

Proletarian Era

Volume 49 No. 20 Organ of the SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA (COMMUNIST)
June 1, 2016 Founder Editor-in-Chief : COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

8 Pages

Price : Rs. 2.00

Rampant corruption is stamp of capitalism-imperialism today

Another financial scam in purchase of military hardware has surfaced in India. It is revealed that in obtaining order for supplying 12 AW101 helicopters to the Indian Air Force at a total price of Rs 3,600 crore, UK-based Agusta Westland had paid bribe of ₹30 million or roughly Rs 270 crores to Indian officials including the then chief of Indian Air Force who allegedly bent rules for awarding the contract. Not that unearthing of one or the other mega-scam or scandal is a recent phenomenon. Starting from Mundhra scam immediately after independence to Bofors scandal, Harshad Mehta's stock market rip-off, Tehelka sting operations, Kargil Coffin procurement scam, fodder scandal, UTI scam, Telgi fake

stamp incident, 'cash-for-question' offence, misuse of MP LAD money, open flashing of bribe money on the floor of parliament as a proof of worst horse trading, skewed appointment of the Central Vigilance Commissioner, 2G scam, IPL scam, Commonwealth game scandal, Adarsh Housing Cooperative Society scandal, Coalgate scam, Bellary mining scam, Railway tender scam to latest Sarada—Rose Valley Ponzi fund scam, Vyapam scam, Narad sting video — it has been like episodes of a soap opera unfolding every day. In all the mega scams that rocked the country in the last four decades, the involvement of top level bureaucrats, ministers including prime ministers and chief ministers, MPs, MLAs, top-notch bourgeois

politicians, high level military personnel and big industrialists has come to the fore. Even judiciary is also not found free from corruption today. Particularly, in last two decades, corruption of the high-ups has been at the zenith though whatever has been laid bare is akin to the proverbial saying of 'tip of the iceberg'.

People are held to ransom

Corruption, as may be explained so in simple terms, is deliberate indulgence in malpractices and flouting of norms, principles and practices for netting narrow sectarian personal gains, not only monetary but also non-monetary like power, prestige, securing undue advantages and so forth by cheating,

depriving or defrauding others. It goes without saying that soaring unbridled corruption at the high level of governance and power that be is having an extremely disastrous effect on people's life. Common toiling people are the worst sufferers, economically as well as socially, morally and culturally. Already they are reeling under acute economic crisis because of ruthless capitalist exploitation. Over and above the on-going pauperization, there is further dent into their pockets because corruption at highest level is either siphoning out accruals in public exchequer or depriving the exchequer of due revenue. Besides these large-scale larcenies, people's day to day life is

Contd. on page 5

Opportunist alliance has not been the alternative, nor was it supposed to be

Even after giving its much-hyped dream of *poriborton* (change) a burial and committing lots of injustice and wrongdoings during its five year tenure, Trinamool Congress (TMC) has come back to power in West Bengal with two third majority. This result of assembly election has surprised many. Many are frustrated as well. Particularly the CPI (M) leaders who thought of substantially cornering TMC by forming alliance with the Congress and riding on the open backing of the media, and even went to the extent of vending reverie of winning over 200 seats during their campaign, are in great peril. Equally perilous is the condition of the CPI (M) workers who believed in such daydream and were preparing for celebrating victory.

It is true that by fighting alone our Party has lost this time in Jaynagar constituency which we have been winning so far. Because of tying up with the CPI(M), the Congress candidate came second there. In Kultali, the CPI (M) has

once again won by tying up with the Congress and we have been defeated. But the SUCI (C) leaders and workers are not even a wee bit perturbed at this. Because we never made any forecast of definite victory. Long before the assembly election, we have reached out to the people of the state at large by way of selling several lakhs of copies of the booklet "To uphold prestige and honour of leftism, make candidates of SUCI (Communist), the struggling leftist Party, victorious in the ensuing Assembly elections".

In that booklet, we had highlighted our views in regard to the anti-people rule of the BJP, Congress and CPI (M), the danger of communalism and the crass opportunist politics of the CPI (M). It was clearly mentioned there that, "Where is the change that the TMC promised to bring about in their pre-election slogan? The list of what is "new" that the TMC boasts of to have brought includes schemes like Kanyashree, Yubashree, Chhatrashree or this or

that, distribution of shoes and bicycles to few school students, liberal funding of local clubs etc. These gestures and postures might increase their votes to an extent, might confuse some people, but do not hold West Bengal back from being plunged into the abyss of darkness in tandem with all other parts of the country." Emphatically stating the object with which

SUCI(C) was fighting election, it was mentioned that "we are fighting against the BJP at the centre, against the Congress, against the misuse of the TMC, against opportunism of the CPI (M). Our struggle is waged against all these. And that would be the way we would fight." We had also indicated to the people in writing

Contd. on page 2



Massive rally against anti-labour reform in France (News on page 4)

Opportunist Alliance

Existence, progress and struggling role of a genuine revolutionary party do not depend on victory or defeat in elections

Contd. from page 1

that by fighting alone, we might be defeated in Jaynagar and fail to regain Kultali. In the aforesaid booklet, we said: "Had we desired we could have joined the CPI(M)-Congress alliance. May be we would have got a few seats. Had we desired we could have gone with the TMC. In that event also, we might have increased our tally of seats, might have retained what we have. But we did not opt for that. We do not view electoral battle in this manner. To us, even electoral battle is a form of movement, a fight, a struggle based on principles and ideology." Anyhow to grab seats, no matter if that necessitates renouncing all ideology and principles — such cannot be the outlook of a genuine communist party. So, from 1952 onwards, we have been fighting elections with this correct outlook and line befitting a genuine revolutionary party.

The parties like the CPI(M) who notwithstanding their Marxist vocabularies are totally bogged down in bourgeois parliamentary vote politics cannot think of anything else but anyhow winning seats and riding to power. For that reason, during their 34 year long rule in West Bengal they could not take left democratic movement even a step forward. Rather, they have pushed left movement several steps back. Though there was an opportunity this time for traversing along the path of movement by forging left unity, they forsook that and instead, driven by desperate urge for regaining power, opted for electoral unity with a notorious national bourgeois party like the Congress. After the rout in election, the CPI (M) leaders are themselves saying that had they not gone for an alliance with the Congress, they would not have got the number of seats they still could manage to bag. This is their condition. On the contrary, the Congress which had virtually been a dying force in the state secured much more seats than the CPI (M). Fact is that despite having massive backing and publicity by media, the CPI (M)-Congress alliance could not emerge as the alternative and failed to cast any impact on the public mind. In our election booklet, we asked the CPI (M), "how is that with just one electoral reverse after 34 years of uninterrupted rule your party is in so disastrous a condition today as

that stand up holding the hands of the Congress?" On being invited at the CPI (M) party congress, General Secretary of our Party Comrade Provash Ghosh called upon them to "build up militant left movement all over the country. Presently, our Party has organization in almost all the states of India. We can join united left movement everywhere." Highlighting Lenin's teaching, he reminded them that the strength of a revolutionary party lies only in the fire of class and mass struggles. In order to bring back the glorious tradition of left democratic movement, what is required is militant left movement, not any hotchpotch combination eyeing only electoral benefits. CPI (M) leadership did not pay any heed to our words.

