

Proletarian Era

Volume 30 No. 13
April 10, 1997

Organ of the SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA
Founder Editor-in-Chief : COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

Rs. 2.00
Air surcharge : 5 P.

On the threshold of the 50th year

Call of 24th April

The SUCI, the party founded by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat enters the fiftieth year on 24th April next. When Comrade Ghosh realised that the fruits of the struggles and supreme sacrifices of millions of Indian people in the freedom struggle were going to be usurped by the Indian capitalist class in absence of a genuine communist party he felt the urgent historic necessity of building up a genuine working class party on the basis of Marxism Leninism. Comrade Ghosh penetratingly analysed the character of the then undivided CPI and came to the firm conclusion that this party was an out and out social democratic party despite its communist nomenclature and Marxist vocabulary. The moment he came to this firm conclusion he did not look back and set out to build up the SUCI amidst heavy odds and mountain high obstacles. When Comrade Ghosh initiated this struggle he was only at the threshold of his youth and a mere volunteer of the revolutionary trend of the independence struggle. At that time most of the people had great illusion about the Congress; the undivided CPI enjoying recognition of the international communist leadership also exercised great influence and other parties like the RSP, the Forward Bloc, the RCPI were also well established. Comrade Ghosh on the other

hand had no followers, no recognition, no propaganda, no backing, no money, and no shelter. But the grim and arduous struggle conducted by him along with a handful of compatriots for building up the SUCI and the revolutionary movement amidst such heavy odds and such severest difficulties with firm conviction, grim determination, indomitable spirit, painstaking perseverance and revolutionary audacity reminds us of the epoch making struggles of the best sons in the history of civilisation.

In building up this historic revolutionary struggle Comrade Ghosh was an ardent fighter for truth and he knew no compromise in his search for truth. In building up this party of the proletariat Comrade Ghosh not only fought against different schools of bourgeois philosophy and its modern trends but also left his deep imprint on all branches of knowledge covering science, philosophy, ethics, morality culture, art, literature, aesthetics etc, in the post-Lenin period, and made valuable contributions in the treasury of Marxism-Leninism, which will illumine the path of struggle of mankind for ages to come.

Right from the very inception, the party under the leadership of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh has been providing penetrating analysis on all important events, both international and national. Just after the

foundation of the party in 1948 Comrade Ghosh pointed out some of the weaknesses and shortcomings of the world communist movement even when it was at the pinnacle of glory. Our party under the leadership of Comrade Ghosh warned that the 20th Congress of the CPSU would open the flood gate of revisionism. After the demise of Comrade Ghosh, our party under the leadership of Comrade Nihar Mukherjee came to the conclusion that perestroika and glasnost were the blueprints of counter-revolution. As a matter of fact, on all important international and national questions Comrade Ghosh provided valuable analysis which are being proved to be correct as the days are unfolding.

Many of the left parties which ridiculed us in our earlier days because of our smallness do not exist today. Two parts of the undivided CPI, the CPI(M) and the CPI in serving the interest of the capitalist class have become the object of resentful criticism by the people. These parties are now relying on money power, muscle power, administrative power and media power to keep their existence. The other section, the Naxalites were divided into hundreds of factions and in total disarray.

Like all the branded bourgeois parties, these left parties in governmental power are totally immersed

(Contd on page 4)

Central Committee on Latest Political Situation

The Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Centre of India, in session in Calcutta, observed in its meeting on 7th April 1997, reviewing the latest political situation arising out of the Congress(I)'s withdrawal of support to the Deve Gowda led U. F. Government that although the 10 month long rule of the United Front was just a repetition of the earlier rule of the Congress (I), being no less anti-people rather equally pro-capitalist and that the possibility of withdrawal of support was always there since its inception, yet this withdrawal of support at this juncture has nothing to do with policies or programmes related to people's interest and is rather the outcome of intense wrangling for power

and squabbling within the Congress (I). Clearly, political greed and fulfilment of personal political ambitions are very much behind this development.

It is really despicable to find that while the whole country is in the grip of an acute economic crisis, while sky-rocketing price rise, mounting unemployment, rampant corruption and severe economic recession and such other burning problems have brought life to a halt, these bourgeois parties more particularly the Congress (I) thought it better to indulge in this type of political manoeuvring simply to satisfy its leaders' political greed. No doubt this incident once again points to the abysmal depth of moral degeneration to which the

(Contd. on page 4)

Move to Shift Lenin's body Comrade Nihar Mukherjee's Protest

Condemning the move to shift Lenin's body from Red Square Mausoleum, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee wrote the following letter to Boris Yeltsin, President of Russian Federation.

Mr President,

No word is strong enough to condemn the reported move by your government to remove Lenin's body from the mausoleum in Red Square, Moscow and bury it elsewhere. Lenin was not just a leader of the Russian people but is and will remain a great leader of the international working class. Workers from all over the world feel strong emotional bonds with Lenin and would view this move as desecration of a hallowed symbol. We urge you to honour the sentiments of the working people of the world and desist from this attempt to sully the image of the great revolutionary leader,

Sd/- Nihar Mukherjee
General Secretary

Socialist Unity Centre of India.

In Reply to Mr. Namboodiripad on 'Indian Politics in the 21st Century'

In its issue of January 5 last, the CPI(M) organ *People's Democracy* carried an article from EMS Namboodiripad, a veteran polit bureau leader and former general secretary of that party, enquiring into the present 'political affairs' and giving a view of the 'Indian Politics in the 21st Century'. Expressly the 'enquiry' has been undertaken to present the CPI(M)'s view of the present political situation and to argue out its partyline. Since the article has been addressed to the people, it needs to be examined critically in the interest of the people.

Briefly, the contention is that: 1. the Congress is doomed and has no ghost of a chance 'to ride back again to power', because 'its leadership has been politically exposed as a gang of corrupt politicians' and its High Command is so faction-ridden; 2. the BJP, which, too, is faction ridden and whose 'aggressive campaigning for the Hindutva ideology has so alienated the party from the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, other backward classes, minorities and women that it can no more aspire to become the national party which it claims to be, and cannot, therefore, 'aspire to take the place of the Congress'; 3. 'all the bourgeois parties of the non-Leftist Opposition' are entangled in corruption cases, and 'the only political force free from corruption charges is the left'; 4. the left parties are 'acutely conscious' of the need 'to guard themselves against parliamentary corruption', and the CPI(M) especially is 'at the moment engaged in a campaign of inner-party rectification', and its leadership is determined 'to wean the party from all the evils that lead to corruption and factionalism'; 5. the left has 'a coherent policy of consistent and uncompromising struggle against imperialism abroad and the bourgeois domination in India, and this left contingent is pursuing a policy of supporting and assisting 'the anti-Congress and anti-BJP United Front government' at the Centre and at the same time maintaining 'its independent role, mobilising the people against all anti-national and anti-people policies, formulated and implemented by the Deve Gowda government' — all this on the principle of 'Unity-cum-struggle'; 6. 'struggle between the Congress and the BJP, on the one hand, and between the left and the other partners within the United Front, on the other, will determine the nature of the Indian polity as it is shaped in India in the new century'; and in the course of this 'the authority of the left' in the UF and in the country's politics 'will steadily increase'; 7. the 'militant combination' of the national platform of trade unions and other class and mass organisations which has emerged as the vehicle of struggle 'is the guarantee that the anti-Congress, anti-BJP United Front can be transformed into the combination of the militant working people', thus helping the emergence of 'the hegemony of the working class in the general democratic process' and gradual but certain development into 'the people's democratic front' to give birth to 'people's democracy'.

