

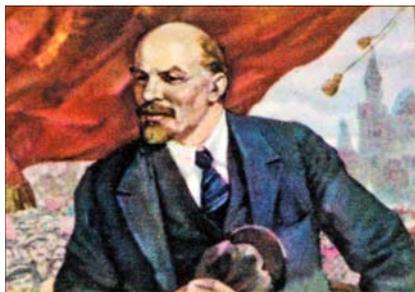
Proletarian Era

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“...the bourgeois economists depict this crisis as mere ‘unrest,’ ...On the other hand, revolutionaries sometimes try to prove that the crisis is absolutely hopeless. That is a mistake. There is no such thing as an absolutely hopeless situation. The bourgeoisie behaves like an arrogant plunderer who has lost his head; it commits folly after folly, making the situation more acute and hastening its own doom. All this is true. But it cannot be ‘proved’ that there is absolutely no chance of its gulling some minority of the exploited with some kind of minor concessions, or of suppressing some movement or uprising of some section or another of the oppressed and exploited. To try

to ‘prove’ beforehand that a situation is ‘absolutely’ hopeless would be sheer pedantry, or juggling with concepts and catchwords. ...The bourgeois system all over the world is experiencing a most profound revolutionary crisis. The revolutionary parties must now ‘prove’ by their practical actions that they are sufficiently intelligent and organized, are sufficiently in contact with the exploited masses, are sufficiently determined and skillful, to utilize this crisis for a successful and victorious revolution.” (“Report on the International Situation and the Fundamental Tasks of the Communist International,” in the Second Congress of the Communist International, 19 July -7, August, 1920—CW. Vol. XXV, p. 340-41)

Nefarious US design centring Jerusalem

Blatant attack on Palestine’s just cause violating all international norms and consensus

On 6 December, 2017 the US President Donald Trump, already known for his unrelenting arrogance, stunned the world with his new declaration that the United States would move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. It implied that Jerusalem would be Israel’s capital and would thus come under Israel with control over the entire Jerusalem, while at present, by repeated international agreement, Israel’s sovereignty over eastern Jerusalem is not internationally recognized. Jerusalem is supposed to belong to Palestine. Trump trumpeted for his declaration as being a mark of ‘beginning of a new approach to conflict between Israel and the Palestinians.’ (AFP—Livemint 07-12-17)

Trump’s decision sparks off fresh conflict

Whether and how far will it mark ‘a new approach’ is sure to be unfolded. But instantaneously this abjectly haughty pronouncement typifying the chieftain of a power-monger brigand of the US imperialism, ushered in near universal condemnation and diplomatic fallout as well as fresh ‘conflict’ between the Israelis and the Palestinians. The Palestinians had come out on the streets with protests and clashes in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip from anxiety, resentment and wrath. There were cries: “The gates of hell will be opened in the West before the East”. The Zionist Israel, usual for them and right now elated at Trump’s

declaration, retaliated with tear gas, rubber bullets and live rounds, even air strikes which took a toll of several lives along with more than 1,100 people wounded within a span of just three days from 6 to 9 December. This was reported by Palestinian health officials. In Hebron on 7 December, over 20 Israeli soldiers arrested Fawzi Al-Junaidi, a 14-year-old boy, blindfolded him and marched him off to detention. This inhuman act went viral in social media drawing widespread condemnation including bitter comments like, “Israel is a terrorist state. We will not abandon Jerusalem to the mercy of a child-murder state.” Masses of thousands, even going to tens of

Contd. on page 2

SUCI(C) holds that articulated gripe of four Supreme Court judges reveals what kind of grave unprecedented crisis the highest level of judiciary is plunged in

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 13 January, 2018 :

Four senior judges of the Supreme Court in a hurriedly convened press conference revealed serious infirmities, irregularities and interference in the administration of the Apex Court and brought grave allegation of assigning of the sensitive cases to the chosen junior judges by the Chief Justice of India (CJI). This has simply stunned the people of the whole country. The four aggrieved judges also brought another serious allegation that their letter pointing out their reservation about the refusal of the CJI to delete the petition filed by journalist B R Lone seeking probe into Justice B G Loya’s mysterious death has not been replied by the CJI. The Bombay Lawyers’

Association, it is pertinent to mention, has alleged that the petition filed by B R Lone in Supreme court was intended to stall hearing of an already submitted petition on the same issue by the Association in Bombay High Court. Justice Loya was hearing in the trial court the case of a fake encounter in which Amit Shah, the BJP President, is one of the accused. Family of Justice Loya, it may be recalled, has alleged that his death was unnatural and came after he was offered Rs 100 crores as bribe to rule in favour of the BJP leader. The aggrieved judges also charged that the collegium of appointment of judges is acting like a coterie. They also held that a barter system is prevailing among the collegium members. The whole country is shaken by all these shocking revelations. If the judiciary to whom people look upto for getting

ultimate justice is embroiled in such worrying controversies that point at miscarriage of justice, is there anything that people can expect in this decadent moribund capitalist system ?

It is thus revealed once again that the judiciary is not at all free from the dangerous erosion of moral, ethical and democratic values going on unabatedly in every sphere of life – economic-political-social-cultural. Task imperative is to immediately develop powerful organized people’s opinion against such tampering with the judicial process to put a rein on this degeneration of the judicial system. We call upon the countrymen to come forward and take up the task of asserting pressure of concerted people’s protest against such marginalization of judiciary.

Jerusalem issue

On Jerusalem, the US imperialists stand brazenly isolated to people of the world

Contd. from page 1

thousands protested in countries across the world: the Palestinian territories, Jordan, Turkey, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Iran, Malaysia, Lebanon, Indonesia, Egypt and Morocco and elsewhere. Solidarity actions also took place in London, Brussels, Paris, Rome, Amsterdam and Berlin in Western Europe, in Canada and in the cities all over the United States.

Condemnation rose from streets to diplomatic levels

The condemnation rose from streets to diplomatic levels. So unjust and heinous was the US move in naked violation of international norms and consensus that even the imperialist countries of the world as well as the reactionary rulers of many Arab countries could not but denounce it. In the Arab countries, Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Hamas leaders, the leaders of Hezbollah, the Lebanese militant group and the Arab League foreign ministers, among others, expressed their opinions in strongest words, calling the US declaration, 'a violation of international law', 'a provocation' towards creating a situation of instability', 'a declaration of war on... the best Muslim and Christian shrines'. In a summit meet of theirs in Turkey, held a week after Trump's declaration, the leaders of the OIC demanded of the UN to ensure end of "the Israeli occupation" of Palestine and "just and comprehensive peace based on the two-state solution". They also committed to recognize the state of Palestine and Jerusalem as the capital of Palestine. 'Trump rips mask off U.S. phoney 'peace process'" was the general reaction. Strikingly, even the traditional US allies, who have hitherto been acting like trusted partners of US imperialism either in the belligerent brigandage of the NATO in Europe or in reckless exploitation and precipitation of wars in the Middle East could not refrain themselves from taking a stand against the US, thereby isolating the US imperialists in the world politics. Thus, the US allies in Europe such as Britain, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, as also the European Union spokesman and the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia in the Middle East are among others who criticized Trump over his decision and questioned the wisdom behind it. Margot Wallström, the Swedish foreign minister termed it

'catastrophic'. It also came out as one of the few times a Russian foreign policy view had converged with that of most NATO member states.

Defying threats from US rulers, majority countries reject US move in UNSC and UNGA

Not just these. Mr Donald Trump, the chieftain entrusted with holding the banner of the world-ravaging US imperialism, stood isolated also on the world platforms. The US had to use veto in an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to stall an Egypt-drafted resolution on which the USA stood alone with all other 14 members of the UNSC standing against it. The resolution affirmed that any "decisions and actions which purport to have altered the character, status or demographic composition of the Holy City of Jerusalem have no legal effect, are null and void and must be rescinded in compliance with relevant resolutions of the Security Council" along with regretting at "recent decisions concerning the status of Jerusalem." However, it did not name Trump or the USA,

With UNSC failing to pass the resolution, an emergency special session for the UN General Assembly (UNGA) was sought for. Held on 21 December that session of the UNGA also delivered a stinging rebuke to Donald Trump and the USA, voting by a huge majority (128 to 9 with 35 countries abstaining and 21 absent) to reject Trump's unilateral decision on Jerusalem and to support instead the longstanding international consensus on the status of Jerusalem as a special international city. Baring its ferocious face of international gangster, Nikki Haley, the US ambassador to the UN, who had written to about 180 of 193 member states saying that she would be "taking names" of the countries who voted for the general assembly resolution against the USA. Even Trump himself threatened to withhold "billions" of dollars of US aid to the West Asian countries such as Egypt, Afghanistan and Iraq. But disdaining all such threats and intimidation, these countries had voted for the resolution against the USA. Such deplorable was the US position that twenty-two of the 28 EU countries in the UNGA including again the UK, France and Germany – which in the past, at most, had

abstained on measures relating to Israel— could not but opt for voting in favour of the anti-US resolution. Of the 9 states voting against, besides the US itself and its accomplice brigand Israel, all others were small 'satellites' of the US like Togo, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Marshall Islands, Guatemala and Honduras. Abstaining members and the absentees suggested that the Trump's warning over cut in funding and Israel's hectic lobbying in favour of US might have had some effect. But significantly enough, unlike many previous occasions, the UN was found to act against US diktat, thanks to the efforts of smaller countries, apparently innocuous in determining course of events in world politics. The scenario even contained pronouncements of the sort: "No honourable state would bow to such pressure"; or "The belief that 'I am strong therefore I am right' has changed. The world today is revolting against injustices", or "States resort to such blatant bullying only when they know they do not have a moral or legal argument to convince others." True, bigger powers, even traditional US allies voted against the US with a lukewarm response, may be, out of fear of isolation from the prevailing world opinions. Nevertheless, the US was brazenly cornered for wanton violation of all internationally agreed upon norms and decisions. Zionist Israel, its audacious lackey, expressed frustration when it said of its intention to cut its ties with the UN. (Guardian 21-12-2017) The arrogance and defiance of the two, the USA and Israel, will be further attested from a brief account of the historical background of the issue of Jerusalem involving the imperialists, Palestine and Israel.

