

Unabashed Trampling Of Democratic Norms And Principles

Proletarian Era

ORGAN OF SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA
(Fortnightly)

Founder Editor-In-Chief | **COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH**

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Call of 24th April

The approach of 24th April is an event in itself, pointing to the way out before the suffering millions of the land, reminding them the task which brooks no delay.

For the people, the day is no ordinary date of the calendar. It surpasses all other days in view of the momentous historic significance it assumes in their life today. Realizing the indispensability of a genuine Marxist-Leninist party to lead the revolutionary struggle of the masses to emancipation, and convinced of the

absence of such a party on this soil, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, our beloved departed leader, teacher and guide along with a handful of revolutionary compatriots, undertook the arduous task to build up the Party on the correct scientific Marxist-Leninist principle and founded the Socialist Unity Centre of India on this day, 24th April. The SUCI is the concrete expression of the revolutionary politics on our soil,

**Comrade Hiren Sarkar
Seriously Ill**

Comrade Hiren Sarkar, Member Central Committee and one of the founder members of our Party had a severe heart attack on 3rd April last. He was instantly admitted to Tata Main Hospital, Tata. He was in Intensive Cardiac Care Unit initially. At present he is in general ward.

Before every revolution the question arose: where is the revolutionary party, the vanguard detachment to lead the revolution? The CPSU led by great Lenin was the answer in Russia. The CPC led by great Mao was the answer in China. It is no lesser question to agitate the mind of the masses in India today. And the unequivocal answer is: the SUCI founded, reared and guided by the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Without thinking of the revolutionary party we cannot think of the
(Contd. to page 6)

To-day in our country people are witnessing that all the democratic norms and principles are being trampled not only by the ruling party but also by the contending bourgeois or petty bourgeois opposition parties for their narrow sectarian petty interest. The contending bourgeois or petty bourgeois opposition parties are vehemently criticising the ruling party whenever it flouts the democratic norms and principles for its own sectarian interest and this is rightly being done as the ruling party is surely to be put to the dock for such conduct. But people are witnessing that these opposition parties also are doing the same thing and showing scant regard for democratic norms and principles whenever such conduct serves their petty party interest and the ruling party is at that time criticising them for the very conduct for which it was accused the other day. Such unethical and bankrupt conduct is pervading the body politic of our country and the people are bewildered by witnessing such out and out rotten politics of these parties. Against this background of this nasty politics, where all democratic values are bid good bye, the recent happenings in Kerala and Assam are to be seen.

After the resignation of the minority ministries

in Kerala and Assam, President's rule has been promulgated and the respective assemblies have been dissolved. But before the promulgation of the President's rule in these two states, what was going on there would put to shame any apologist of bourgeois democracy. All the democratic norms and principles even in bourgeois sense were trampled only to get hold of the ministerial chair for pelf and privileges by the ruling Congress (I) party at the Centre. And in order to realise this objective the Congress (I) Government at the Centre not only took recourse to all possible vile means for the installation of minority governments but even abused the office of the Governor for their narrow sectarian end.

In the last Assam Assembly the Congress (I) originally had 8 members only but after the Congress (I) came into power at the Centre, Smt. Gandhi started her toppling game and there was brisk horse-trading on MLAs and the Congress (I) group in the Assam Assembly magically swelled. Even then the Congress (I) was not in a position to form a ministry in Assam. But what does that matter when the Governor acts like a member of the Congress (I)? So a minority ministry was installed with Smt. Anawara Taimur as Chief

Minister with the support of some other parties. But Taimur Ministry did not last long and Smt. Anawara Taimur tendered her resignation when she lost all hope of proving her majority in the Assembly. After the resignation of Taimur Ministry, President's rule was imposed and the Assembly was kept under animated suspension. In the mean time the left and democratic alliance demonstrated before the Governor of Assam, their combined strength of 63 MLAs in a house of 119 members, thus giving a clear majority for the formation of a Government. But the Governor of Assam, who was previously an M.P. of the Congress (I) party did not allow the left and democratic alliance to form a government inspite

(Contd. to page 5)

West Bengal State Committee On Present Political Situation

Com. Sukomal Das Gupta, Secretary, West Bengal State Committee, SUCI, has released to the press the following resolution of the State Committee, on the present political situation, adopted in its meeting held on 6th April 1982:

The ruling Congress (I) at the Centre led by Smt. Indira Gandhi, as the most trusted representative of the Indian bour-

geoisie, in its attempt to extend the lease of life of the crisis-ridden capitalist system, has been passing, since long, the entire burden of the crisis on to the shoulder of the common people one after another. Consistent with bourgeois design of bringing about all-out fascism in the country, this party is unleashing all-out attack
(Contd. to page 5)

34TH ANNIVERSARY

SUCI

MASS MEETING

Saheed Minar Maidan 24th April, '82 5 P.M.

Main Speaker

President

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee

Comrade Sukomal Das Gupta

Ustinov's Visit

Super Power Policy Of Hegemonism Supplementing India's Bourgeois Class Design

The visit of the high power defence team, with thirty Generals and ten high officials all representing air and naval forces of Soviet army as has come out in the press and headed by Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Ustinov to India is very significant from many angles. This team had a wide ranging talk with the Indian counterparts and visited Babina, Jodhpur and Bombay, the land, air and naval bases respectively for on the spot inspections of the actual defence preparedness of the Indian side and the real defence gap that is required to be bridged for the full fortification of the Indian defence. What actually transpired during the talk between Soviet defence team and its Indian counterpart is not, however, known but the news that are trickling out from various sources as also the newspaper reports suggest that the Soviet side assured help to air force, navy and also to defence industries and promised to provide liberal help in the matter of supply of adequate spare parts in bridging the defence gap in Indian defence system. India is also expected to be helped in manufacturing MIG-23 aeroplanes and also the latest version of the same, besides the supply of Soviet submarine and the missiles. The total defence commitment by the Soviet defence team is by any standard, quite substantial and far exceeds what the Soviet Union is said to have provided to India through 1971 treaty of peace and friendship.