In other words, Namboodiripad, and the CPI(M) for that matter, is emphasizing that the present political situation signals the end of the days of the Congress and the BJP, and highlights the need to strengthen the ruling United Front to advance the cause of the people. The political line of the left is to fight the Congress and the BJP on the one hand, combinedly with the other parties of the UF and the anti-people policies of the Deve Gowda government, on the other, transforming the UF in the process into a platform of militant

struggle of the working people to usher in people's democracy.

Namboodiripad has spoken of people's democracy, not of people's democratic revolution. Assuming, for argument's sake, that the CPI(M)-led left contingent within the UF can transform it into 'the combination of militant working people' and that they will ideologically isolate what they call 'the bourgeois-landlord' classes, 'who stand at the head not only of the Congress and the BJP but of the non-left constituents of the United Front', the question remains: what is going to happen to the state, or what the emergent 'people's democratic front' will do about it? Either he has forgotten to talk of it, or Namboodiripad has wilfully avoided this pivotal question to hide it simply in order that the people and the rank and file of the CPI(M) fail to realize the real object of the party line of the CPI(M). But people's democracy without recourse to people's democratic revolution or socialist revolution to overthrow the state — be it a bourgeois-landlord or bourgeois state — and substitute it by the people's democratic state or the socialist state is nothing other than the pursuit of the bourgeois parliamentary democracy where the so-called people's representatives jostle for mutual share of pelf and power and people continue to groan under the burden of sufferings as before. At the most, and that is the crux of Namboodiripad's laboured exposition, it may mean the CPI(M) heading some day the government at the Centre which will be the manifestation of 'people's democracy'. It is difficult to say how far this exposition of the party line will convince the CPI(M)'s rank and file members. As, for the people, it is only a fact of their life to be made victim of the game of deception and treachery by the common front of parliamentary parties of all the hues.

Take any of his other arguments. The votary of people's democratic front has played cleverly within the ambit of parliamentary democracy, judging every issue, from corruption to democracy to working people's struggle, from the viewpoint and with the outlook of parliamentary democracy, with however the expected sprinkle of jargons like 'bourgeois parties', 'people's education on 'class lines', 'hegemony of the working class', and 'ideological isolation of the bourgeois-landlord classes'. All this smokescreen has been necessitated to garb their old parliamentary tactical line to grab governmental power at the Centre, availing of and manipulating the present crisis in parliamentary politics in this country. The squabbles now going on within the CPI(M) over the 'historical blunder' of not joining the United Front government is the other side of the same party line of parliamentary political pursuit which Namboodiripad has sought to carefully hide in his 'enquiry'.

That is why, he has painted the issues he has raised in regard to the bourgeois parties, namely corruption, factionalism and the fundamentalist role, as the evils gripping these parties and for which these parties have lost people's confidence and, consequently, have lost power and the chance to gain power. He has not pointed finger to the source of the root cause which engenders these evils in those parties who serve the prevailing capitalist socio-politico-economic order. Even without entering into the most vital question of the class character of the present Indian state and the stage of revolution, it can be said unequivocally that the prevailing order is ridden with an ever-deepening

crisis and it can deliver no goods to the people. On the contrary, this crisis ridden and thoroughly decadent order which has altogether lost its historical relevance is the source of all evils, including corruption in the parties subserving this order. It is certainly necessary to expose the corruption of the bourgeois and the petty bourgeois parties but unless the root cause of the evils is simultaneously and emphatically pointed out the evils cannot be checked, let alone be eliminated. Corruption and factionalism are no doubt facts merged with the mode of existence of the Congress. But what is the purpose of pointing to the corruption of the bourgeois parties? It depends on the outlook and the object. Either the purpose derives from a reformist outlook for mutual apportioning of blames among the parliamentary parties with an eye on the parliamentary dividends, or it derives from the diametrically opposite viewpoint of the revolutionary outlook to advance the interest of the people. Why has the CPI(M) to admit after all, as Namboodiripad has put it on record, of parliamentary opportunism in its fold? Whatever the explanation of the party leadership, do not the rank and file members of the CPI(M) owe themselves an answer to this question? Why are public charges of misappropriation, sectarian and criminal conduct, outrage on women against members of the party and its mass organisations piling up everyday now? What do those instances speak of — Alipur Treasury misappropriation Rashid scandal, Wakf Board issue? These are symptoms of how deep is the penetration of corruption in the party body of the CPI(M) today. Yet Namboodiripad has claimed that 'the only political force free from corruption charges is the left! What a travesty of truth! He has sought to sideline the issue by labelling the public charges of corruption against his party as 'pitfalls created by the environment of parliamentary activities'. Here, too, is involved the question of the class character and outlook of a party. A bourgeois or petty bourgeois party, which is part and parcel of the parliamentary process and serves the interest of the ruling class, invariably gets infected with the evils of corruption, factionalism and the like. A revolutionary party participates, under specific historical conditions, with the sole object of reflecting the voice of extra-parliamentary movement on parliamentary forum. Slogans notwithstanding, the object and nature of parliamentary activities of the CPI(M) and the nature of evils infecting the party are pointers to its class character.

Unless one's eyes are tainted with the colour of the bourgeois interest, one will not fail to realize that the incorrigible factionalism in the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties is the reflection and outcome of the acute crisis of the ruling class. The chains through which the various industrial houses influence the different groups in the bourgeois and petty bourgeois political parties give rise to internecine fights in these parties. In turning a blind eye to the crises of the prevailing system and the ruling class, which is the root cause of factionalism in the Congress, the BJP and the other bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties, Namboodiripad has objectively sought to hide the root cause, and, thereby, the ruling class. What is then the character of the class line on which he and the CPI(M) leadership wish to educate and reeducate the people? This question cannot be ignored.

(Contd. on page 6)

Dastardly Murder by CPI (M) backed Goons

Five SUCI Comrades become Martyrs at Kultali

Comrade Amir Ali Halder, veteran, deeply respected peasant leader who led many a brilliant movements since 50's, was murdered by CPI(M) employed criminals on 11th January last at Joynagar, 24 Paraganas (South) district in West Bengal.

Before the blood of Comrade Halder, the SUCI State Committee member, did dry, five other comrades of our party were brutally killed at Kultali, again by the CPI(M) murderers with the naked backing of the police.