Imperialist machination built belligerent Israel, throwing Palestine into dark future

It may be briefly recalled that even before Israel came into being, Palestine had already been there with beautiful habitations of Arabs for centuries, largely as part of the Turk Ottoman Empire. But its native Jewish people spread out over the world in search of a better life. Also about half a century before Israel state was born, the Zionist political movement developed among the European Jews aspiring for a Jewish state in Palestine. With strong, even aggressive religious and ethnic feelings, Jewish settlers, mostly affluent, plantation owners and

users migrated into Palestine and settled there. They forcibly grabbed land from the native Arabs with the help of their privately raised army, secret terrorist outfits in real terms, as buying land from the Arabs was prohibited. The Arab villagers also provided cheap labour to the settlers. As Zionism became further aggressive, the Arabs started losing their land and home. The shrewd Jewish settlers not just occupied lands. They destroyed everything, every bit of building stones, even the graveyards that belonged to the Arabs, so much so that Arab villages were completely erased from history. The settlers could boastfully present to any visitor that they had built up their villages out of nothing but a desert, a barren, vast land. Divided and disunited among themselves on tribal, ethnic and other grounds, the Arabs were evicted helplessly in thousands. Colonialist- imperialist powers, playing a hand in the Jewish settlers' design, started looking at Palestine as a country 'without nation' and thus encouraged colonialist infiltration of the Jewish settlers. After the First World War, Palestine came under the British rule. In 1917, the British colonialist government dished out the Balfour Declaration for sponsoring a "national home" for the Jews in Palestine, endorsing the Zionist design. Trump's move on Jerusalem, incidentally, coincides with the centenary year of that Balfour declaration!

However, till 1948 Palestine was a British mandate reeling under the British imperialist exploitation along with the feudal rule of the Jordanian King. But the relation between the British imperialists and the Zionists had already been strained with the US imperialists penetrating into the region. Zionist terrorist outfits, such as Irgun and others, worked against even attacked the British and launched terror attacks on the Arabs. In its direct move, in 1946, the US President Truman approved the recommendation to admit 100,000 displaced Jews into Palestine. In October of that year, he publicly declared his support for the creation of a Jewish state. To give a stamp of approval to this imperialist design for creating a Jewish state, the UNGA on 29 November 1947 adopted Resolution 181 to partition Palestine into Jewish and Arab states in May 1948, the year the British colonial mandate was scheduled to end. The

Contd. on page 9

Drawing inspiration from the teachings of the Great November Revolution, Hold high the banner of Communism

Call of Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya at a Mass Meeting in Guwahati

[These are excerpts from the speech Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) delivered at a meeting in Guwahati District Library Auditorium on 9 November, 2017 to mark the closing ceremony of the year-long programme of observance of the centenary of the great November Revolution. Comrade Chandralekha Das, Secretary, Assam State Committee presided over the meeting.]

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya said: This meeting is organized by the Assam State Committee to mark the closing function of the year-long programme for celebrating the centenary of the great November Revolution. The objective of observing this centenary is to determine our tasks today on the basis of the teachings of the November Revolution and realization of its significance.

Distinctiveness of November Revolution in the history of mankind

He stressed: November Revolution is a unique and great event in the history of human civilization. There is a distinct and definite difference between the November Revolution and all the other revolutions in the world that preceded it, principally the French Revolution, the American War of Independence, the democratic revolutions in the different European countries — they all played very important roles in the process of development of society, in social progress. The French Revolution unseated feudalism and monarchy from power and established bourgeois democracy. The fundamental difference between the November Revolution and all these other revolutions is that though they played determining roles in the then societies, they could not put an end to exploitation of man by man. November Revolution accomplished this for the first time in history, and therein lies the profound significance of the November Revolution. Secondly, in the French Revolution, the American War of Independence or the other bourgeois democratic revolutions following them, spontaneity played a big role, though assuredly they were organized through the awakening of new consciousness and new thinking. The November Revolution was the first revolution which, though there was spontaneity in it, was based on a correct scientific theory. This revolution was organized through concretizing the abstract general theory and philosophy of Marx's dialectical materialism, by giving it a concrete form, by particularizing it, by making the entire mass of exploited people conscious, by organizing them and giving birth to theoretical knowledge in the workers and peasants and the common people. Great Marx, on the basis of dialectical materialism enunciated historical materialism, developed the world of knowledge and formulated the laws of social change. The top intellectuals subservient to the capitalist class could not nullify these laws in spite of their earnest efforts. They had to bite the dust. November Revolution actualized the application of

the theory of Marx. Marx showed that the ever-acting contradiction between productive force and production relation is the determining factor for bringing about social change. The correct scientific idea for bringing about social change is to give birth to new production relations which are in consonance with the growing needs of the productive forces. Marx said that leaving aside the miniscule number of the highly rich people, the owners, the vast masses of the exploited people have to be organized and made class conscious. It has to be explained to them that the capitalist class, the rich people, the oppressors and the



exploiters constitute less than 10 % of the population, and that the emancipation of the working class from all forms of exploitation can only come through ousting this class from power through revolution, and thereby smash the productive system under their control, and establish social ownership over the means of production in the production system. Basing on this theory of Marx, great Lenin set out to organize revolution, and it was under his leadership that the great Russian Revolution was accomplished in 1917. As a matter of fact November revolution and Lenin are one and indivisible, they are completely identified. He described this revolution as the beginning of world revolution. This revolution has a long history.

Lenin, architect of November Revolution

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya said : because of lack of time in this meeting I can not discuss in detail the struggle of building up the true revolutionary party in Russia under Lenin's leadership, the process of making the people class conscious under the party's leadership, the process of building up the party organization and other such questions. But of course it is very necessary to know the detailed history of the Russian revolution. In the process of bringing about this historic proletarian revolution in Russia on the basis of correct application of Marxism, Lenin created a vast store-house of knowledge,

and developed Marxism to a new height. What a vast amount of knowledge is stored in his speeches, in every line of his writings. It is the bounden duty of revolutionaries of all countries to regularly and thoroughly cultivate this store of knowledge. Because of time factor I shall confine myself simply to a few of Lenin's invaluable teachings. Karl Marx the great teacher and leader of the proletariat, the exponent of Marxism and communist philosophy, conveyed the quintessence of communism through a beautiful expression, 'communism is humanism minus private property.' While building up communist movement and the communist party in Russia, as well as the international communist movement, the architect of Russian revolution, great Lenin took all the necessary steps to follow this fundamental guiding concept. He lucidly explained the necessity and revolutionary significance of getting declassed, whose essence is to free oneself from all the thoughts and ideas of the capitalist class and be imbued with the revolutionary thinking of the working class. Following the thoughts of Marx he propounded the theory of building up the true communist party of the working class being freed from the private property mental complex, and gave birth to the concept of professional revolutionaries. On the question of building up the revolutionary party of the working class he further said that only those who, in relative sense, have not much attachment to private property and are relatively free from private property sense truly belong to the class of the proletariat and for that they have the potentiality of acquiring communist character and building up the revolutionary communist party. Class conscious individuals will come from this class through a definite process of struggle for being freed from capitalist class thoughts and imbibing the revolutionary thoughts of the working class, that is being declassed. It is they who would build up the revolutionary party. They would lead and accomplish revolution forging unity with all other oppressed classes. Lenin said that even among the working class, bourgeois thoughts exist as a pollutant. So those who want to build up a revolutionary party must release an intense struggle to be free from such thoughts. He said that they would be the leaders of revolution in whom, through the process of struggle to be declassed, the realization has become firmly rooted that there is no life outside revolution. About the membership of a revolutionary party Lenin said that this membership cannot be given to all and sundry. Anyone aspiring to be eligible for membership must go through tests and trials and be engaged in a struggle. It needs to be mentioned that on this question Lenin had strong differences with Plekhanov, Martov and others. These persons including Plekhanov considered themselves to be Marxists. But they failed to grasp the essence of Marxism. Their view was that intellectuals, doctors, engineers, so-called scholars need not go through the process of

Contd. on page 4

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech

November Revolution actualized application of the scientific Marxist philosophy

Contd. from page 3

starting to work at the lowest level. They can be given immediate membership. Lenin vehemently opposed it. He said that if this is done, the party, instead of being a revolutionary party, would be an agglomeration of some windbags devoid of class consciousness. There was a division in the party on this issue, and this was one of the reasons of the split of RSDLP into Bolsheviks and Mensheviks.

Question of revolution is linked with the question of correctly determining the character of state power

To explain from another angle, what is the correct understanding of revolution, Lenin said that the basic question of revolution is the question of state power. Elaborating this further, Stalin said – what does it mean? It means to correctly determine – which class is in state power and therefore which class is to be overthrown by which class, in alliance with which classes to take power – such is the main question of every revolution. That is why correct understanding of the character of the state is vital for accomplishing revolution. Marxists are aware that, in the ultimate analysis, the existence of the state depends on the military. The ruling class enjoys power based on its military strength and it uses the military to counter any attempt to unseat it from power. The ruling class uses the military in its attempt to smash revolution. And for revolution to be successful, the organized revolutionary proletariats must effectively counter the military onslaughts. On this question, another aspect is very important – every state has a class character. In the contemporary world, there are two types of state, one is the state of the capitalist class, the other is the state of the working class, that is, the socialist state.