Reminding them of another valuable teaching of Lenin, we exhorted them to openly admit before the people the mistakes, blunders and misdeeds they had committed during their 34 years of rule, the role they played in crushing mass movement and the struggles of the workers and peasants. Lenin had taught that genuine communists must admit their mistakes to people. They also need to tell people how they intend to rectify those. That way they would earn the confidence of people. That is what is the hallmark of a genuine communist party. As CPI (M) is not a communist party, they could not do that. The CPI (M) does not lack in strength today. Then why are they not in a position to confront the situation? Why do they need to piggyback on the Congress? Why is it that they possess strength when in power but are dispossessed of all strength once ousted from power? This was not the condition of the CPI (M) in 1964 and for many more years thereafter. Then why are they in such a state today? The reason behind is that after assuming power, they have given up whatever little ideology they cultivated and to whatever extent they roused their workers to conduct struggle. They have abandoned the path of militant leftism. Their only aim is to anyhow win seats and form government by forging alliance with all and sundry. This is how the leaders are destroying the moral strength of their workers.

To face people, CPI (M) workers need some credibility of their party. Had the CPI (M) admitted their mistakes and returned to the path of movement,

that credibility would have slowly been regained. We had already joined an effort towards developing united left struggle. That unity could be extended to an understanding in the election also. But the moment bell tolled for election, they went for forming an alliance with the Congress without having any word with us. The bourgeois media named the CPI (M)-Congress alliance as 'an alliance of the people'. The CPI (M) leaders also began to call it 'an alliance of the people'. They propagated that this alliance has been forged because there was a demand for it at the grassroots level. It still remains a mystery as to when people wanted such an alliance and where and to whom did the lower level CPI (M) workers raise any such demand. First a particular newspaper house and its electronic channel started shouting aloud in favour of the alliance. Later, other media groups also joined the chorus. Exulted at that, the CPI (M) leaders also began to vend the dream of 200 seats to their workers.

Not only electoral success eluded them, the fallout has been out and out reverse. Failure struck them like a severe blow. This so happened because driven by the desperateness for regaining power fast, the CPI (M) leaders failed to make correct assessment of the objective situation prevailing in the state. The CPI (M) leaders assumed that out of the accumulated grievance against the five years of misrule by the TMC, people would wholeheartedly vote for the alliance. They failed to realize that whatever may be the extent of this accumulated grievance, the situation has not become so that the people would choose the CPI (M) as the alternative forgetting all its misdeeds and wrongdoings committed just six or seven years back. The newspaper which was busy propagating success of the CPI (M)-Congress alliance before election itself wrote in an article published in its edition dated 22 May, i.e. after publication of the results: "With the all-knowing insolence and pungent tone of the CPI (M) leaders once again growing tall after raising hullabaloo over the alliance, whatever dust accumulated on the memory was wiped off immediately." Exactly so. Haunted by the fear of the CPI (M) coming back to power, people have voted heavily in favour of the

TMC. Not only the CPI (M) leadership, not even the TMC leadership and others had any inkling about it.

We also are of the opinion that the more the media support towards the alliance became pronounced and a bogey raised that "the alliance is coming to power", the more public opinion swung in favour of the TMC. By saying that the cheap stunt of distributing freebies has paid dividend to the TMC, one cannot explain how could the TMC win all the seats in the city of Kolkata. The fear about the CPI (M) has been the main reason. But the system and the practice of doling out privileges and favours that the CPI (M) established in rural areas through panchayats and wide scale nepotism was totally taken over by the TMC. Moreover, the TMC added some more schemes to it. Like the CPI (M), the TMC has also campaigned this time that unless one is with them, all these privileges and freebies would not be available. So, alongside the fear about the CPI (M), there was an undercurrent of the "desire to get some favours" by siding with the TMC. This could not be detected outwardly. This has happened in Jaynagar also. There, besides its solid organized vote, our Party SUCI (C) has not been able to secure the floating vote which plays an important role in determining the result. The massive distribution of money by the TMC-BJP-Alliance has also played its part.

The CPI (M) leaders are arguing that had they not entered into an alliance with the Congress, the BJP would have been in the second position. In their bid to justify an unprincipled alliance by culling weird logic, the CPI (M) leaders have been failing to notice that if such be the case, one is apt to conclude that the CPI (M) has no vote of its own. Everything is dependent on the Congress. Incredible indeed! If one asks where has gone the enormous vote the CPI (M) once polled, what answer would they provide?

At the end, we reiterate that the existence, progress and struggling role of the SUCI(C) do not depend on the victory or defeat in the elections. The movement of SUCI(C) against the anti-people bourgeois rules holding aloft the banner of struggling leftism in the interest of the people would continue as it is, come what may in elections.

Malegaon and let off of blast accused

Some pertinent questions need be addressed

Malegaon, a small powerloom-dominated town in Maharashtra with sizeable minority population witnessed a series of blasts in the last decade. The first was on 8 September, 2006 when bombs shattered the calm and festivity of Shab-e-Baraat. A mosque was attacked. Communal tension flared up. The Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) acting hand-in-glove with the local police, promptly arrested nine Muslim men from Malegaon and Mumbai under MCOCA (Maharashtra Control of Organized Crime Act) alleging that they, having link with a banned organization like SIMI, have committed the crime. Immediately they were sent to jail custody. This Malegaon blast was followed by a series of incidents of planted explosion — one on the Samjhauta Express, a train largely used by Pakistan-bound passengers in February 2007 at Panipat, then at Mecca Masjid in Hyderabad in May 2007, at the Ajmer Dargah in October 2007, and then once again in Malegaon in September 2008. Everywhere there were heavy casualties, mostly from the minority community. There were other terror acts here and there in the country. But the above-mentioned ones appeared to have a common pattern suggesting that those might all be handiwork of one particular group or outfit. But the insinuation was towards minority terrorist organizations.