The mutilated, decomposed dead bodies of the five comrades, stuffed in gunny bags floated up in the Thakuran river on 28th March morning (4 bodies) and on 29th (one body) in presence of thousands of poor peasants. They were guarding the entire area day and night since 25th March, when they were kidnapped, so that the bodies of the murdered comrades might not be secretly removed elsewhere by the criminals. Actually failing to do so, the criminals tied big bricks to ensure drowning of the bodies.

On the fateful 25th March, Comrade Gostha Bhuniya, AIDYO organiser, was attacked by CPI(M) anti-socials near Kalisundari Police Camp, 24-Parganas(South) district, mercilessly beaten and dragged to CPI(M) den. Getting the information his father and villagers rushed to the police camp requesting the police to rescue Comrade Buniya. But the police deliberately took a dillydallying tactics. Seeing moments passing by, anxious villagers were forced to take up rescue operation and at great risk, after intense search for several hours, rescued the comrade in a critical condition from a CPI(M) activist's house at about 3 PM.

During this turmoil, CPI(M) backed criminals again unleashed armed attack and kidnapped the five comrades while 25 were grievously injured.

The fathers, mothers and family members of the kidnapped comrades along with other villagers rushed to the same police camp requesting their rescue and arrest of the culprits. The police not only did not care, it gathered more police force in that camp from the neighbouring police stations.

In the meantime on that very 25th March, the district leaders of our party contacted the Superintendent of Police, South 24-Parganas, the Circle Inspector, Subdivisional Police Officer and finally the Home Secretary, West Bengal and appealed with all urgency to take immediate and swift rescue operation. But except some dry assurances from them, nothing practically is done to save the comrades. Next day, (26.3.97), noticing that the police was doing nothing for rescue, villagers started to express indignation. But the police in response brutally pounced upon the unarmed anxious villagers, severely lathi-charged them and opened fire, injuring many and arresting 18, including 7 women. The women were stripped, outraged and severely roughed up inside the police camp along with the arrested villagers. Moreover, using police as shield, the CPI(M) criminals plundered and looted SUCI supporters' house and injured many, among whom Comrade Panchanan Shasmal's condition is critical.

On 27th March, CPI(M) goondas beat Comrade Rabin Jana, severely wounded him and brought him to the police camp when the villagers protested and reiterated their requests to rescue the

kidnapped comrades ; the police again lathi-charged and fired in the name of maintaining peace. The police very deliberately killed time so that the criminals might conceal the dead bodies. Worse still, when the villagers themselves tried to rescue the kidnapped comrades, police obstructed them.

The kidnapped comrades were brutally murdered. Grief and sorrow descended on the entire area. Spontaneously there was undeclared bandh, which continued for several days. Thousands of families did not cook a meal (Arandhan) for some days.

Even newspapers, known to have inhibition to print news of movements organised by our party and our mass organisations, reported about the brutality of the mass murder and about the partisan role of the police.

Aajkal, known to be close to the ruling party, reports on 29th March: "That man can be so cruel cannot be grasped unless one went to Kultali on Friday (28.3.97). With the barbarity of middle ages 4 SUCI activists were killed including a student of Class VII (dead body of the fifth comrade was found the next day). At first, their limbs were tied, then stuffed in gunny bags and beaten with heavy iron rods. When almost dead, they were pulled out of the bags and hacked with sharp weapons. Their stomachs were cut open, entrails out, then the bodies were stuffed again in gunny bags, four big bricks were tied with each body. The four gunny bags were thrown in the waters of the Thakuran (river). It is doubtful whether such cruelty had been heard before." *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, a leading Bengali Daily, writes on the same day: "Police, too, confessed that the CPI(M) supporters kidnapped the SUCI activists. ... a section of police of Kultali and Joynagar P.S. confessed that after kidnapping police did not do much to find out the missing persons. Extra police force, too, was not sent there. ... It is known from police sources that being unable

to break the strong SUCI base at Joynagar, now CPI(M) is eying Kultali. In 1989, at Bhubaneswari-Goorguri of Kultali, 7 SUCI activists were killed. Afterwards, 4 of them were found, on the river bank. The remaining three remained untraced. None was arrested in that incident." (The criminals named in the FIR still now lord over the area)

Aajkal writes: "SUCI MLA Probohd Purkait complained at Kultali PS that CPI(M) activists kidnapped all the five. Police did not believe and said all were 'political stunt'. On 26th Debasis Roy, Additional Police Super of South 24.-Parganas, went to investigate. Not finding anybody at Devipur village, he disbelieved it saying that it was a 'political stunt'. Basudev Purkait, Panchayat Pradhan of Chuprijhara, said, "We wanted to search taking police with us. Yet, the police did not agree." (Translation ours)

The Statesman writes: "The police organised the peace meeting on Sunday (23.3.97), which proved ineffectual. Instead, the CPI(M) cadre attacked the SUCI activists on Tuesday (25.3.97)." The Statesman writes on 30.3.97 : "Devipur and Bhubaneswari villagers are glum. Mr Pran Krishna Giri ... said his son had been attending party meetings ever since he grew up. He said the killers had gouged his son's eyes out and hacked off the top of his skull.

The mother of Joydev, a class VII student, said her son could have been saved if the police acted promptly. But instead of hunting for those missing, police were arresting SUCI supporters including herself and Subal's wife. Both were tortured."

It may be mentioned, then asked what would be their plight after their dear ones were murdered, the villagers answered that they were with the party and party was their all.

In a Press statement on April 2, Comrade
(Contd on page 8)



Red Salute Five Martyrs

**Subal Mondal
Gopal Ghosh
Krittibas Giri
Monoranjan Sasmal
Jaydeb Paik**



CALL OF 24TH APRIL

Release Two Fold Struggle To Face Present Situation

(Contd. from page 1)

in corruption and suppressing democratic movement to implement anti-people policies for serving the interest of capitalism. Out and out anti-people character and the stench of the misdeeds of all the bourgeois parties are there for everyone to see and smell even from the reports in the bourgeois media. The SUCI, on the other hand, braving heavy odds has spread its activities in as many as 17-18 states of the country with a distinctly alternative left political line on the edifice of higher proletarian culture by fighting parliamentarism economism, reformism and opportunism of the pseudo left parties. People in east

and west India, in north and south India are getting organised with the revolutionary thoughts of Comrade Ghosh under the banner of our party, and developing mass and class struggle with sweat and blood. The party despite very many limitations is penetrating among the workers, peasants, students, youth, women and every other strata of exploited masses and developing their own respective organisations which are building up and conducting democratic movements with their just demands.