Conditions to be fulfilled for revolution

Continuing further, Comrade Bhattacharyya said that Lenin discussed many aspects of the state; without correctly comprehending all these we cannot form a correct and comprehensive idea of revolution. Lenin said that in class divided society the state is an instrument of coercion in the hands of the ruling class. In a bourgeois state it is a routine for the state to suppress and oppress 95 % of the people. Herein lies the unjust and illegitimate nature of the capitalist state. On the other hand, the socialist state exists to protect the interest of 90 to 95% of the people and to hit back at the counter-revolutionary activities of the capitalist class, a miniscule proportion of the population. So the basis of the socialist state exists on the foundation of justice and legitimacy. In all capitalist-imperialist states 95 % of the people lead a wretched life because of ruthless exploitation by the capitalist class. They die helplessly or choose death over life. Hence there is a natural anger among the exploited people against the rich class, the capitalist class. In this sense in a class-divided society the objective situation for revolution is extant, and in a class-divided society revolution is inevitable and

inexorable. But in spite of that, revolution will not come by itself. Hence Lenin emphasized again and again that revolution will not come by automatically. Based on spontaneity no revolution can be accomplished. To bring about revolution what is necessary is a revolutionary party founded on the correct revolutionary theory. The party has to tirelessly work in villages and towns, in all localities near and far among the toiling people, making them conscious more particularly about class position so that they can realize the correct revolutionary theory. The party needs to establish the leadership of the revolutionary party over them. Hence, one essential precondition for revolution is the objective condition, that is, the real situation, the other is subjective, that is, that is, the situation in the realm of idea, pertaining to thinking and consciousness. Both the objective condition and subjective condition must mature – only then revolution can be brought about. In a precise, scientific and lucid way Lenin stressed: “Without a revolutionary theory there can be no revolutionary party.” And further, to deepen our realization regarding the issue of revolution, he cogently expressed, “socialist consciousness comes from without.” Stated simply this means realization of theory of socialism is not born by itself in the exploited class. This thinking has to be brought to them from outside. Herein lies the indispensable necessity of a revolutionary theory and a revolutionary party. On the question of the right way to imbuing the people Lenin explained ‘Go to the people’; ‘learn from the people’, ‘people are the sole judges.’ Through this process the people will gradually become conscious; they would critically judge the stands of the revolutionary party and through experiments and practice accept them. One cannot predict beforehand when revolution will take place in a country, on which precise date it will happen. To explain this point Lenin expressed it beautifully, ‘when the ruling class feels they cannot rule and the ruled people feel they cannot be ruled’ – that is precisely the exact moment for bringing about revolution. Though not exactly the same, a similar situation did develop in India at the final stages of the freedom struggle. With the glorious march of the Azad Hind Fauj, 1942 ‘quit India’ movement and the naval mutiny, the mental state of the Indian people had reached the stage described by Lenin. They were not in the mood to tolerate the imperialist exploitation and occupation for a day longer. Then British Prime Minister Robert Attlee was forced to admit in Parliament that the condition in India was such that it was impossible to rule it from Britain. Not only among the people, even among the armed forces there was revolt. He declared that therefore by July 1948 the British would leave India. Actually that was the situation after the glorious armed struggle of the Azad Hind Fauj, and the militant 1942 ‘Quit India’ movement. What I want to stress is that such revolutionary situation does not necessarily culminate in a revolution. How soon revolution would come about would depend on how effectively the leadership of the revolutionary party has worked to generate revolutionary consciousness among the masses.

Adventurism is not revolutionism

Another important teaching of Lenin in the context of accomplishing revolution is that any sort of adventurism will not bring about revolution. The cause of revolution is immensely harmed by the politics of individual assassination or any adventurist action. What the Naxalites in India did through armed actions or what currently the so-called Maoists are doing – individual killings or sporadic armed actions – will not succeed in dislodging the capitalist state structure. If an individual oppressor is eliminated immediately another person of the same oppressor class would take his place, and in reality this is what is happening. Revolution cannot be accomplished unless two pronged struggle—one through incessant struggles in the fields of ideas, thoughts and ideology, at the same time conducting democratic movements and class struggle, to deepen their class consciousness thereby to attain mighty power to strike at the foundation of the exploitative system. Many of you would know that before the revolution there was a movement called Narodism whose contention main thesis was that the Russian people’s emancipation from exploitation would come through killing the Czar and his henchmen. Even Lenin’s elder brother was greatly influenced by Narodist ideas. Because of his involvement he was hanged by the czarist administration. It has come to light that young Lenin was very shocked at the hanging of his patriotic brother. At the same time, while paying proper respect to their patriotism he also said that their path was not correct. Through individual assassination an atmosphere of tension and excitement may be created for the moment, but this would not bring about revolution. Comrade Bhattacharyya mentioned that the product of Lenin’s deep philosophical thought on this issue is the celebrated work, ‘Leftwing Communism – An Infantile Disorder’. It is important for all of us to deeply study and comprehend this book rich in philosophical thought.

From united front of democratic movement to class front of revolution

Explaining another important Leninist teaching, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, founder General Secretary, SUCI(C), and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, said that through conduction of long-standing democratic movements with a class content, condition will be created to switch over from the united front of the left-democratic forces to the phase of class front. In this way through the intensification of class struggle, condition for launching last offensive against the bourgeois state will be created and in this way the unjust order — the bourgeois state — will collapse. Explaining further the Leninist concept, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, our great leader, teacher and guide said that during the phase of conduction of democratic movement i.e. the stage preceding the final stage of seizure of power, all attempts will have to be made to forge unity with all parties which are known as left and democratic parties on the basis of agreed

Contd. on page 5

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech

Leaders of revolution would be those who through struggle are declassed and having realization of Marxist philosophy firmly rooted in them

Contd. from page 4

common demands. The people who are under the influence of such parties have to be drawn into the vortex of these movements. We should not harbour any rigid and fixed ideas about whom we should form alliance with to conduct the united movements, try to draw into the movement all of those parties and forces who support the demands, are willing to participate in movements, at least to some extent, and who have influence over a section of the masses. Our approach should be to move jointly as far as we can with this party or that. It should be borne in mind when the revolutionary party moves with the principle of unity-struggle-unity the character of the parties would soon become clear as a result of these two pronged approach. The people would soon come to realize the character of those who are trying to misguide the movement to unjust compromises. We need not worry too much on this point. With this dialectical materialist outlook we should exhaust whatever influence they might wield over the people. Herein lies the pertinence and indispensability of united movement.

Revolutionary party must have wisdom to work in diverse ways

About the path to be followed, Lenin further said that a revolutionary party must acquire the ability to work in diverse ways and with wisdom. It has to acquire the skill to conduct the struggle in many ways, open and underground, legal and illegal, parliamentary and extra-parliamentary. We marvel that while conducting the revolutionary struggle in Russia into what details he went and in what depth he discussed this. He said revolutionary movement is an uncompromising movement – it is a struggle by the proletariat to oust the exploiting capitalist class. There is no

compromise on this point. But from a tactical point of view, if necessary, we most certainly have to follow the policy of 'one step forward, two steps back'. If such a necessity arises such action cannot be called unethical or weakness. On this point there is an excellent example before us. After the revolution Lenin said that the peasants constitute the majority of the Russian people, and they would be in alliance with the working class in the revolution led by the working class. But they were somewhat lagging behind in the context of the acquiring working class revolutionary thoughts. In this situation, before the revolution they had to be assured that after the revolution the policy of 'land to the tiller' would be implemented. So, after the revolution, while maintaining the overall ownership of land by the socialist state, land was distributed among the peasants. Hence in order to encourage the peasants, they were allowed to sell their agricultural products to a limited extent, under the overall supervision of the socialist state. At the same time to abolish private property and eradicate the private property mental complex, an intense cultural- ideological struggle was launched among the peasants and all sections of the general people. The party and the revolutionary government had to keep in mind that on this issue everyone did not have the same position. The poor, oppressed peasants still had strong attachment to land. Ruthless czarist oppression and torture and the definite promise to get land drove the Russian peasants to form alliance with the working class in the revolutionary struggle and the worker-peasants' unity accomplished the revolution. Lenin was fully aware that in this situation unless the peasants get the minimum quantity of essential items and consumer goods, the dethroned and vanquished capitalist class

there was no other way. He said that there was no cause for anxiety; within a short period they would be able to revert to the previous system. This is what actually happened. NEP was withdrawn within three to four years. To tackle a very difficult problem with astounding realism Lenin delved deep into the issue, and provided important teaching for us and made us conscious. His correct realization shines through every line of his writing. Even in socialist economy that there is a special category of state-controlled business principles, accountancy, etc., which truly constitute the principles and methods of socialist economy. Lenin called our attention to these steps and policies and strongly emphasized the importance of correctly comprehending them.