But what prompted the Soviet Union to send a high power defence team to India at the present time and what is the motive behind such a massive defence commitment to India? It is also noted that not only in the matter of defence, the Soviet Union has come

forward to strike economic deals in those sectors like textile where India is, at present facing difficulty owing to recession. All these moves stem from Soviet anxiety to keep India within the orbit of Soviet influence. Of late the Soviet Union has been noticing with deep concern Indian move to come out of her absolute dependence on Soviet Union in the matter of defence. In a well planned and systematic way India already entered into contracts for purchase of British Jaguar, West German submarines and negotiations for French Mirage are in the final phase. Over and above these, \$ 400 million US arms deal is in the pipeline to augment her defence needs. Not only in the matter of defence, India is entering into economic deals with the Western countries in an increasing way. Indian attitude towards Soviet presence in Afganistan is one of cautious disapproval and she has made it known in many occasions, though rather in a discreet manner. Again, because of her present economic compulsion India has also been forced to take IMF loan and approval to this loan was possible on indirect help of the US who abstained during the voting in the IMF Board meeting. Soviet Union also wants to prevent normalisation of relation between India and China at least for the present until Soviet Union mends its fence with the Chinese. The June talk in Beijing between the two countries is not to the liking of the Soviet Union. All these are alarm signs to Soviet Union with its past Egyptian experience and taking advantage of the situation of the US plan of \$ 3.2 billion arms deal with Pakistan, Soviet Union rushed to India to pledge its continued support and virtually gave a carte blanche to India in the

matter of her defence requirements.

Indian objective is however quite different. She wants to derive maximum benefit out of both the camps by taking advantage of the hegemonistic designs of super powers. Indian urge to remain independent of Soviet clutch in the matter of defence is strong enough and this urge pushed her to arms deal with the Western countries. This defence and economic deals with the western countries are giving India leverage in extracting maximum possible concessions from the Soviet Union. Moreover the Soviet revisionist policy of hegemonism is supplementing the desire of the ruling class of India to create a war-psychosis in the sub-continent. In that respect Marshal Ustinov's visit is clear vindication of our contention published in our earlier issues that the politics of super power hegemonism is supplementing the ruling bourgeoisie of the sub-continent in whipping up tension and war-psychosis. It has been pointed out that the present capitalist economy which is in serious crisis, requires propping up by artificial stimulation by defence spending. But unless this defence spending is backed by an air of plausibility, the ruling class will face opposition and so to create such an air of plausibility, the ruling bourgeoisie of all the countries whip up tension and war-psychosis and the people become victims of national jingoism. In India also we are witnessing the same phenomenon. On the plea of Soviet presence in Afganistan, the U.S. imperialists are arming Pakistan and for this very reason, the Soviet Union is on the other hand, promising liberal defence aid to India. Taking advantage of such an excellent situation created by the politics of super power hegemonism, the

ruling class of India is whipping up war-psychosis and huge resources are being mobilised through taxation. Out of the total revenue receipt of Rs. 17600 crore, defence alone takes the lion's share of Rs. 5100 crore, an increase of Rs. 900 crore from the previous year. It is a glaring example how the revisionist policy of Soviet Union is directly helping the ruling bourgeoisie of these countries in the matter of propping up the capitalist economy by artificial stimulation of defence spending through massive taxation on the half fed and half clad people.

Smt. Gandhi claimed the other day that India was fully prepared to meet any eventuality and Indian military generals also suggest that Indian defence is quite sound and Pakistan poses no threat to India in spite of arms help from the U.S. imperialists. In spite of this reality Indian defence budget is increased by Rs. 900 crore to Rs. 5,100 crore this year and in order to justify such an abnormal increase the Congress (I) Government tried to float in the air a war-psychosis through postponing the "no-war pact" talk by over reacting to Pakistani Foreign Minister's reference to Kashmir at UN Human Rights Commission at Geneva. And taking advantage of this slide back in the process of detente between India and Pakistan, Indian ruling class managed to come under a wide defence umbrella of the Soviet Union, as it now comes out after Marshal Ustinov's visit, thereby setting pressure on the Western countries, particularly the U.S. imperialists for early release of the second installment of IMF loan. And India did manage to get it released so far as the newspaper report goes. Thus the superb slyness with which the Indian ruling bourgeoisie are playing between the

two super powers to extract concessions from both the sides and also fomenting war-psychosis within the country, taking advantage of the politics of hegemonism of the super powers for increasing defence spending in order to artificially stimulate the crisis ridden capitalist economy deserves special mention.

Under such a situation it is the duty not only of the communists who swear by leftism and democracy but even of those who have any regard for democracy, to unmask this sinister bourgeois design and educate and warn the people of the danger posed by the ruling class in their bid to foment tension and war hysteria for the benefit of the capitalist class. But what we are observing to-day? The CPI(M) which claims itself to be a Marxist party, let alone fulfilling this obligation of warning the people against this bourgeois design, has become a party to this heinous conspiracy when we find that this party has joined the chorus with Smt. Gandhi about the danger of war. In the resolution adopted at Vijaywada Congress the CPI(M) has asserted that at no time the danger of war was so imminent, thereby giving a fillip to the attempt of the ruling class to increase defence spending by creating tension and war hysteria. The CPI(M) is very vocal against Presidential form and it is quite natural for a parliamentary party like it, from its apprehension of losing self and privileges in the parliamentary politics, but does the leadership of this party realise that even from their narrow parliamentary aim their joining with the ruling bourgeoisie in their chorus of war hysteria will prove self-defeating as in reality it will pave the way for switching over to the Presidential

(Contd. to page 8)

State Conference of K.K.M.S. Bihar at Muzaffarpur



Leaders attending the KKMS Conference at Muzaffarpur are seen standing on the dais

Amid significant public enthusiasm the 4th state Conference of the Kishan Khetmajdoor Sangh of Bihar was held from March 19-21 at Comrade Jagdeo Nagar, (named after martyr Comrade Jagdeo Paswan, a valiant peasant organiser who was killed during the Janata regime), Rasulpur, Muzaffarpur. Delegates came from all the districts of the state and deliberated on the issues confronting the poor peasants and agricultural labourers, exchanging views and experiences about their struggle and organizational aspects and deciding on the task in the coming days in the light of the teachings of the great leader of the proletariat, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, who founded this organisation. They returned home carrying the firm resolve to fulfil the behest of their great departed leader and leaving in their trail an inspiring example of revolutionary discipline, dedication and purposiveness—as disciples of their great teacher—to arouse and enthuse the people of Muzaffarpur.