When all embracing crisis emanating from capitalist exploitation has engulfed the entire country, the attention of the old

revolutionary freedom fighters who are still alive today, of that section of educationists and intelligentsia of the earlier period who are still today holding aloft the humanist moral values and of those who are today totally frustrated by the politics of the undivided CPI, later the CPI(M), the CPI and the Naxalites, besides millions of common people are being drawn toward this party founded by Comrade Ghosh. All of them are wishing with all sincerity to see the SUCI gaining more and more strength. The party is today getting love, affection, support and help from every corner. In the present situation of deep crisis in the international communist

movement the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the able disciple of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong is going to play a significant role in the field of ideological struggle. At the initiative of Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, the beloved General Secretary of our party, fraternal relation has been established with many communist and workers parties and groups of different countries. Many of the revolutionaries of different countries are showing interest in Comrade Ghosh's thoughts.

The party has to conduct grim and protracted struggle to reach the present stage in the national and international arena. In order to uphold the noble flag of the party founded by Comrade Ghosh, many a comrade has become martyr, and many others sustained serious and debilitating injuries while fighting the enemies. But despite that the leaders and the cadres of the party have been carrying forward the struggle with revolutionary valour and revolutionary dedication.

The party is going to observe its foundation day in a most critical situation, when the forces of war and reaction has gained over the forces of peace and progress. The danger of outbreak of war is real because of intense competition among the imperialists for capturing market. Being confronted with acute crisis of market the imperialists are thrusting globalization, liberalization and privatization. The monopolists of our country are also in favour of all these measures in their own class interest. The imperialists headed by the US imperialists have become more aggressive in absence of any deterrent. In the present situation, not to speak of revolutionary movement, even democratic movement invites the intervention of the imperialists. In the given situation

our party is trying to build up anti-imperialist movement conducive to anti-capitalist socialist revolution.

In the present international situation obtaining today this call of the party to build up anti-imperialist movement is most appropriate and timely.

Revisionism has now appeared as main danger before the working class movement. When the people are more and more subjected to ruthless exploitation and oppression, the CPI(M) and the CPI have in this critical hour come out openly to serve the interest of the capitalist class. It is now getting impossible for these social democratic parties even to keep their pro-people mask intact because of the present acute crisis of capitalism. The criminalization of politics has become complete. The entire social atmosphere is vitiated with vile and rotten imperialist culture. The vast army of the unemployed youth are lured to the most unethical means of livelihood. In a word, the dark cloud of fascism is engulfing the entire horizon. In the present situation it devolves on the leaders and cadres of the party built by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh through such painstaking and arduous struggles to face the situation with revolutionary audacity. In order to be equal to the task the Central Committee of the party headed by Comrade Nihar Mukherjee has released an intense elevation and rectification struggle involving all the leaders and cadres of the party for developing each and every individual leader and cadre. In order to release a powerful counter current against the impending danger of fascism the need of the hour is to engage ourselves in this two-fold struggle — the struggle to develop ourselves through criticism and self-criticism on the one hand and the struggle to develop class and mass struggles on the other.

Central Committee on Latest Political Situation

(Contd. from page 1)

Congress (I) and other bourgeois parties have fallen notwithstanding their clamour for 'democracy' and 'value based politics'.

At the same time the Central Committee is of the considered view that this development can not be viewed in isolation as it is the clear reflexion of the crisis-ridden capitalist system, more particularly the utterly uncertain state of economy, leaving its mark on the body-politic of the country.

The Central Committee notes with deep indignation that while the need of the hour is to develop mighty people's movements embracing all sections of people centring round their burning problems and in the process to eliminate whatever influences still remain of the Congress (I) and the BJP, both of which are the enemies of common people, the leaders of the CPI (M) and the CPI in their bid to taste greater power are clearly acting as saviours of these bourgeois parties thereby helping on one hand the BJP to gain greater political leverage by

exploiting the slogan of political stability and on the other helping the Congress (I) refurbish its image by posing as 'secular' and 'progressive', which, as is known, best served the aggregate interest of the ruling bourgeois class during its 40-45 years' rule and in the process revealed its true colours as most reactionary, anti-people and corrupt political force and also no less communal as it aided and abetted communal forces whenever electoral considerations dictated such a course.

It is really unfortunate that the CPI (M) and the CPI, instead of exposing the utterly hypocritical behaviour of the Congress (I) are wholly engaged in entering with it into deals and agreements in purely bourgeois style. So far as people's lot is concerned, they will have to go through same hardship even if these deals and agreements succeed with continuation of government or if these talks fail an additional heavy financial burden will be thrust on them in view of a midterm poll which may then become inevitable. The

fact is, none of these parties feels any concern for people's interests.

The Central Committee also notes with anguish that the leaders of the CPI (M) and the CPI, in utter disregard of the interest of the toiling millions, have used the occasion to stop all sorts of people's movements by raising the bogey of so-called 'national crisis' which is nothing but a nefarious political gambling of the bourgeois parties.

Under the circumstances, the Central Committee of the party calls upon the left and democratic minded people of the country and the rank & file of the CPI (M) and the CPI to bring pressure upon their leaders to give up the role of playing second fiddle to the bourgeois parties, to stop hobnobbing with the Congress (I) so as to force them into upholding the banner of mighty people's movements since under the prevailing condition nothing else than mighty democratic movements can bring any kind of relief to the vast multitude of downtrodden people and effectively contain communalism and opportunism.

Death Anniversary of Karl Marx observed at Ghatsila

On 14th March, 1997, the 114th memorial day of the great leader of the world proletariat Karl Marx, was observed at the Study Centre of Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thoughts, Ghatsila, in the evening. The meeting was presided over by Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, our beloved General Secretary. Comrade Tapas Datta, member, Central Committee, and Secretary, Orissa State Committee, was the speaker.

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee recalled the invaluable teachings of Karl Marx on this occasion. He said: Today we remember Karl Marx with a view to developing ourselves as true Marxists being guided by his teachings and lifestruggle. We cultivate Marxism, Dialectical Materialism, for the prime reason that Dialectical Materialism is the only philosophy that has not stopped after explaining the world, it has illumined the objective, historical, scientific path to change it.

It was Marx who first of all freed Hegelian dialectics from idealistic shell and founded it on scientific basis. Marxism is the science of all sciences because Marx founded it through the process of correlating, integrating and generalising the particular truths as discovered in various branches of science. Marxism is philosophy as also science at the same time. Before Marx, philosophy was a matter of cultivation only among the scholars. It was Marx who showed that philosophy finds its material weapon in the proletariat and proletariat finds its spiritual weapon in philosophy. That this view of Karl Marx is correct has been exemplified by the November Revolution in Russia and proletarian revolutions in other countries.

Applying dialectical materialism, Marx showed that since class division emerged after humanity passed the phase of primitive clan communist society, in course of the development of civilization till date there have been revolutionary changes — thus came into being first slave society, then feudal society and next capitalist society — all of which replaced one type of exploitative-oppressive system in place of another one. The great November Revolution on Russia established for the first time in history a socialist state based not on exploitation. We should remember that capitalism is not the end of history, for it is digging its own grave and it has pushed the working class to a stage where the working class has nothing to lose but their chains only. The question of emancipation of the working class and that of other exploited classes are now one and the same.

