. During the day, 1171 SUCI workers including 53 female workers were arrested in the different districts of the state and 224 were injured in attacks by the police and the CPI(M) goons, but all in vain. The people responded magnificently

from work. Some government-owned buses were made to ply, but there were hardly any passengers. There was very little attendance in government and private offices including the State Secretariat at Calcutta, the seat of the state government. Even the monopoly-controlled TV channels, past masters at projecting all movements and strikes as failures, could not conceal these facts. Even large sections of the people unconnected with agriculture have come to realize how heart-rending is the sudden loss of employment and subsistence that faces the people



*Police lathicharge on SUCI workers at Murshidabad district on the strike day*

despite all false propaganda and preventive measures of the government and defying all attacks and repression. From the foothills of the Himalayas to the Sundarbans adjoining the Bay of Bengal, the general strike was spontaneous and total. Shops and markets remained closed and the people stayed away

about to be evicted from land by the government.

The people of the state are more and more finding in the SUCI their dependable ally in the struggle on their burning problems. October 9 general strike is the stepping stone for continuing and widening mass movement.



*Usually busy Sealdah Railway Station deserted at 9.37 in the morning*



*Esplanade, the humming heart of Calcutta, at 10-30 a.m.*

*EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : NIHAR MUKHERJEE*

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