The inaugural open session was held on the 19th at Company Bagan maidan of Muzaffarpur town. Comrade Shankar

Singh, President of the organization and member, Central Committee of the SUCI, presided over both the open and the delegate sessions.

A massive procession, beautifully decorated with banners, festoons and posters, and carrying portraits of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh and posters with quotations from his revolutionary teachings paraded the streets of the town before the meeting, raising slogans on their demands and condemning the anti-people measures and policies of the Government. The people of the township had lined up the routes of the procession, like of which had not been seen in Muzaffarpur in recent years. The sense of discipline and the revolutionary zeal marking out these marchers from all others of the past stirred the people, who had come out to see the procession, in to thinking what strength it was which could instil such high spirit in them? What force did bind them together above religion, caste and petty interests? They got the answer at the meeting where speakers addressed analysing the problems in the life of the poor peasants and agricultural labourers in particular and the masses



A section of the gathering at the KKMS Conference at Muzaffarpur

in general, and pointing to the path charted by comrade Shibdas Ghosh for the emancipation of all sections of the toiling people in this country.

The decorated rostrum at one end of the maidan projected a big portrait of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. People from all walks of life from the township and adjacent areas had come to attend.

Narrating a brief history of the development of the Kishan Khetmajdoor Sangh of Bihar, Comrade Shankar Singh said in his opening address as the president of the meeting that some 25 years back in the mid-fifties Comrade Shibdas Ghosh founded this organisation at

Susnar under Goh PS, a remote village inhabited mostly by landless agricultural labourers and poor peasants, at a time when there was no organization in Bihar to organize movements of the Khetmajdoors on the basis of class struggle. Comrade Ghosh began it with a handful of Khetmajdoors and Kishans. Pursuing the correct line he laid down the organization which had grown into its present size and strength traversing a long and tortuous path of struggle, Comrade Singh pointed out.

Comrade N. R. Singh, Secretary of the organization, pointed out in his speech how the mass struggle of the Khetmajdoor and Kishans led by the KKMS had been growing against the

Comrade Prativa Mukherjee, President of the Krishak O Khetmajoor Federation of West Bengal and member of the State Secretariat of the Party, narrated the history of struggle led by the Federation in the State and reminded that those who talked of solving the basic problems of the peasants and agriculture labourers through reform of law by parliamentary means were either ignorant or motivatedly deceiving the people, Comrade Mukherjee emphasized the need to organize mass struggle on the correct base political line laid down by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh and lead this struggle to overthrow of capitalism to win emancipation.

Analysing the present political situation in the

vested interest. Comrade Gyan Singh Choudhury, President of the Haryana Kishan Khetmajdoor Federation and Secretary of the State Committee of the SUCI, pointed out in his speech that the problems facing the Kisans and Khetmajdoors in Bihar and Haryana were identical because they arose from the same basic source—the crisis-ridden capitalism. He narrated the recent glorious struggle of the landless agricultural labourers in Haryana under the banner of the Federation against the oppressive measure of the ruling party of the State, on the question of denial of ration cards.

light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Prithvi Chandra member, Central Committee of the SUCI, who has been all through associated with the development of the KKMS in Bihar, pointed to the heinous role of the social democratic parties like the CPI(M) and CPI who had been playing the role of defenders of the crisis-ridden capitalism today and repressing the democratic mass movements in the States in which they wielded the governmental power. In this connection he reminded the people the warning given by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh about the danger of modern

(Contd. to page 7)

West Bengal Rajya Sabha Election Exposes Collusion Between Congress (I) and CPI (M)

The lessons of the Rajya Sabha election from West Bengal which was held on 27th March '82 are significant for so many reasons. It has come at a time when Congress (I), the most trusted representative of Indian bourgeoisie, in its bid to bring about all-out fascism in the country is contemplating to opt for constitutional dictatorship either by introducing Presidential form of Government or by any other device by winning two-third majority in the Rajya Sabha necessary for amendment of the Constitution. On the other hand the policy pursued by the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' during the last five years since coming to power has proved beyond doubt that there was no basic or fundamental difference between the politics of the Congress(I) and the CPI(M) because both these parties are engaged in extending the lease of life of moribund capitalism by putting the entire burden of crisis of capitalist economy on to the shoulder of the common people. Naturally, it is not difficult to understand that the high sounding slogan against Congress(I) with which the CPI(M) leadership is renting the sky, or in other words, the politics of contention pursued by the CPI(M) against the Congress (I), however hostile it may look apparently, has been actually prompted from sheer parliamentary interest and has nothing to do with people's interest or working class angularity and approach. But the last Rajya Sabha election has shown that the mutual contention between two parties so long noticeable in the arena of parliamentary politics ceases to exist placed in the background of the contradiction of the

only working class party in India i.e the SUCI.

Since our party has been consistently fighting against the Congress(I) as the main enemy and other bourgeois parties and also against the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' as the main danger before the people and democratic mass movement due to its non-left and anti-people policies, the question of our supporting any candidate sponsored by these parties did not arise at all. Under the circumstances, our party laid down the principle of fighting both the main enemy and the main danger and continuing to conduct democratic movements against the anti-people policies of central and state governments and for restoration, protection and extension of democratic rights, values, and norms.

It is well known to the political observers that of the five seats fallen vacant from West Bengal the 'Left Front' was sure to win four seats on the basis of the strength of MLAs, who were voters in this election. But the situation was such that in case of fifth seat, no candidate, either from opposition or from the ruling Front, could win without our support. Under the circumstance, there was a real possibility of electing a pro-movement candidate by handling the contradiction between the bourgeois parties and the social democratic forces. So, our party enjoyed a special position to handle the contradiction in case of the fifth seat.

Under the circumstance, basing on our principled stand of neither supporting—the Congress (I), nor the CPI(M) led 'Left Front', the West Bengal State Secretariat of our party decided to sponsor and support Shri Dwijendra Lal Sengupta,

an ex-M P, as an independent candidate. Shri Sengupta is well known for his participation in the democratic movementand even during the the Emergency he took a firm stand. It may be recalled that in the past also he was elected to the Rajya Sabha, our party supporting him fully.