Lenin exposed the character of bourgeois parliamentary election

Comrade Bhattacharyya then drew attention to another important issue. He pointed out that dealing with another very crucial issue - the issue of periodic elections in bourgeois system—which take place in capitalist countries at some time intervals. He said that Lenin explained the true character of bourgeois parliamentary elections and said that these elections are instruments to delude and dupe the people and to perpetuate the capitalist class rule. He further said that the elections that take place every four or five years in capitalist countries in reality means which bourgeois party would exploit the people during coming years. Comrade Bhattacharyya pointed out further that when Lenin exposed the deceiving character of the bourgeois elections, then in the elections, though not so universal in those days, the malpractices and hypocrisy were not so rampant as today. Yet he correctly realized the grave danger inherent in the sense of illusion about bourgeois elections prevailing amongst the common people. Today the elections are a despicable farce. Therefore, Lenin clearly exposed the true class character of bourgeois elections and called upon the exploited people to free themselves from the illusion of bourgeois elections. Comrade Bhattacharyya highlighted an important guidance from Lenin on the question of elections. In pre-revolution Russia there was an institution called Duma, which was not exactly a parliament; it had no power to make any legislation or in formation of the government. It was a house for discussions and deliberations. There were only very few representatives from the working class, and most of the members belonged to parties who were protectors of the Czar. Under Lenin's directive the revolutionaries took part in the Dum election, and some were elected. Then in 1905 when a strong possibility for revolution materialized Lenin called for a boycott of the Duma. Again, when that revolution did not materialize, Lenin directed the revolutionaries to take part in the election to Duma and other bodies wherever there were opportunities. Why was such a directive given? Lenin said that because the revolution failed, a

Contd. on page 6

Movement for improved healthcare in Hailakandi



On January 6, a protest rally was taken out at the initiative of SUCIC) Hailakandi District Committee, Assam, on demands for the all-out development of the Hailakandi Civil Hospital. A memorandum highlighting the demands was submitted to the Health Minister through the joint operator of district Health Department. The joint operator promised to make the hospital pollution-free and also appointment of a surgeon within 15 days and fulfilment of other demands as well.

would take advantage and hit back at the newly born socialist state. He was also equally aware that at that particular time it was not possible to meet the needs of essential goods of the peasant population by depending upon on socialist industrial sector. In this situation he showed the way by framing the New Economic Policy. Under this policy, the deposed capitalist class was granted limited permission for a limited period to produce some essential commodities, subject to some definite conditions and under the overall control of the socialist state. Calling it a temporary retreat, Lenin stressed that

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech

Revolutionary situation does not necessarily culminate in a revolution but depends on correct revolutionary theory, correct revolutionary party and generation of correct revolutionary consciousness among the masses

Contd. from page 5

sense of despair was working among the people. To get over this state of affairs, for exposing the true nature of the czarist oppressive regime and for bringing back the people to the track of revolution, these institutions must be utilized and revolutionaries must take part in the elections to these bodies. Applying dialectical materialist approach in explaining this policy and its true purpose Lenin wrote in his beautiful language, "Our decision to boycott Duma at the growing tide of revolution, and our decision to enter into Duma during the receding tide of revolution are both correct." In other words, in 1905, when there was a rising tide of revolution and people were eager to take revolution forward, the decision was to boycott Duma, and when the revolution failed, when the people were engulfed in a feeling of hopelessness and despair, the need was to launch movements inside the Duma also to lift the people out from despair and to start the preparation for revolution anew, the decision was to get inside the Duma. Both the decisions were correct.

Right of Nations to Self-determination

Another great theoretical contribution of Lenin is on question of the right of nations for self-determination. Explaining the real purport of self-determination Lenin stressed that this does not mean separatism or secessionism. Its real significance is the emancipation of an oppressed nation from an oppressor nation in the domain of a big state. Explaining this difficult but important topic he said that when within a country one nationality is exploited and oppressed by another majority nationality, only then would the former have the right to secede, and that would be legitimate. Except in this case the proletariat class can never support separatism or secessionism. Lenin has further showed that a big state even if stricken with exploitation has some useful aspects.

Communists alone are torch-bearers of real democracy

In this moribund stage of capitalism nationalism has taken the form of decadent and reactionary bourgeois nationalism. In the present era, in all countries, revolutionary movements have to be built up and struggles are to be conducted on the basis of proletarian internationalism. Then again on the question of democracy, Lenin correctly observed that in all countries, the ruling bourgeois class and their henchmen have been attempting to weaken the revolutionary movement of the working class by clamouring about democracy. They are propagating the slander that communists are anti-democracy. Exposing their true character Lenin explained the correct concept of democracy. He said that in a class-divided society, we have to examine democracy for which class. When society is divided into exploiter class and exploited class, and two mutually antagonistic class thoughts exist in the society, every thought and

idea necessarily has a class character. In this situation the exploiting class tries to maximize exploitation and the exploited class tries to oust the other class. Hence the concept of democracy cannot be the same for both the classes; because the fundamental point in democracy is democratic right. And if talking of democratic right we have to talk about democratic right for which class and against which class. Lenin firmly averred that instead of talking in this specific manner those who simply go on clamouring about democracy are clever rogues or fools.

Exposure of social democracy as a compromising force

Another important contribution of Lenin in world communist movement is exposing the true character of social democrats. Starting from the days of Marx and Engels, two opposing thoughts were reflected within the working class movements more particularly with the trade union movements based on legitimate demands. One trend was to ultimately compromise with the capitalist class creating confusion among the people while talking of movements, struggles, etc. The other trend was to continue the uncompromising fight till the demands are met. This division within the working class movement was present at Lenin's time also. Understanding the antagonistic contradiction between labour and capital, that one is trying to oust the other, an individual has to decide on his position in the struggle. But the compromising forces, though they talk about socialism, and at times even of Marxism, ultimately, with their thought process protect the interest of the bourgeois class. They are the social democrats who do not want to accept that revolution will come through mass insurrection, and vehemently oppose this idea. They are of the view that socialism can be brought through elections. Marx himself had to fight against this trend. When such ideological confusions permeated the First International Marx dissolved the First International Afterwards Engels built up the 2nd International. Later Kautsky and others brought in the thesis in the 2nd International that mass insurrection is not necessary, it is possible to establish socialism through elections. Lenin strongly opposed this and in this context said, "acceptance of class struggle is not enough, acceptance of class struggle must end in the acceptance of dictatorship of the proletariat." Lenin exposed the treacherous role of the social democrats, the compromising force between labour and capital within the working class movement, and said that true trade union movement is not economism, it is not a movement just for getting some monetary benefits for the workers. Revolutionary trade union movement is a 'school of communism'. The real meaning of this is that it is a movement for winning the legitimate demands of the workers and at the same time it is a movement for instilling revolutionary consciousness, communist consciousness.

Revolutionary organization and activities

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya also highlighted a few other profound contributions of Lenin and his teachings. Masterly applying dialectical materialism, Lenin made path-breaking discussions on revolutionary organizational matters and directing the organizational activities. He said, 'Do not lag behind the people, also do not go much ahead of the people'. About the cadres of the communist party he said, "better fewer, but better". Again he said, "We communists are the descendants of all national heroes". His guideline was, "concrete analysis of the concrete situation". He said that we must not forget that though capitalism has reached the moribund stage, its striking capacity remains intact. Great Marx gave a call for holding high the banner of proletarian internationalism, forsaking all forms of separatism based on race, religion, language, etc. Basing on this thought of Marx, Lenin directed his revolutionary activities. In strong words he criticized separatism, secessionism and parochialism – he also severely criticized big Russian chauvinism. He called upon all the leaders and cadres to free themselves from these tendencies. He drew attention of all the communist fighters to the fact that the capitalist class has under its control a strong propaganda machinery. He stressed that they have to effectively counter it. So a communist must be a good propagandist, which means the communists must be very skillful in uncovering the truth in their propaganda. Further, Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya pointed out that on these questions there are many more guidelines and teachings from Lenin, and that it is necessary to study and cultivate them, but because of lack of time he could not go into these. He hoped that while celebrating the centenary of the November Revolution the comrades would resolve to deeply study all these invaluable teachings.

What caused debacle of socialism

Mentioning a few more points about Soviet socialism, Comrade Bhattacharyya said that after the revolution in 1917, its powerful influence spread all over the world. The working class all over the world was jubilant at the establishment of the first working class state. The message that Soviet Russia has put an end to exploitation of man by man spread to all corners of the world. Communist parties began to be set up in different countries, the working class movement got a strong fillip, and the anti-imperialist movements in colonial countries attained a new dimension. In Lenin's lifetime Soviet socialism mightily shook the world. However, within a few years after revolution Lenin expired, and his worthy disciple and comrade-in-arms, Comrade Stalin took the helm and the responsibility fell on him of guiding the Soviet state. The onerous responsibility of carrying forward the task of socialist construction of the Soviet Union on the firm foundation of advanced understanding of Marxism that started