We, the workers of a Marxist-Leninist party, who have actively engaged ourselves in the tasks of the anti-capitalist socialist revolution, should remember that till the emancipation of the working class is achieved our own emancipation will remain unfulfilled.

Another invaluable teaching of Marx is that the working class, who will change the world, should change themselves first. So, from which ever section we may have come, either from a worker or a peasant family or from a middle class family or from any other strata, to be a true communist we must conduct a ceaseless socialist battle in all aspects of our life and radically change ourselves.

At the same time as one of the most important conditions for achievement of anti-capitalist socialist revolution, we must conduct cultural revolution conducive to it, while organizing class and mass struggles.

After the recent setback in the world socialist camp due to the attack from within the communist movement by neo-revisionism, those who are trying all-out to prove Marxism to be obsolete are ignorant of the fact that Marxism or the philosophy of dialectical materialism is based on the firm foundation of science. Marx proved in his lifetime that mankind's objective goal of communism is the historically determined outcome of the ceaseless class struggle between labour and capital inside the society.

With the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in socialist society, the process to uplift it into communist society — the transition from capitalism to communism — starts, the outcome of which is the gradual elimination of all sorts of social discrimination and finally withering away of the working class state as also of the working class party and thus of all class divisions. That is the day when the communist society, free from all class divisions and discriminations, would engage in deeper struggles with nature and know it, assimilate more profoundly the laws of nature and would establish its dominance over nature more and more and in its wake mankind and human civilization would progress ahead unceasingly.

Comrade Tapas Datta

Comrade Tapas Datta said: We are not observing the memorial day of Karl Marx as a ritual or only to pay tribute to Marx as a great man. Our objective to recall Marx is to grasp the teachings of his life and philosophy to apply them

in our life.

It was Marx who showed that the stage we are in was not existing for ever. In course of development we have reached here from the primitive clan communist society. Marx showed that as in every sphere of nature, human society too, is subject to change; the society in which we live has not existed since time immemorial. It has developed through many a stage. In the capitalist society the character of production is social, but ownership is individual. This private ownership is the root of all evils, all social maladies. Only by overthrowing private ownership with the force of revolution and establishing in its place social ownership over production, will be solved the crisis in economy — the recession, problem of unemployment, poverty and the contradiction between the owners and the workers. But it has also to be kept in view that even after establishment of socialism through revolution, roots of capitalism will persist in the cultural sphere for many years to come. Through relentless struggle in the spiritual world, all people of the socialist society shall have to acquire the proletarian ethics and culture. The day society will come to be based on the sense of value that individual welfare lies in the welfare of all, the socialist society will reach the doors of communist society where the class division will be eliminated. The state will wither away and there shall be no exploitation of man by man and discrimination between man and man.

The meeting ended with the Internationale.

AIMSS Observed International Women's Day in Different States

International Women's Day was observed in different states of India by the AIMSS. Reports have so far been received from Ahmedabad in Gujarat, Bombay and Nagpur in Maharashtra, Patna and Mungyr in Bihar, Cuttack in Orissa, Guwahati, Goalpara, Dhubri, Silchar and Hailakandi in Assam, Bangalore in Karnataka, Moradabad in UP and Jabalpur in MP. Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Central Committee member of the party was the chief guest in Bangalore and

many important leaders of the AIMSS like Comrades Prativa Mukherjee, Chhaya Mukherjee, President and General Secretary of the AIMSS, other state leaders and some important personalities participated in different states. It is regretted that owing to shortage of space these programmes cannot be covered in detail.

In Calcutta, the AIMSS organised a massive rally of thousands of women with a memorandum to the Chief Minister on 21st March last.

85th birth anniversary of Comrade Kim Il Sung

On the occasion of 85th birth anniversary of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of Korea, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee sent the following message:

To
Yu Hung Ryol
Chief of the New Delhi Bureau,
Korean Central News Agency
2nd floor, 187 Vinoba Puri,
Lajpat Nagar II,
New Delhi 110024

Fax : 011 646 6357

Dear Comrade,

Please allow me to express, on behalf of the Central Committee of our party and the proletariat and other toiling millions of our country — fighting today simultaneously against the ruling Indian bourgeoisie as also against the imperialists, especially the US imperialist menace — to express the profoundly fraternal feelings and sentiment towards their Socialist Korea brethren on the solemn occasion of the 85th birth anniversary of the great leader of the Korean people, Comrade Kim Il Sung.

We repose full trust in the revolutionary fervour and compatibility of the Korean people who, led by their beloved and revered leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, established socialism in Korea and who will, as we believe, once again emerge victorious in their present valiant struggle, led by the Korean Workers' party, to foil the sordid machinations of nuclear arm-twisting of the imperialist powers led by the arch-imperialist USA for intimidating, isolating and browbeating Socialist Korea with the ulterior motive of dismantling the Korean Socialist State.

Allow us to affirm, in this context, our solemn pledge as proletarian internationalists to firmly stand beside the heroic people of Korea for keeping the banner of socialism flying over Korea despite all imperialist manoeuvres and intrigue.

With revolutionary greetings,

Comradely Yours,
Sd/- **Nihar Mukherjee**
General Secretary

Socialist Unity Centre of India.

Mr. Namboodiripad played cleverly within the ambit of Parliamentary Democracy

(Contd. from page 2)

Namboodiripad has cited corruption and factionalism to suggest that these bourgeois parties cannot hope to get votes because of their corruption. So, they cannot return to power or gain power. But Namboodiripad kept silent on the other equally tangible fact that in the present crisis ridden set up it is not people's verdict which really is reflected in the outcome at polls. The ruling class interferes with the election process in every possible means, orchestrating the entire media to project its class choice, investing money and muscle, and, above all, deploying the administered poll rigging machinery to manipulate and influence the poll process in favour of its class choice. The design is to shape out a form of two-party parliamentary system by propping up a single bourgeois party as the alternative to the Congress wherever and whenever possible, or by projecting a combination of the bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties in a different situation. In this way, in order to extend the lease of life of itself in the face of the ever deepening crisis of the system, the ruling class is consolidating its fascist rule. It is for this that the Congress led by Indira Gandhi, although thoroughly discredited for its anti-people rule, had returned to power at the 1980 Lok Sabha polls. Therefore, it is one thing to talk of the Congress having no chance of returning to power but a totally different thing to educate the people and direct their attention to the root cause that in the bourgeois parliamentary democratic set up of today election outcome is not the true reflection of people's opinion. What education on class line is the CPI(M) giving to the people and what role are they playing thereby?

Namboodiripad has argued further that its Hindutva ideology has alienated the BJP from the backward communities of the people, for which that party cannot claim to be a national party. The history of the rise of the BJP in the parliamentary scene in recent years reveals that this party could exploit the crisis in the parliamentary politics with the backing of the ruling class and playing upon the religious sentiment of the majority religious community in favour of its petty, parliamentary ambition of grabbing power. No doubt the party has succeeded in swinging a section of the people in its favour, although it has not been able to draw all the different sections into its fold because of its rabidly communal character and stance. Factionalism, too, has undermined its claim to be the only alternative to the Congress. But was it impossible for the left to check the aggressive campaign and the menace of the BJP? Here again is involved the question of outlook and base political line. The prevailing order and the ruling class are incapable of delivering any good to the people who are gasping in the stifling air of suffering and misery. The Congress, especially under Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi, had been alienated from the people and gone into disarray. The BJP exploited this situation. Hindutva, or religious fundamentalism of any sort, was not the basic issue before the people. That issue centred round the burning problems in their life, the problem of unemployment, price-rise of essential commodities, tax burden, education, health, housing and cultural degradation. The situation demanded of the genuine left and all pro-people secular and democratic forces to unite and build up countrywide broadbased legitimate democratic mass movements on these burning problems of the people. The SUCI had repeatedly appealed to all

the left parties to take the initiative to this end. These parties all turned deaf ear. We tried singlehandedly wherever we could to build up movements at our own initiative to channelise the people's sentiments, aspirations, creative abilities and organisational power into massive struggles against the anti-people policies and measures of the government at the Centre and the states. Our small strength was unequal to the demand of the situation. The BJP did take advantage of this absence of countrywide massive movements and went on to reap parliamentary dividends by playing its communal card.

What was the role of the CPI(M) and its partners of the 'left contingent'? What is their present role? They talk of movements, but other than giving this lip service they never genuinely attempted to build up broadbased mass movements. They have talked of a secular and democratic front, but in practice, in the name of an anti-BJP secular front they have overtly or covertly lent support to the Congress. By this act they had sought to point the Congress as a secular force against the communal BJP. But people in every corner of the country did experience with tears and blood that the ruling Congress, as the most trusted political agent of the ruling class, aided and abetted the communal, parochial, divisive and secessionist forces to disrupt people's unity and safeguard the interest of the exploitative and oppressive ruling class. Everyone knows that the recurrent communal and ethnic riots in UP, Bihar, Assam, Gujarat, Maharashtra and elsewhere were the handiwork of the ruling Congress. The people are coming to realise gradually that whoever goes to serve the interest of the ruling class today does foster and foment the communal, parochial and divisive forces to safeguard the class interest against people's interest. One may recall the CPI(M)'s own instances — the communal riot in Purulia during the BJP leader Advani's Ram rathayatra through that border town of West Bengal and the riot in Nadia, another township of the same state. The CPI(M)'s role during the riot in Calcutta following the demolition of Babari Masjid is another case in point.

On the other, even as the CPI(M) may talk of combining forces against the anti-democratic policies of the Congress, it has no qualms to unite with communal parties and forces. They did it with the Muslim League in the past. They have done it with the BJP, using but clever rhetorics. The VP Singh government limped along on its BJP crutch and the CPI(M)-led left crutch. The present UF government at Centre, of which the CPI(M) is truly an architect, exists at the pleasure of the Congress whose 'leadership has been politically exposed as a gang of corrupt politicians'. The minority Narasimha Rao government survived through a full term because the BJP and the CPI(M) carefully desisted from voting together on the parliament's floor against it, each using a pretext against the other.

The CPI(M) and its UF partners are trying to corner the BJP in parliamentary politics, and the vice-versa is the case with the BJP and the Congress. This dirty game stops at no level, each of these parliamentary parties stooping to kick out others in the race for power. The most glaring instance is how the BJP-BSP traded for share of UP governmental power. The CPI(M) and the UF can prevent the BJP from gaining power for some time, but how can they fight the communalism of the BJP by this parliamentary game?

The one thing all this means is that the CPI(M) and its 'left contingent' do not judge, nor pursue any of the issues arising in the changing situation from the viewpoint of people's burning revolutionary necessity. Parliamentary expediency, purely and simply that, is their singular concern. They are of course fully conscious that the parliamentary concern is antagonistic to people's concern. To live they need the blessings of the rulers. To survive they need the support of people. So, they need to befool the people in order to be in the reckoning of the rulers.

How much shameless the CPI(M) leadership can be is illustrated by the instance when they claim the left as a contingent. The nature of the contingent is that in the contingency of the polls, when each of the two major left partners, the CPI(M) and the CPI, is after a few seats, more than often they fall apart rather than unite. In the recent Punjab assembly polls the CPI went with the Congress. Failing to negotiate a similar unity with the Congress over share of the spoils, the CPI(M) allied with the Janata Dal. In Tamil Nadu at the last year's assembly and Lok Sabha polls the CPI(M) allied with the MDMK and the CPI went with the DMK. Such is the usual practice. But Namboodiripad would have us believe that the left as a contingent has a principled stand to mark it out from among the other partners of the U.F.

The other instance is his claim that the left has 'a coherent policy of consistent and uncompromising struggle against imperialism abroad and the bourgeois domination in India'? It will be in order to cite an example of the consistency and uncompromising nature of the struggle of these lefts. The Polit Bureau leader and West Bengal's Chief Minister Mr Jyoti Basu makes annual trips to the UK and other imperialist countries of the West, also to the US, to invite foreign capital to his state. The Left Front does not lose an opportunity now-a-days to invite the multinational corporations, those imperialist outposts, to invest in West Bengal. The argument is that the investment will open up job opportunities for the people and stimulate economic growth. The multinationals could invest, if they will do so to set up anew capital intensive industries to exploit the cheap labour and resources and amass huge profits. As one knows that does not even touch the fringe of the unemployment problem. The big monopoly houses in the country are trying to secure their own benefit from this situation by entering into collaboration with the foreign multinationals in a give-and-take basis and get whatever share of the market possible. The combined effect is that, on the one hand, the people are getting doubly fleeced by the foreign and native capitals and, on the other, they are being made victim of deception by the CPI(M) and its allies. The principal issue however is the question of resisting the all-out imperialist attack today on the peoples of the world and combining all the forces that can be combined against this onslaught. The CPI(M) led left contingent, let alone taking a single step in this direction, is inviting the imperialist capitals. Such is the uncompromising struggle the CPI(M) is waging against imperialism!

In their rhetorics the CPI(M) leadership brands the Narasimha Rao led Congress government's policy of liberalisation and privatisation as a formulation in the interest of the bourgeois class. In the same breath they are taking measures to hand over several state government undertaken industrial establishments to private owners, inviting and collaborating with foreign and native owners to set up new industries, road building, bridge construction and other such areas. These 'lefts' call strikes to protest the central government's decision

(Contd. on page 7)

Theoretical Garb for CPI (M)'s Opportunism

(Contd. from page 6)

to allow private owners in the insurance sector, and themselves sign memoranda of understanding to allow private foreign participation in the same sector. The Left Front government has declared a policy to allow privatisation in education. So they are not really averse to the bourgeois domination in the country. All they want is their own role to rule under the bourgeois domination, that's to serve the master in return for pelf and power.

It is a historical experience that the bourgeoisie in every country rule with the help of both the branded bourgeois parties and parties under a different signboards who may not be identified easily by the people as the agents of the ruling class. These latter parties employ a different vocabulary in a garb of theoretical reasoning and mouth different slogans. They trick and deceive the people to undermine their struggle and subserve the ruling class. Nambodiripad, in the present case, has given a theoretical garb to the tactical line of his party, arguing that the 'struggle between the Congress and the BJP, on the one hand, and between the left and the other parties within the United Front on the other, will determine the nature of the Indian polity' in the coming days. He has not used the political terminology of the Marxian

science — but he has presented contending sides. On the one hand there are two bourgeois parties fighting over pelf and power. On the other hand there is the party supposedly upholding the people's cause and engaged to unite the different forces against the major bourgeois parties and to expose the other bourgeois parties in the people's camp. **students of history.** However, know that in the ultimate analysis there are two and only two sides in this society. On the one side is the ruling class together with all its subserving agents, and on the other side are the working people and their allies. This constitutes the basic contradiction, the contradiction between the working class and the ruling bourgeoisie, between labour and capital. The whole range of social, political, economic and cultural issues centre around this basic contradiction and in their mutual conflict and contradiction shape out the historical process. Nambodiripad would have us see the Indian polity of the 21st century shaping out from the struggle between the Congress and the BJP, and between the left and the Janata Dal etc., of the United Front. But that struggle is oriented towards the parliamentary goal of winning governmental power in the existing system and is entirely confined within the parliamentary orbit. It is a major factor in shaping out the parliamentary politics in the near future, but what has it got to do with the much deeper and base political struggle between the downtrodden masses and the ruling bourgeoisie? The future of the country centres fundamentally round this base political struggle.

In this fight people need their own instrument of struggle. Nambodiripad has projected the national platform of 56 mass organisations as the vehicle of people's struggle with which his party is said to be mobilising people against 'all anti-national and anti-people policies formulated and implemented by the Deve Gowda government'. The crux of the matter is here, and let us consider a few instances of the character of the struggle the CPI(M) led 'left contingent' is conducting from this platform. The first pertains to the anti-Congress, anti-imperialist role of this contingent. At the National Platform Convention in Delhi on 15 July, 1995, the UTUC-LS had moved a proposal to

demand of the Narasimha Rao Government that India withdraw from the WTO. Because, so long as the government remains in the WTO it would be accord bound to abide by its clauses which inevitably would affect the economy and life of the common people of the country. The struggle against the anti-people policy of the government would be meaningless without forcing the government to withdraw from the WTO. Fleecing by the multinationals and their native monopolist colluders would leave people pauperised and their life altogether ruined. This 'left contingent' refused to accept this proposal.

The second concerns the character of commitment of these lefts to building movement in each state. Flouting the decision of the National Platform they refused to form the state level organisation in West Bengal lest the unavoidable participation of the SUCI in this state went to launch movements against the anti-people policies of the Left Front government.

The third is regarding the role of the Platform in mobilising the people against the anti-people policies of the Deve Gowda government. The UF government has openly committed itself to pursuing economic policy of liberalisation and privatisation adopted by the preceding Congress government. The general budget placed by Finance Minister Chidambaram is the outcome of this policy to safeguard the interest of the ruling class at the cost of the interest of the people. What movement has the CPI(M) or its mass organisations led from the National Platform? What movement did they launch when the prices of petroleum products were increased by administrative fiat to add to the hardship of the people. From its own power of seat in West Bengal the CPI(M) led left contingent has crushed legitimate democratic mass movements and undermined the cause of movement itself. Does not

this emasculation of militant legitimate democratic movements contribute to the growth of the rabidly communal BJP? Occasionally, they make a show of movements and at times call a bundh. This show or strike call without the necessary preparation and planning for protracted struggle is only creating frustration and mistrust in the people, blunting the instruments of struggle and undermining the cause of struggles. It strengthens the hands of the ruling class and its repressive arm, let alone establish the hegemony of the working class.

Two roads are open before the National Platform of 56 mass organisations, or for that matter before any joint platform of movement. One is to launch from it countrywide broadbased united democratic mass movements on the burning problems of people's life against the anti-people policies of every government, including the present UF government. The other is to talk of struggle and at times make a show of militant struggle to befool the people and win their votes. In effect, that goes to serve the interest of the ruling class, allowing the government to pursue its anti-people policies. Whereas the situation demands the first course to be taken, the National Platform under the hegemony of the CPI(M) led 'left contingent' is being made to pursue the second course. This is the role of the conciliatory force between labour and capital which the social democratic left contingent is playing under the cunning leadership of the CPI(M).

This is the stark reality — painful and agonizing. It is not inescapable but can be overcome, because there is a way out. Those in the ranks of the CPI(M) and the discerning people in general ought to give deep thought to it. We owe an answer to history and posterity for our role now. Must not everyone of the masses and those claiming to be with the masses respond to the silent beacon of history?

Bhagat Singh Day Observed in Bhopal

Under the auspices of AIDS0, AIMSS and UTUC-LS on March 23, a mass meeting was organised to commemorate the death anniversary of Sahood-E-Azam Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru at Habibgunj, Bhopal with Comrade Badsha Khan, a veteran trade union leader and All India Secretariat, member, UTUC-LS, in chair. Comrade Ramavtar Sharma, Co-ordinator, AIDS0, MP State Organising Committee was the main speaker. Those who spoke on this occasion were Comrades Chandra Patra, an important organiser of AIMSS, MP and J.C. Barai, member, All India Council of UTUC-LS.

Movement by AIDS0 in Bhopal

The AIDS0 organised a demonstration with various demands in front of the Bungalow of the Higher Education minister in Bhopal, MP on 23.2.97. Later a memorandum was submitted by a delegation led by Comrade Ramavtar Sharma, the State Coordinator of the organisation. Comrades Sunil Gopal, Sanjoy Yadav, and Biswajit Haroday — all members of the AIDS0 — were in the delegation.

Bellary Mine Workers' Movement

Demanding immediate reopening of the closed mines, payment of the wage and emoluments and stopping of removal and retrenchment of workers in the Bellary district, the major mining town of Karnataka went on massive protest rally led by Smyuktha Gani Karmikara Sangha (SGKS) affiliated to the UTUC-LS. The protest rally starting from the city's Royal Circle and went on to the main streets of Bellary and culminated at the District Collectorate office.

Addressing the workers, the President of SGKS Comrade K. Somashekar said that as a result of the interim order of the Supreme Court, twentyfive thousand mine workers in Bellary district are without job since three months and are virtually on the streets without any sustenance. He gave a call to the workers to fight firmly and unitedly to get back their legitimate demands. Comrade H.V. Ganapathi, Secretary of SGKS Bellary also spoke.

Later, they submitted a memorandum to the District Collector, Bellary addressed to the Prime Minister endorsing at the same time copies to be sent to Central Labour Minister as well as Chief Minister of Karnataka, Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) and other authorities demanding a quick remedial measure.

Protest against Rly and General Budgets in States

Tamil Nadu : The Madras Chinglepet District Organising Committee of the party, which had been conducting local level street corner meetings through the first two weeks of March, and had organised two protest demonstrations on the same issues, organised a whole day intensive propaganda programme on April.

The **Chennai-Chengai** District Organising Committee of the SUCI staged a protest demonstration on 12.3.97 from 5 to 7 p.m. in front of Kuralagam against steep price-hike and the budgets of the Central State governments. Comrade Narayanasamy, Secretary of the District Organising Committee addressed the gathering.

As part and parcel of the statewide programme against anti-people price hike, the Kamarajar District Organising Committee, SUCI organised a cycle procession on 23.3.97. The area covered in the city of Sivakasi were Thevar Silai, Manikoondur, Bus stand, Ambalaramadam and in Thiruthangal city area covered were Panaiadipatti, Murugan Colony, Bus stand, Thevar Statue.

During the above campaign they demanded withdrawal of hike in train fare and freight charges, electricity charges and price hike in goods supplied in public distribution system.

Members of SUCI, comrades M.Ramachandran and P.Pandian spoke to the people.

The mass organisations of the SUCI, Chennai-Chengai District Organising Committee, UTUC-LS, AIDYO, AIDS, AIMSS combinedly staged a demonstration near Kuralagam on 10.3.97 between 5 to 6.30 p.m. against price-hike and the anti-people budgets of the Central and State governments.

Comrade Jawahar, Secretary, Chennai-Chengai District Organising Committee, UTUC-LS, Comrade Thilagal, Secretary, Chennai-Chengai District Organising Committee, AIDS, Comrade Shobana, member, District Organising Committee, AIMSS, all spoke condemning the government's anti-people budgets.

Guwahati : In response to the call of the Assam State Committee of the SUCI, protest rally was organised in different districts throughout the state against the implementation of the anti-people Railway budget, particularly the fare and freight hike caused by the same.

At Guwahati, a protest rally was organised in front of the Railway Headquarters, Maligaon. From the rally a delegation under the leadership of Comrade Chandralekha Das, member, Assam State

Martyrdom of Five SUCI Comrades

(Contd from page 3)

Provash Ghosh, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, inter alia, said: "It is our considered opinion that, if initiatives were taken the moment police-administration were informed, on 25th, the five comrades could be saved. And it is a cruel joke that high officials of the administration, which did not take any initiative to save those who were alive, rushed to the spot after the dead bodies were recovered to quickly bring them. But the real murderers have not even been arrested. Similarly the main murderers of the murdered veteran peasant and khetmozdoor leader Comrade Amir Ali Halder till date have not been arrested. Not only that, the Home Minister held a meeting there (Joynagar, on 26th February, where the murderers themselves led the procession). This is the real face of law taking its own course under CPI(M) rule. The news of this brutal murder naturally dumbfounded, saddened and angered the people of West Bengal. From among the people severe condemnation is coming against the CPI(M) everywhere in homes, offices, on streets, etc. At first the CPI(M) had to say 'it started from the dispute regarding a bheri', then they said, 'four CPI(M) activists were kidnapped by the SUCI',

Committee of the party met the General Manager, N.F.Rly and submitted a memorandum addressed to the Prime Minister demanding immediate withdrawal of the anti-people Railway budget.

Victory of B. Ed. Students

To fight against the injustice in the matter of admission of B.Ed. students, the AIDS and AIDYO built up university level movement. On 5th March '97 last, a massive 'university chalo' was organised in which hundreds of students from Gulbarga, Bellary, Raichur and Bidar districts participated. It was addressed by Comrade B.Bhagavan Reddy, Vice-President of AIDYO, Karnataka and Comrade K.Somashekar, Vice-President of AIDS, Karnataka and Comrades Gurutagmeti, Veeresh, AIDS Secretaries of Gulbarga and Raichur respectively.

At the impact of the movement the Vice-Chancellor invited the AIDS and AIDYO leaders for a discussion and assured the delegation about convening immediately of a meeting of the Board of Studies and Academic Council and take a favourable decision.

afterwards they said, the dead five were victims of people's wrath'. When all these yielded no result, realizing that people cannot be befooled by writing these in the party organ, now cooked up stories are being dished out by servile journalists in their controlled newspapers. But will it give any result? People of West Bengal know CPI(M) and also the SUCI.

But why this continuous attack on the SUCI? As a result of which during the CPI(M) regime in South 24 Parganas alone 97 SUCI activists have been killed? Are all these consequences of mere party clashes between two political parties? No, it is not. Against the anti-people policies and decisions of the Central and State Governments and on questions of price rise, fare rise, educational crisis, torture on women, etc. the SUCI has been conducting movements for a long time in the face of onslaughts, blood shed and supreme sacrifice. The CPI(M) leadership is infuriated at this, they are oath-bound to monopolists and multinationals that they will not allow any mass movement in West Bengal so that exploiters can continue exploitation and oppression unhesitatingly. So, the SUCI the struggling party, must be destroyed. Are all these attacks directed merely against an Opposition political party, or is this attack directed against the voice of protest, against the real force of mass movements? We appeal to all to probe these questions.

From the 50's, in these areas, countless SUCI organisers and activists built up militant movements and recovered vast stretches of 'benam' lands (land in excess over ceiling and held by jotedars under fictitious names) and got the legitimate shares of the share-cropper and thus built up granite strong organisational base of the SUCI. People here love the party so deeply that they do not hesitate to lay down their lives to protect it. Mothers, fathers and wives protect the party, even at the cost of the lives of their sons, daughters and husbands with tearful eyes. These sacrifices are memorable and inspiring. In the past, for a long time Congress-police-jotedar combine led many an attack. They killed many SUCI leaders and activities, tortured countless, but they could not break the base of the party. From 1977 those very jotedars and anti-socials have joined the CPI(M) leaving Congress so that their lust will be fulfilled. In every election, spending lakhs of rupees, deploying anti-socials and creating reign of terror, the CPI(M) is trying tremendously to defeat the SUCI in Joynagar and Kultali. They have failed. So now, they are more desperate, resorting to cowardly murders of leaders and organisers, sometimes they kidnap and murder, sometimes murdering under the cover of dacoity — thus creating a reign of terror so that in the coming panchayet elections they can defeat the SUCI.

We appeal to the people, irrespective of political belief to organise strong protest against this fascist politics of the CPI(M), against terrorisation and politics of murder. Raise the demands: 1. Immediately arrest the CPI(M) murderers and mete out exemplary punishment; 2. Mete out punishment to the guilty police officials; 3. Free the entire area from the reign of murder and kidnapping and terrorisation; 4. Ensure neutrality of police and administration.

At the same time, we also make another appeal for generous financial help from the people to save the poor families of these five martyrs.



Rail Roko in Chennai by Platform of mass organisations on 27.3.97 against New Industrial and Economic Policy

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : NIHAR MUKHERJEE