In a press statement released on March 16, '82 Shri Sengupta said: "I belong to no political party and as in the past I shall contest the ensuing Rajya Sabha election as an independent candidate and continue to take part in democratic movements and uphold the cause of democratic rights, norms and values." "Naturally, consistent with our stand of building up democratic movements throughout the country and reflecting the voice of democratic mass movements inside the legislature, wherever possible, we sponsored the candidature of Shri Dwijendra Lal Sengupta with a view to defeating the anti-people policies of both the Congress (I) and the CPI(M). Herein lies the distinction of our principled and bold stand of handling the contradiction between the marked bourgeois parties on the one hand and the social democratic forces on the other and in its course to advance the course of democratic movements for resisting the impending danger of all-out fascism in our country.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that Shri Biman Mitra of Democratic Socialist party, a partner of the 'Left Front' approached us on 5th March '82 for our support when he was trying to get nomination of the Front for the fifth seat. Similarly Shri Biswanath Mukherjee, Secretary West Bengal Council, CPI approached us on 16th March for the vote of first preference and

again on 19th March for second preference vote for the fifth candidate of the 'Left Front', Shri Kalyan Ray, belonging to the CPI.

It is obvious that we could not comply with their requests and in a press statement we reiterated our stand against both the Congress (I) and the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' and announced our decision of not casting any second preference votes. We made it clear that consistent with our principled stand that we cannot support any candidate sponsored by Congress (I) or any other bourgeois party nor can we support a candidate of the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' not only due to its non-left and anti-people policies but more particularly in the background of the disastrous and naked attack launched by the 'Left Front' Government on language, education and culture through its decision to abolish teaching of English at the primary level, minimise the importance of learning language in general and mother tongue in particular, do away with study of literature at the college level and introduce no detention policy upto class V.

Now coming to the parties of the opposition some facts are quite revealing. It was clear to all that without our votes (four in number) it was not possible for any opposition candidate to win this election. It was also clear that Shri Sengupta was sure to win since apart from our support he was expecting support of some left and opposition votes which only Shri Sen Gupta and none else could get under the circumstances.

Later incidents clearly revealed that realising this situation the Congress (I), CPI(M) and CPI moved in collusion to frustrate the election of a pro-movement candidate, Shri Dwijendra Lal Sengupta. The central leadership of the Congress (I) knows it very well that despite the mock fight which the MP, belonging to the CPI(M),

and CPI offer in the parliament now and then, Smt. Gandhi can get their support, either overtly or covertly, in every critical situation, which she got from these parties in the past and has been getting at present. The Congress (I) high command cannot remain ungrateful for the services rendered by the CPI(M) and its allies. Not only on foreign policies like Afghanistan, Kampuchea etc. but also on numerous occasions centring round issues inside the country the CPI(M) extended its unstinted support to Congress (I). On Assam issue, during communal riot in Aligarh, to mention only a few, and last but not the least on the question of recent 20-point social democratic programme of Smt. Gandhi, which is a blue print of Indian fascism, the CPI(M) has been found to fully support the Congress (I). Naturally, these parties in the main do not put any obstacle in the path of her design to bring all out fascism in the country. But that purpose cannot be served by the candidates sponsored by us who consistently upholds democratic rights, values and norms.

This Rajya Sabha election has brought to the fore the extent of connivance and depth of underhand understanding between the Congress(I), the most trusted representative of the Indian bourgeoisie with the sham Marxist parties like the CPI(M), CPI who combinedly pose the danger of drift towards fascism. So the role played through sponsoring of such an independent candidate by our party successfully exposed the ugly connivance, collusion and under hand arrangement between these parties and thus acted as one edge of the sword, the defeat of Sri Sengupta sponsored notwithstanding. On the other hand, had he been victorious then apart from this political victory he could have reflected, despite being an independent candidate, the voice of democratic

(Contd to page 8)

Jute Workers Again On Continuous Strike Struggle

Over two and half lakhs of jute workers in West Bengal have been facing gruelling situation for a pretty long time ironically under the rule of CPI(M) led 'Left Front' Government. Led by nine jute mill workers' federations affiliated to INTUC (Dara group), BMS, UTUC (Lenin Sarani), HMS, NFITU, UTUC (Bowbazar) IFTU, RCMU, and INTUC, the jute workers have decided to go in for indefinite strike from May 3. They have taken this decision to break the impasse created by the IJMA (Indian Jute Millowners Association) with the government remaining as silent spectator till the decision was taken despite the opposition of the government and CITU. INTUC (I) also is opposing the strike.

Why this strike ?

To know the background of this strike decision we will have to remember that the jute workers had to go in for strike several times in last two and three years to realise their long standing demands like formulation of grade and scale, reduction of workload enhanced during the emergency causing retrenchment of about fifty thousand workers, implementation of recommendations of Central Labour Minister on Badli workers, withdrawal of restriction imposed through DIR order on quantum of DA rectification as per expert committee recommendation. Besides, when the industry minted Rs 80 crores and Rs 100 crores in last two years, the workers have been refused bonus other than at the minimum rate of 8.33 p.c. by the jute barons. And CPI(M) led government helped the jute barons by directing the government labour conciliation officers through a secret circular (No 1736 I.R. of 2.56.81) that they should not sign any agreement in a tri-

partite conciliation where the rate of bonus would be above the minimum rate. It goes without saying that this circular while exposed the government, out and out pro-monopoly attitude it was seized by IJMA just like other managements. Since then the stalemate continues on bonus issue for the year 1981.

Meanwhile as a positive measure, the IJMA pushed about 70,090 jute workers to starvation by declaring lockout in 13 out of 62 jute mills in the state. Months rolled by but the government did nothing other than pointing out to the Central Government for the mention of the problem. Empty slogans were raised for nationalisation of the industry without however showing any inclination to build up movement of the jute workers even to realise that demand.

Role of CITU

Faced with such a grim situation, a successful convention of the jute workers was organised by the nine trade union bodies and the workers' representatives coming from all the 62 jute mills opted for the path of struggle than to die of hunger like animals. The programme of stay in-strike before the IJMA office on January 6, met with unprovoked police lathicharge and arrest of leaders including comrade Fatick Ghosh, Secretary, UTUC (Lenin Sarani), West Bengal. Sensing that a movement is in the offing which if resisted by brutal police force may isolate CITU completely, their leaders appeared in the scene and sat with UTUC (Lenin Sarani) along with others which they persistently refused even at the behest of the NCC, to build up a state level NCC for organising state wide struggle against the hated ESMA. But the real intention of their apparent

change of mind was clear when senior leader of CITU Sri Niren Ghosh, MP suggested instead of protracted strike struggle, only one day's token strike and if any long-drawn movement is to be released let that be in the months of October-November of this year. But let alone being successful in their game of disrupting the unity of the nine trade unions, to their misfortune, they lost the support of the jute workers organisation, formally affiliated to UTUC (Bowbazar) led by RSP, a faithful ally of CPI(M) in its front. Comrade Sita Seth, a veteran leader of jute workers did not oblige CPI(M) and RSP by keeping away from the movement. This is a development worth noting.

CPI(M)'s motive is clear. It does not like to antagonise the jute barons for more than one reasons, before the incoming general election. But they are quite aware of the desperate situation in which the workers have been placed. So, CITU and CPI(M) led government while openly opposing the strike decision, at the same time are trying to confuse the workers before the strike by some tricks. First, they sent orders to four jute mills to lift their lock out, who playing the game to have since taken the matter to the High Court for injunction and that has been granted. Secondly, Jyoti Basu, solong silent suddenly shows all sympathy for the workers and sends a letter to Mr. Pranab Mukherjee the Central Finance Minister with the request to do something for lifting lock outs, the letter has received wide publicity. Mr. Mukherjee has already, through his budget this year, been gracious enough to grant Rs 350 crores for modernisation of jute mills.

W. B. State Committee On Present Political Situation

(Contd from Page 1)
against the people in all spheres, economic, political and cultural.

In the economic field it is taking measures, including imposition of heavy taxation and ever-increasing defence budget, which are leading to an unbearable situation of galloping price-rise, unprecedented inflation and extreme pauperisation of the common people.

Politically, it is contemplating to introduce constitutional dictatorship either by 'Presidential form of Government' building up a committed judiciary, a unified cadre of committed Governors' a coterie rule in the administration or by any other device and snatching away even the minimum democratic rights and throttling the democratic voice of the people through NSA, ESMA and other draconian and anti-people Acts and even by rigging of election. Its attempt to create war psychosis and fan up communal and parochial forces by all possible means is also aimed at defending the very same crisis-ridden capitalist system and diverting the attention of the people from their real problem.

In the field of education and culture it is, on the one hand, subverting the autonomy of the educational institutions, resorting to curtailment of education, particularly higher education, and on the other destroying democratic norms, ethics and values and encouraging depravity of culture just to dehumanise the people.

What is meant by modernisation is quite known to the workers. But CPI(M) leaders can hardly convince any one about their sympathy for the workers when their government has been betraying unashamed pro-monopoly attitude in not taking measures for the implementation of all the decisions taken at the tri-partite conciliation meetings including the

As a social democratic force, the CPI (M)-led 'Left Front' Government in West Bengal by its non-left and anti-people policies and measures has been serving the interest of the Indian bourgeoisie, no less than the Congress (I). This party has not only completely failed to bring any relief in the life of the working class, poor peasants, agricultural labourers, lower middle and middle class people but has, on the contrary, spearheaded brutal attacks on the legitimate democratic movements of the people with a view to winning the confidence of the Indian bourgeoisie. Its unbending and highly dictatorial attitude towards the massive resistance movement launched by the educationists, intellectuals, litterateurs and others against the anti-people educational and language policies of the 'Left Front' Government puts to shame even any Congress(I) Government in the country. Its frantic attempt to control the administration before the elections also shows the inherent danger of a rigged election in the State. All these clearly indicate how far the CPI(M)-Led 'Left Front' Government has gone against the glorious tradition and heritage and sullied the noble banner of left movement in the country.

In the background of this overall situation in the country, the Central Committee of our party has been consistently attempting to build up a struggling unity of all genuine left and democratic parties

(Contd to page 8)

one on bonus. And secondly if they are really concerned about the jute workers' distress then why they are opposing the movement which remains in the present situation as the only alternative? The contradiction so vivid in CPI(M)'s attitude betrays only the duplicity of its role as servitor to the interest of the monopoly houses.

Kerala and Assam Episode

(Contd. from page 1)
of clear majority in its favour, the Governor stated at that time that he would test the clear majority before he could allow the formation of a government, but trampling all norms and democratic principles, even in bourgeois sense he installed the minority Congress (I) Ministry under the leadership of Sri Gogoi. It clearly demonstrates how nakedly the office of the Governor is being used by the Congress (I) for its petty party interest and how the ruling Congress (I) cares little about any norms and principle when the interest of the party is concerned. The Gogoi Ministry in Assam, because of its minority character, did not try to face the Assembly. But when this ministry was required to face the Assembly during the budget session, the Chief Minister, Sri Keshab Gogoi, did not dare it and tendered his resignation instead.

In Kerala also after the fall of Naynar Ministry, the Congress (I) resorted to its usual game of horse trading on MLAs and abusing the Governor's office managed to install the Congress (I) lead Karunakaran ministry. This ministry depended upon the casting vote of the Speaker for its survival and in one sitting of the assembly Speaker had to come forward with his casting vote for eight times! And yet the Ministry continued to hold office shamelessly. At last when one MLA of the ruling Front withdrew his support from the ministry, Sri Karunakaran was left with no other alternative but to tender his resignation.

Events in Kerala and Assam are nothing but reflections of the serious crisis that has gripped even the bourgeois parliamentary system. With the accentuation of crisis, the ruling class is throwing away all its masks and exposing its

naked class design. Events in Kerala and Assam present ominous signs and that the present political system is fast losing its utility to the ruling class is becoming increasingly clear. The democratic norms and principles that are adhered to for maintaining a bourgeois parliamentary system are trampled. The ruling class is trying to maintain the facade of parliamentary democracy but because of the crisis that is gripping the bourgeois political system, the ruling class may also opt for constitutional dictatorship or the like.

In this context the role of the other bourgeois and petty bourgeois opposition parties is also to be noted. While all of them are criticising the Congress (I) none of them are raising their voice against this naked attack on democratic norms and principles by the Congress (I). They, on the other hand, are in competition with the Congress (I) to trample these norms and principles and when the ball is in their opponent's court they are very vocal but when it is in their court they remain silent and take advantage of the situation. So we find that when the CPI(M) led Naynar Ministry lost its majority owing to withdrawal of support of Congress (S) Sri Naynar did not immediately tender his resignation but tried to woo some of the MLAs in favour of the 'Left Democratic Front'—the same tactic of horse trading on MLAs, but when this did not succeed and the withdrawal of support of Mani Group sealed the fate of the Left Democratic Front, Sri Naynar was forced to tender his resignation and advised President's rule and fresh election of the assembly. But curiously when President's rule was imposed and the assembly was dissolved after the resignation of the Karunakaran Ministry, the opposition

is criticising in parliament for the dissolution of assembly without giving a chance to the opposition to form a government after the defection of one MLA to its side! Is it not double standard? In Assam also the CPI(M) played a dubious role, which provided a plea to the Governor of Assam in denying the left democratic alliance of Assam a chance to form a Government. We are, however, aware that the Governor acting in a partisan way requires no plea in nakedly flouting the democratic norms and principles; but yet it is a fact that the CPI(M) provided him a handy plea in rejecting the claim of the left democratic alliance. At that time it was observed that Sri Jyoti Basu, the Chief minister of West Bengal had a talk with Smt Indira Gandhi, and though what transpired between them is not known, yet it was observed that immediately after the CPI(M) came out with a statement that it would not participate in the Ministry, if formed, by the left democratic alliance but would support it from outside. Will it be wrong for any one to conclude that by such a stand the CPI(M) helped the Congress (I) by its double standard?

The CPI(M) is, now very vocal against the Congress (I) led minority government in Kerala and Assam. But what is its own record? The CPI(M) extended its support to minority Government of Charan Singh which was installed after the fall of Janata Government and could not face the Parliament. What does it show? It clearly demonstrates the utter bankruptcy and double standard of the CPI(M) leadership. If the formation of a government by turncoats is a shamelessly nefarious act on the part of the Congress (I), an attempt by Naynar Ministry for the same game to remain anyhow in power is equally condemnable.

People of our country

Call of 24th April

(Contd. from page 1)
revolution. Without thinking of the revolutionary leader we cannot think of the revolutionary party. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh is the living spirit of the Indian Revolution, the living soul of the Party—the SUCI. His great revolutionary life, his great proletarian character are embodiment of the revolutionary struggle of the Indian masses, and the high proletarian culture, ethics and morality forming the kernel of revolutionary struggle. So, the Indian Revolution the genuine revolutionary party of the country and Comrade Shibdas Ghosh are merged into one.

With everyday passing the developments in the country unfold this truth more and more before the masses. And 24th April the corner stone highlighting this truth, returns every year pointing to the concrete task in the concrete situation toward the ultimate goal. Observance of 24th April is, therefore, no ritual; it is part and parcel of the concrete task in a concrete situation, a concrete step in the continuous struggle of the masses through the changing circumstances, aiming at the ultimate

are bewildered by such shameless and utterly bankrupt policies of the contending bourgeois and petty bourgeois parties. The mutual bickerings of these parties are not for upholding the democratic norms and principles but for having a greater share of the spoil and they can go to any extent in trampling all democratic values for that objective. It is our party, the SUCI, which is consistently fighting for democratic norms and principles in public life. We urge upon the people to strengthen the SUCI in its struggle for upholding democratic norms and principles by their direct participation in the democratic movements launched by our party.

goal of the anti-capitalist socialist revolution for their emancipation. This is its significance. In this light we shall have to read the message of 24th April and prepare ourselves for the task ahead.

Crisis is writ large in every sphere of life in the country today. The people are groaning under grinding exploitation; decadence has set in the cultural field, eating into the fabric of life. The whole system is a bankrupt burden, offering only misery and destitution—and nothing else. The ruling bourgeoisie is shifting every burden due to all-out crises on to the people. The ruling parties at the Centre and the States, while they are granting subsidies and subventions to the monopolists, are burdening the masses with ever increasing amounts of taxes. Apart from administering heavy doses in annual budgets, they have taken to imposing tax burdens on the people by instalment throughout the year in utter disregard to norms and practices, trying thus to hide the face of savage exploitation. They are imposing wage freeze while the people are reeling under the staggering price-rise.

The state of affairs in the educational and cultural spheres is equally grave. There is a continuous erosion of values, ethics and morality. Curtailment of education, particularly higher education, is the keynote of the education policies of the Central as also all the State Government's. Thoroughly brazenly anti-people language and education policy, the CPI(M)-led 'Left Front Government of West Bengal has taken a particular lead in closing the door of higher education to the common people, crippling the thinking ability and human qualities, and undermining the autonomy of the educational institutions.

(Coned. to page 8)

Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh Martyr's Day Observed In States

WEST BENGAL

The 23rd March was observed as Shaheed Bhagat Singh day throughout West Bengal in a solemn and befitting manner under the auspices of Saheed Bhagat Singh Day Observance Committee. In Calcutta the day was observed at the junction of S.N. Banerjee Road and Chowringhee Road, Gariahat Junction Calcutta University, Rabindra Bharti University and Jadavpur University by hundreds of students. In almost all the district towns of West Bengal the 'Martyr's Day' was observed through garlanding the portrait of Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh, street march, and meetings.

In all these meetings, students, youths, teachers and educationists took pledge to put an end to capitalist exploitation taking lessons from the life and struggle of Bhagat Singh.

ANDHRA

A public meeting was organised on 23rd March '82 at Prakasam Park in Vizianagaram to observe martyr's day of Saheed Bhagat Singh. The meeting was presided over by Comrade R. Mizumder of the SUCI. In this meeting a resolution was adopted for constituting a committee to erect a life size statue of Bhagat Singh in front of the M.R. College, at Vizianagaram. Others who addressed the meeting include Comrade Apanna Dara of CPI(ML) (Sitaramia group), Comrade D. V. Satyanarayana of CPI(M) and Comrade Chekuri Raju of AIDS O, Garivudhi College. In this meeting programme was chalked out to celebrate the martyr's day of Saheed Bhagat Singh in all the colleges of the district.

DELHI

The Martyr's day of Saheed Bhagat Singh was

observed with full enthusiasm and dignity befitting the occasion under the auspices of AIDS O (Delhi) at Tagore Hall, Delhi University campus, Shardhanand College, Motilal Nehru College, ARSD school, RK Puram and Tri Nagar.

While addressing the students' meeting at Tagore Hall, Delhi University on the occasion Com. O. P. Suman, Secretary, Delhi AIDS O urged upon the students to take inspiration from the uncompromising character and struggle of Bhagat Singh and intensify the democratic movements in the country, conducive to the anti-capitalist socialist revolution.

Among others Com. Pratap Samal, President N. S. D. Students Union and Com. Satywart, a research student Delhi University also addressed the meetings.

Meetings held at R. K. Puram and Tri Nagar were also joined by D.Y.O who organised a cycle rally at R.K. Puram and torch light procession at Tri Nagar.

The meetings were well attended and well appreciated by the people.

The meeting also resolved to build up movement for realisation of demands like rewriting of the history of Indian freedom struggle, declaration of March 23 as National Day and erection of statue of Saheed Bhagat Singh at all important places of the country.

GAZIABAD

On 21st March 1982, the Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh's Martyrdom was observed in Ghaziabad in a befitting manner. In this connection a well attended meeting was organised under the auspices of the Democratic Youth Organisation at Sector 23 Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad. The meeting was presided over by Com. Suresh Kumar and

Protest Dharna by NCC in Delhi

At the call of NCC to observe 23rd February '82, as protest day all over India, against the victimisation of workers for participation in the all India one day general strike on January 19' 82, Delhi State Campaign Committee staged one day protest dharna on 23rd Feb. '82 outside the ministry of Labour, Hundreds of workers from all major Central Trade Unions participated in dharna. Large number of workers of government factories, DTC, Textile & Small scale Industries participated in dharna under the banner of UTUC(LS).

While addressing the workers Com. R. K. Sharma congratulated the workers on behalf of Delhi State UTUC(LS) for the success of historic 19th Jan. strike despite the propaganda by Government media and threatening by Central and State Governments and

Com. R.P. Singh was the main speaker

Addressing the meeting Com. R.P. Singh said that the ritualistic way to observe the Martyrdom of Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh is meaningless unless we properly understand him and feel any concern to fulfil the unaccomplished task of the Shaheed-E-Azam Bhagat Singh. Saheed Bhagat Singh emerged in his time as the representative of the aspirations of the Indian people and his dream was to establish such a society in which exploitation of man by man would be no more. That is why he declared that their fight is not only against British imperialism but all types of exploitations irrespective of whether the oppressor is a foreign one or not.

The dream of Shaheed Bhagat Singh is still unfulfilled and the unfulfilled task of Shaheed Bhagat Singh demands of us to fulfil the noble task of the present time, that is, anti-capitalist socialist revolution. Com. Shri Niwas Singh also spoke in the meeting.

reign of terror let loose by Congress (I) and INTUC goondas. Com. Sharma said that large number of workers are being victimised in all the public and private sectors and this shows that strike was completely successful. On the one hand it shows the faith of workers in joint movement and National Campaign Committee and on the other it shows the real fascist face of the Government which is resorting to curbs on the working class movement. True to their class character the governments at Centre and states are suppressing the legitimate workers' movements against price rise, unemployment, corruption in general and against anti-worker laws in particular.

KKMS Bihar Conference

(contd. from page 3)
revisionism in the international arena.

The delegate session was held at Comrade Jagdeo Nagar, Rasulpur, on the 20th and 21st March. The entire 8km route from Muzaffarpur town to the session place was decorated, 8 arches were erected in memory of the revolutionaries—Khudiram, Bhagat Singh and others. Banners proclaiming Red Salute to Comrade Shibdas Ghosh were put up all the way. A portrait of Comrade Ghosh formed the back drop of the dias at the session place. Delegates from all districts including Singhbhum, Dhanbad and Ranchi in remote south and Bhagalpur, Monghyr, Gaya, Santhal Pargana, Aara, Bhojpur, Patna, Baishali, Muzaffarpur, Saran, etc attended the sessions presided over by Comrade Shankar Singh.

Analysing the burning issues facing the peasants and agricultural labourers, Comrade Singh said in his speech that the slogan of remunerative price by itself could not solve the problems of the rural poor, although the issue of parity, in fixing prices of the agricultural produce with the industrial

Comrade Sharma emphasised the necessity of working class unity against all oppression and exploitation. He said that workers from their class instinct are understanding the need of workers, joint movement. He said, there was danger to this unity of Trade Union both from outside and inside. Workers on one hand are to fight jointly against the anti-working class policies of the government and on the other they are to fight the disruptive elements in the joint movements of Trade Unions. He called upon the workers to hold high the banner of joint movement and to strengthen the unity of workers at all levels. Leaders of other trade unions also addressed the gathering.

products was a democratic issue for those who were being compelled to sell all their produce under distress. In the light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Singh pointed out that, when crisis-ridden capitalism was the source of all miseries in life, the movement for wage-increase—and all such movements—could only give some temporary relief, but the permanent solution lay in overthrowing capitalism through anti-capitalist socialist revolution.

Comrade Gyan Singh, in his speech emphasized the need for united struggle against capitalism. Comrade Prativa Mukherjee explained that the rural poor would have to grasp correctly the character of class struggle and their task on the basis of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Comrade Pritish Chanda discussed various organizational aspects and called upon the delegates to shape the KKMS as a powerful struggling instrument for the future struggle.

The main resolution at the session was moved by Comrade N. R. Singh and Comrade Matiuir (Contd. to page 8)

Comrade Pritish Chanda Condemns Central Government D.A. Policy

Delhi' 17th March, 1982

Com. Pritish Chanda, General Secretary, UTUC (Lenin Sarani), All India Committee, has issued the following Press statement;

The UTUC (Lenin Sarani) strongly protests against the latest Central Government attack on its employees' basic economic right like D.A. Partial merger of D.A. with basic pay in respect of House Rent and City Compensatory Allowances and that too impounding for one year in effect deprives the employees of their earned wage which is long over due. When due to pro-capitalist fiscal policies of the Government and inflationary budget the cost of living has further been shot up, the employees will have to cut down their essential expenditure to meet heavy burden. The Congress (I) Government is thus continuously putting the burden of the economic crisis upon the shoulders of employees and other sections of the toiling people. We cannot but express our serious displeasure and dismay at the role played by those of the Government

Employees' leaders who from the staff side of the J.C.M. have given their consent and become party to this undemocratic and anti-working class decision of the Government. By doing this they have not only sacrificed the interests of the employees but also have helped to create the conditions for further Governmental attack on the working class. We urge upon all the Central Government employees and other Trade Unions to organise a protest movement for realisation of full arrear payment of D.A. ect. in cash.

We also condemn the Government attitude expressed in its statement in the Parliament that "this is a question between the Government and its employees and the political parties or Trade Unions should not come in the matter."

Trade Unions and other democratic forces including political parties have an inalienable right to voice the legitimate interest of the Government employees and to fight against Government's anti-labour policies.

Ustinov's Visit

(Contd. from page 2) form on the plea of national emergency? It shows clearly to what extent CPI(M)'s commitment to bourgeois class design has gone.

In the backdrop of this political reality, people will have to realise the urgency of isolating and defeating ideologically, politically and organisationally the social democratic parties like the CPI and the CPI(M) in the national plane and the modern revisionism headed by the Soviet revisionist clique in the international plane. As the crisis in capitalist economy accentuates more and more these social

democratic parties like the CPI and the CPI(M) shed off their masks and come forward openly in defence of this exploitative capitalist system. Our party under the leadership of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, has warned the people time and again against the dangerous role of these parties in hoodwinking the people and called upon them to build up mighty democratic mass movement to thwart the sinister bourgeois conspiracy. People must realise the urgency of the situation and must understand that passive role on their part cannot prevent the

CALL of 24th APRIL

(Contd. from page 6)

The ruling bourgeoisie, plunged in all-out crisis, is more and more taking recourse to fascism and

RAJYA SHABHA

(Contd. from page 4)

mass movement and uphold the cause of democratic rights, values and norms. Naturally, it acted as a double-edged sword.

In fine, it should be stated that this is no wonder to us that the CPI(M) led 'Left Front' stooped so low as to encourage horse trading to defect from Janta MLAs on to the side of 'Left Front'. Same is the case with Congress (I) which by the same unscrupulous method purchased at least five votes in favour of its candidate. In a situation when the crisis-ridden bourgeoisie have hit at the very back bone of all democratic norms and ethics for sustaining this corrupt system, they find in these parties their real saviours. People should understand the character of anti-people policies of these parties and fight with all its might for restoration, protection and extension of democratic rights and values for halting the impending danger of fascism.

KKMS Conference

(Contd. from page 7)

Rahaman officially seconded the resolution. Dozens of delegates took active part in the deliberations:

A powerful new State Council of 21 members with Comrade Shankar Singh as President, Comrade Hiren Sarkar, Comrade Amar Kumar Pandey, Comrade Amriteshwar Chakraborty and Comrade Suraj Parmar as Vice presidents, and Comrade N. R. Singh as Secretary was elected.

impending catastrophe. So, they must take active part in building up democratic mass movement so as to defeat the bourgeois design of creating tension and war-psychois and even of imposing predatory wars on them at times.

centralising all powers to bring repression on the people and fomenting all divisive trends among them to foil their united struggle against capitalism—the source of all misery and destitution. As is characteristic of the fascist forces, the ruling class is, on the one hand, arming itself with repressive draconian powers through the NSA, ESMA, PDA, etc, to crush the people's legitimate democratic mass movements and, on the other hand, holding out persuasive so-called radical programmes like the 20-point programme. Not only that. It is trying to whip up a war psychosis in the country in a bid to divert the people's attention from the crisis of capitalism.

In such a prevailing grim situation, parties like the CPI(M) and CPI who masquerade as Leftists, have taken to the course of parliamentarism-reformism, shunning the path of mass movement. Today they have appeared in the naked role of defenders of capitalism at peril, and are trying to curry favour with the ruling class in the hope of winning its recognition as the alternative to the Congress (I) in parlia-

W.B. State Committee's Statement

(Contd. from page 5)

and forces on the burning problems of people's life, on a common minimum programme and a code of conduct. We are, at the same time, conducting, of course single-handedly, democratic mass movements involving the people with all our strength. The West Bengal State Committee of our Party, in the line laid down by the Central Committee attempted on numbers of occasions to build up such a left and democratic unity in the State. The State Committee is strongly of the opinion that it is high time to come forward to forge genuine left and democratic unity against not only the anti-people policies of the Central

mentary politics. These parties are playing the role of social democrats serving as the last prop of fascism.

In this situation, only our party, the SUCI, has taken up the task of building up legitimate democratic mass movements on the basis of higher proletarian culture, ethics and morality, in the light of the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh and under the leadership of the Central Committee of our party headed by Comrade Nihar Mukherjee against the anti-people policies and measures of the Central and State Governments. The SUCI has emerged today as the only hope before the downtrodden masses. Frustrating the effort of all the bourgeois and petty-bourgeois parliamentary parties and the vested interest to hinder its progress, the SUCI is gaining eminence each day, with each development. 24th April sends out to the people all over the country the call of the Central Committee to step forward and devote themselves to the task of building up democratic mass movements to give birth to their own alternative political power. Today's question is the question of the alternative political leadership of the people to lead their struggle towards emancipation. 24th April brings the answer to focus: SUCI is that leadership. Our pledge on the occasion is to strengthen the Party to help it fulfil its historic mission.

and State Governments but also against the attempt of both the Congress(I) and the CPI (M), as the trusted party of the Indian bourgeoisie and as a social democratic party respectively, to sustain this crisis-ridden capitalist system—the main enemy of the people.

We appeal to all the genuine left and democratic parties and forces and the rank and file members of the CPI (M) and its allies who still want to defend the cause of leftism to fathom the depth of the gravity of the situation and close up their ranks to organise united mass movements to halt the impending danger of fascism and restore, protect and extend the democratic rights of people.

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