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Intensify All-embracing Ideological Struggle, Pursue Proper Style of Work — Nihar Mukherjee

[Comrade Nihar Mukherjee's clarion call on the occasion of the 26th memorial day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh is printed below]

Comrades,

The 5th of August this year marks the 26th anniversary of the passing away of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, founder General Secretary of our party. The real purpose and significance of remembering him means ceaselessly carrying forward the struggle for realizing his dream of accomplishing the socialist revolution in India as well as vigilantly safeguarding like the apple of the eye the specific process, pursuing which we built up our party, the SUCI, and in its wake, gave birth to the rare and

distinctive features of the party. The party is expanding today, newer cadres are joining it in different states, new leaders are coming up, in many states the party is playing a significant role in developing mass movements, and an attraction and respect have been growing for it in the mass mind. In this situation revamping the organization at all levels and restructuring the style of work with utmost care and in conformity with the party's distinctive characteristics are the supreme need. Only by stepping in this

direction can we pay our revolutionary homage to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. All other ways of paying respects to him would be ritualistic and not serving the purpose.

You all know about the arduous and painstaking struggle through which Comrade Shibdas Ghosh founded our party. But it was not this hardship which fundamentally distinguished his struggle. Many among the olden day revolutionaries also underwent similar hardship but they could not surpass the limits of bourgeois humanism. At one stage the leaders of the undivided CPI

conducted struggles and took hardship of no mean proportion. But in spite of their talk of Marxism, they could not conceive the proletarian revolution as more than a mere political programme. The consequence has been just as it was to be. But Comrade Shibdas Ghosh never conceived Marxism in such a narrow and mechanical way. He understood it as a comprehensively scientific outlook of life which, if applied creatively in the correct process, would provide the correct solution to every problem of life and the realm of knowledge. So he did not

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WB Left Front Govt.'s Savagery on SUCI

Policemen encircled Comrade Ismatara Khatun and hit her with batons profusely on her whole person while police women grabbed

her on her hair and pulled down on the street, wrenched her arms, strangled her viciously and to the horror of public around, CPM-Front

Government's 'democratic' police stripped off the sari of the young SUCI organizer through to her lower portion. Another woman SUCI

organizer, who noticed the sari from the encircled police band, rushed and tried to save her comrade-in-arms, but in vain. Across the full stretch of the crossing of Lenin Sarani and Jawaharlal Nehru Road, police men and women dragged on Comrade Ismatara, beating her savagely all along, showering abuse in filthiest of language, upto the waiting police van at the far end. By the time police threw her inside the police van, she had lost consciousness. Even in that unconscious state, police bit her with batons and kicked.

All this while police dispersed the other SUCI activists with

vicious lathi-charge, wounding and arresting many of them, preventing them from coming close. Passers-by and roadside stall owners were also severely beaten up.

This happened in Calcutta on 6th August at Esplanade. Police did the same thing again on 7th at Hatibagan and then on 8th at Hazra crossing. On 7th August, police severely lathi-charged, both male and female comrades and teargassed them. Comrade Niranjan Naskar was critically injured who had to undergo operation at the Calcutta Medical College. Comrade Prasanta Dhar and 4 other common public were brutally beaten in police custody after arrest. On 8th August, at Hazra crossing, the police went a step ahead. While sadistically beating up men and women comrades, pulling at their clothes menacingly, male police tore open the blouse of Comrade Bulbul Aich, who was quickly helped by other comrades to have a cover. Police broke the left arm of Comrade Amita Bag and completely tore her Kamij, the upper portion clothe and she had to be covered by a big red flag. Police fractured Comrade

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"VULGER HANDS OF POLICE"

Practical Organizational Activity Not Divorced From ideological Practice And Cultivation of Knowledge

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make Marxism a dogma, nor did ever discuss anything with stereotyped Marxist jargons. He found out the way to the heart of every problem and their solution by applying creatively the method of analysis of Marxism. This method continuously developed his own knowledge also. In this way, right since the inception of the party, he applied whatever understanding of Marxism he possessed at the time in order to resolve the most varied complications, problems and difficulties which stood in the way of his struggle for remoulding the consciousness, character, moral values, ethics and culture and also ability of his compatriots and of his own, in tune with the communist ideology. And, in the course of this struggle, whatever his realization of truth at whatsoever stage, he practised it fearlessly and uncompromisingly in his own life first of all. Such was the lofty sense of moral values in him. It was in expressing the realization so gained from his own life struggle that he said, the inner kernel and living soul of Marxism lies in its moral and cultural standard. He said also, the cultivation of so-called pure culture and knowledge, divorced from social movements and people's struggles, is a fashionable pastime and just that. The aim of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's relentless ideological struggle, or pursuit of truth, was to accelerate the revolutionary movement. Not politics alone—philosophy, psychology, science, literature, and so forth, and all aspects of personal life including also sex — no subject was outside the sphere of the all-embracing ideological struggle he led. This all-embracing ideological struggle covering all aspects and the minutest details of life is a rare distinctive feature of our party which he developed through tireless efforts. It was waged with the sole object of patterning and tuning the mental make-up and attitude of the leaders and cadres at all levels in such a way that revolution and revolution alone becomes their sole purpose of existence and uniformity of thinking develops in the party concerning all questions of life. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh was so uncompromising in conducting this struggle that the slightest deviation in it, particularly when made by the leaders of the central committee, met with his stern and ruthless criticism. So because, the purpose of this struggle was to

achieve complete identification of even the likes and dislikes, the subtle tastes, culture, and even the feelings and emotions of the leaders and cadres with the interest of revolution.

This instance of building a Marxist party by following so uncompromising a process of revolutionary struggle encompassing each and every aspect of life is rare to come by. It is precisely here that the fundamental characteristic feature of our party lies. This is the source of our invincible strength. So, not only must we safeguard this distinctive feature of the party with all our might, which is obvious, but must fortify it many times more in pace with the present situation. Each comrade must be trained so in respect of ideological consciousness, character and party culture that in the face of the prevailing situation they can successfully rouse the masses, organize them in the movements built on the edifice of a higher culture, and also consolidate the party simultaneously. In order to achieve this, more importance and attention need be given to conducting an intense ideological struggle covering all aspects of life.

Adopting certain programmes of movement only, without giving this aspect due weightage, does not help blend the full energy of the party in the programmes nor does it help organize the masses properly. For, without ideologically combating the confusions, questions, organizational complications, personal problems, and so forth which exist in the party, the rank-and-file cannot be united in entirety. This can neither be done by only reading Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's works, nor also by quoting from them. This must be accomplished, by each one of us, in the course of applying his teachings and thoughts in every sphere of life - not to help only ourselves but to help, to assist in resolving problems and to inspire one another. Those who are lagging behind in this struggle are also comrades. So we must unite with them also and must conduct this struggle together with them. Sometimes, it is found that those who are working more actively do also have certain limitations and defects in other respects. Ways to rectify these must also be found out. Besides, there exist certain general defects and shortcomings in the style of work of our party at all levels. Internal problems of organization will always be there, in varying forms. But their intensity depends, on the one hand, upon the impact exerted by the

external situation and, on the other, upon the level of consciousness of the comrades. Unless the level of consciousness can be raised continuously, it will certainly deteriorate. Sometimes this is not even perceived at all by one who falls victim to this process. Moreover, it must also be kept in mind that complexity and intensity of the problems have increased manifold compared to what they were before.

This is why communists cannot properly conduct their practical activity nor organisation, being divorced from ideological practice and cultivation of knowledge. This makes emphasizing the ideological practice so urgent a task. Yet, we have many an active and good comrade who fight shy of entering into theoretical discussions and do not speak out in the study class. They must wage struggle against such habits. But the problem which confronts most of the leaders and cadres is that they are too bogged down in practical work. Their problem is to find time for ideological pursuit. Besides, while joining the party we carry from society a host of psychological complexes regarding theoretical cultivation in general. All these need be fought out. For, can we play our due role in anything until we have grasped the law governing it - be it an individual, a society, or a movement? If we remain in the movement but do not observe its characteristic features, do not discuss them, do not verify if our observations are correct, do not enter in dialogues over them in the study classes, then we are but acting mechanically, blindly. Therefore, it is necessary to intensify the struggle in the ideological sphere in order to meticulously and clearly understand any question whatever arising in the mind concerning personal life, organization and the sphere of knowledge.

As the leaders bear the main responsibility in this struggle, so also the cadres have a significant role in it. How they discharge this role depends upon their own realization. I hear it often that because of pressure of work comrades do not find time for sitting together for discussion, group reading, etc. Indeed, they are under heavy pressure. But was it not so right from the beginning of our party? Was pressure any the less on Comrade Shibdas Ghosh? There was no certainty of having a meal or a bath in those days. Often he did not have even a few bits in his pocket, and had to cover miles on foot for recruiting cadres. During a certain period, over and above this, he also took night schools in the workers'

slums in Kidderpore dock area. Whole day long, he did not have any rest. But the study classes did not stop for that. The party grew further, the study classes became more regular. Still later, Schools of Politics were organized side by side. These were conducted by Comrade Ghosh himself. This is the history.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh put great stress on cultivation of knowledge by comrades. Because, without gaining the concrete understanding of truth on every issue at every moment, we cannot effectively advance the cause of revolution, the party and the movements by a single step even. Herein lies the objective necessity of ceaselessly continuing intense ideological struggles at all levels of the party. Therefore, it is expected, as the comrades will be shouldering increasing responsibility so also they will foster their interest and eagerness for ideological pursuit, regular theoretical discussions and thorough and meticulous study and analysis of the reality around. Therefore, despite all the pressure of work upon them, they must themselves find out the time for it. I have already mentioned the prevailing very many false senses of shame, inferiority and apathy which hold back comrades from conducting this struggle. Certainly, the leaders at all levels will render appropriate assistance to the comrades. The leaders want to do it of course. But they, too, are always weighed down with a thousand pre-occupations. So, if because of these pre-occupations they cannot afford to always give time to the comrades, then the comrades should make a start without waiting for them. Understand it clearly that acting only as per the direction from above has got an element of mechanisation in it. This is not the mark of communist initiative. So much about the role of the cadre. The leaders must bear in mind, on the other hand, that their role in this struggle is very important. Newer and newer cadres are joining the party today. Conducting an all-embracing ideological struggle and paying through it, a caring attention for developing every comrade, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh raised the ideological, moral and cultural standard of the entire party to a high level with his relentless effort. Carrying on this struggle is undoubtedly the responsibility of the present leadership at all levels of the party.

In this respect, the distinctive style of work of Comrade Ghosh is highly instructive. He was the

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Comrade Ghosh Initiated Commune Life As A Difficult And Arduous Trial In The Struggle For Acquiring Communist Character

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founder General Secretary of the party. But quite correctly he used to call the daily routine activities which are a necessity to run the organization and which the leaders cannot but get involved in "a wastage of time in a sense" and kept himself away from these as far as he could. He devoted his singular attention and his profound love, affection and patience in the fullest measure to the painstaking and difficult struggle of remoulding the mental faculties and characters of the comrades. The objective necessity of freeing the minds of the comrades from all sorts of confusions and their characters from all forms of weaknesses was the necessity to meet which he was engrossed, right from the beginning, in discussions, days and nights on end, on the intricate and subtle issues of epistemology. The initial batch of party cadres was trained in this way. Further, he conducted the discussions following a method which brought his thoughts into constant interaction with the thoughts of the comrades. That is to say, the discussions followed the dialectical method. He never imposed his opinion from above. The thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh also became gradually enriched in this way and he applied them in practice in the inner party life. It was in this way that he introduced the commune life in our party. The only form of relationship which bound together the leaders and cadres who were the members of the communes was based on their loyalty to the same ideology and it was not a bond of blood relation; but they felt for each other with the utmost feelings, tenderness, love and affection. In the communist society of the future, the proletarian moral values shall be the only bond between men. Comrade Ghosh initiated the commune life as a difficult and arduous trial in the struggle for acquiring that requisite height of character. In the communist movement this has no parallel. This test which he conducted left brilliant examples and lessons before the party. Till his end, he himself lived in the party commune. Never he kept separate "personal life" for his own. In the commune also, despite his broken health, he spent hours on end listening to comrades who visited him, discussed their problems, advised them, not retiring until he could relieve their minds. Through relentless efforts, he created a party tradition of finding out the cause behind problems, discovering the truths and ceaselessly cultivating

them. This, precisely this, is our greatest strength.

When after working tirelessly in this way since the morning he would go to the central office in the evening, a huge number of comrades would be waiting for him there. Question would be addressed to him one after another and it was he himself who encouraged the comrades to ask questions openly in this way. He pursued it as a well thought-out method for involving the comrades in discussions. When, after listening to all the questions, he untied the knots of confusions of one after another in the course of discussion, then it not only helped the comrades see the correct way before them, but still more importantly, it gradually fostered in them an attitude of approaching every issue from a scientific point of view and a thirst for knowing more. It goes without saying that the burden of responsibility was the heaviest on him, since he was the highest leader of the party. But the example of his style of work teaches that if the minds of the comrades can be relieved of all doubts, confusions and such other feelings that weigh them down, then they can advance much faster with their party responsibilities. This is why Comrade Ghosh gave his greatest attention to this aspect. The technical aspects of the party's activities he entrusted to the other leaders and organizers, although he was not uninformed of any of these either.

As the situation of today is ridden with unprecedented crisis, so also in this very situation the prospect of a brilliant future for our party lies dormant. But in order to take its fullest advantage it is extremely urgent to consolidate our ideological and organizational strength. Advancing the movements still further will be possible only when we will have been able to give an organized and consolidated form to the response which we already have been receiving from the masses. To the extent we have been able to carry to the people the party's distinct political approach - far less have we been able than what is necessary - and to the extent the people have got an impression of the culture of the party from your conduct, have sufficed to arouse a great expectation in the masses for the party. Besides, today it is only you who are at once rushing on to be by the masses over each and all of their problems. It is you who are persistently toiling, shedding sweat, not for reaping electoral gains but for organizing the mass movements, in

the face of police repression. It is a fact not only in West Bengal but wherever we are in this country. Quite expectedly, therefore, you are enjoying a popular sympathy and support. But, suppose, elections are announced tomorrow with all its din and bustle but you have not succeeded in giving this support an organized shape meanwhile, can anyone predict which side these very masses will take to? So, we should not be satisfied with only the praise and well wishes of the masses, even if a million strong. It must be realized clearly that in order to protect these very interests of the masses and in the sole interest of building up protracted mass movements on the basis of revolutionary politics, we are to give by all means an active and organized shape to this sincere mass support. In giving the mass discontent an organized form and structure, it is particularly the communists who first face repressions and they tread this cause knowing well that they would have to face it. That our comrades are upholding the party's banner in the face of all the brutalities and onslaughts is a matter of pride. But the inability to go beyond that is a limitation. Therefore, we must also learn to involve the discontented broad masses in these struggles. To do that, our style of work shall have to be changed immediately. Otherwise, we are not deficient in sincerity and effort. Say, for example, if your style of work is limited only to campaigning for a programme, distributing handbills and collecting funds then the people will show you sympathy but not give active cooperation. How can they? For, until they are on such intimate terms with you when they cannot turn you down, looking to you as a brother or sister, even if not looking to you as an SUCI worker, can they take to the street at your call to participate in a party programme? Whereas, we go to them, sell the party literature and come back, but fail to establish with them this natural relation. Maybe that all of them will not actively come forward either. But let this relationship grow with them, too. On the other hand, it will be found that some people among the general masses show a bit more initiative and courage. They should be given somewhat more time and association. But without staying in the localities, without spending time there, it would never be possible to create such intimate relationships by conducting programmes alone. But the more important thing is that

whatever the apparent way of talk and behaviour of people, it is necessary to try to understand their inner feelings, to have patience, not to lose commonsense, not to judge people as per stereotypes. Their qualities will then automatically come to your notice little by little and it is only then that a truly close relationship will grow with them. It must always be borne, they constitute the broader masses. If you fail to involve these very people in the movements, then nothing effective will ultimately materialize even as you may have faced brutal repressions all by yourselves. Therefore, we cannot afford to delay any more in the matter of changing our style of work among the masses.

Give time and stay in a planned manner in the localities, villages, towns, colleges, universities and the factories and industrial centres in order to consolidate and give an organized form to the reputation and support already gained by the party. We must very quickly consolidate the mass support and I am confident that you will be able to make it. It may take time, may cause delay and even mistakes on account of inexperience. But proceed with a firm resolve to find out first one and then another donor, regular subscriber of the party organ, party sympathizer and active supporter.

This cannot be done in a day. It requires boundless patience, planning, determination besides genuine love for the masses. Subsequently, as the tide of movement will flow again, if not in the very next then in the one after that, active members of the people's struggle committees and of the volunteer crops would turn up from amongst these very people, just as many of them would assist from outside. These people's struggle committees have enormous potentials. But in order to build up them, it is imperative to continuously pursue this particular style of work with patience and perseverance. The capitalist state is a well-organized coercive machinery. Unless the exploited proletariat and other sections of the masses can build the alternative organization of their own, though led by the party but still be an independent organization, they will not be able to win in the final battle against the capitalist state, like the 'soviets' did it in the Russian revolution. So, if we only conduct the campaign movements one after another without having a planned method of work, envisaging a long period with the aim of giving the mass support a consolidated form and an

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5th August, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day Observed Throughout Country

[Solemnly the party observed the 26th memorial day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, throughout the country on 5th August. Reports of the observance are reaching the Central office in Calcutta. Below we give brief reports from some of the states. The remaining are planned to be covered in the pages of the next issue.]

Central meetings as also local meetings were held on this occasion. Exhibition of quotations from the works of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh were held in different states, where people thronged to get glimpses of the teachings of the great Marxist leader. Meetings all began with the song composed on Comrade Shibdas Ghosh and ended with the Internationale. Guard of Honour was presented to the revolutionary memory of the great leader. Bookstalls were also set up from which people eagerly collected works of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh as well as other party literature. Comrades wore Comrade GS badge enamelled with the bust of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.]

KARNATAKA

The 26th Memorial Day Meeting of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the Founder General Secretary of our party and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of this era was organized at Gandhi Bhavan on 5th August 2002. Comrade Sukomal Dasgupta, Central Committee member of the party was the main speaker.

Paying heartfelt and respectful tribute to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Dasgupta explained the contribution of Comrade Ghosh to the communist movement. He said that there can be no revolution in any country without a genuine communist party in the leadership. That party must apply the philosophy of Marxism in every aspect of life and

the base political line of the party must be correct. But the undivided CPI had understood Marxism as just an economic-political programme.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said, Comrade Dasgupta noted, that the point was not whether the party was big or small. It had to be strong to lead revolution but, first and foremost, its base political line must be correct. It must be able to identify who is the enemy of revolution, who is to lead revolution, and who are to be the allies of revolution. Otherwise despite any amount of sacrifice or dedication, revolution would not be achieved.

Comrade Dasgupta further stated that it was characteristic of Comrade Ghosh that once he was convinced of what was the right thing

to do, he never faltered or looked back. It did not matter to him that having concluded that the CPI was not a communist party, he had to start from scratch to build up such a party. He did not build up the SUCI to be a leader but because it was necessary to build up revolution on a correct political line and on an edifice of higher culture, ethics and values. He showed how, while it was important to go through the Marxist classics, it was more important to attain the revolutionary essence, cultural mould and ethical appreciation which were ingrained in Marxism, and to attain it one had to understand Marxism in his life struggle, by assimilating it in life, and putting it into, practice. Parroting Marxism never made anyone a Marxist. The test was whether one has lived every moment till his last breath as a Marxist.

Emphasizing the point that the revolutionaries are not rootless, Comrade Dasgupta pointed out that as the true inheritors of the great fighters of our country as well as other countries, the revolutionaries should draw inspiration from them for struggle although in the field of ideology there will be an inevitable break due to the changed context.

Explaining the struggle of Comrade Ghosh with the leadership of the international communist movement Comrade Dasgupta said, 'The relationship with the international communist leadership and our party which represents the

Indian contingent of the world communist movement, does not mean, following the leadership mechanically. Comrade Ghosh taught us that relationship should be dialectical and CPI and CPI(M) failed miserably to understand the aspect. Even while hailing the contribution of Great Stalin, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh did not hesitate to point out the serious limitations in the movement as far back as 1949 itself.

Speaking on the growth of the party, he said, hundreds of volunteers are joining the party, sacrificing everything. The source of inspiration behind this is Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's life and struggle. With that inspiration the party must grow from strength to strength. However, in spite of such a positive situation if care is not taken to raise the standard of the comrades adequately then the advantage will be frittered away. To avoid this, the process of democratic centralism — the fusion of centralism and democracy — should be ensured. While every care should be taken to ensure elaborate discussion before arriving at a decision, once the same is arrived at, the entire party should move as one man. Only that can ensure monolithic character of the party. Further the leadership will have to ensure such an atmosphere inside the party that ensures criticism and discussion with ease of mind. Comrades should feel free to air responsible criticism of even the

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Stay With The Masses And Work Patiently And Painstakingly

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active character, it will not ultimately strengthen the party, although these will create in the minds of many people a strong feeling of sympathy and support for the party. This is why it has become necessary to devise the proper style for conducting the mass movements as also giving a consolidated and organised form to the widespread but unorganized mass support gained by the party through conducting these movements. This demands improving the style of work of all the party bodies at all levels. Together with these, an extremely important task is to ideologically prepare the entire party in order that it can take on this responsibility. To ensure this, the door must be opened wide on an all-embracing ideological struggle so that the comrades at all levels can, on the one hand, fully utilise their potentialities according to their own planning and initiative in following the new style of work and, on the other, acquire at the same time the habit of conducting continuous and collective

discussions, evaluations, self-criticism and criticism, and theoretical discussions on the experiences of work.

In this way, we shall have to continuously go on developing the character and competence of the leaders and cadres at all levels by increasingly consolidating the party, resolving all sorts of problems and complications in the light of the teachings of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh thoughts and creating in its wake a free and lively party atmosphere. It is in this way that we shall be able to realize, through continuous interactions with the ever-changing reality, the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh reflecting truth derived from actual struggles on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, more concretely and particularly, that is to say, more effectively. These realizations shall further elevate the level of consciousness of the entire party. This is why it is necessary to place before the comrades of the entire party the general lessons we learn but in their ever new forms

from each movement or activity, and to listen to their views on these. Only through this practice the uniformity of thought becomes constantly strengthened inside the party and through it collective knowledge and leadership get strengthened in the party continuously. That is why, conscious discharge of the roles of the cadres is an imperative necessity in a genuine communist party. The real need for holding review meetings and general body meetings lies precisely here. So, if the leaders alone do the talking in these forums, then this purpose cannot be served. Because, the various questions, confusions, complexes that cloud the minds of the comrades not coming out in to the open, eradication of the same also remains unachievable by the leaders. Therefore, cadres must be encouraged in every way to openly place their views, opinions, and criticisms regarding the theoretical and general organizational questions and the general aspects of the conduct and behaviour of leaders as much as possible — from the cells

to the state committees, in the group readings and study classes up to the review meetings and also in the offices, party centres and in the communes. Their level of consciousness will gradually rise still higher only by pursuing this painstaking and continuous process. Only by practising the correct style of work shall we succeed in attaining this level. Pursuing the correct or appropriate style of work is a most urgent task. For, despite the correct political line of the party and the sincere efforts by leaders and cadres, the desired result can not be achieved so long as this correct style of work remains to be acquired. What is more, this creates many an undesirable problem. Briefly, I have sought to reveal some aspects of all this. Because, it is necessary to take lessons from them, timely steps, for safeguarding and further strengthening our party's fundamental characteristic features. This way alone shall we be able to pay our revolutionary homage to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day Observed

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highest leaders. The struggle for rectification and elevation of one and all initiated by our beloved general secretary, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee should be kept alive. Only then the respective leadership can succeed in consolidating all the forces, which are being drawn to our party through various struggles.

Comrade K. Radhakrishna, State Secretary, SUCI who also addressed the meeting said, revolution means a great class battle. In this war our main enemy is capitalism. Comrade Radhakrishna denounced the globalization policy and the WTO which is dividing and looting globe.

Comrade M.N. Sriram, member, State Committee, SUCI, presided over the meeting.

TAMILNADU

The Tamilnadu State Organizing Committee of the SUCI observed the 26th Memorial Day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh at a public meeting held on 8th August, 2002 at the LLA Hall in Chennai. The main speaker was Comrade Sukomal Dasgupta, member, Central Committee, SUCI. Comrade S. Narayanasamy, member of the Tamilnadu State Organizing Committee and District Secretary, Chennai District Organizing Committee presided over the meeting and also translated Comrade Dasgupta's speech into Tamil.

Comrade Dasgupta, addressing the packed LLA Hall, laid great stress on the need for those gathered to pay homage to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh to dedicate themselves to know, to study and to grasp the teachings that Comrade Ghosh had left behind.

He said : the then undivided CPI — enjoying the backing of the International Communist movement, and comprising of leaders and cadre who had made great sacrifices, and were honest and desired revolution sincerely and whose simple life commanded the respect of a good section of the Indian people — was not a genuine communist party because it had never followed the correct Marxist process.

Comrade Ghosh could understand this then because he had studied Marxism deeply, not bookishly, understood that change was always taking place, that change was law-governed, and the correct application of Dialectical Materialism could help understand the way change took place in nature and society. He showed that correct method not pious wishes decided the success of struggle.

Comrade Ghosh also emphasized that the leaders and cadres of the party must build up their character in

such a way that they dreamt and lived revolution, in thinking, in each and every activity of life. What Comrade Ghosh taught he first practised in his life.

Comrade Ghosh warned that unlike the Russian and Chinese Revolutions, the Indian Revolution was to take place at a time when individualism was having the most pernicious hold in society and individuals in this age of decadent and moribund capitalism and unless its menacing influence was fought out in party and society quest for revolution would be a far cry. That is why Comrade Ghosh stressed that while during the Russian Revolution, the standard of a good communist was that of one who made his individual interest secondary and interest of revolution, society and party primary, today such a standard would be the minimum required of a party member, that what was called for was the complete identification of individual interest with the interest of the working class, party and revolution.

Comrade Dasgupta gave various illustration of how Comrade Ghosh's thought, based on his deep understanding of the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao, had to be grasped deeply in order to shed light on the various problems of people's lives — the deprivations in the lives of the people even 55 years after Independence. While dealing on the international situation, Comrade Dasgupta pointed out, with the dismantling of the socialist camp, the new world order had promised peace and prosperity ever after but that illusion had been swept away by the wars that the world imperialism, under the USA, were perpetrating under one pretext or another, the latest being the bogey of terrorism and an 'axis of evil', in order to establish its hegemony over the smaller and weaker nations who dared to stand up to it, sweeping aside the UN and Geneva Conventions and all humanitarian norms.

Comrade Dasgupta said that movements were breaking out everywhere in the advanced countries against the attacks on people lives, aggravated by the policies of liberalization, privatization and globalization, and that people were looking for the correct leadership. Other parties in the country had failed the people. Thus the urgent necessity to build up the SUCI, the only party in the country that was building up movements, to bring people back to the path of movements, make them conscious of the necessity of movement. We cannot expect the media to project SUCI as the media were controlled

by the ruling class, by MNCs. People's democratic rights were being attacked but curbs against criminals to become ministers were being removed.

Coming to a close, Comrade Dasgupta called on all present to pledge and vow to be true to the objective Comrade Ghosh wanted us to fulfil. To do that, we had to give shape to a granite-like organization, a monolithic party, with complete unity in ideology. Today, despite those who claimed Marxism was dead, forgetting that Marxism is a science, a guide to changing the world, there was greater need for practising Marxism. Counter-revolution in Russia was not because of inadequacy of Marxism but due to the wrong application of Marxism and the degenerated revisionist leadership there after Stalin. By giving a rousing call for everyone present to pledge to equip ourselves ethically and culturally, mentally and physically, politically and organizationally, and thus pay true tribute to Comrade Ghosh, Comrade Dasgupta ended.

CALCUTTA

Thousands of people from all parts of West Bengal came to attend the Shibdas Ghosh memorial meeting at Rani Rashmani Road, Calcutta on 5th August despite the inclement weather and an extremely difficult situation by a sudden state-wide bandh called on that day by the Trinamul Congress. Comrade Sanat Datta, member, West Bengal State Secretariat, presided over the meeting. Comrade Pravash Ghosh, member, Central Committee and Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, was the speaker.

In his speech, Comrade Pravash Ghosh said : Comrade Shibdas Ghosh expressed deep anguish at the fact that the high level of morality, ethics and culture, the sense of values that was reflected by even the compromising leadership of the freedom movement during the struggle against British imperialism, rapidly started deteriorating after independence. And today there is no semblance of morality, ethics and culture in the parties like the BJP, Congress, CPI(M) or the other parliamentary parties. Their politics contain only falsehood and deceit, with an eye on how election can be won by any means to enjoy governmental power. Even the present controversy over re-division of some of the existing railway divisions shows this. We are against the re-division because we think that such fragmentation runs counter to the interest of the people, the passengers' interest, the passengers'

safety and there is the danger of serious harm to the people's unity through the stoking up of regionalism centring round the present controversy. The Central Government pleads paucity of funds when allocations are to be made for education, health and public welfare schemes, but is now ready to spend thousands of crore of rupees for implementing the railway re-division. Why? Because the calculation of BJP and Samata Party is that if a new railway HQ can be set up at Hazipur in Bihar through re-division of the Eastern Railway, then that can be trumpeted as advancement of Bihar to score over Laloo Prasad Yadav at the next election. The Trinamul leader Mamata Banerjee has given a call for all-out agitation against the Eastern Railway re-division. But that re-division was decided long back and she did not object to this during her two tenures as Central Government railway minister. Now, she is vociferous against it and using the issue to pressurize the BJP in order to bargain better for ministerial berths. The CPI(M) too, not to lag behind, says the railway re-division is against the interest of West Bengal. But the Cabinet approval for the railway re-division was made during the tenure of the UF government at the Centre — a government that enjoyed power by the grace of CPI(M) support ! The real problems in mass life are ever-mounting unemployment, closure of factories, price rise, rise in costs and charges for education, medical services, electricity etc., and it is to resist such onslaughts on the people's life that the people should unite and build up countrywide movement. And the railway controversy has been presented in such a manner as to divert the attention of the people away from this main task, to destroy the people's unity to protect the interest of the ruling capitalist class and to serve the electoral interest of the parliamentary parties subservient to the ruling class. It is with the same object that the BJP has declared that only those who were resident in Jharkhand as per the 1932 Settlement would be eligible for government service there. A riot has already resulted from this. It is now clear that the Gujarat genocide was organized by the Sangh Parivar to ensure comfortable BJP majority in the coming polls. It is with the same heinous objective that the Babari Masjid was destroyed, Advani conducted the Ram Ratha Yatra, the Congress introduced Ram puja inside that masjid and engineered numerous communal riots and V.P. Singh stoked the fire of caste war

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Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day Observed

(Contd from page 5)

centring round the Mandal Commission. All these prove that the sole objective of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties is to anyhow grab power and serve the Indian and foreign capitalists from the governmental seat while they fleece the people. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh taught us that there is no fundamental solution to the burning problems in the people's life within the capitalist system. The only way out is through anti-capitalist socialist revolution. And the people have to move towards it by building countrywide united sustained mass movement on the burning issues of life on the edifice of higher proletarian morality, ethics and culture, to lift the movements from higher to higher stage, to form people's committees and volunteer corps and to generate the people's own political power through these. All along the way, the vile influence of bourgeois individualism is to be combated and collective thinking, collective leadership and collective norms and process of working are to be preserved and strengthened as taught by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

ASSAM

On the occasion of 26th anniversary of passing away of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, a public meeting was held on 13th August at Guwahati at Bishnu Nirmala Bhawan under the auspices of the Assam State Committee of the party.

Comrade Siddheswar Sharma, a veteran trade union leader and member of the State Committee presided over the meeting.

Paying homage to the great leader of the proletariat, Comrade Asit Bhattacharya, member of the central committee, the main speaker

of the memorial meeting, recalled the process of emergence of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh as the leader of the Indian proletariat and the foremost Marxist thinker and philosopher of this era stage by stage right from the days of his joining the Anushilan Samitee when Comrade Ghosh was in his teens.

Speaking of the critical political situation as obtaining in Assam, he expressed grave concern over the continuous loss of precious lives of innumerable students and youths, many of whom are dying at the hands of the security forces. People of the state strongly desire immediate stoppage of this unbearable bloodshed. While strongly urging the government to suspend military operation forthwith and instead sincerely initiate talks with ULFA and NDFB in order to bring the conflicts to an end through meaningful negotiation involving intellectuals of all spheres, he also called upon the leaders of the two organizations to recognize the realities and the existing state of the mind of the people of the state and not to hesitate to undertake a correct examination of their strategic line as well as to re-assess appropriateness of their tactical line of armed struggle; otherwise the entire movement, as great leader Mao-tse-tung repeatedly emphasized, in the absence of correct political line, the struggle they are trying to advance, is doomed to failure.

Speaking about the controversy centring round the question of formation of BTC under the Sixth Schedule, Comrade Bhattacharya appealed to the Bodo leadership to realize that any demand or move which appears to a sizable section of the people living in that area to be an imposition or an act of infringement

of their rights, must be addressed first, and to take thereafter remedial measures to redress their grievances as in the absence of unanimity and broad consensus among the inhabitants of that area, it will turn out to be a worst battlefield where innocent people will be dying everyday, where peace and development of any sort would be a far cry.

Earlier, the meeting unanimously adopted two resolutions demanding greater relief to the flood-ravaged people and its proper distribution, free from corruption and discrimination. The second resolution while strongly criticising the government for its criminal neglect for maintenance of vital roads in Guwahati and other parts of the state, demanded steps on war footing for its repair.

At the outset, in the absence of Comrade Kalyan Choudhury, Secretary of the Assam State Committee owing to his indisposition, Comrade Bimal Nandi, member of the secretariat of the State Assam Committee, urged the left parties and forces of the state to develop mighty movement centring round the burning issues of life of the people of the state.

GUJARAT

Gujarat State Organizing Committee of our party observed the 26th Death Anniversary and paid revolutionary homage to the Founder General Secretary of the party and an outstanding Marxist philosopher of the era, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, at Sardar Patel Bhavan, Laldarwaja, Ahmedabad. The main speaker of the meeting was Comrade Krishna Chakrabarty, the member of the Central Committee of SUCI.

Referring to the recent carnage in Gujarat organized by the Sangh

Parivar and backed by the Government Comrade Chakrabarty said, Shibdas Ghosh had long before pointed out that in the present stage of moribund capitalism, all the capitalist countries, advanced or backward are taking recourse to fascism to protect itself from the ultimate doom and India is no exception to this.

The anti-Muslim frenzy was created by the Sangh Parivar during the Assembly election in four states including UP and then Gujarat not only for immediate electoral benefits but to divert the attention of the working class and the exploited people and divide their unity so that the toiling people again cannot emerge united in the face of the severe and all-out attack that has been brought by the anti-people policies of BJP-led NDA Government namely the policy of liberalization and globalization.

Pointing the teaching of Shibdas Ghosh that the peculiar fusion between technological aspects of science with spiritualism is the basis of fascist culture, Comrade Chakrabarty said that the BJP is trying to achieve the same by suffronization of education. More and more it is taking recourse to weaponization of nuclear power and creating war psychosis by taking the path of militarization of economy.

Referring to cruel and painful recent carnage in Gujarat Comrade Krishna Chakrabarty showed that is not only destroying the scientific and analytical bent of mind of the people but also destroying the delicate finer feelings of the human mind creating a situation in which fascism can grow as it grew in Germany and Italy.

Pointing to the true secular, democratic concept and values,

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A section of massive gathering in Calcutta on 5 August

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Memorial Day Observed

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Comrade Chakrabarty said it was never practised before or after independence. Comrade Chakrabarty reiterated that Shibdas Ghosh pointed out, secularism neither encourages nor discourages religion. It considers religion as a personal belief or faith. Indian State by encouraging all religions virtually created a situation in which Hindu communal forces i.e. majority communal force grew and created the present situation.

Comrade Chakrabarty appealed to all toiling people to remain firm, united, and not to fall victim to the conspiracy of the ruling class and its parties, more so BJP, and build up united struggle against anti-people policies of the central and state governments. The state secretary, Comrade Dwarikanath Rath in his brief speech criticized the BJP government for its attempt to hold the Assembly election in hot haste giving a false picture of peace in the state.

The President of the meeting Prof. Bharat Meheta in his presidential speech appealed to come forward against acute drought situation in the state and in the country.

GHATSHILA

5th August was observed as the memorial day of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh with due solemnity at the Study Centre of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought at Ghatshila, Jharkhand.

On the day, Comrade Ranjit Dhar, member, West Bengal State Secretariat, hoisted the Red Flag and paid floral tribute to the statue of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh at the Study Centre in the morning.

In the afternoon, students, youths, women and adivasi people from different parts of the Singhbhum district assembled at the Study Centre to participate in the mass meeting presided over by Comrade Ranjit Modak, Secretary, Singhbhum District Committee of the party.

At the outset, Comrade Bijan Das, a veteran trade union leader of the district, said that 5th August was an occasion for all party workers to renew the pledge of engaging themselves in the struggle for achieving anti-capitalist socialist revolution being guided by the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Comrade Sitaram Tudu, member, Singhbhum District Committee, addressed the gathering in Santhali. He said that a conspiracy was on to create rift between the adivasi people and the non-advasi people of the state through the domicile policy. All should come forward and unite to

foil this conspiracy.

Comrade Ranjit Dhar, in his speech, pointed out that the way in which Comrade Shibdas Ghosh along with a handful of comrades-in-arms conducted struggle in adverse conditions to build up the party is rare event in history. On the one hand, they had no publicity, no leader of established stature and reputation, nobody to contribute even R.5/-. On the other, the Communist Party of India, recognized by the international communist leadership, already existed in the country and there were other leftist parties too. The party, so dear to us, that we see today, is the outcome of long, hard, arduous struggle conducted by Comrade Ghosh amidst adverse conditions to build up a genuine working class revolutionary party. The common people of the country are plagued with unemployment, retrenchment, lay-off, price rise, lack of education, poverty and starvation. It is the same in the newly formed Jharkhand state. The sweet dream of solving the people's problems through forming a separate state stands shattered. The conditions are ripe for widespread mass movements. In such situation, the ruling class afraid of mass movement, are making every effort to destroy the unity of the toiling masses, trying to engineer strifes among the people on the basis of religion-caste-creed-language-ethnicity. Introduction of domicile policy in Jharkhand has already triggered off a riot, costing some valuable lives. What is this for? Where the reality is a total lack of education, of jobs to be had, riot is being engineered between adivasi people and non-advasi people in a planned way on the issues as to who will have priority in education and employment. Through such fratricidal strifes the exploitative capitalist system that is responsible for all distress of the people is being shielded from the people's wrath. And the people continue to suffer under the onslaughts of capitalist exploitation.

In such critical situation a historic task awaits us. At this juncture, we must shed off all-doubt, hesitation, weaknesses and considerations holding us back and plunge ourselves into waves of mass movements conducive to the struggle for emancipation from all exploitation, in the light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.



Comrade Ranjit Dhar speaking on the occasion at Ghatshila

Gujarat SUCI's Memorandum to CEC

Gujarat State Organizing Committee of the SUCI took the opportunity of submitting a Memorandum to the team of the Election Commission of India comprising of Mr A.N. Jha, Mr. S.Mendiratta, the Vice-chairmen of Election Commission and other members of visiting team to Gujarat.

The memorandum, inter alia, claimed attention to the fact that on 28-07-02 last there was communal violence at Prantij of Sabarkantha district, close to Ahmedabad. Prior to that there was violence in VIRMGAM of Ahmedabad district few days back. These are the only reported incidents in the press. In fact, there were numerous unrecorded incidents taking place daily and when the situation is far from normal, the BJP chose in hot haste to hold Assembly election to reap rich dividends riding on the Hindutva wave. To serve its heinous and nefarious design, the BJP is providing a picture of so-called peace and normalcy in the state by citing several aspects like conduction of examination, holding of local polls, Rath Yatra, etc. The shrewd manoeuvring tactics of Narendra Modi Government to enforce peace to gain political mileage is now well-exposed. The Indian Express dated July 30 last rightly said in its editorial: 'Although life in the state has assumed some normalcy when compared to the blood letting that March witnessed, there is no room for complacency. Every now and then, incidents of communal violence breakout, setting the clock back all over again. ...In Ahmedabad it is still fairly volatile with explosions and stabbings becoming very much part of everyday reality.'

It is a well-known fact that when thousands of people are still in

the make-shift relief camps and those who have returned has gone under duress and staying under tremendous pressure and insecurity in a hostile atmosphere, when thousands are at home living without any means of livelihood amidst total boycott call of RSS, the recommendation of NHRC is the only temporary solution in the given situation insofar as relief and rehabilitation is concerned. But far from honouring the recommendation of the NHRC, Narendra Modi Government is flouting it with impunity. The BJP led by Modi is in hot haste to hold elections when the 'Passions still raw'. Since Hindutva card is the only card that BJP can play to come back to power and with that gameplan in mind, Modi Government is hell-bent to hold the state election ahead of time to anyhow clinch governmental power in Gujarat.

To vindicate its stand the State Unit of the SUCI, quoted a portion of opinion of the Indian Express dated July 30: The E.C. will have to make an assessment on two broad counts. One, whether an early election will indeed help heal the state ..., or whether it will exacerbate prevailing tensions and witness the recurrence of widespread violence

Two, whether all the citizens of the state will be able to vote fairly and freely so soon after the social fabric of the state has been torn asunder, leading to the uprooting and out-migration of a large number of people. Clearly, it is only when the EC arrives at some conclusion on both these aspects can the process of holding elections be activated.' The Memorandum concludes with high hopes that the EC will rise to the occasion to preserve the spirit of democracy and secularism.

SUCI, Gujarat unit submitted a memorandum to the President of India during his visit to the earthquake affected Kutch, Bhuj on 13-8-2002 demanding adequate relief and rehabilitation to all.

Attack on SUCI

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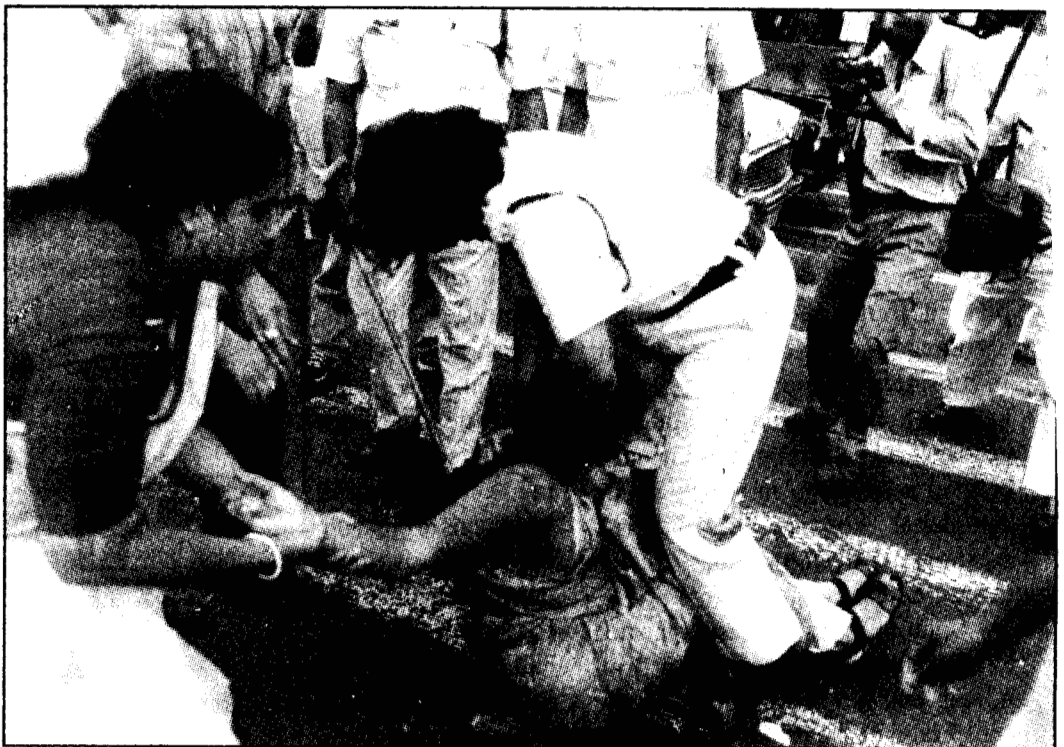
Anamika Pani's head. Besides brutally lathi-charging, police arrested a large number of comrades and even passers-by. While this write-up is going to the Press many comrades, both girls and boys, are languishing in jails and hospitals and bed-ridden at home, with broken limbs and badly cut skin.

This police belong to the CPM-Front Govt of West Bengal. What was the crime of the SUCI workers and organizers? They were protesting against the unjust fare hike by the CPM-Front government in connivance with the bus-owners. The protesting SUCI workers had no pistols or guns or bombs with them, they were not pelting stones at buses or shops. They were only raising slogans and protesting the unjust fare hike. Yet, police committed crime on them. This is the way the CPM-Front government allows 'democratic movement' in West Bengal. Shame on those police women whose hands did not tremble to undress the agitating women, along with their male counterparts.

Watching the horror on electronic and print media the entire West Bengal is dumb-founded, conscientious people cannot raise their head in shame. In Congress regime, police made attempts to crush mass movements, even they killed the agitating political workers,

but did not dare to undress women. How could police today become so audacious, so bestial!

People know, the thoughts of the great leader of the proletariat, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh steered SUCI activists. SUCI activists ceaselessly build up mass movements on burning problems of life. Revolutionary Marxist ideology is the guiding force of our party, unbound love for the oppressed people is the source of inspiration to our activists. Millions who starve, who are deprived of health-care and education, our countless mothers and sisters, who do not get enough clothes to cover themselves — the profound pain of these wretched poor millions our comrades bear in their heart of hearts, and fight, and face police batons and bullets, being eternally prepared for supreme sacrifice, SUCI workers, armed with the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, consider joining revolutionary movements the greatest honour. By undressing them, nobody can humiliate the revolutionaries, they have forged a new identity breaking all false sense of shame.



6 August, Esplanade — Police Strangling SUCI Worker

Despite Extreme Torture SUCI Cannot be Deviated from Path of Movement

— Comrade Provash Ghosh, WB State Secretary in a press conference

What happened in Calcutta on 6th, 7th and 8th August is indeed ominous to democracy. Police oppression, lathi-charges, police firing and tear gas shellings on the workers of the democratic movement is nothing new. This happened again and again during the CPI(M) rule as well as during the Congress rule. Three of our comrades became martyrs in the anti-fare hike movement. But what happened this time is very much contemptuous. The police beastly behaved by outraging the women comrades. Comrade Ismatara Khatun, a female comrade of the party was dragged by her hair by gagging in presence of a large number of people at Lenin Sarani on 6th August. Not only that. The police stripped her. Her lower part of the body was completely exposed and that was telecast in the Doordarshan and published in the *SANMARG*. The police of West Bengal is loyal to the ruling party and not to the rule of law. So they can do any injustice or any illegal act with impunity.

On 8th August, the police resorted to desperate lathi-charge which caused head injuries to the women activists. Not only that. They tore apart the blouses of women activists and they had to be covered by the party flag to protect them from the indignity. The police has stooped so low during the Left Front rule in West Bengal and even the women police did not have any qualm to try to inflict indignity on women activists.

The police has been carrying the tradition of the British imperialist rule and the rule of the Congress. Recent shooting of a Biri worker in Murshidabad and 2-people at the Chandmoni Tea Estate, Jalpaiguri district, torture in police lock-up of Abhijit Sinha, which led him to commit suicide, death of two persons due to suffocation under inhuman condition in the Malda Court lock-up and indiscriminate torture on SUCI activists protesting against the fare rise are not unrelated events. The CPM-Front government is doing all these in a planned way to break the moral backbone of the workers of the democratic movement. Comrade Provash Ghosh said that the party would move to the Court of Law and the Human Rights Commission with necessary proofs of the police savagery.

He stressed that the SUCI would not deviate from the path of movement despite extreme torture and the movement would be conducted in a peaceful and democratic way.

Comrade Provash Ghosh in a statement on 12th August thanked the newsmen as well as citizens for their bold stand against the police brutality. He also thanked left parties like CPI, RSP, FB, CPI(ML) and also Congress and Trinamul Congress for being vocal in protest.



8 August Hazra crossing — male police have tore apart the upper clothe of Comrade Anita Bag. Comrades cover her with a Red Flag

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