It is pertinent to note that a year before the Malegaon blasts, explosives were found at the homes of members of Hindu extremist groups in different parts of Maharashtra. In Nanded, two Bajrang Dal workers had died while assembling explosives. Some mysterious blasts had taken place in Parbhani, Purna and Jalna and there were murmurs of Hindu right-wing activists preparing for an action. But a decisive breakthrough did not come before late 2008, when chasing some clues on Malegaon blasts the Maharashtra ATS hit upon Sadhvi Pragnya Singh Thakur, a RSS leader, Sameer Kulkarni, an *Abhinav Bharat* member, and Lt Col. Shrikant Prasad Purohit, a serving army officer. In 2009, the ATS filed a 4,528-page charge sheet that included extensive details on the real conspirators and on the planning and execution of the Malegaon blasts. Purohit was suspected to have provided the RDX for the bombs. On 8 January 2011, Swami Aseemanand, who was arrested by the CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation)

from Haridwar as prime suspect of the Samjhauta Express blast, made a stunning 42-page confession wherein he admitted to having planned terror attacks on Ajmer Sharif, Mecca Masjid, Malegaon and the Samjhauta Express. He further revealed that he, himself an RSS leader, along with other Hindutvawadi (Hindu communal) senior RSS leaders including Sadhvi Pragnya Singh Thakur chalked out plans for orchestrating serial bomb attacks on Muslim religious places as a retaliation for the terror strikes on Sankatmochan temple in Varanasi and Akshardham temple in Gandhinagar by Muslim fundamentalists. Incidentally, the Malegaon blast case was first cracked by late ATS Chief Hemant Karkare who later died in Mumbai Terrorist Attack. Karkare had exposed Sadhvi Pragnya Singh Thakur, former military Colonel Purohit and others for planning and involvement in the blast. Though Aseemanand later sought to retract his statement, a cover story 'In the Words of a Zealot' in the *Teelka* news magazine which reported it, corroborated Aseemanand's declaration of guilt with audio tapes. Swami Aseemanand's confession was the first legally admissible evidence of the involvement of Hindutvawadi activists in the series of blasts at minority-dominated areas including Malegaon. Ultimately the NIA (National Investigation Agency) which had taken over the charge, held these accused under the provisions of the MCOCA. It showed that the earlier promptness of Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in apprehending the nine Muslims was either a miscalculation because of over zealotness or driven by some other consideration or directive from influential quarters.

Apprehension about a definite motive behind the quick spotting of the 'conspirators' of Malegaon blast by ATS gained ground when it was found that even after submission of detailed charge sheets against the Hindutvawadis as per Aseemanand's confession, the case against the nine Muslim men arrested earlier was simply left hanging. Here it may be worthwhile to say a few words to introduce those nine 'conspirators'. They languished in jail for years with no defence. Most of them were too poor to afford legal help. Some of these men were targets of local rivalries. One of them was simply a namesake of another wanted man,

one Noorulhuda who supposedly belonged to the SIMI. One of them, Abrar Ahmed was once a police informer. In a press interview, he stated to have told the police that, while visiting the victims on the day of the blasts at the hospital, he had overheard some Hindu doctors say "It is our people who did this". After this, he claims, the police moved him to different cities, from one jail to another, brutally tortured him to be admitted to hospitals, and threatened him with dire consequences for him and his family. Even he named Sadhvi Pragnya Singh and Lt Col. Purohit along with other police officers who met him and advised him to stay away and support the local police. Obviously, such advices are tantamount to veiled threats and point towards coercive attempts to force the victim to make either fake confessions or dictated statements.

Innocence of these nine men was proved only because investigative agencies failed to get enough evidence. But even then, the ATS did not drop the accusations against them. Even the CBI, to which the case was later handed over, endorsed the ATS findings. It was only after the NIA took over the probe in 2011 that they got bail. But a week before the MCOCA court was to hear the discharge pleas of the Malegaon nine, the NIA reversed its stand and said the discharge could not be allowed. So they remained in custody till April, 2016. The NIA, however, booked four activists of Hindutvawadi outfits. Even in 2012, the NIA made a few more arrests and filed a fresh charge sheet against some, all apparently belonging to such outfits or known to be acting as close aide of already arrested Hindutva activists. Two of them were alleged to be bombers who along with others had planted four suitcase bombs in the train, Samjhauta Express.

Then there were the allegations from Rohini Salian, the special public prosecutor in the Malegaon blasts case 'from day one'. She complained of inaction from the NIA since 2011 when the UPA government was in power; in fact, in 2015 she filed an affidavit initiating contempt proceedings against the NIA for "weakening of the prosecution's case". She added further that a day before the court date of 12 June 2015, an officer of the NIA told her there was direction from a superior restricting her from appearance in the case and appointing someone in place of her as the prosecutor. She refused to comply with, without any written

order, but felt humiliated to work under any external pressure. The probe had definitely slowed down in very recent time.

And then came the biggest U-turn on the part of the NIA. Suddenly, this central agency under the union home ministry decided not to try Sadhvi Pragnya Singh and other accused under the stricter provisions of the MCOCA avowedly for want of 'credible' evidence. There are also indications that charges against Purohit are being weakened. Thus, the findings of late Karkare have also been thrown aside. People are askance what worked behind the decision of letting off Sadhvi Pragnya and other accused so inexplicably. A decade is marked by a queer sequence of events. Blasts, heavy casualties, communal flare-up; arrests on charges of terror link; innocence proved, yet the so-called conspirators are not discharged; fresh arrests made, detailed charge sheet with ample evidence submitted; at the same time probe processes slowed down over the years during which there is change in governments; finally reversal starts, those accused are let off to come out smiling from the jails.

Questions are being raised now: Sadhvi Pragnya or Lt Col Purohit and other accused Hindutva protagonists are respectable persons. Who is going to compensate for the loss of years, they spent in jail? If that be true what about the nine innocent men held in custody for nearly a decade even after they were declared innocent? Most, if not all, of them are poor and have lost their livelihood during this time? Who will compensate for that? Is it not pertinent to ask why the accused, against whom evidence are galore, are being let off? How is it that the public prosecutor herself had to file affidavit against the agency conducting the probe in such a crucial case on charges of slackness and inaction hampering judicial process? Why? Was there any external pressure from the power-that-be? Are not all these questions relevant even in a capitalist country which boasts of its rule of law and boasts of 'all are equal in the eyes of law'? Would it be incorrect to raise these questions when top level government functionaries as well as ruling party leaders and Hindutva preachers are more often than not found to reflect a communally biased mind? Is it not that anyone guilty of orchestrating heinous acts

Contd. on page 5

Demonstration in Tripura in Demand for Solving Citizens' Problems

Residents of Golkharpara and Sabujpalli belonging to Ward 49 under Agartala Municipal Corporation have been for long deprived of services that



the citizens are entitled to. Intense crisis of pure drinking water and devastating peril of mosquitoes plague people's life, as these are caused by lack of proper drainage, and permanent drains. The roads, often unmetalled, mud roads are not fit for even walking upon. Led by Comrade Subroto Chakraborty, a deputation demanding the solution of these problems of the Councillor, was staged by the SUCI(C).