Contd. on page 7

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech

Lenin emphasized on removing parliamentary illusion from the masses

Contd. from page 6

under Lenin's leadership fell on the shoulders of great Stalin. The progress of socialist economy under Stalin's leadership electrified the whole world, and the progress of Soviet Union went on unhindered. The progress astounded not only the people of the Soviet Union, but of the whole world. The socialist state not only provided livelihood to all citizens, but the people's right to work was ensured. Food, clothing, housing, education and medical care were free or were offered at nominal cost. While this signal progress was going on, a danger loomed on the horizon. The imperialist powers combined and propped up fascist Hitler as an anti-communist bulwark against Soviet Russia and thus Hitler eventually attacked Soviet Union. How the patriotic people of Soviet Union under the leadership of great Stalin defeated fascist Germany is a stirring episode in history. The Soviet victory against Nazi fascism was a wonder to the world. Love and respect of the people of the whole world was showered on Soviet Union. The appeal of socialism became sky-high. In this situation was the 19th Congress of the Soviet Communist party held in 1952. The Report to the Party Congress, prepared under Stalin's leadership, showed that the spectacular material progress of Soviet Union and the phenomenal increase in production in the 35 years since revolution surpassed that in the advanced capitalist countries, even that of the topmost capitalist country, USA. Because of all this, inside Soviet Union and outside, an idea became prevalent among the people that communist system is not far off. When highlighting this spectacular material progress, Stalin also mentioned with great concern that in the theoretical, ideological and cultural fields the struggles inside the party and outside, involving the people, that needed to be conducted with all seriousness it deserved, were not undertaken with the desired intensity, vigour and reach. As a result some harmful ideas, capitalist thoughts, individualism, private property sense etc. were raising their heads in the Soviet society. Stalin firmly declared that cultivation of proletarian culture was to be seriously conducted inside and outside the party, intense uncompromising struggle against capitalist thoughts and ideas has to be carried out and thereby the ideological consciousness has to be enriched to meet the demands of the time. From this warning note of Stalin it is clear, that in spite of the phenomenal economic development and the glory of the victory over fascism he correctly identified the serious problems. It is apparent that he identified the true nature of the problems of the Soviet Union, and probing deeply into them he felt the urgent necessity to tackle these. Going through the Report at the 19th Congress, one gets the impression that Stalin was going to launch an all-embracing cultural movement. But soon after, in 1953, Stalin suddenly passed away, and it could not materialize. After Stalin's demise, modern revisionists under the leadership of Khrushchev usurped control of the party and thereafter the state power also. After coming to power they systematically and in a planned way started to encourage capitalist thinking, the mindset for

individual gain and for enhancing individual income under the cloak of socialist verbiage in the arena of directing the activities of the state, in the domain of economy, in the field of education and culture. When the urgent necessity was to correctly grasp the essence of communism and on this basis to promote and to take deep inside the party and the society the ideal of identifying the individual interest and the social interest, what we witness was just the opposite. As against collective thinking, they encouraged individual-centred thinking and the mindset for individual gains and benefits. As a result, the individual started to nakedly demand greater affluence, more money, more pay, greater comfort, and such narrow self-centered bourgeois thoughts raised their heads.

The heinous conspirators stoked up vile capitalist thoughts and ideas stamping on them the label of socialism. Because of this conspiracy ethics, idealism, sense of duty were all thrown to the wind; consumerism became rampant in the society. The worst type of capitalist culture, all forms of decadent culture, pornography, sex and perversion made deep inroads into the society. The culminating effect was that socialism, which once attracted universal admiration and wonder, could not be saved. Capitalist counter-revolution destroyed it.

Bringing about all-round progress of civilization and society and the sky-high achievements of the Soviet Union astounded the world – its downfall in spite of all these and the sad consequence of that has come as a great shock to the people inside and outside Soviet Union. But the proposition of science is that nothing happens without a cause. We hold that it is pursuance of modern revisionism that has brought about the downfall of socialism first in Soviet Union, then in the East European countries and China, and capitalism has been restored in these countries.

Forewarning of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh

Ever since the Khrushchevite revisionists came to power inside the party and in the state, our beloved leader and teacher, the great Marxist thinker of this era, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh has stressed the point again and again that modern revisionism is nothing but infiltration of bourgeois thoughts and ideas with a cloak of socialism and is the protector and bearer of capitalism. He said that revisionism takes root in socialist society as a result of relatively low ideological standard, low standard of thinking. Comrade Bhattacharyya said that for long 35 years modern revisionism deluded the people, talking of 'new socialism' 'socialism with a human face' and adopting such other dirty tricks did everything to bring back capitalism in the economic domain, in the social and political arena, in the cultural sphere. This type of revisionist activities were not confined to Soviet Union, in China also modern revisionism raised its head with full force. The harmful effects staled the communist movement of the whole world. Mao Zedong was still alive. Taking lesson from the degradation of Soviet Union, and to save China from this fate he launched the historic Great Cultural Revolution. The great Cultural

Revolution under the leadership of Mao Zedong conducted struggles against revisionism in the sphere of ideology and thought process and this influenced the whole world. The Cultural Revolution of China considerably helped to make the people of the world understand what is modern revisionism, what is its true nature. This Cultural Revolution continued for six years, and 'the capitalist roaders' like Liu Shaoqi and Deng Xiaoping were completely defeated and stripped of all powers.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's pointer towards menace of 'socialist individualism'

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh hailed the Cultural Revolution of China and said that the Chinese struggle against infiltration of capitalist ideas and thoughts within the socialist system was extraordinary and magnificent. At the same time he pointed out some of its weaknesses. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said that this great Cultural Revolution had many novel aspects. And the Cultural Revolution was successful in ousting the modern revisionists from power. However, to totally eradicate all the roots of modern revisionism it was necessary to evolve the necessary new theory. Though Mao Zedong leadership went very near to evolving the theory, ultimately it did not succeed. In a socialist state, after relative economic stability is attained, there arises the danger of appearance of a new type of opportunism. Unless there exists a current of intense ideological-cultural movement, the working class movement becomes a victim of a 'new form of economism', and a new type of individualism which Comrade Shibdas Ghosh termed as 'socialist individualism'. During Lenin's time when economic opportunism raised its head in the European working class movement, Lenin strongly condemned it and said that workers' movements are not an arena for practising economism. Workers' movements have to be schools of communism. Elaborating this thought, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said that after exhausting bourgeois humanism, the communist consciousness of today needs to reach such a stage where individual interest and social interest become one and the same. Within the party and within the society we must strive to give birth to the concept, to the realization, that there is no antagonistic contradiction between individual interest and social interest. Going beyond individual gratification of wants the individual needs to realize that the all-round development of the individual will be ensured only through all-embracing advancement of the society. Comrade Ghosh boldly declared that if this theoretical understanding is established in the international communist movement through powerful ideological struggles, if it penetrates as deep as it can, only then would it be possible to give defeat to modern revisionism. Comrade Ghosh mentioned that though the Chinese Cultural Revolution went a long way it, however, could not offer a precise theoretical formulation. With great concern he remarked that in this situation, even if revisionism is temporarily defeated, it would again raise its head in future. And this is exactly what

Contd. on page 8

Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya's speech

Lenin exposed the treacherous role of the social democrats, the compromising force between labour and capital

Contd. from page 7

happened after the demise of Comrade Mao Zedong. Modern revisionism reappeared in China under Deng Xiaoping's leadership and in its course in 2004 capitalism was restored through counter-revolution. This disaster has saddened the toiling people of the whole world and dealt severe blow to the cause of worldwide working class revolutionary movement.

Temporary setback of socialism does not negate Marxism-Leninism

Obviously capitalism-imperialism has tried to take advantage of the temporary setback of socialism and the world communist movement. It has tried to malign Marxism-Leninism in every possible way. But Comrade Asit Bhattacharya stressed that whatever be the attack there is no reason for despair for anybody. In this world and in the universe incidents happen, so also accidents – both have causes for their occurrence, nothing happens without a cause. Science has demonstrated that the universe is law governed; it exists obeying certain laws. It can never be forgotten that in the realm of science and scientific outlook, the governing theory is that we can only move forward through experiments and observations. Science does not talk of only success or only failure; at any particular moment, if there is apparent failure or incompleteness to know what ought to be known or achieve what ought to be achieved, science exhorts to strive tirelessly to arrive at that goal through more advanced experiments and observations. We must be steadfast in this belief. The downfall of socialism in the Soviet Union, China and other countries has to be judged with this scientific outlook on the basis of the correct understanding of Marxist scientific and philosophy. The world-shaking 1917 socialist revolution of Russia was

not the manoeuvre of a person or a group, it was not a trickery and not an event which happened accidentally. It was made possible through correctly following science and strictly following laws of social development. It was a magnificent historic uprising based on correct realization of philosophy and science, and making all people, except the handful of exploiters and their lackeys, stand firm on the foundation of truth and making them conscious.

Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought illumines the path

So, whatever attempts may be there, this great truth, this sunrise cannot be dimmed or eclipsed. Viewed from another angle, the downfall of socialism, inspite of being a negative and destructive one, is also a reality. It is an event which happened following the law of causality. So we have to follow scientific method to find out its main cause, the real cause and determine the correct way to come out of it, and thereby philosophically demolish the counter-revolutionary ideas and thoughts. Giving birth to new man, to new thought, we have to cross over this counter-revolutionary stage on the basis of Marx's thoughts and raise the banner of scientific socialism. Lenin's historic teachings and exhortations — "Turn your disadvantage into advantage". Then again "Turn your grief into determination." — these are our guiding stars. In pursuit of knowledge there is no place for skepticism, anxiety or worry. The truth of the science of Marxism is unchallengeable and in that sense it is invincible. No obstacle can block its victorious march. The antagonistic contradiction between labour and capital exist in the capitalist system and would exist so long this system would be there. The capitalist system can never get rid of that and it can never escape

from the consequences resulting from it. This contradiction will have its expression in the ideological sphere which in turn will surely give birth to newer, higher and adequately powerful anti-capitalist thoughts and ideas ushering in development of very powerful revolutionary movements that will ultimately lead to the downfall of capitalism. In this way, this contradiction will be resolved through abolition of the capitalist system. Marxism will shine brighter with the glow of newer understanding, newer realization only. The idea of new MAN to whom "labour is the prime want of the life" as envisaged by Great Marx will become a reality through newer and newer realization and relentless struggle. Following Marxist concept, scientific socialist society will make rapid strides towards communism. It is very precisely here that the vital path breaking teachings and exhortations of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh become very very pertinent. Indeed he has illumined the path for revitalizing the revolutionary movement in the whole world, including Russia and China by providing the new and correct theory of identification of social interest and individual interest — and based on that guidance, and on that alone, we have to march forward with determination. This is the call of the centenary of great November Revolution.

Inquilab Zindabad!

Long live great November Revolution!

Red Salute to Lenin,
the great leader of the proletariat!

Red Salute to Stalin,
the great leader of the proletariat!

Red Salute to Shibdas Ghosh,
the great leader of the proletariat!

Commemoration of the Day of announcement of Azad Hind Government in the Andamans



On 30 December, under the initiative of 'Educational and Cultural Organization' in the Andamans, a whole-day programme was organized to commemorate this day on which Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose had hoisted the flag of independent Azad Hind Government at the Gymkhana Ground in Port Blair in 1943.

Demands were raised to observe 2017-2018 as the Platinum Jubilee year of the Flag Hoisting in a befitting manner, declare 30 December as the hoisting of Freedom-Flag not only in the Andamans but throughout the country, include in the school text books Netaji's life-struggle and the glorious struggle of Azad Hind Brigade, and naming Port Blair as Subhas Chandra Bose Port.

Victory of Students' Movement in Hyderabad

At the Chaitanyabharti Institute of Technology and Management – a private institution in Hyderabad, the annual fees already as high as Rs.1,13,500, have been further hiked to Rs. 2 lakhs and that too in the middle of the session. In protest of this, AIDS, Telangana –Andhra Pradesh built up a Students' Struggle Committee mobilizing the students. Along with the guardians, a sustained movement was developed under pressure of which the college authority was forced to withdraw the fee-hike decision.

Schools Closed by BJD Government in Odisha

BJD Government in Odisha has closed 828 schools including primary and upper-primary schools on the plea of roll-strength being of less than ten. Reportedly, 8547 such schools with a roll-strength less than twenty-five are under the scanner for being closed. Many of these schools are in the acute poverty-stricken tribal areas. It is relevant to mention here that pass-fail system had been abolished earlier in these schools. So, cause of poor enrolment is not the pass-fail system but appalling poverty. This once again nullify the tenability of the argument that re-introduction of pass-fail system would trigger more drop-outs.

Jerusalem issue

Israel banditry on Palestinians is a crime against humanity

Contd. from page 2

area of religious significance surrounding Jerusalem, precious to the major 'Abrahamic religions' namely Judaism, Christianity and Islam, was agreed upon to be governed by a "special international regime" under international control, as the city of Jerusalem was recognized as a separate "international city". So, the imperialists divided Palestine even before Israel was formed!

As per the UN resolution, Israel was proclaimed on 14 May 1948 as an independent Jewish state. The US imperialist rulers had already supported the resolution 181. Now they recognized Israel right on 14 May 1948, but encouraged negotiations between the Arabs and Israel, to keep the prospect with the Arabs alive. Thus Israel was formed through imperialist machinations with the evident US support and the Palestinians were thrown into an uncertain future by the imperialist hawks. The arrangement not only took away the land from the Palestinian Arabs, but also installed a perpetual enemy ready to get at their neck. The Arabs naturally resented it.

On 15 May 1948, there started an Arab-Israeli war which continued till March 1949 in former mandatory Palestine, Sinai Peninsula and southern Lebanon, between Israel. On the one side in support of Israel was a coalition of Arab states then united under Egypt and including Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Yemen, with overt and covert support and assistance of the imperialists, mainly the USA. On the other side was the Arab Liberation Army consisting of volunteers from Palestine and neighbouring Arab countries and the Kingdom of Iraq. The mentors, the designers saw to it that Israel won. Agreement came in 1949, with Israel gaining territory formerly granted to Palestine in the UN resolution and thereby occupying about two-third of the then Palestine. The armistice border left Jerusalem divided, by what was called Green line as it was drawn in green ink. It left Israel in control of the western half of Jerusalem and Jordan in control of the eastern half, which included the famous Old City.

The 1948-9 Arab- Israeli war, thus, had sliced off a large chunk of the former Palestine and handed over to Israel. In reality, the war turned into massacres and forced eviction and expulsion of the Arabs in hundreds of thousands to take refuge in adjacent countries. Those still refusing to yield were pushed back into continuously squeezing

territory, nothing more than ghettos. They were assured of peace and statehood by the cunning imperialists, by that time headed by the US imperialists. But subsequently when Israel took the rein of aggressively occupying their territory with all sorts of lethal – financial-political assistance from the imperialists, the Palestinians found in each case of fresh aggression their hope thrashed again and again.

Status of Jerusalem

Thus during the 1967 Six-Day 'blitzkrieg' war, Israel seized control of East Jerusalem and the West Bank located in Palestine from Jordan, the Gaza Strip and the Sinai Peninsula from Egypt, and the Golan Heights from Syria. Since then, all of the city of Jerusalem has been under Israel's authority, though Israel's sovereignty over East Jerusalem is not recognized internationally. Palestinians see East Jerusalem as the capital of a future Palestinian state.

U.N. Resolution 242 of 1967 asked Israel to withdraw from all territories occupied in the war that had taken place earlier that year. Security Council Resolution 252 of 1968 specified that Israel should rescind "actions that tend to change the status of Jerusalem", including the expropriation of land and property. In fact there were 10 Security Council resolutions on Jerusalem, dating back to 1967, which included requirements that the city's final status must be decided in direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. But all were in vein! Israel, as usual, expanded its territory forcibly occupying adjacent lands of neighbours and evicting the population there. Particularly gruelling was the Israel's war of aggression against the Palestinians.

The Arab leadership which was once united was split apart with several countries like Egypt, Saudi Arabia, etc., compromising or even siding with the US imperialists and the revisionist Soviet leadership only playing a weak-kneed role on face of US imperialist aggressions. The Palestinian leadership also suffered split and factional feuds. Yet the people of Palestine, without much resource and arsenals, showed their zeal and determination to keep their fight on three pillars of their cause, namely demand for an independent state for them, the right to return to their lands from which they had been evicted by the Zionist Israel and control of Jerusalem as their capital.

Jerusalem itself bears the same history of treacherous aggression. It

had a majority Palestinian population before 1967. Now it is a Jewish majority city, as the Israeli occupiers drove away its original inhabitants and settled Jews on the vacated land. Not only the imperialist countries, even others including the Arab countries did not raise any voice against this glaringly unjust occupation. Even so, more than 40 per cent of the population in the holy city consists of Palestinians. Israel treats Palestinian residents as foreigners who have been benevolently bestowed the right to reside in their city and has issued "permanent residency" cards to them. They live in constant fear of their residency being revoked by the Israeli authorities anytime. Since 1967, Israel has revoked the citizenship rights of more than 14,000 Palestinians and built Jewish colonies in the middle of densely populated Palestinian localities in East Jerusalem. Around 200,000 Jews live in such areas today under the protection of the Israeli security services. According to the U.N., since 1967, 20,000 Palestinian homes have been destroyed by Zionist Israel in Jerusalem.

In July 1980, Israel passed a law that unilaterally declared Jerusalem the united capital of Israel. The United Nations Security Council responded with a resolution condemning Israel's annexation of East Jerusalem and declared it a violation of international law. The countries which hitherto had embassies in Jerusalem withdrew them after this resolution was adopted. Another Security Council Resolution of 1980 warned Israel to stop construction activities on the West Bank and Jerusalem. Such acts, the resolution warned, amounted to a "flagrant violation" of the Geneva Convention. Again, nonchalant and defiant of all international laws, by which it is bound as a member of the UN, Israel continues with its belligerent onslaughts upon Palestinians.

Gaza aggression exemplifies cruel state terrorism of Israel aided-abetted by the US imperialists

The relatively recent 2008 Gaza aggression stands out as singular instance among these onslaughts showing the savagery of the occupying Israeli army and gruesome plight of the Palestinians. In November 2008, the Israeli army made an incursion into the Gaza strip. Gaza, occupied by Israel in 1967 war and then returned, is often referred as 'the biggest concentration camp in the world',

where nearly one and a half million (fifteen lakh) Palestinians and others are crammed into a land 40 kilometres long and just 5 to 12 kilometres wide and are held under terrible siege of the Israeli army that blocked even food and basic amenities for months together. Life in Gaza was close to collapse. Besides, the Zionist Israelis constantly attempted to assassinate leaders and activists of the Hamas, duly elected by people. All this drew in a resumption of Palestinian rocket fire in response to Israeli incursion, which Israel, grown into world's one of the most deadly warmonger forces with immense espionage, subversive and striking power from liberal US aid and assistance, made a plea to launch ruthless attack justifying it with fabricated campaign that it was a retaliatory move only. Since 27 December 2008, Israel has declared an "all-out war against Hamas and its kind" and cruel state terror on innocent civilians. It included relentless air strikes, bombardment from warships, a massive ground operation under cover of Apache helicopters, use of "bunker-buster" bombs, acquired from the US to penetrate underground locations, Global Positioning System (GPS) to locate targets, including supply lines. The Israeli military pounded, pulverized and flattened hundreds of sites even including mosques, schools and university buildings, taking a toll of more than thousand Palestinian lives, women and children included and many more severely wounded. Daily sonic booms created on purpose by Israeli air force jets made children deaf. The Israeli bandits justified targeting civilians as a sort of 'collective punishment'. The grievous assault was called a crime against humanity by human rights activists and academicians from the USA, who demanded International Criminal Court to intervene. The US imperialist brigand under George Bush II blocked an Arab League resolution in the UN and blaming the Hamas for rocket fire placed the aggressor and the victim on par. Now with situation only worsening with the Zionist Israel acting as a veritable threat to the Palestinians, President Trump rewards the bandits with Jerusalem defying all international norms!

Conspiratorial, treacherous and aggressive role of US imperialism

As stated above, the US imperialists acted in favour of Israel

Contd. on page 10

Jerusalem issue

Cause of Palestinians is part and parcel of world anti-imperialist movement

Conrd. from page 9

as a Jewish state, even before it was formed. With the influence of the British and the French imperialists dwindling particularly after the Suez Canal incident in 1956, the US imperialists finally took over the rein of using Israel as its military and political base in the Middle East against the Arab countries some of which were seething with national independence struggle at that time. Besides using Israel, the US imperialists carried out divide and rule policy to develop a number of lackeys, pro-US governments in Arab countries like Saudi Arabia, Qatar, etc., the rulers of which also fomented Islamic fundamentalism of different sorts to stay in power by using religious fanaticism to elicit unquestioned allegiance of the common people. To say the least, in banditry, treachery, defiance of norms and principles, fraudulence, in short in every aspect of brigandage, the pattern Israel reflected in its action, virtually replicated the pattern US imperialism, its mentor-sponsor-guide, followed.

All over the world, including the Middle East, in the name of maintaining and establishing peace and democracy, the US imperialists carry out large scale espionage and had already orchestrated several coups to install pliant governments in various countries. If the ruling dispensation of any country refused to bend to their dictates, they had either pressed its espionage machinery to bring about a regime change there or have loudly been advocating for a regime change on fraudulent pretext. They once brought about changes in Iran's ruling dispensation through conspiracy. But when the Iran government moved away from them, they clamped unlawful inhuman sanction upon Iran. They raised the bogey of using weapons of mass destruction (WMD) against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, a charge unquestionably proved false, but on that basis they ravaged Iraq, killed Saddam, installed pliant government there and shattered the rare secular ambience prevailing in that Arab country. It is the US imperialists who have been fomenting Shia-Sunni cleavage in the Arab world thereby stoking fratricidal clashes. Even the most heinous Islamic fundamentalist forces like the IS, the Talibans and Al Quida have also been created, assisted and aided by the US

imperialists. Then, in the name of pre-emptive war against terrorism, they ravaged Afghanistan and other Arabian countries. The world knows it was the US imperialists which had used chemical weapons repeatedly in different countries, Agent Orange or Napalm bombs in Vietnam, depleted uranium in Iraq and so on. In Syria, they formed, trained, financed and engaged a so-called rebel army to oust Assad government and drew that country into a war continuing for years, bringing about worst humanitarian crisis. The list of gunboat diplomacy and destruction of 'rogue' countries opposed to US is endless ever since the end of the Second World War.

With all these, the US imperialists have fostered local and partial wars, surcharged the atmosphere with war psychosis, set people against people, hatched treacherous conspiracies, engineered genocide and committed unpardonable crime on humanity throughout the world including the Middle East. In pursuit of their imperialist objective, they have filled the air with cries of helpless innocent victims. Acting as constant threat to peace, democracy and even humanity, the imperialists headed by the US imperialism with Zionist Israel as most faithful accomplice have turned the Middle East into a hotbed of imperialist machinations and internecine or even fundamentalist conflicts among and within Arab countries. The US imperialist rulers themselves pulled strings from behind to set upon Israel against the Palestine people. But, then unable to ignore growing world opinion against Israeli aggression, they masqueraded as an honest broker in the never-ending peace talks for a "two-state" solution between Israel and the Palestine. It was the US that had promised Palestinians a separate state after they were virtually coerced into signing the Oslo accord in 1993. The US imperialists had also desisted from formally recognising Jerusalem as Israel's capital. But the outlook and approach of the US imperialists, particularly the powerful Jewish lobby in the corridor of power were reflected in the US Congress voting overwhelmingly in favour of moving the US embassy to Jerusalem in 1995, as per the design of Israel. At long last that arrogant, aggressive section of the American monopolists, including the Jewish tycoons, could find in Donald Trump a candidate of

their choice and feather, to get their agenda through and to drive the final nail in the coffin for the Palestinians. However, the US media reports indicate that American people are vehemently protesting against their President's unilateral highly objectionable decision all over the country. Besides, some important top executives from the State and Defence departments had also reportedly warned Trump against taking such a dangerous and precipitate step. And Trump, too, had to sign a waiver officially delaying the move of the US embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem for six months, as said by a National Security Council official. Nonetheless, on no count, the belligerent move of Trump could win anything but condemnation.

India aligns with war-monger US imperialists and Zionist Israel at the cost of the just cause of Palestinians

India's response in the present case was ambivalent. India, which was among the first states to recognise the State of Palestine, did not betray any sign of being serious in the issue of condemning the most heinous role of the treacherous US imperialists and the Zionist Israeli rulers that is aimed at total annexation of Jerusalem and Palestine to Israel. The External Affairs Ministry issued a mild and evading statement: "India's position on Palestine is independent and consistent. It is shaped by our views and interests, and not determined by any third country." There was no mention of India's consistent stand that East Jerusalem was the capital of the State of Palestine or that India supports the two-state solution. It cannot be missed that in this country, the governments run by this or that bourgeois party over the years tried to maintain an apparent cordiality with Arab countries, obviously for economic interests of the Indian monopolists hinged upon oil and their political interest as an aspiring imperialist superpower of maintaining sphere of influence in West Asia. However, of late, the Indian government has been, in a louder way, hobnobbing and even forming military alliance with the fascist forces like the US imperialists and Zionist Israel. It is that compulsion which might have prompted the Indian monopolists and their subservient governments not to take a firm stand against this heinous move of the US imperialists

and thus disrespecting and disregarding strong anti-imperialist tradition of Indian people. On the contrary, at the beckon of the ruling monopolists, a group of columnists and political analysts on their pay roll are trying to influence people's opinion in favour of India government's pro-US and pro-Israel position, without caring for any consideration as to whether the US or Israel rulers' role speaks of minimum humanitarian values, civility and justice or not.

Resolving Jerusalem issue and awarding independent Palestine state demand powerful anti-imperialist movement

To conclude, it needs to be emphatically stated that the latest incident of unilaterally awarding Jerusalem to the Zionist Israel by the worst war-monger US imperialists is part and parcel of the worldwide agenda of the imperialists, headed by the US imperialists, of carrying out wars, killings, conspiracies, treacheries and all such acts only to gain and maintain its political-economic-military hegemony. The Arab countries, including the Palestinians must view the problem in this light. Such a problem, thus, cannot be thwarted without surge of a powerful militant anti-imperialist struggle all over the world. Obviously the immediate demand, any right-thinking person of the Arab countries as also of the world, would need to raise is outright reversal of the decision to foster annexation of Jerusalem to Israel once for all. This move is not merely audacious by itself. By virtue of its extension, it spells the doom for the legitimate and long standing dream of the Palestinians for their homeland. So for a lasting solution, movements upholding the just cause of the Palestinians, namely for securing them a sovereign independent separate Palestine state, for ensuring return and rehabilitation of the evicted Palestinians and for maintaining the special status of their precious city of Jerusalem, should be immediately strengthened. Any civilized population, every freedom and peace-loving and right-thinking person would agree that the demands of the Palestine people are the minimum. So the call to raise is for unequivocal support to the just cause of Palestine and voicing all out opposition to the imperialist design of the US imperialists and Zionist Israel to annexe Jerusalem.

WIDENING GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND POOR IN CAPITALISM

Income inequality worldwide has been widening at an alarming rate as a result of economic policies that favour the accumulation of private wealth to the detriment of public wealth, according to the World Inequality Report 2018, a collective effort published by the World Inequality Lab which harnesses the work of more than a hundred researchers scattered across the world.

One of the key findings of the report is that since 1980, income inequality has increased rapidly in North America, China, India and Russia and grown moderately in Europe.

In 2016, the share of total national income accounted for by the top 10 per cent of earners was 37 per cent in Europe, 41 per cent in China, 46 per cent in Russia, 47 per cent in the United States and Canada, and around 55 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa, Brazil, and India. West Asia was the world's most unequal region according to the report, with an estimated 61 per cent of the national income captured by the top 10 per cent.

For 2014, India's national income distribution saw the bottom 50 per cent of the adult population, numbering nearly 40 crore account for just 15 per cent of the total national income, while the top 10 per cent numbering close to eight crore captured 54.2 per cent. The top 1 per cent earned 21.7 per cent, an indication of how skewed the earnings profile of working Indian adults is.

While the average annual income (converted from 2016 purchasing power parity euros) was Rs.1,42,600, it bears to mention that the bottom 50 per cent made only Rs.43,700 a year while the figure for the top 1 per cent was nearly Rs.31 lakh.

The report focuses on the period from 1980 onwards as that decade was a turning point in inequality and redistributive policies worldwide. The early 1980s marked the trend of rising inequality and shifts in redistributive policies, led by Reaganomics in the United States and Thatcherism in the United Kingdom, while new economic policy regimes began emerging in India and China with deregulation at the core.

The rise in inequality was abrupt in Russia, presumably after the collapse of the Soviet Union, moderate in China and gradual in India—an indication of the “different types of deregulation and opening up

policies pursued over the past decades in these countries”. After a historical decline from the 1920s until the 1970s, income inequality was on the ascent. In the Soviet Union, for instance, the abolition of private property, land redistribution, massive investments in public education and strict government control over the economy via five-year plans (a feature also seen in India) spread the benefits of growth from the 1920s to the 1970s.

In India, the top percentile income share decreased from 20 per cent in the colonial period to 6 per cent in the early 1980s; post-deregulation and the opening up of the economy, this percentile is now at 22 per cent, a little more than what it was in the era preceding Independence. In contrast to Russia, China's economic transition was less abrupt and more gradual.

The connection between inequality and the economic regime adopted by nations became apparent. Inequality surged in economies that were hitherto regulated; in Russia it was “steepest” as the transition to the market economy was abrupt, according to the authors. Interestingly, Western Europe and the U.S. had similar levels of development in the 1980s and similar levels of concentration of wealth, but inequality rose much more sharply in the U.S. post the 1980s up to 2016.

In India, income inequality has reached historically high levels, with 10 per cent of the top earners accounting for 55 per cent of the national income. The report underscores that the opening up of the economy has led to greater inequality. The authors express concern at the “temporary end to the publication of tax statistics between 2000 and 2010”, which, they argue, highlights the “need for more transparency of income and wealth statistics that track the long-run evolution of inequality”.

The report also says that educational and employment policies are key to reducing income inequalities. It quotes International Labour Organisation (ILO) reports as saying that the share of labour in aggregate income has continued its long-term decline in the last five years and that “80 per cent of workers are paid less than the average wage of the firm in which they work”. Likewise, minimum wages and labour market regulation are critical in “tackling income inequality”, say the authors.

Equality of opportunity or the lack of it is also a growing feature. In the U.S, out of a hundred children whose parents fall in the bottom 10 per cent of income earners, only 20-30 ever make it to college. The comparative figure is 90 for children of parents who are in the top 10 per cent of earners.

Of equal concern is the decline of the share of public wealth in national wealth in several countries. In France, Germany and Japan, it is almost zero, while it is negative in the U.S. and the U.K. (Net public wealth is public assets minus public debts.) These low levels of public

wealth would make it difficult to deal with either present or future income inequalities because governments would not possess the funds to invest in education, health or even the environment. Although the report does not say so, it clearly calls for more public investment and more government intervention and expenditure in public utilities to improve access to opportunity.

The concentration of wealth and concomitant inequalities, could not have arisen in a policy vacuum, but have been the outcome of a deliberate policy shift in the capitalist world from the 1980s onwards. (Source:—Frontline 19-01-18)



AIDSO, AIDYO and AIMSS organized protest rallies against brutal rape and murder of a 15-year old girl in Vijayapura, Karnataka, on 19 December last. Photo shows the rally at Ambedkar circle in Vijayapura

Movement in Uttarakhand for proper medical services

Uttarakhand is witnessing a massive peoples' movement in the interest of betterment of medical services which is utterly backward in the state. Added to this, it is facing a serious health crisis with frequent transfer of doctors as was seen in Pauri district of Rudrapur, Tehri, in Uttarakhand. Under the banner of Pragatisil Janamanch, a 24-hours sit-in demonstration was organized on 25 December, 2017 in protest. On 2

January, 2018, Shri Anil Swami, veteran leader of peoples' movement sat in an indefinite hunger-strike. On 8 January, whole of Srinagar town observed a historic *bandh* in which public participation was massive. The movement is continuing despite Government's ceaseless attempt to crush it with the help of police-administration. AIDSO, Uttarakhand, is associated with the movement.



AIDSO protests proposal to form National Medical Commission by dissolving Medical Council of India in Bangalore on 2 January. Such protests have been organized by AIDSO as well as Medical Service Centre, a voluntary organization upholding the cause of healthcare and fighting for legitimate demands of the doctors, nurses and others connected with medical services, all over India

Movement in Agartala for better Railway facility

In demand of improving railway links with other parts of India and introduction of better services and facilities for the train passengers in Tripura, SUCI(C) launched a movement in Agartala. On 8 January a protest demonstration was held in front of Agartala Rail Station. While addressing the gathering, Comrade Arun Bhowmick, Tripura State Secretary appealed to the passengers and the people at large to come forward to develop sustained movement until the demands for improvement in rail services are met. Thereafter a memorandum with signatures collected from the masses in favour of the demands was handed over to the General Manager NF Railways –Maligaon-Guwahati.

AIAIF, Gujarat meeting in Solidarity with Palestine on Jerusalem issue

All India Anti Imperialist Forum, Gujarat Chapter, convened a meeting on 12 January, 2018 to express solidarity with Palestine on issue of Jerusalem. Shri Dilipbhai Chandulal was the main speaker. Among other speakers were Shri Bhalendu Desai. The meeting was conducted by Shri Dwarikanath Rath. The resolution severely condemning the US move to declare Jerusalem as the capital of Israel was passed unanimously. The resolution also supported UN resolution on the issue and demanded release of the agitating Palestine students and expressed solidarity with Palestine people.

March to Parliament to re-introduce pass-fail system from Class I by AISEC

The Delhi unit of All India Save Education Committee (AISEC), organised a March to Parliament on 2 January, 2018, to re-introduce pass-fail system from class I and demanding adequate infrastructure, sufficient number of teachers on permanent basis and sufficient funds in government schools.

The meeting was presided over by Prof. Narendra Sharma, All India Vice President, AISEC and was addressed by Prof. Ramavtar Sharma from Madhya Pradesh, Shri Aminder Pal Singh Grewal from Punjab, Dr. Narendra Singh from UP, Shri Harish Kumar Saini from Haryana, Smt. Sharda Dixit and Smt. Subha Dixit from Delhi, while Shri Girwar Singh, Secretary, AISEC, Delhi, conducted it. A four member delegation submitted a memorandum to the union HRD Minister.

The speakers expressed grave concern at the devastating effect of “No-Detention policy” upto class VIII on school education in the whole country and appealed to students’, teachers, parents and all education loving people of our country to intensify the struggle and create a pressure on the government to roll it back.

In a meeting on 8 January at Chennai, Tamilnadu AISEC also raised the same demand.



Comrade Dilip Bhattacharyya, West Bengal State Secretary AIUTUC addressing the stay-in demonstration organized by Bank Employees' Unity Forum in Kolkata on 9 January, 2018 to protest highly anti-people FRDI Bill.

SUCI(C) calls BJP government's liberalization of FDI a brazen anti-people pro-monopolist move that needs to be thwarted with all might

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 11 January, 2018:

In keeping with its avowed anti-people pro-monopoly policy-directive and overriding the people's opinion against repeated bouts of privatization of key sectors, the BJP government has now announced 100% FDI in single-brand retail, opened the gate of increased foreign capital infusion in real estate sector by allowing 100% FDI in real estate broking firms and also in healthcare sector by amending the definition of “medical devices” in the FDI policy meaning. There is every reason to apprehend that within no time, route would be cleared for FDI invasion in multi-brand retail as well. The most catastrophic fallout of FDI in retail sector would be in the form of huge job loss and eventual phasing out domestic small retail outlets providing employment to a large number of impoverished people. Moreover, once monopoly, both domestic and monopoly takes over, monopolistic pricing policy would push the already spiralling price line further up.

It is being seen that the Indian monopolists who have already grown as financial oligarchs and also imperialist features by exporting fiancé capital abroad in the form of FDI are experiencing steep competition in recession-hit global market. So, they are opening up their own market to the imperialist powers, particularly the US imperialism to wrest in exchange some concessions, preferences and advantages in making forays in various overseas market. This is the compulsion that prompts the BJP government subservient to bourgeois class interest to progressively open up the country's economy including its defence sector to FDI.

Also it is noted with deep concern that while the situation demands launch of powerful protest movement both inside and outside the parliament, the opposition parties particularly those who call themselves Marxists-leftists are, besides issuing formal statements, not taking any genuine initiative towards that end. It is pertinent to recall that the Congress during its rule had rolled out the policy of FDI liberalization and CPI (M) pursued the same pro-FDI policies in the name of industrialization and development while running the governments in West Bengal. Now, they are making a show of opposition solely from electoral interest.

We call upon the countrymen to come out and take up the task to develop with all might powerful organized conscious people's movement under correct leadership to thwart such disastrous policies of the bourgeois government and secure life and livelihood of the toiling millions.

SUCI(C) strongly condemns Pune killing and calls upon conscientious people to unitedly thwart recurrence of such casteist-communal killings and violence

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 4 January, 2018:

We strongly condemn the killing of a youth belonging to dalit community when a clash broke out between upper-caste people and dalit communities in Pune, Mumbai and adjacent areas on 1 January, 2018. There is, of late, alarming rise in the incidents of harassing, assaulting and even lynching of downtrodden dalits, Muslims as well as Christians under this or that plea like so-called cow vigilantism, love jihad, forced conversion and so forth as well as precipitated issues and even rumour mongering. In most of the cases, arch communal RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar and groups backed by them are found to be involved and most of these are taking place in the states ruled by the BJP and its associates with the government machinery appears to be remaining as a passive, if not indulging, onlooker to such ghastly crimes since the very agenda of the RSS-BJP is to drive wedge of communalism-casteism with a view to disrupting unity of the toiling people and diverting their attention from the burning problems of life bred by ruling capitalism.

While demanding strong steps to quell attacks upon the dalits at once, adequate compensation to the family of the victim, we call upon all right-thinking democratic-minded people to rise in vehement protest against such repeated engineering of communal-casteist conflicts by the RSS-BJP and close their rank to thwart recurrence of such killings and violence by developing conscious powerful democratic as well as ideological struggles.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH