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Homage to Comrade Mao-Zedong

Proletarians all over the world bade adieu with a heavy heart, on 9th September 1976, to their beloved great leader and teacher Comrade Mao Zedong. Absence of this stalwart Marxist leader was undoubtedly a great loss to the vital struggle for preserving genuine Marxism and defending world's socialist countries from the pernicious attack of Khrushchevite revisionism. The world can today see clearly that this revisionist deviation and degeneration, firstly by enfeebling the socialist system from within and finally by bringing down the entire

world socialist camp, has paved the way for the present imperialist monstrosity of world-wide economic and military intervention and even invasion into sovereign countries.

In this situation, the Central Committee of our party, feeling its profound necessity, decided to commemorate with all dignity and solemnity the 23rd death anniversary of Comrade Mao Zedong. On 9th September last, at the party's central office in Calcutta, the red flag was unfurled and floral tribute,

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DEFENCE EXPENDITURE MOUNTING Shadow of US Imperialism Darkens

The President of India who won acclaim because of independent judgement in turning down on several occasions the advice of the Cabinet, used his speech on the Independence Day, unfortunately though, in support of increase in defence expenditure. In his opinion, defence expenditure in our country is one of the lowest in the world. He may be humbly reminded that 52 years after political independence, India remains as one of the poorest countries so far as development of human resources is concerned according to UN Agency. The country has the highest number of poor, 52 crore, to be specific, according to the World Bank Report. Child labour of this country is also highest in the world. The number of unemployed including educated and trained along with those who had to lose jobs and earnings due to lock out and closures gives an amazing total. Best sons and daughters of our land dedicated their lives, and peoples' untold sufferings for the country's freedom movement were not surely for this tragic consequences.

BJP's Military Agenda Before the Elections

The 15th August speech of Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister, had a clear tilt towards military one-up-man-ship. The harpings on Kargil, the importance given to military preparedness, rhetoric on false sense of patriotism calling for sacrifices, etc., were the stock materials to incite national jingoism. Mixed with it was the attempt to exploit peoples' sentiments and emotions for the Jawans who laid down their lives, though surely a matter of sorrow, for a military combat decided by the ruling classes of the two neighbouring countries, executed by their obedient parliamentary parties in power. The

BJP's overbearing concern for programmes on military build up is clear from the NDA's election manifesto and nuclear doctrine announced on the eve of the elections. In the election manifesto it says: "The defence of India and the needs of our armed forces is our commitment, and that if it is voted to power, it will correct the imbalance and budgetary neglect of defence need". The design is not difficult to understand. A military build up is the clear intention — depriving the working people of minimum needs of living. But this military build up has a clear communal bias when a threat is given to Pakistan, also a nuclear state, obviously to stir up a mix of communal and war-like tension. By this, the BJP, the arch communal party, wants to stir up national jingoism exploiting the provocations from the other side of the border and in the context of military conflict at Kargil. And on the crest of national jingoism it wants to ride and manipulate majority at the elections. Not only this, a sinister fascist design is palpable from its declaration and utterances on the eve of the elections.

Is it not well-known to anybody having rudimentary knowledge that the use of nuclear arms is ultimately decided by the highest government executives, e.g. the Prime Minister, of course in consultation in such an important policy decision, with the President, who according to the Constitution is the supreme commander of the military forces as also the cabinet which jointly and severely bears the responsibility in a democratic system. How is it then that the party in power says blandly that the nuclear button will be at the hands of the Prime Minister, indicating slyly, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee. There is proud pronouncement (!) that the government is

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Murder of Arul Doss Comrade Nihar Mukherjee's Letter to the President

Mr. K. R. Narayan
The President of India
Rastrapati Bhawan
New Delhi

3rd September, 1999

Dear President,

Once more the religious minorities in Mayurbhanj district of the state of Orissa are subjected to orgy of violence and subsequent killings.

You can very well recall how a few months back a Catholic priest with his two minor sons were burnt to death, how a Muslim petty-trader was killed, how tribal women were raped and now another Catholic priest is killed. The religious institutions are ransacked and set on fire. All these have cumulative horrifying effect on the civil life of the state and tarnish the 'secular' image of the country abroad. No word is strong enough to condemn such frenzy.

It is widely believed that the Sangh Parivar is behind these violences and killings.

The situation has been assuming alarming proportions as days pass by.

We urge you to urgently intervene and compel the BJP government to take stern measures against BJP's constituents, the Sangh Parivar who are carrying on these barbaric and criminal atrocities, so as to guarantee the safety and security of the minority people.

Expecting an early reply.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- Nihar Mukherjee
General Secretary,
Central Committee
S. U. C. I.

In '80s and '90s

STATE TERRORISM AS IN PUNJAB

COMMITTEE FOR COORDINATION ON DISAPPEARANCES IN PUNJAB has published a poignant account in its **INTERIM REPORT** published under the heading **ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES, ARBITRARY EXECUTIONS AND SECRET CREMATIONS: Victim Testimony and India's Human Rights Obligations. Extreme space constraints prevents us to do justice to the compact volume of 311 pages, let alone considering other supplementary volumes. We are publishing some excerpts of this Report as announced in the last issue in installments. We hope our readers will be able to realize the ground reality of the then Punjab.**

A Disappearance and the Enquiry Reports

In January 1995, Jaswant Singh Khalra, who was then the General Secretary of the Akali Dal's Human Rights wing, released some official documents which established that the security agencies in Punjab had been secretly cremating thousands of dead bodies labeled as unidentified. Khalra suggested that most of these cremations were of people who had earlier been picked in the State on suspicion of separatist sympathies. In September 1995, it was Khalra's turn to disappear: he was kidnapped from his Amritsar home by officers of the Punjab police. In November 1995, a bench of the Supreme Court under Justice Kuldeep Singh instituted two inquiries to be conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The first inquiry aimed to determine what happened to Khalra. The second inquiry intended to establish the substance in the allegations, which Khalra had made before himself disappearing. In July 1996, the Report of the first inquiry held nine officers of the Punjab police responsible for Khalra's abduction. In December '96, the report of second inquiry disclosed "flagrant violation of human rights on a mass scale". The Supreme Court referred the matter to the NHRC for a broad and thorough investigation. But as will be shown in the next chapter, the State agencies continued to passionately deny that there had been systematic human rights abuses.

A Funeral Oration

On 24 May 1997, newspapers reported that Ajit Singh Sandhu, former Superintendent of Tarn Taran police district, committed suicide by throwing himself before a running train. Sandhu had been imprisoned for a few months on charges, established by judicial inquiries, that involved illegal abduction, torture and elimination in custody of people like Jaswant Singh Khalra and Kuljit Singh Dhat... The circumstances of his reported suicide were suspicious. He had consumed alcohol, had driven to the railway track in his own car, a short suicide note which he left behind said "it is better to die than to live in this shame." Sandhu had been a trusted Lieutenant of KPS Gill, former Director General of Punjab Police, who had led India's ruthless war against the Sikh secessionist militancy in the state. Charged with all these extra judicial execution and hasty cremations, Sandhu would have had no choice but to establish the line of commander under which he had acted. There should have been an inquiry into his reported suicide. But KPS Gill, now retired, seized the opportunity to launch his campaign against "an utterly

compromised human rights lobby."

He called a press conference on 24th evening "not to express grief", but to discuss the larger political and policy issues that arise from Sandhu's suicide. And discuss them he did — with passion, emotion, and high drama. The newspapers across the country dutifully cried the full text of his statement. It held the nation to shame for its ingratitude towards "heroes" like Ajit Singh Sandhu who had saved India from the brink of disintegration. It castigated the people for permitting human rights activists to thrive on India's soil — those busybodies "who will work with any cause that serves their personal ends, whether criminal, political or secessionist". The statement also chided the State for not "educating itself on how to tackle individuals and groups trying to destroy it", and went on to ask the parliament to vote for the legal amendments needed to protect other courageous officers of Punjab from the kind of humiliation that apparently drove Sandhu to suicide. The statement said that the evil weed of Khalistan had been nipped in the bud by officers like Sandhu, whose determination had prevented the loss of Kashmir and the eventual balkanisation of India.

Blitzkrieg and Blackout: Tricks of the Media War

On 27th May, our Delhi based Committee for Information and Initiative on Punjab issued a press statement to discuss, from its Human Rights perspective, the issues racked up by KPS Gill. The Committee, which had been singled out for attack by Gill, had not only filed the petition on enforced disappearances and hasty cremations, it had also been involved in the issues of justice to Punjab for almost a decade. But no newspaper, with one or two exceptions, carried the statement. Some journalists called back to say that although, personally, they liked the statement, it did not harmonize with their editorial guidelines. Others wanted to go through the original documents on illegal cremations, to be sure that our arguments were based on "concrete and established facts." They copied documents from our files, wasting many hours, and vanished. Promised stories did not appear. Meanwhile, the campaign launched by Gill was avalanching into a crushade. The responsible political leaders began to accuse the NHRC of being prejudiced against the police. There were warnings of police revolts, and threats to break the Punjab government if the Aakali Dal, which was leading a coalition with the Hindu right wing party called Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), did not unambiguously declare itself for the police. The leader of the BJP's parliamentary group in Rajya Sabha — Upper House of

Parliament (now India's foreign minister) — wrote: "Sandhu was not just left to fend for himself, the State abandoned him and — to my mind, much worse — his incarceration and humiliation were used to deflect attention." (*The Indian Express*, 2nd June, 1987) Tavleen Singh, a senior journalist, explained in her column: "Murderers of Sandhu are the 'Human Rightswallas'". They have been unable to see that it was war in Taran Taran: in fighting it if Sandhu broke few rules, there was no other way. In its subsequent letter to the Prime Minister, also published in its entirety, KPS Gill asked for a legislation that defines "appropriate criterion to judge the actions of those who fought this war on behalf of the Indian State." "Until the necessary criterion are sufficiently debated, defined and legislated, immediate steps should be taken to ensure that the pattern of humiliation through litigation and trial by the Media is prevented forthwith." He repeatedly insinuated that "for those who were comprehensively defeated in the battle for Khalistan, public interest litigation has become the most convenient strategy for vendetta."

National Security and Universal

Metaphors

Provocative as these arguments are, they have a familiar ring to them: they are the stock-in-trade of those who, all over the world, want to save their societies from "subversives" by genocidal methods. In January 1973, the American puppet in South Vietnam, was telling Oriana Fallaci that he prayed for the bombing of Hanoi to continue. "They have a purpose, and if you want to achieve that purpose, we have to bomb. Mademoiselle, speaking as a soldier, I tell you that the shorter the war the less atrocious it is." Nguyen Van Thieu was a Vietnamese, even if of the South. KPS Gill is a Punjabi, and an Indian. He told the *Indian Express*: "It was an error that terrorism was brought to an end too quickly". He went on to add: "The fight against militancy in Punjab was one of the most humane operations ever." (*Indian Express*: 8.6.97) Both stalked the same logic: "What are fifty thousand or hundred thousand people dead for a country? Don't few hundred thousand people die every few minutes on this planet without any cause?" (*Ibid*, p. 5-8)

Victim Testimony: Abstract of Case Studies

Relatives who either committed suicides or died under trauma

Case No.8 — Thirty-five year old Baldev Singh was a farmer from Patti Bhan ki in Kairon village under Patti subdivision of Amritsar district. Baldev Singh had studied upto the higher secondary school. He was married to Narinder Kaur and had one daughter Sukhpreet who is now five years old. His 75 year old father Jagir Singh and mother Charan Kaur, 70, also lived in the same house.

Baldev himself was unconnected with militant political activities. But his brother Gurbaksh had reacted with great emotion to the army operation against the Golden Temple and had presumably

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BJP Government's Secret Understanding with the US

(contd from page 1)

determined "to retaliate with sufficient weapons to inflict destruction and punishment that the aggressor will find unacceptable". What does all this mean as election propaganda ?

It means, using the power, though as a caretaker government, the BJP is not only threatening all the neighbouring states to accept India's overlordship by flexing military muscles so that it can appear as a regional power in Asia. A gendarme so to say of international finance capital to be a natural choice of the US imperialism in its strategy of global domination. Side by side, Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee is being projected as the supreme leader, the guardian, the conscience-keeper of the country. It wants people to accept the choice. What can be more menacing to the polity, more dangerous for the country's people if this party succeeds in duping the masses by this propaganda with the help of media and army generals both serving as also the retired? Any mischievous attempt must be nipped in the bud. Related to this is some facts about Indian Government's expanding defence expenditure over the decades by manipulations and trickeries, not understandable to common people.

Defence budget and actual military expenditure

That crisis-ridden moribund capitalism will be increasingly resorting to militarization of economy as 'artificial stimulation' of recession-hit market was explained elaborately by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, an eminent Marxist thinker of the era, must be known to all those acquainted with the formulations of our party founded by him.

The increase in military expenditure, understandable to common people is the upward variation in figures in the defence budget. The defence budget presented in Parliament on February 27, stood at Rs.45,694 crore for the year 1999-2000 against Rs.41,200 crore in the revised estimate of the preceding year. So, an innocuous look of an increase of Rs.4,400 crore is presented to the people. The Defence Minister claims that the increase is meager 16% of the total expenditure of the government.

However, we cannot miss that the difference between the estimated expenditure shown in the budget for 1998-99 and the revised estimate or actual shown in the budget of 1999-2000 is Rs.1,700 crore. So between the estimated outlay shown in this year's budget and the revised or actual outlay to be shown next year the difference may be far more, particularly when huge expenditure at Kargil can be used as a plausible reason.

Clever tricks to conceal actual military expenditure

Before the budget was presented this year, a capital outlay of Rs.1,000 crore was granted for defence expenditure. Besides, although the defence budget showed an increase of Rs.4,400 crore, on scrutiny of the expenditure in the budget the total sum for defence or military purpose comes to Rs.53,335 crore in place of Rs.45,694 crore. So the increase, from bare expenditure figures of the budget on military expenditure comes to Rs.8,400 crore and not Rs.4,400 crore as shown in the defence budget. This is palpably an understatement and the percentage of 16% increase, as claimed, is not the fact.

How clever tricks are being used to cover up actual military expenditure will be revealed from the report of the Standing Committee on the Ministry of Defence (1998-99) 12th Lok Sabha. It says that the requirement at Ministry of Defence secretariat, defence accounts, canteen stores, defence and state organisation, capital contributions to the defence PSU, defence pensions "are not included in the overall defence allocation." Again, "what is accepted in common parlance as the defence budget is the net expenditure thus arrived at for the five demands, i.e. No.18 to 22 (Army, Navy, Air Force, Ordnance and Capital outlay)".

But this does not provide the complete picture because the defence budget also excludes Coast Guard, Border Roads organisation, nuclear and missile programmes, etc. According to the Standing Committee report : "Requirement of Coast Guard organisation and Border Roads organisation are provided for by the Department of Revenue and Ministry of Surface Transport respectively. This is an acknowledgement of dispersal of military allocations under different heads of expenditure. There are also allocations for nuclear and missile programmes in the budget of Department of Atomic Energy and Space, excluded from defence budget.

Similar is the trick to include the expenditure on formation, training and deployment of para-military forces, considered to be the "armed forces of the Union" i.e. of Indian Government just of the nature of Infantry Battalions not in the defence budget but in the budget of Ministry of Home Affairs. The plausible plea has been that "national security" includes both internal and external security. This deceptive practice conceals actual defence or military expenditure by at least Rs.10,000 crore, this time. Not that this practice is the innovation of the BJP government but has been in the use by different bourgeois parties or combinations coming to government — the Congress, Janata, the UF, etc. However taking into account the hidden amounts with what comes from the total budgetary allocations, the total amount on military spendings, this year, comes to Rs.18,400 crore and not the innocuous figure of Rs.4,400 crore shown in the defence budget for 1999-2000. Naturally, the percentage of military expenditure of the total expenditure reaches from 16% to more than 25%. This can be verified from bare budgetary fixtures. The total plan and non-plan expenditure of the Government of India in 1999-2000 reach Rs.2,83,882 crore. India's G.D. is expected to be Rs.19,98,875 crore. India's military expenditure this year is, therefore, Rs.64,094 crore. (Source : Defence spending cost of fighting imaginary enemies — *Economic & Political Weekly* May 8, 1999)

NDA's defence programme being implemented

That the BJP government, though a caretaker government, has embarked on an elaborate military planning is obvious from certain reports. It is openly boasting that over and above the atomic bombs and missile Agni, the country has in its possession hydrogen bombs and the latest, neutron bombs. It is spending huge money for most modern launchers of the missiles. The newspaper reports say that construction of what will be Asia's largest naval base in Karwar, near Goa has

been cleared. It is a many phased project, given to Larsen & Toubro and its German and Dutch collaborators for construction at a cost of Rs.500 crore.

It is also reported that the Bhaba Atomic Research Centre is in the final stage of assembling a powerful electron-accelerating machine, named Kali-5000 which can be potentially used as a beam weapon. (The Statesman August 19, 1999) This stupendous amount of military spending are taking place when nearly two-third of population remain in abject poverty, yet, they are being called upon to come in support of the most reactionary Hindutva communal fascist force in desperate bid to grab power at the Centre.

BJP's duplicity

The BJP is using all the methods of guiles and duplicity to mislead the masses to its support before the elections. Mr Yeswant Sinha, the finance minister, sensing the success of the orchestrated propaganda both of the media and its spokesmen, capitalized shamelessly on the laying down of lives of some 400 jawans of the country. He announced, so to say, a 'war tax' to meet the huge costs incurred at Kargil military combat. But he suddenly became magnanimous to defer it till the formation of the 13th Lok Sabha and new government taking the decision. Sometime after he came back with the same proposal and announced of its imposition in October this year. Frenzy was generated by the combined activities of the media and government machinery and also by assistance of the rival parliamentary parties in a competition of bourgeois nationalism and patriotism. The sentiments and emotions of the people were roused by constant demonstration of the jawans who had to lay down their lives in both the countries at the decisions of the ruling parties to execute the will of the capitalist classes in the neighbouring countries. Meanwhile, the BJP has been emboldened by the enthusiastic response to the 'defence fund' floated by the government invoking the sense of feelings for the families of the dead and scoring thereby mileage in the electoral battle. People will be duped. Families of the dead will be forgotten after the elections. But Kargil tax is certain to be imposed. The BJP wants to ensure its electoral victory projecting itself as the 'grand defender' of the land and 'champion of patriotism'. Of course, behind the screen, it along with its counterpart invite the US imperialism to meddle in bi-lateral issues in general and Kashmir problem in particular. We have elaborately dealt with this dangerous development in our articles and analyses on Kargil before. We have shown none of the two contending countries has won. It is the design of the US imperialist power that has scored victory fishing in troubled water.

The shadow of US imperialism darkens

That the US imperialist power has incited the two neighbouring states, and when they were locked in armed combat, helped prolonging it by diplomatic devices, giving advice to both, making military and financial contracts and even persuading them to sign the CTBT cannot be kept secret now. In our earlier article on Kargil, we cited the observation made by the US Congressman, Mr Benjamin Gilman. Mr Gilman said : "India's economic growth and US

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Cuba's scathing attack against US and NATO

Below we publish extracts of the speech of Cuban ambassador, Bruno Rodriguez, to UN, held when UN Security Council met on June 10 to adopt a resolution based on the so-called Kosovo peace plan agreed upon by the Group of Eight. In a forceful denunciation of US-led NATO genocide he said :

Mr. President,

The Security Council is late. The resolution it has just adopted will not change reality. This has been and will continue to be a US and NATO invasion. The disregard for the United Nations and disobedience to the Security Council are irreparable. The aggressors will never be impartial and will never reestablish the principles they have trodden upon. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's sovereignty and territorial integrity — solemnly and hypocritically proclaimed — is absolutely unfeasible after the imposed conditions, and the forcible disintegration of a sovereign State is not being disguised.

Seven days have gone after the acceptance by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's Government and the Serbian Parliament of the peace proposal conveyed by the High Special Envoys.

In this time period, however, there have been 3,684 NATO sorties and 996 strikes against a wide range of targets, including civilian targets, according to the latest available information. After the Serbian acceptance, innocent people continued to be killed or wounded, and the deliberate destruction of the country went on. This week, after the demands presented by NATO — added to the Envoys' already Draconian proposal — it has become more apparent that the United States and NATO were not seeking a political solution but rather the consolidation of a new world power mechanism, the destruction of Serbia, the liquidation of its Government and the humiliation of its people. It is now confirmed that negotiation is not possible under the bombs.

There is no doubt now — if ever there was one — about the real goal of this disproportionate aggression. For 79 days, a colossal military, economic and technological force attacked with impunity a small developing country, carrying out 35,778 combat and support missions. The aggressors' combined GDP is 1,163 times that of their victim: their population is 77-fold; their territory 226-fold, and their regular troops are 43-fold. The Serbian people's resistance has been heroic, at the cost of thousands of civilians dead or wounded, enormous deprivation, the destruction of their country, the indelible trauma of the bombardments in their children's minds. The aggressors deserve no laurels.

The Security Council's silence will not erase the images of the bombed Grdelica Jorge passenger train; of the Djakovica-Pec convoy of Albanian refugees; of the civilian facilities in Belgrade and Novi Sad; of the Paracin, Kraljevo, Sremska Mitrovica villages; the Serbian television station; the Luzane bus; the Surdulica neighborhood; the Lucani factory; the power generators; the potable water grids; the Valjevo hospital; the Greek convoy near Vlac; the People's Republic of China's Embassy; the Nis marketplace and hospital complex; the Kosovar-Albanian Korisa village; 18 diplomatic premises; the Istok prison; tens of bridges, railways and roads.

It has been a genocide. The systematic actions to deprive millions of people of food, heat,

drinking water and medical services; the deliberate and daily strikes on non-military targets where civilians were known to be; and the use of internationally banned weapons like the uranium-coated and cluster bombs; or the indiscriminate use of seismic bombs in urban areas and graphite bombs against power grids — so as to paralyze every vital service — cannot be described otherwise. These acts are in violation of the Geneva Conventions, International Humanitarian Law and War Practices and Customs. Those responsible must be exemplarily punished.

This war's environmental impact on the region is really inestimable.

The pretexts NATO politicians have stuffed their speeches with — lying to their own nationals while ridiculously smiling — cannot withstand any analysis.

They argued that they wanted to prevent a massive exodus of refugees and created a true and readily predictable humanitarian catastrophe: 860,000 refugees left their country after the bombings began. The main attacking countries have received only 30,703 refugees, 3.6% of the number they created by their bombings. The United States and the United Kingdom, as a whole, have received 0.9%. Two-thirds of the Bosnia refugees whose return had been planned for this year have not returned and nobody is in charge.

They wanted to defend the Kosovar-Albanian people's human rights and prevent the so-called "ethnic cleansing": those who are bombing have too many old and current sins for anyone to believe in their sincerity. They also have a double-standard tradition that morally disqualifies them.

The United States and some of its allies — breaching international sanctions — maintained the apartheid regime, ... and coexisted with the fascist military regimes in Latin America. They remain impassive and silent to the crimes against the Arab peoples and to those now being flagrantly committed against the Palestinian people. Three hundred Muslims — half of them children under five — die every day in Iraq as a result of sanctions and aggressions. They do not get upset about or make any efforts to settle the conflicts in Africa, where 11 million refugees are currently living in a true humanitarian emergency situation.

The United States currently maintains the segregation of its own indigenous people in keeping with the best of traditions in ethnic cleansing formerly used to exterminate them. Today, emigrants are brutally persecuted; ... Nor do the authors of dirty wars, extraterritorial laws and genocidal blockades have the morality to teach humanitarian lessons.

It is quite conspicuous that NATO has not done or said anything about the horrible exodus of numberless Serbs, among them 500,000 only from Krajina — according to United Nations official figures — that unleashed the premeditated disintegration of the former Yugoslavia, promoted by a part of Europe and unanimously supported by the West.

The current genocidal war, rather than helping

harmony, has stirred hatred and exacerbated ethnic and religious wars in Kosovo and the Balkans.

It is also noteworthy that NATO's new "humanism" does not go as far as NATO's pockets. Battle-hardened leaders of the most solvent attacking powers have said without a flush that they will allocate no funds until Serbia "becomes democratic." The interpretation is self-evident. Apparently, "Phase IV" of the operation, with less puritan goals, is being decreed.

Nor are there any concrete commitments to the damages, estimated at \$100 billion. Reconstruction is the international community's moral duty and should be a legal obligation for the aggressors.

Cuba wishes to ratify its willingness to participate — to the extent of its modest ability — in any project for the reconstruction of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, on humanitarian aid for the Kosovar-Albanians, and renews the offer made as early as 5 April — 12 days after the strikes began — to cooperate by sending, free of charge, some 1,000 doctors to take care of refugees in their camps and after their return home, as well as of those who might be in need in Kosovo, in the rest of Serbia and Montenegro.

The survival of Europe's stability has also been seen as an objective of the unleashed war. However, it is obvious that the region's instability has grown. The occupation of Kosovo cannot be forever, nor does the invaders' command offer any guarantees whatsoever. The neighbouring countries will have to face the consequences of what has happened, at the cost of high risk for new conflicts or the aggravation of those already underway.

In strongly condemning the crime committed against the Serbian people, the Cuban Government supports, also, the Kosovar-Albanian people's right to be fully guaranteed their national, cultural and religious identity, and to enjoy the widest autonomy and, even, independence, if — once a just and lasting peace not imposed on Serbia by an atrocious war of aggression has been reached — Kosovars of all ethnic groups and the Republic of Serbia should peacefully and democratically come to that decision.

Europe, paradoxically, has also been a victim. Although the objective was to consolidate and establish NATO's offensive capabilities against the rest of the world, what has actually been consolidated and established, in a humiliating and lessening way for the European sovereignty, is the United States' hegemony over the old and cultured Europe.

It turns out that NATO, whose only value was its defensive nature and whose only virtue had been its inactivity, is now declaring itself and acting like the world gendarme. Without a cold war or a real enemy, it becomes an offensive alliance, announces that it will act beyond its Member States' borders, that it will attack without being attacked, when it deems its interests at stake, and that it will act outside the UN when the latter becomes indocile.

We are promised that, by cannon shots, it will cope with "global threats" like terrorism, drug trafficking, the existence of weapons of mass destruction and human rights violations (curiously

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AIDSO Organises Dharna in Delhi

On 11.8.99 Delhi State Committee of the All India Democratic Students' Organisation organised Protest Dharna at V.C.'s office, University of Delhi, and submitted a memorandum to Mr. Shins, Dean, Students Welfare, as the VC was not present, who, while receiving the memorandum, fully agreed with the demands and assured the delegation that two more hostels would be built up very soon.

This state level Dharna was organised against privatisation, commercialisation, communalisation of education and fee hike and on the demand of

hostel to all. Hundreds of participants from various colleges under Delhi University demanded admission to all, at least five new colleges, hostel to all and that fee hike must be stopped.

Students shouted slogans against all anti-education policies and demanded at least 10% of the budget for education and introduction of scientific, democratic and secular education.

The gathering was addressed by Comrades Prakash, Reetu, Bhaskar, Kiran, Savitri and Satish Pamer.

Gujarat Save Education Committee Unleashes Protest Movement

Recently the BJP-led Gujarat government has introduced 'Grant in need' policy in the field of education. According to this policy in all government schools which will not receive government grant will be exempt from abiding by government rules and regulations. The policy will be effected right from class eight and the schools under the purview of this policy would have the right to extract as much fees from the students as they wish whereas until now education up to class ten is free in Gujarat. Even girl students whose education is completely free will henceforth have to pay fees at a high rate. The reservation system for the economically backward students will also be abolished. The school authorities will have the right to hire and fire teachers. In a word, the schools will turn to be some business organisations. In the past the Shankar Singh Baghela Government tried to bring this policy into force but due to widespread protest from the public he failed to do so.

This time as soon as the BJP government tried to effect the policy the Gujarat State Committee of the Save Education Committee built up protest movement embracing common people along with eminent educationists and intellectuals of the state. Signature collection campaign was massively conducted in Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat and in different places of north and south Gujarat where thousands of common people eagerly responded to the campaign. On 19th of June education convention with prominent intellectuals was held at Ahmedabad. During the month of June and

July the movement through continuous programme got a higher dimension. Only in Baroda ten thousand signatures were collected.

In support of those demands a mass hunger-strike of 12 hours was organised at Bhagat Singh Chowk, Baroda. In the meantime the result of the Madhyamik Examinations was published and acute admission problem was created due to unexpectedly high success rate. The Save Education Committee took up the issue and organised programmes under the pressure of which the authority was forced to admit more than 2000 students. Higher Secondary course was started at eight Madhyamik schools of the district.

In continuation of this movement a programme was organised for torching G.R. copy of Grant in Aid Policy in front of the office of the collectorate, Baroda. Police severely pounced on the agitators and arrested six people including Tapan Dasgupta, a student leader.

A convention of noted intellectuals, educationists, and education loving people of Baroda was held on 31 July, which formed a 30 member-strong committee to conduct future course of movement. This committee organised a demonstration before the education directorate and observed protest day on 20th August.

Similar demonstrative programmes were organised in the districts of North Gujarat, Saurashtra, Surat and Dang districts against privatisation and commercialisation of education under the auspices of the Save Education Committee.

Indo-Pak talks : as said by Ex-Navy Chief

Reconciliation between India and Pakistan cannot wait, former Chief Naval Staff Admiral L. Ramdas said here on Friday.

Dialogue between the two countries should be reopened without delay, keeping in mind the interests of both the peoples. As chairperson of the Indian chapter of the five-year Pakistan-India Forum for Peace and Democracy (PIFPD), which held its National Committee meeting in the City, the former Naval Chief told this paper that while the people on both sides wanted peace, the official establishment on both sides was keen to maintain tension to serve their vested interest. "There is power and money in keeping the people divided" he added.

Referring to the Kargil conflict he said it had transformed the mood of the country from patriotism to jingoism. The manner in which the media reported the issue served to glorify war and killing, sounding like fascist propaganda, he observed, "After all, the soldier, a human being, has died. There was no room for the families to grieve privately. A culture of animosity is being sought to be perpetuated. Children are being brainwashed."

In the context, he felt that the Kashmir issue should be finally settled by both countries after involving the people on both sides of the Line of Control. "Those whose fate is being decided need to know and need to participate," the Admiral said.

Even as estimates show that nearly Rs. 1,200 crores have been spent by India on the six-week long Kargil conflict, the sub-continent remains one of the poorest regions in the world, he pointed out. "For the poor, the most sophisticated weapons are not armaments. Resources can best be used to fight poverty, illness and ignorance. Nuclear weapons and nuclear power are unaffordable."

The Kargil issue had set back efforts at peace, he acknowledged. However, this has only redoubled the resolve of peace-loving people on both sides to reaffirm their commitment to non-violence. "Kargil is an ugly reminder of the barbarism that should not be tolerated," the Admiral said.

He termed the fighting as a needless vitiation of the atmosphere. "The truth is that the Pakistani establishment did seek to alter the Line of Control. Non anticipating India's response, they had hoped to gain some territory before a final settlement on Kashmir."

At the same time, the Indian Government should explain to its people why, if there was no intelligence failure, the intrusions took place.

The Pakistan-India Peace Forum will hold its fifth joint convention in Bangalore from January 21-23. It will bring together about 250 Pakistani delegates and an equal number of Indian delegates to promote friendship and democratisation, cultural, social, trade and business linkages between India and Pakistan.

The Forum is a non-government association of people from Pakistan and India, who stand for peace and greater interaction between the two countries.

(Source : *The New Indian Express*, 22.8.99)



Protest demonstration by AIDSO in Calcutta demanding solution of admission problem, scrapping of fee-hike etc. on September 1, 1999

Cuban Ambassador's Speech in UN

(Contd. from page 4)

enough, there is no mention of hunger and AIDS), and it will reserve the right to decide what a threat is, and where and when it would call for becoming a target of its missiles. The concept of the "diplomacy of force" is proliferating.

The new "NATO humanitarianism" is just the right to "humanitarian intervention," which nobody has defined nor the United Nations has agreed upon.

The developing countries must look at Kosovo as the place where we have been made collectively weaker against the powers' hegemonism and military threat.

The frivolous rhetoric on the globalization "opportunities," the myth of the "new financial architecture" or the "United Nations reform" mirage has been exposed in the Balkans. Today, the risks and challenges are clearer. No one will give us anything away. It is not a consolation that our creditors, passengers on the same boat, will go down with us. Developing countries, together, will have to forge by ourselves our common future in a globalized world.

Mr. President : The Security Council's prolonged silence will not erase the images of the bombardments. The Alliance owns the aircraft and the newspapers. The war show is another commodity. The war and the information market have found in Kosovo common interests and huge revenues. NATO's war has filled the coffers of smart weapons manufacturers and producers of silly TV shows.

The epidemic violence of the societies that have bombed the FRY (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) cannot be detached from this war. Children are shooting in United States schools, following, in essence, the same logic their parents have followed in Serbia.

Mr. President,

We are now witnessing the manipulation of the United Nations and the Security Council. After 79 days of disobedience and contempt, they are being used today to try to give the aggression an appearance of legality. The UN Charter was ignored, and it is invoked now, even though it has been replaced, in fact, with NATO's New Strategic Concept. The collective security mechanism has been replaced — for the sake of the powerful — with the law of the jungle. The International Court of Justice did not declare the bombings illegal, thus rendering International Law helpless. It is not new or exceptional for the Commission on Human Rights to be manipulated, but it is serious that it did not say that the air campaign is a massive, flagrant, feverish and systematic violation of human rights.

The developing world suffers unipolarism the most and takes the greatest chances with the weakening of the United Nations. The only beneficiary is the United States. The only choice is to struggle against these imperial practices, defend the United Nations, restore respect for and implementation of the Charter, preserve the principles of non-intervention, non-aggression, no threat or use of force and respect for sovereignty.

The fact that NATO has had to come now to the Security Council signals that this battle is still possible, and that if developing countries use their

strength, which is considerable when united, we will be able to save the United Nations.

For the benefit of the participants and the record, I should state that the data I utilized in relation to the so-called exodus from Krajina are contained in a recent report to this very same Security Council on June 2, by the assistant secretary-general for humanitarian affairs.

Mr. President,

One cannot bomb innocent civilians in the name of human rights. One cannot murder peoples in the name of international law. One cannot avoid the exodus of refugees with warfare and the destruction of the means of sustenance, of emergency medical services, of food and water supplies to the population.

One cannot create hundreds of thousands of refugees with criminal and irresponsible policies and then remain unconcerned about them. One cannot launch a war in the name of peace and stability. One cannot commit acts of genocide in the name of freedom.

The United States commits brutal acts and then its representatives fear the words that describe them. Let the minutes confirm it and our all colleagues hear it: the bombardment of the FRY is an ongoing and deliberate act of genocide. In the strictest legal sense, an act of genocide is systematic action directed at depriving a defenseless population of its means of sustenance. So is a campaign of air strikes on civilian targets, and prior knowledge of the presence of innocent persons within such targets, which implies a deliberate intent to cause their death because they are there.

It would seem that two distinct wars are being talked of here. That's logical. One is the "virtual" war launched from the technological superiority of the United States, from its abundant money, opulence, superiority and hegemonism. It's a "no-loss" war, a "television" war which intoxicates people while it continues voraciously consuming as if nothing was happening.

The other, of which I spoke, is the real war, where innocent civilians die, where children are torn apart, where hospitals, schools and factories are destroyed. Where people suffer from lack of water, energy, foodstuffs, operating rooms. Where there is no radiotherapy or dialysis, where premature babies die, where trains, buses, refugee convoys, prisons and diplomatic missions are reduced to ashes.

Mr. President, how can the continuation of the bombardment and the deaths and wounding of

innocent civilians be explained in the wake of the FRY's acceptance of the so-called peace conditions? Militarily it was unnecessary, ethically it is unacceptable and, from the humane point of view, it is criminal.

History will never pardon the phrase "collateral damage," which has been employed so much in recent months to refer to the destroyed bodies of innocent children.

Stating the truth as it is now, we have to avoid the United States and NATO filling us with military interventions and occupying our countries in the South on any pretext whatsoever and whenever it takes their fancy, just as in earlier centuries that nation filled our continents with misery and calamity.

We don't have anything to learn from the country of the war in Viet Nam, police brutality, the buying and selling of politicians, and where Lincoln's bedroom is rented out.

Now, the United States and NATO have come to the Security Council. What are they coming for, Mr. President? They are coming to manipulate it. The United States isn't paying (its debt to) the United Nations and wants to treat it as if it was its fief. When the Security Council, almost always at its service, doesn't give in, then there's contempt and disrespect. When the subjects fail to bow down it bombards them.

It ignores the Charter, by stating in this meeting that it is obsolete. It has to be defended, Mr. President. It's not merely a bunch of papers. It is the fundamental base of the UN. It is the *raison d'être* of this organization. In order to forget it one would have to have forgotten the bombardment of Rotterdam and the persecution of the Jews in Amsterdam.

Mr. President,

I am not going to respond to the personal allusions of the distinguished representative in reference to that "tiny little country" as it was called in an unfortunate joke during a recent Group of Eight press conference.

However, I should state that the Cuba can come here and state the truth, with its head held high, because it has earned that right through its total independence, its heroic resistance in the face of a dirty war, constant aggression and a genocidal blockade mounted by the United States. Cuba can do so because, at the time, it took the decision, ratified today, to defend the Revolution it made for itself to the final consequences.

Thank you very much.

Enron ousted from Kerala

At least the notorious US multinational brigand Enron India has been forced under public pressure to back out of 513 MW Knnur Power Project in Kerala. It may be mentioned that Enron India started execution of the project through 74% equity participation in a company named M/s. K.P.P. Nambiar & Associates (KPPNA) and under an agreement between this company and the CPI(M) led LDF government of Kerala. Mr. Nambiar happens to be a close relative of chief minister Mr. E.K. Nayanar. Well-meaning people of Kerala, particularly the local people, strongly protested the entry of Enron India in Kerala and built up vigorous movement against such anti-people move of the government. Lastly on 30th of August KPPNA and Enron declared termination of the agreement. Our party, SUCI, played an important role in the movement. Hailing the victory of the movement the Kerala State Committee of the party, in a statement, congratulated the people of Kerala for their fight.

STATE TERRORISM AS IN PUNJAB

(Contd. from page 2)

taken to arms after becoming a fugitive in late 1984. He was subsequently killed supposedly in an armed encounter with the police. For this reason, the police began to raid the house and harrass the family members to find out Guru Baksh's whereabouts. Baldev had also been illegally arrested and tortured in custody for information.

On 24th November 1992, Baldev along with his wife Narinder kaur, and his cousin Amarjeet Singh, went to his sister Kuldeep Kaur's house in the Radhaswamy Colony in Fazilka. In the morning of 25th November, around 5 AM a police force led by Nauram Singh, In-charge of Kairon Police Post, raided Kuldeep Kaur's house after scalling the walls. The police force was accompanied by Kulwant Singh, son of Meya Singh from Sou Ki Patti in village Kairon who had known that Baldev Singh had gone to his sister's village. At the time of the raid, Kuldeep Kaur, her husband Jeet Singh and their minor children were also present in the house.

Both Baldev and Amarjeet were immediately nabbed. Naurang Singh tied their hands to their backs and forced into a vehicle before driving away. Baldev's wife Narinder Kaur along with her brother-in-law went back to Kairon in a taxi to inform the family about the arrest.

The same afternoon, the members of the village council and other elders including Sarpanch Kashmira Singh, one advocate from Patti known as Tipu, Saroop Singh Gill, an employee of the Pubjab Roadways, Mohinder Singh, Baldev's father Jagir Singh and several other relatives met Naurang Singh, In-charge of Kairon Police Post. Naurang Singh told them that Amarjeet Singh and Baldev Singh would be released after their interrogation.

Over the next 5 days, the relatives and other village elders visited Naurang Singh and DSP Kashmir Singh a number of times to plead for their release. Baldev's wife Narinder Kaur was allowed to see him in the lock-up of Kairon police post briefly. However, they were not allowed to talk.

Naurang Singh demanded a payment of Rs.2,00,000 for the release of Amarjeet and Baldev. The family managed to raise Rs.1,35,000 which was handed over to Naurang Singh. Meanwhile, both Amarjeet and Baldev had been brutally tortured in the custody. The information was conveyed to the family by local police constables that their conditions were seious.

After paying the bribe of Rs.1,35,000 to Naurang Singh on 30th November, 1992, the family persuaded him to allow a private doctor to examine them. Naurang Singh also assured them that both Baldev and Amarjeet would be released the following day. Early next morning, the family received the message from an acquaintance that the police had taken their dead bodies for most mortem to the Patti Civil hospital. All the women, relatives, including Narinder kaur, immediately rushed to the hospital, which had been cordoned off by a large number of policemen under Naurang Singh. When they tried to enter the hospital, the policemen beat them up on orders from Naurang Singh. They were forced to go back.

Two Pubjabi newspapers, *Ajit* and *Punjab Keshri*, dated 2nd December 1992, reported that the police had killed two militants in an armed

encounter. One of them was identified as Amarjeet Singh belonging to the Panjwar Group of Khalistan Commando Force and the other militant killed was called unidentified.

The next day, the family members went to the Patti Cremation ground where they found the half-burnt bodies of Baldev Singh and Amarjeet Singh on separate pyers. They purchased more wood and arranged for their proper cremation. The following day, they went back to collect the ashes.

Some days later, the family organised a last religious rite of giving a feast, when the police again surrounded their house and did not allow anyone except the close relatives to attend.

Naurang Singh never returned the bribe of Rs.1,35,000, while he received from the family on 30th November 1992 evening to release Baldev

and Amarjeet unharmed. The incident left a deep impression on Baldev's mother Charan Kaur, who has become mentally unstable.

His father Jagir Singh also took to bed and died in 1996 after his second son Sukhwinder Singh, Baldev Singh's younger brother, was killed in 1996 reportedly by a police agent. Sukhwinder was also married and had two young daughters and one son.

Charan Kaur, who has become mentally disturbed, finds it hard to look after all the widows and their children.

Baldev's younger brother Gurbaksh Singh who had become a fugitive after the operation Blue Star, had also been killed in a supposed armed encounter, who was unmarried. (Case No.CCDP/00538) (Ibid p. 147-149)

Defence Expenditure Mounting

(Contd from page 3)

investment to help spur the growth should be at the top of our national agenda. India's vast pool of English speaking personnel offer our nation critical resources in our efforts to stay competitive and to remain the world leader in the hi-tech industry. **We need to offer India a security and economic partnership**". (*The Statesman*, July 4, 1999, emphasis added — Ed. P.Era.)

The NDA's election manifesto says about continuation of the reform programme i.e. globalization, liberalization and privatization — with a strong swadeshi thrust but encouraging at the same time foreign direct investment (FDI) of \$ 10 billion a year !

During the freedom movement, the Congress used to invoke the swadeshi spirit by calling upon the people to boycott foreign goods, especially British textiles. Today, the BJP gives a new interpretation to 'swadeshi' which is to be sustained by foreign finance capitals, mostly American in origin. This is nothing but translating in letter and spirit the policy of globalization, outbidding the Congress and others.

It is no longer a secret that the BJP-led coalition government while testing nuclear bomb in Pokhran, came to an exclusive secret negotiation with the US rulers. It was at first vociferous in opposition to signing the CTBT, the US was insisting. It was demanding global disarmament as a precondition to do that. After the Pokhran Test and counter action by Pakistan, the US imposed economic sanctions on both. The Indian Minister of External Affairs had several rounds of talks with Mr Talbot, the US Deputy Secretary.

After the fall of the BJP-led government, not to be outsmarted, the US administration disclosed that both India and Pakistan, under economic sanction of that country had committed themselves to adhere to the CTBT by September, 1999. Mr Talbot pointed out that so far as the public opinion of these two countries are concerned, "we obviously must let the governments in question decide **how much they want to expose to public and parliamentary scrutiny the content of their side of dialogues that they are committing with us**." (Quoted in the article, *Economic & Political Weekly*, May 8, 1999 — emphasis added)

The toning down of the BJP led government as regards signing the CTBT is palpable when it says : "It would consider being an adherent to some of the undertakings in the CTBT (depending

on number of reciprocal activities." (*ibid*)

At the time of giving 'undertakings' to the US officials, surely the 'reciprocal activities' were discussed and an agreement was reached which await disclosure after the BJP comes back to power. Now is the time for exhortation of 'patriotism' to the people to catch votes. President Clinton who announced his 'personal interests' in solving the bilateral problems between India and Pakistan including Kashmir issue is scheduled to a state visit to both the countries in coming November. Red carpet will no doubt, be rolled out for the reception of a man accused of killing thousands of civilian population in Iraq, Yugoslavia and elsewhere and destruction of their habitats, work-places, everything and a President of USA to be noted in the history of that country for facing the trial in the Senate on charges of adultery. Will genuinely patriotic people of both the countries join in the celebration ?

Genuinely patriotic people must join anti-imperialist movement

Before we end, we are to remind the people, particularly the young generations who could not witness the freedom movement and have no idea about the patriotic fervour and dedication of best sons and daughters of this country for an ideal worth kissing death at the gallows. They must distinguish between the real patriotism based on noble ideal of freedom and sovereignty of the country and the fake one to mislead them to be behind the war merchants and the politicians who share the spoils in political field. Indian peoples' fight for freedom was not simply against the British imperialism, but as Netaji Subhas Chandra said, against all imperialism.

For the Indian people in particular and the Asian people in general, the danger of domination of the US imperialism with NATO's military machine is a positive threat. It is not imaginary but real. Anti-imperialist movement in general and against the US imperialism in particular by broadest possible front of all freedom loving, well-meaning, genuinely patriotic people with the real communists working as a core within, can only defeat the conspiracy of turning this sub-continent into a military outpost of the US imperialism. This is in pursuance of its global strategy of subjugating the Asian markets and the people. The task is urgent for the working people and the true patriots of India, Pakistan and Asian countries. It brooks no delay.

Homage to Comrade Mao-Zedong

(Contd. from page 1)

placed before the portrait of Comrade Mao on behalf of the Central Committee by Comrade Ranjit Dhar, senior member of the party's central staff. It was followed a collective study of the works of Comrade Mao, at the central office. Party units all over the country observed the day and all comrades wore Comrade Mao's memorial badge day-long. In a solemn function at the Salt Lake Commune, Calcutta, our beloved General Secretary Comrade Nihar Mukherjee garlanded Comrade Mao's portrait and held a brief discourse on certain invaluable lessons and contributions of Comrade Mao. Comrade Mukherjee observed at the very outset that the demise of Comrade Mao Zedong could not be more untimely. He passed away exactly at that critical moment of history when he was leading a stubborn ideological struggle against Khrushchevite modern revisionism and when communists all over the world greatly needed his able and wise direction in this crucial battle. Barely a month before his demise on 5th August 1976, as if in an irony of history, passed away also Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, another stalwart Marxist thinker of our time and the founder General Secretary of our party SUCI who also had philosophically and theoretically laid bare Khrushchevite revisionism right since the 20th CPSU Congress of 1956. Comrade Mao's sad demise a month after, undoubtedly created a void in the fierce ideological fight against revisionism.

Comrade Mao's able theoretical and practical revolutionary leadership against dogmatism, liberalism, bureaucratism, mechanical following of leadership as against dialectical one, against the vilest revisionist betrayal in course of concretising and elaborating Marxism-Leninism marks him as the worthy disciple of all earlier Marxist authorities and also as a Marxist authority himself.

The great Chinese revolution which radically transformed world's second largest and utterly backward country with its enormous population, stricken with famine, flood, pestilence, abject poverty, utter destitution and opium addiction, would be impossible without Comrade Mao Zedong at the helm of the CPC. Firstly, the Chinese revolution would not have happened without the clear grasp of Lenin's teaching that in the era of imperialism, bourgeois democratic revolution in the feudal and colonial countries could no longer be carried through and completed by the bourgeoisie; but that it could be victorious only if the revolutionary proletariat led it through its own class party, in alliance with the peasantry. It was none but Comrade Mao Zedong who fully grasped the kernel of this Leninist teaching and most creatively applied it in the concrete conditions of China, formulating the theory of China's 'new democratic revolution'. Against the sceptic and dogmatic notion that building up a proletarian party was not possible in semi-feudal semi-colonial China where the industrial proletariat was weak and small and the peasantry very vast, Comrade Mao Zedong drew lessons from the essence of Leninist party concept and, applying it with unique genius, he built up, nurtured and forged the CPC as the great party of the Chinese proletariat. The protracted, tortuous, insuperably painful but also glorious experience

of the entire course of the Chinese revolution, the legendary long March being the supreme example of it, offers irrefutable and incontestable evidence of the invincible ideological-political-moral-cultural power of the CPC led by Comrade Mao. Comrade Mao Zedong's unique concretisation and elaboration of Marxism-Leninism in the soil of China, his theory of Chinese revolution and collective knowledge and experience of the CPC personified by Comrade Mao himself was the fountainhead of this invincible power.

Till his very last breath Comrade Mao Zedong carried on a ceaseless struggle to preserve the gains of the Chinese revolution, more and more strengthened the party and the socialist state of China as also advanced the world communist movement against all corrupting influence and infiltration of bourgeois ideology in any guise. So, fighting unsparingly Khrushchevite revisionist distortion and vulgarisation of the noble ideology of Marxism-Leninism internationally, he organised and launched the great proletarian cultural revolution within China itself to prevent the CPC from becoming revisionist. Comrade Mao was unique in it, again, in involving in this gigantic and complex struggle not only the cadres but all sections of the Chinese people. It was unprecedented in the whole history of world communist movement. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh acknowledged its profound significance and hailed it as "magnificent".

True, that after his demise, the Deng Xiaoping revisionist clique has taken the CPC and the Chinese socialist state on to the capitalist road, introduced the 'open market economy' and has destroyed the heritage of Comrade Mao to a great extent. Although they do still pretend to pay homage to 'Chairman Mao', knowing full well that in what profound esteem and reverence the Chinese people still hold this great leader, they may still drop even this pretence any day.

But even though revisionism may run rampant today, its devastating consequences are now crystal clear especially after the collapse of the world socialist camp. Communists all over the world are reevaluating their past experience, learning new lessons, and more and more exchanging these experiences and lessons with fraternal parties, with a view to reuniting and marching ahead. Our party is also playing its due role in this effort to rejuvenate the world communist movement.

Revisionism, by wrecking the world communist movement and the socialist world camp, gave imperialism a free rein. Imperialism has today spread the disaster of wars, death and destruction all over the world. The task of the hour, therefore, is to build up a worldwide mighty anti-imperialist struggle and, in its wake, give birth to a militant peace movement conducive to the emancipation struggle of the peoples of the world. The communists have to act as the core of this mighty movement, and for that they must first and foremost completely steer clear of all revisionist illusions and distortions. In this task the illuminating example of Comrade Mao will always prove educative and inspiring.

Long live Comrade Mao Zedong
Long live Proletarian Internationalism
Long live Marxism-Leninism

Mao Zedong Memorial Day Observed in Different States

Delhi

Our party organised a public meeting in Delhi on 9th September on the occasion of the Mao Zedong Memorial Day. Comrade J. Sinha presided over the meeting and Comrade Ashutosh Banerji, member, Central Committee, delivered main speech. Comrade Banerji in course of his discussion said that Mao Zedong was the architect of the new democratic revolution in China accomplished under the leadership of the proletariat with poor peasantry as the main bourgeoisie. After he completed the new democratic stage Mao Zedong brought about socialist transformation of China.

Mao is the first Marxist leader in China who brilliantly integrated the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin in the concrete situation of China. While building up socialist movement he not only investigated the objective reality of the then China, but also summed up the historical heritage of China and integrated Marxist-Leninist principles with it. Mao taught that communists in a given country can put Marxism in practice only when it is integrated with specific characteristic of one's own country and acquires a definite national form. He taught us that the great strength of Marxism-Leninism lies precisely in its integration with the concrete revolutionary practice in each country.

Haryana

Haryana SUCI recalled Comrade Mao Zedong, the great communist leader, on his 23rd death anniversary with solemnity. Red Flag was hoisted at Balwant Bhawan, SUCI State office, Rohtak. Comrade Satyawan, Secretary, Haryana State Organising Committee, garlanded the portrait of Mao Zedong. Comrades wore Mao Zedong badges and collectively studied his valuable speech on Democratic Centralism in two sessions – morning and evening.

The memorial day was observed at SUCI district offices also in a befitting way. At Rewari Mao's article 'On rectification of wrong ideas within the Party' was collectively studied.

Patna

In Patna memorial day of Comrade Mao Zedong, the great leader and teacher of the proletariat, was observed on the day of his demise, the 9th of September at Bihar state party office. Red Flag was hoisted to mark the occasion. The portrait of Mao Zedong was garlanded. At the office Comrade Amriteswar Chakraborty, Secretary, Bihar State Committee, addressed an assembly of party activists and supporters and discussed about the life struggle and teachings of Comrade Mao.

50th Anniversary of the Great Chinese Revolution

From 1st October to 15th October, our party will observe this historic occasion in a befitting manner throughout the country. We sincerely regret that in the last issue of the Proletarian Era, the date was wrongly given as from 3rd to 18th October.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : NIHAR MUKHERJEE