Free Medical Camp in Delhi

On 11 May 2016, free Medical Camp was organized at Shakurpur in Delhi by the local committee of AIDYO. More than one hundred and fifty patients were meted out treatment and also served free medicine. At the



camp, Dr. Jiten Murmu, Sisters Veena, Gurmit and Uma from the Medical Service Centre played important role. Among the main organizers of the camp were AIDYO State Secretary Comrade Prakash Devi, Gautam and others.

Demanding Road Repair in Bangalore

On 13 May 2016, under the auspices of Save Bangalore Committee, a protest demonstration was held at Madhabnagar in Bangalore and a memorandum submitted to the concerned authority.

With M Shova as the president of the meeting and eminent individuals along with local people present, leaders of the movement declared that road blockades would be organized if roads were not repaired within three months.



AIDSO Movement Earns Victory in Jharkhand

Recently AIDSO earned victory in two movements in Jharkhand. In the DVC School at Bokaro AIDSO launched an all-out movement against the decision of the authority to abolish classes onwards from class VIII. Students and their guardians came forward spontaneously to join the movement which made the authority abandon the decision. (Photo shows the victory rally)

The Kolhan University students demanded photocopy of their answer scripts. Time and again scrutiny of scripts turned out not to be proper, going badly against the interest of the students. The AIDSO took up this issue and carried out signature campaign from students on the demand charter. It was submitted to the vice-chancellor. After prolonged dilly-dallying the authority agreed to the rational demand of the students. Besides these two, a number of movements are being carried out by the AIDSO in Hazaribagh and other districts. The victories have created enthusiasm and appreciation about AIDSO in mass mind.



French workers bravely battling against anti-labour reforms

Working people of France are out with a cudgel against the proposed labour reforms that is slated to lead to worse working conditions and more sackings. In March last, hundreds of thousands of workers from all major industries and high-school students joined protest marches across France to challenge plans to reform labour laws to favour big businesses. Organizers said more than 1.2 million people took part despite persistent rain. "Small employees are treated like dirt, we've had enough, (and) it's Hollande who pretends to represent the left," said Jean-Luc Gutel, a representative of struggling General Confederation of Labour (CGT) union. State railway SNCF said stoppages among its staff had cut some services by 40 to 50 per cent on Thursday. About one in five flights were cancelled at Orly airport south of Paris, the DGAC air transport authority said. But French President Hollande and his government refused to pay any heed to the surging voice of protest.

Undaunted, the fighting French working class and other sections of the toiling people went on protesting against the labour reform and a deeply anti-people reform package. In the western city of Nantes, police fired tear gas at protesters; while in the northern port of Le Havre, hundreds of strikers, mainly dockworkers, blocked all the main access routes into the city with barricades of burning tyres, the BFMTV rolling news channel reported. A waves of strikes swept across the country.

As continuation to that, some 220,000 workers hit the streets on May 17, with thousands more on picket lines, blockading fuel depots and occupying refineries in the ongoing battle against the new anti-labour law. The French government used a rarely invoked feature of the French constitution to force the reactionary law through the National Assembly on May 10 without a vote. Over 400,000 workers came out on May 19 to protest the law. These are the sixth and seventh national demonstrations against the regressive labour law in the past two months.

Six refineries out of eight are occupied, and most fuel depots in the north and west of France are blockaded. Major ports like Nantes-Saint Nazaire and Rouen on strike, with other ports shut down. Truck drivers, who have particular grievances over working conditions, are still out. Even though the workers' struggles have caused disruptions and aggravations for the population, 70 per cent of the people in France still oppose the law, according to the CGT.

In Nantes, the representative of the national government for the area invoked the state of emergency, which has been extended to November, to ban the demonstration scheduled for May 19. Still thousands of people showed up and "played cat-and-mouse with the cops for a few hours, risking six months in jail and a 7,500-Euro fine." Sixty-six people were arrested. (Agence France Presse, May 20) Thus, the whole country is virtually in revolt. The seven unions that have been active in fighting this law — the CGT, Workers Force, Unitary Union Federation, Solidarity, National Union of French Students, National High School Union and the Independent and Democratic Federation of High Schools — issued a joint statement on May 19 calling for nationally coordinated demonstrations on May 26 and a national protest on June 14 in Paris. The French Senate is due to deliberate about the new labour law on that day.

This unique protest of the French workers once again shows mounting wrath and anger of the people against strangulating capitalist oppression. What is needed is to organize these protests along right track under correct revolutionary leadership as conducive to anti-capitalist revolutionary movement. (Sources — Reuters 31-03-2016, Al Jazeera 28-04-2016, Workers' World 24-05-2016)

AIDYO Foundation Day observed in Pilani

On 22 May 2016, 50th Foundation Day of AIDYO was observed at Sainee Dharmshala in Rajpur- Pilani, Rajasthan along with the commemoration of the birthday of the great Renaissance personality Raja Rammohan Roy. Chief Guest at the programme Sher Singh garlanded the portrait of Raja Rammohan Roy. An exhibition on the thoughts of great men and revolutionaries of the country was displayed on the occasion. Through cultural performances, children from Balmeek residential area, attempted to reveal how children today are being deprived of education because of its commercialization. Main speaker Comrade Sher Singh from Rewari and AIDYO State Secretary Shankar Dahia addressed the gathering. Fani Mani was elected president and Vishnu Verma was elected Secretary of the new executive committee of the organization.

Corruption

Sweeping corruption of the powerful and influential is tearing apart society and people

Contd. from page 1

imperilled by severity of corruption. That "Police takes bribe" is already an adage. But, question now raised is who does not? Even for getting any petty job done, whether in any government department, income tax or sales tax department, or in municipality office, licensing office, gram panchayat office, electricity office, court of law, people need to pay bribe or extortion money. Not a single paper moves without money. Essential food articles instead of being distributed through fair price shops at fixed price are pilfered to open market for being sold at higher price with administration as mute spectator. In front of the very nose of police-administration, black-marketers and hoarders jack up prices creating artificial scarcity. Never can this be possible if the whole administration is not part and parcel of these malpractices. Even for securing a bed for a patient in serious condition in government hospitals, one has to catch hold of a tout and pay him as per his demand. In order to get one's child admitted in a good school or college, guardians need to pay hefty capitation fee. Backdoor admission can be managed for the non-meritorious students against stipulated payment to those "who matter". Rampant corruption in

Malegaon — some pertinent questions

Contd. from page 3

like bomb blasts killing and grievously injuring innocent people be severely punished no matter which outfit they belong to, which religion they profess or which language they speak? Is it not expected that the central investigating agencies, the punitive machinery in a democratic country conduct probes in an impartial manner, free from any bias or preconception and premise these on genuine evidences and then bring the culprit to book?

It remains for the common people to know and realize the truths, find the answers and muster organized and united strength to combat the vices and prevent them from persisting.

[Sources: *Frontline* 27 May 2016; *The Hindu* 8 December 2011, 30 November 2015, 25 April 2016, 27 April 2016; *Times News Network* 26 June 2015; *Live Mint* 17 May 2016; *The New Indian Express* 23 January 2013]

distribution of relief material during any disaster or natural calamity is a common feature. Relief articles are pilfered and then sold in open market. Big industrialists and businessmen are merrily misappropriating PF money of the workers with corrupt administration in tow. Poor peasants find crop procurement machinery dominated by an unholy nexus of corrupt administration-police-big business-cold storage owners-ruling party leaders that forces them to distress sale. Even in elections, the ruling parties take recourse to all corrupt methods including massive distribution of cash and freebies to win seats. There is, thus, not a single domain which is free from the stranglehold of corruption. Sweeping corruption of the powerful and influential is tearing apart the society and the people.

Total impunity to scamsters and fraudsters

People also find with annoyance and anger that while a poor petty thief is dealt with severely for his misdeed, law is blindfolded when it comes to the question of booking 'powerful and influential' for endless corruption. In one or two cases, some of the 'high level' scamsters or fraudsters are taken into custody for few days or months just for hoodwinking people. But, then with their "connections", "mentors" and "godfathers" perching atop the towers of power, their detention is temporary and punishment ever elusive. Exactly that has been seen in each of the above-mentioned mega scams of recent time. People also find it most depressing that there is criminal lack of accountability on the part of the political establishment, ministers and ruling party leaders about these scams involving billions and billions of rupees. Rather, they dish out lame excuses for showing deliberate amnesty to the culprits because everyone is tied to each other in this roaring trade of corruption and reaping benefits at the cost of the people. Experience is that after initial commotion and some fake sword-fighting over the large scale corruption cases between rival bourgeois camps of political power purported to play to the gallery, everything dies down and then gets buried under newer incidents. The kingpins of all major corruptions not only escape unscathed and unpunished but boastfully roam around and even anointed as

ministers, inducted in policy making bodies, rewarded with coveted postings and granted inexplicable reprieve. BJP Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been trying to impress upon people that all mega scams had taken place in previous regimes. But is his tenure free from any blot? Just a few days back, it came to light that monopolist Gautam Adani group, alleged to have got unimaginable favours from Prime Minister Narendra Modi from time to time, owes to the Public Sector Banks (PSU) almost Rs 72,000 crore which is equal to whole country's farmers crop loans. But, his personal wealth has seen jump of 80-85% to reach \$12 billion (Rs 816 billion or Rs 8.1 lakh crores) and he is now ranked as the seventh richest Indian in the world. (India Samvad and The Hindu—06-05-16) Similarly, another industry baron Vijay Mallya who has defaulted bank loans worth Rs 9,000 crores has been virtually holidaying abroad as a declared fugitive with Modi government making no serious attempt to bring him back and prosecute him. Would not these be viewed like 2G or Coalgate as classic cases of administrative-aided corruption? Such examples are galore in capitalist India. Those rearing and indulging corruption in every field of governance or business through mutual connivance, from top to bottom, are left untouched, rather nurtured.

Corruption is vitiating socio-cultural sphere as well

So, common people who are not that politically conscious seek to come to terms with this carnival of scams and all-pervading corruption assuming it to be *fait accompli* and hence not remediable. Tragically, the situation has come to such a pass that one is prompted to seek opportunity of making a fortune or some quick bucks through the corruption route. Even there is no conscience-pricking over that. A son questions his father why does he not earn something extra through illegal means so that there is some monetary ease in the family. While fixing marriage of his daughter, a father derives comfort in knowing that his would-be son-in-law is deft in exploiting scope for 'additional' income over and above his salary. The very system of dowry is nothing but a corruption having, so to say, social sanction. During election time, poverty-stricken people weigh which party or parties, no matter

howsoever corrupt they are, would reach out to them with some 'out of the turn' benefits. This is how the tentacles of corruption have spread into every walk of life and have not only taken an octopus-like strangulating grip on the socio-political arena but have been vitiating socio-cultural sphere as well.

All capitalist-imperialist countries are mired in corruption

Not only India, corruption is rattling the entire imperialist-capitalist world. Stray incidents of individual corruption out of greed or in pursuit of an ulterior motive even if it occurs here and there ought never to go unpunished. But what is seen today that corruption has engulfed all the imperialist-capitalist countries, big or small. US, the chieftain of world imperialism which often points out fingers at others for being corrupt, itself witnessed mega financial scandals like Enron, Bernard Madoff, Lehman Brothers, etc. in recent times. Unfolding of sub-prime crisis indicated how a bunch of punters mostly US-based defrauded the entire global financial system so much so that large banks and financial institutions turned bankrupt overnight. But, not a single of these mischief-mongers whose unlimited corruption wiped off billions dollars of public money was taken to task. Rather, they have been rescued through bailout packages from public exchequer and even rewarded. List of top political and financial bigwigs of US involved in scams and frauds is in public domain. Europe has been witness to financial frauds like Olympus and Tesco. Nick Lesson-led Barings Bank scandal caused the entire South East Asia to shiver on a tottering base. Widespread corruption in FIFA, football's world governing body, after IPL and match-fixing scandal in international cricket showed how dirtied is the arena of sports in capitalism. China after counter-revolution is allegedly a den of corruption. In Japan, governments had fallen because of sky-high corruption of the ministers. Wife of Israeli prime minister is accused of misusing public money for personal gains. The recent unfolding of Panama papers scandal shows that almost everyone from across the Establishment, the rich and the ruling class: current and former heads of state; business magnates; and celebrities, is

Contd. on page 6

Corruption

Corruption is institutionalized in capitalism today

Contd. from page 5

involved. All these go to prove that corruption is institutionalized in capitalism today with everyone perched atop the towers of power receiving one's share of the booty with impunity at the cost of the people.

Obvious link of corruption with the prevailing socio-political system

There is also a prevailing notion that corruption is the handiwork of a bunch of privileged crooks, a group of crooked ministers-politicians-bureaucrats or a few industrialists-businessmen wielding stupendous money power to skirt punishment. So, if these elements could be properly dealt with under appropriate law and removed from the hot seats of power and influence, problem of corruption would be eradicated. But, is the problem so simple? If that be so, then how is that despite changes of incumbents in government or reshuffling or replacement of top bureaucrats, there is no abatement of corruption? Let us see it from another angle. True that when anyone from the impoverished section resorts to pickpocketing, commits a petty theft or even small scale burglary out of appalling poverty and in absence of any means to eke out a bare livelihood, it is also corruption. But these petty thieves or burglars are more often than not punished under the punitive system. However, when it comes to mega-scale financial scams or corruption that the quarters of vested interest, influence or power commit for amassing ill-gotten wealth by large-scale violation, subversion, abuse, evasion and defiance of law, indulging in malpractices, bending rules and above all cheating others in connivance with the government-administration, the same punitive mechanism is found to be defunct, disabled. So, the question is that unless the existing capitalist system itself breeds corruption, why does it abet it or remain an indulgent onlooker to it? Why the bourgeois governments not only allow corruption to be so pervading and untrammelled but are themselves tinged with corruption? Can such be so unless the system itself is corrupt?

Thinking people particularly the educated intellectuals who feel seriously perturbed and concerned at the menacing rise in corruption including mega financial crimes, money-laundering and embezzlement of public fund through wrongful exercise of lawful

authority and malfeasance, need to seriously ponder over this question. In discharge of their social obligation, they ought to acquire the desired conceptual clarity about the issue so that they could realize what exactly the cause of this all-pervasive corruption is, what the remedial course is and how the very root of this menace and aberration could be extracted.

Socio-political root of corruption

While tracing the root of corruption based on scientific method of analysis and ferreting out the truth, it bears recall that no phenomenon in nature or society is without a definite cause, a definite objective cause. A causal relationship operates behind every incident, every phenomenon or aberration. The root lies in the given socio-political-economic system. It is extremely pertinent to note in this connection that so long a socio-political system, an ideology or a concept of morality is conducive to social progress and fights for advancement of civilization, it gives rise to higher culture and ethics. But when, following inexorable course of social development, the same very system or ideology becomes obsolete and hence reactionary, impedes social progress and obstructs advancement of civilization, it precipitates ethical and moral degeneration and breeds corruption. In other words, such all-embracing corruption can thrive only if the system itself becomes as rotten as to precipitate degeneration in every walk of life.

If one turns the pages of history and studies the course of social development on the anvil of scientific method of analysis and correlation of facts, it would be evident that during the initial phase of rising capitalism, those who sought to replace outmoded reactionary feudal monarchial system by a new democratic system with a new content were guided by the spirit of emerging bourgeois democracy. So, the exponents of bourgeois democracy introduced bourgeois values, norms, ethics and morality which were progressive in the then socio-economic context and conducive to social progress. Since those values and norms were then in consonance with the necessity of social progress, they stirred the whole society and brought a new awakening among the people. Exponents of democratic thoughts, the doyens of renaissance represented new man free from the filths and vices of obsolete feudal

system. But, today, following inexorable course of history, capitalism which is fraught with an internal contradiction and weakness because of being based on exploitation of man by man has entered its decadent moribund phase, turned utter reactionary and is obstructing social progress. As dying capitalism has become reactionary, it does not nurture any higher ideology today. Rather, in order to prolong its decayed existence, it is killing all noble ideals, morals, values, finer senses and other human qualities and at the same time systematically breaking all rules and regulations, flouting all norms and practices it itself preached during the days of its advent, and trampling underfoot even the barest precepts of the lofty ideals it had once preached. In other words, ruling capitalism is violating the same set of democratic principles and value system it once espoused fearing that even slightest preservation as well as cultivation of democratic values, ethics and morality might foster a spirit of protest against its oppressive, despotic rule and help blossom yet higher thoughts among the people, thereby endangering its worn-out existence. The more capitalism is mired in acute insolvable crisis endemic of the system, the more accentuated is the process of demolition of all codes and values, all morals, ethics and principles. This indiscriminate butchering of democratic values and principles is providing license to do any wrong without any compunction since the very system is premised on wrongfulness and annihilation of human essence and human quality. So, capitalism gasping in its death throes is mired in out and out corruption in every sphere. It is the root of all evils including corruption. Hence, anyone wedded to dying stinking capitalist system or its avid servitor, cannot remain insulated from corruption.

Financial crimes and corruption

With capitalism turning so brazenly reactionary and utterly corrupt, it is greed, lust for power and money and self-aggrandizement at any cost which are ruling the roost from top to bottom. Capitalism today is pushing everyone towards mad pursuit of wealth. Goaded by that, money making has become the one and the only one object of life. This rush for wealth generation is giving rise to the thought that motto of life is to grab money by any means. Everything else is secondary to this hot chase for money. Such

thoughts are not clutched out of the thin air but originating from the very socio-economic system of rotten capitalism. As we had pointed out on several earlier occasions, the arena of financial activity in moribund capitalism has been transformed into a punters' den where all operations veer around the sole objective of fattening individual purses by cheating others through crafty manipulations. Round the clock, there is virtually a mad competition among the giant corporates, monopoly houses and their subservient politicians-ministers-bureaucrats-legislators as to who can excel in cheating or defrauding to make more money and corner undue benefits. Merrily they are tampering the rules, violating procedures and indulging in a host of unethical activities and shrewd maneuvering for amassing wealth. Things have come to such a pass that kickbacks, graft and bribery are being regularized in the financial statements under the newly coined terms like 'facilitation fees', 'infrastructure installation amounts', etc. to ratify illegal exchange of money for self-serving. That makes it further evident that corruption is the fulcrum of the whole capitalist system today.

Marx's prognosis about money dominating everything in capitalism

It is pertinent to mention here that Karl Marx, way back in mid-nineteenth century when capitalism had not fully given up adherence to basic humanist values and bourgeois democratic principles, said, based on scientific analysis of social development, that money has become supreme, omnipotent. Everything in life including social relations is now subordinate to money. Elaborating further, Marx pointed out that in capitalism, money can no more be described as mere medium of exchange, something that people can use to buy and sell from one another. Money is something that holds its value over time. Whose value it holds? It holds the value of a specific commodity. A commodity is a thing which, first, satisfies some human need or demand and, second, is produced not for consumption but for exchange. Value of a commodity is created by labour in the process of production, but it can manifest itself only through the comparison of one commodity with another in the process of exchange. In other words, value is the social labour of the commodity producers embodied

Contd. on page 7

Corruption**Ambience of democratic mass movement will constitute an effective check on erupting corruption***Contd. from page 6*

in the commodity. Under the capitalist system, the basis of production relations is labour and capital. The capitalist ownership over means of production is used for exploiting wage workers or labour. The labourer is paid only a tiny fraction of his labour power or value of the commodity produced as wage by the capitalist owner. The unpaid wage is the surplus-value of the labour power of the worker which the owner appropriates as profit without any compensation. So, in capitalism, money does not only remain as a medium of exchange. Money becomes capital when it is used to exploit the labour power of others through appropriation of surplus labour as profit. Capital advanced by a capitalist i.e. put in circulation by him, returns to him with a certain increment (expressed by the formula $M-C-M'$).

We have briefly touched upon the basics of capitalist production to show that in the system itself, there is exploitation at the root. Already the labourer is deprived of his dues as per very law of capitalist production. Growing deprivation is congealed in the form of swelling profit and multiplication of capital or in general term, wealth of the capitalist owners. Over and above this, the working people are being squeezed of whatever little they are earning in the form of escalating price and then corruption. Whose money is swindled through corruption either by way of artificially and arbitrarily jacking up the prices of essential commodities or straightaway plundering public exchequer? A bribe or kickback or cut money hikes the price of the acquisitions and thereby deprives public fund. A tax evasion also deprives public fund of its due accruals. Say, in 2G scam, the bidders were allowed to pay lower price against payment of some kickbacks. In this way also, public exchequer is defrauded. Big industrialists are defaulting repayment of huge bank loans. It is people's hard earned savings that constitutes majority of the corpus of the banks. So, indirectly they are shoplifting public money whatever pleas they might advance in self-defence. While the ordinary bank depositors suffer badly and find rate of interest on their savings progressively lowered to make up the loss, the defaulting industrialists continue to rest on heaps of money. In hot pursuit of multiplying wealth through maximization of profit on

deployed capital through usurpation of surplus labour power of the working class, the ruling capitalists have steeped the society into thinking that 'money-making is sole object of life'. What, therefore, is revealed in no uncertain term is that the existing capitalist socio-economic system based on the law of profit and wealth to a few while exploitation-oppression-hunger-deprivation-destitution to the toiling millions is the breeding ground of corruption.

Socialism had no corruption

That capitalism is the source of all evils can be verified from another fact. After establishment of socialism which is the intermediary phase of transition from obsolete capitalism to classless exploitation-free communist society, in Soviet Union and then China and Vietnam —notwithstanding the fact that even after a change in the base structure, changes in the superstructure or the realm of mind do not occur instantaneously —corruption was on the path of dying its natural death. The changed economic-socio-political set-up that fully ensured availability of the material and cultural necessities of life and cultural environment of advancing socialism fostered a mindset totally abhorrent to adopting wrong means to secure personal gains. So long those countries scrupulously followed the laws of socialist development, this riddance from all evil practices of bygone exploitative regimes was spectacular. But, this process was reversed and corruption made a come-back after the modern revisionist leaders usurped power, deserted the path of socialism and conspired to bring back capitalism through counter-revolution. It only goes to show that if there is higher ideology, there is no corruption. But if there is absence of higher ideology or dominance of bankruptcy of thought, corruption not only thrives or dominates but virtually pedals the system.

Greed is not inborn

There is another related aspect that merits brief discussion. Carried by the incessant propaganda of the ruling bourgeoisie and its subservient circle that greed and corrupt tendencies have been congenital in man from the very inception, many people tend to believe that this inborn greed has begotten exploitation, inequality, discrimination, deprivation and such other maladies. This, too, is also a travesty of truth. As Comrade

Shibdas Ghosh, Founder General Secretary of our Party and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, in course of his elucidation of the history of development of human society had shown, greed has not been inherent in man. To quote his language, "...how erroneous are the ideas of those who consider that greed is an eternal trait of man — it was always there, it will remain forever — that the inequality in society is the outcome of greed, and it is because of greed in man that society got divided into classes, the rich and the poor, the haves and the have-nots. Many of them think that it is human nature that getting a chance one will always try to climb up to attain prosperity and invariably suppress others, and this is why there will always be some people who will prosper, and that inequality — the haves and the have-nots — will always appear in society. They tell this not from history but from their fanciful ideas. Otherwise they could have realized that it was not the base instincts that gave birth to inequality in society, rather it was the society built on inequality which gave birth to and helped sustain these base instincts in man. ...even with near-animal instincts in them, primitive man lived collectively; the clans or groups did not disintegrate. The class-divided society did not appear then, not to speak of the owner class and the working class." (SW, Vol. II p. 7 & 8) While searching for the root of rising corruption, if this consciousness does not dawn upon people they will reconcile to live with all the aberrations, misery and penury assuming that all these are ordained to stay for good.

Only democratic mass movement can provide effective check on corruption

Viewing from long-term perspective, it is now clear that so long as capitalism exists, there can be no respite from the strangulating hold of corruption. If capitalism is overthrown, the very root of corruption would be extracted. In order to put an end to the exploitative capitalist set up, the urgent need is to organize anti-capitalist revolution armed with the ideology of Marxism-Leninism, aimed at establishing scientific socialism and based on higher proletarian ethics, morality and culture. So no fight against corruption can succeed unless it is linked with and is conducive to the struggle for overthrowing capitalism. Those who think that corruption in

capitalist society can be totally wiped out through legal recourse or resurrecting old religious thoughts of soul-purification are, therefore, in an illusory world.

But we know that revolution can come by only at logical culmination of the due process. Till the time revolution does not come by, the task of the people particularly working class is to organize democratic mass movements against all acts of corruption and in demanding that the punitive machinery should spare none guilty of corruption. This is the short term perspective of the anti-capitalist struggle. It bears recall that so long as the fervour of freedom movement prevailed in the country, corruption was under considerable check. Even for a few years after political independence and transference of power to the Indian national bourgeoisie by the British imperialist rulers through compromise, the wrongdoers were noticeably restrained as there was still considerable influence of the glorious freedom struggle. But as that influence started receding and capitalist rule was progressively consolidated in independent India, corruption began to raise its ugly head. Things started becoming worse after the pseudo-Marxists like the CPI(M), CPI, true to their compromising social-democratic character, not only shunned the path of movement but began to emasculate left-democratic struggles from within as well as brutally crush mass struggles where they have been in power to curry favour with the ruling capitalist class for pelf and power. With the pressure of people's movement on the wane, floodgate was opened for unabated pursuit of corruption by the quarters of vested interest.

So, it is clear that in the present capitalist socio-political set up, only a stream of organized sustained powerful vibrant democratic movements based on higher proletarian ethics, culture and morality conducive to anti-capitalist revolutionary movement can be an effective bulwark against this avalanche of corruption and put a rein on the desperateness of the powerful and influential sections to indulge in corrupt immoral acts with impunity. It is the ambience of this mass movement, the realm of thought fostered by the spirit of this movement which will constitute an effective check on erupting corruption, scams and scandals.

Recent Gujarat bill seeks to establish ruling party control on education, curtail democratic rights

The Gujarat state assembly passed Gujarat State Higher Education Council Bill, 2016 on 31 March that too most undemocratically in absence of the Opposition in the House. Of course, strong voice of dissent is being raised in the entire state against the dangerous provisions of this Bill. Sensing that, the BJP-led state government preferred to take this secretive route so as to claim unanimity over this highly anti-education move. The Gujarat Higher Education Council to be formed under the recommendations of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the *Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyaan* (RUSA) is headed by the state chief minister which is not the case with any other of the eight states having similar councils. Moreover, question is also raised that when the state already has a Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat (KCG) comprising educationists and intellectuals, what is the need of such a council?

This council, viewed as the supreme body for deciding everything regarding higher education shall comprise the chief minister as the president and the state education minister as the vice-president and all other members nominated and appointed by the state government. Obviously this will be a body of persons close or directly linked to the ruling party and would only be an instrument for implementing its decisions. Moreover, the council shall be a body legally entitled to acquire, hold and dispose of properties of universities and colleges, particularly their vacant or unused land or buildings, to enter into contracts to put to commercial use those properties of educational institutes thereby paving way for further accelerating



Protest Dharna on 10 May

privatization of education. It will also affect the democratic atmosphere of free debates and discussions and the democratic rights of its teachers and employees in the academics. An indication of the shape of things to come is evident from a recent suggestion by the state government that it will decide the topics of research to PhD students such as government programmes like *Gareeb Mela*, *Swachhata Abhiyaan*, etc. diluting the very purpose of research and using universities as tools for implementing the political agenda of the ruling party.

AIDSO has already vented out the protest of Gujarat students against this move. Alongside, the All India Save Education Committee, the organization of teachers, professors-intellectuals-professionals has also recorded its resentment and protest. On 10 May it led a protest dharna (squatting) at the main entrance of Gujarat University which was addressed by Professor Rohitbhai Shukla, President of the Gujarat chapter of AISEC and a well-known economist. Other eminent persons who addressed were Prakashbhai Shah, renowned journalist, Professor Kanubhai Shah, leader of Nav-Nirman Movement Manishi Joni, former registrar of Hemchandracharyya North Gujarat University Dr Dilipbhai Patel, President of Part-time Lecturers Association Dineshbhai Shah, Professors Hemantkumar Shah and Sanjaybhai Bhabe. They all condemned this move of the state government.

On 17 May a delegation of about 35 alumni of MS University and concerned citizens of Vadodara submitted a memorandum to the Governor and requested him not to sign the Council Bill. The delegation included Shri Anil Kane, former Vice Chancellor, Smt. Veenaben Mistry former pro Vice Chancellor, Professors Deepak Kumar De, H. C. Dholakia, and I. I. Pandya, Shri Tapan Dasgupta, Shri Dhuru Mistry and others.

Haryana AIKKMS state conference decides greater movements

A two-day long Haryana State Conference of AIKKMS was held at Bhiwani on 15 May 2016 with delegates hailing from 13 districts of the state. It was addressed by Comrade Arun Kumar Singh, prominent peasant leader as the main speaker as also by other peasant leaders. Holding the anti-peasant policies of the central and the state governments responsible and strongly condemning those, all the speakers brought out emphatically that peasants are not getting proper price for their crops. Yet there is continuous hike in the cost of agricultural equipments, as well as that of manure, pesticides etc. The bigger companies are keeping on their total hold over seeds; middle and small peasants are slowly losing their lands,

whereas sharecroppers are not getting work the whole year. In Haryana as also in other places many farmers are driven to suicide out of their desperation over debts.

The conference decided upon launching statewide movements of peasants and sharecroppers, on demands of fair price of crops, increasing subsidies in agriculture, remission of agricultural debts, adequate irrigation and work facilities for everyone. It also elected Comrade Anup Singh Matenhel as the state President, Comrade Jaykaran Mandauthi as the Secretary.



AIDSO demands reintroduction of pass-fail system right from class I

Comrade Ashok Mishra, General Secretary, AIDSO, has issued the following statement on 30-05-2016:

We, AIDSO vehemently oppose recommendation of the Subramanian Committee to reintroduce pass-fail system from Class VI and demand that pass-fail should be and must be introduced from Class I immediately. It is no more a matter of dispute that the 'No Detention Policy' has destroyed the very foundation of elementary education of our country and the data placed in the reports of all government-appointed committees will support that. But this foul policy has not been withdrawn. AIDSO organised series of protest movement throughout the country and due to this continuous pressure of students' movements and strong opposition of the teachers, guardians, educationists and education-loving people, the Government is compelled to introduce pass-fail system from Class VI. They are reluctant to reintroduce pass-fail from Class I as the 'No Detention Policy' is a part of the design of their privatization-commercialization policy. Though reintroduction of pass-fail from Class VI is a partial victory, we will continue our movement till the demand is fully achieved. AIDSO will organise a Parliament March on 20 September to voice this demand.



A joint demonstration was held at Azad Maidan on 17 May 2016, by SUCI (Communist), CPI, CPI (M), CPI(ML)-Liberation, against the bail and exoneration of the accused Sadhvi Pragya Singh Thakur and others in Malegaon Bomb Blast case in Nasik District of Maharashtra, by the NIA under the Modi Government of NDA. Comrades A.K.Tyagi, Secretary, Mumbai Organising Committee, SUCI (Communist), CPI (M) leader Mahender Singh and CPI leader Damle addressed the demonstration

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH