

# Proletarian Era

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## Red Salute Comrade Anil Sen

Comrade Anil Sen, former veteran member of the Central Committee, SUCI(C) and former President of All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC), breathed his last on 24<sup>th</sup> December morning at Calcutta Heart Clinic and Hospital. For quite some times, he was suffering from a number of serious ailments and was under treatment. He was 85. Hearing the news of his passing away, Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), Comrades Manik Mukherjee and Ranjit Dhar, both members of the Polit Bureau, Comrade Sankar Saha, member, Central Committee and General Secretary, AIUTUC, Comrade Soumen Basu, member, Central

Committee and Secretary, West Bengal State Committee and other leaders rushed to the hospital and paid revolutionary tribute to the departed leader. Red flag was dipped half-mast in all Party offices and the comrades wore black badges. His body was kept in the Madeira Preservation Centre for a day and cremated on 25<sup>th</sup> December.

The ancestral house of Comrade Anil Sen was at Senhati in undivided Bengal. He was only 4 year old when he lost his father. He was the only son of his parents. He was initiated into the freedom movement when he was a school student in the district of Barishal and as an

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## Turn your grief into strength, searing blaze of hatred into indomitable fighting spirit

### Appeal of Comrade Provash Ghosh General Secretary SUCI (Communist)

Friends,

The whole country is grief-stricken, the countrymen overwhelmed with sorrow at the news of passing away of the brave Delhi gang rape victim after battling for life for 13 long days. The heart-rending pain and sorrow the country's people are overwhelmed with has been expressed in the countless silent processions taken out by our Party, SUCI (Communist) in the cities and villages. Movements in various forms would continue. We offer our heart-felt condolence to the bereaved family and fully empathize with the mourning people of the country.

We are aware that this courageous girl despite being brutalized and repeatedly raped did not lose her composure but fought back fearlessly till the end. Unable to make her bend down disgraced,

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*(Above) Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), leading the massive silent procession in Kolkata on 29 December.*

*(Right) Comrade Ritu Kaushik, AIDS leader, addressing the mourning gathering at Jantar Mantar, Delhi on the same day. Comrade Prakash Debi of AIMSS also spoke.*



# Red Salute Comrade Anil Sen

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activist of students' movement engaged himself in many social activities. During the 'Quit India' movement in 1942, he came in contact with some leaders of 'Jugantar', a revolutionary organization and under their leadership took part in the programme of burning the Barishal Collectorate, Judges' Court and Post and Telegraph offices. He also associated himself in public welfare works like running alms-house during the devastating famine of 1943. He also played a significant role in the students' movement that surged forth in demand for the release of the Azad Hind Fouz volunteers then facing trial in the British imperialist Court. At the directive of Shri Satin Sen, renowned freedom fighter of Barishal, Comrade Anil Sen took part in the anti-riot movement in 1946 as a volunteer.

Hearing the news of serious ailment of his elder cousin, he came down to Kolkata in 1947 and during his stay in South Kolkata joined the Culture Club through Comrade Sukomal Dasgupta, departed former member of the Central Committee and Comrade Rathin Sen, a leader of 'AnushilanSamity'. At that time, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the eminent Marxist thinker and leader, used to conduct study classes at the Culture Club. Comrade Anil Sen also started attending those classes. The sprout of patriotism and attraction towards higher ideology that was germinated in him in course of participation in the freedom movement right from early teens blossomed further after listening to the illumining discourses by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. In the process, a clear understanding about Marxism-Leninism, revolutionary life struggle and character dawned upon him. Inspired by the call of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Comrade Anil Sen initiated the struggle for becoming a communist revolutionary. His family members were then residing at a house in Kalighat area of south Kolkata. Sometimes, Party meetings and study classes used to be held in that house also. Comrade Anil Sen was then given the responsibility of Kalighat Party unit in-charge. He was assigned the responsibility of Kolkata district secretary in 1953. In the same year, when the historic anti-tram fare rise movement was almost on the verge of being fizzled out because of the compromising role of the then leaders of undivided CPI, all Party leaders and cadres wholeheartedly engaged themselves

in building up active resistance at the call of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Among them was Comrade Anil Sen also. Because of this significant role of the SUCI (C), the movement was back on the rails and with active participation of the people achieved victory. When the district commune was set up, Comrade Anil Sen left his family and began to stay there. In 1965, along with other leaders, he also was jailed in connection with a programme of Bharat bandh. For a long period, Comrade Sen was in professional service but gave his entire earning to the Party after meeting whatever expenses were required to maintain his widow mother. In 1983, when the then Kolkata district secretary Comrade Ashutosh Banerjee was sent to Delhi for organizational work, Comrade Anil Sen left his job and once again took the responsibility of Kolkata district secretary. Till 1988, he discharged that responsibility.

In the First Congress of the Party held in Kolkata in 1988, Comrade Anil Sen was elected a member of the Central Committee and given the responsibility of the office secretary of the Central Committee. Subsequently he was also elected as the Chairman of the Control Commission of the Party. He was also connected with the trade union movement. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh deputed Comrade Anil Sen to look after union work of Bird Company. Once, Comrade Sen was president of the workers' unions in Krishna Glass Works and Annapurna Glass. He was also associated with the Medical Representatives' Association. For a brief period, he was the President of AIUTUC also.

He had profound interest in medical science and used to cultivate the same as well. He was always by the side of the ailing comrades and gave them valued suggestions. He was bestowed with the responsibility of looking after the medical treatment of the leaders. So long as he did not fall gravely ill, he shouldered that responsibility with great emotion. When late Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, our beloved General Secretary, underwent bypass heart surgery, Comrade Anil Sen was all through by his side. Even during his ailing stage, Comrade Sen used to seek information about the health of the comrades.

In 1989, he was detected having heart problems and provided with pace maker. After Second Party Congress in 2009, there was marked deterioration in his health and he needed frequent hospitalization for treatment of multifarious diseases.

On 2nd December last, he was once again admitted to the Calcutta Heart Clinic and Hospital for treatment of severe attack of pneumonia. After 22 days of medical attention, he passed away on 24th December morning. His mortal remains were brought to the Party's central office in Kolkata on 25th December morning when leaders and cadres from various districts paid their revolutionary tribute to the departed leader. Floral tributes were paid by Comrades Provash Ghosh, Manik Mukherjee and Ranjit Dhar and on behalf of Comrades Krishna Chakraborty and Asit Bhattacharyya, both members of the Polit Bureau. Comrades Debaprasad Sarkar, Gopal Kundu, Soumen Basu

and Sankar Saha, all members of the Central Committee and other members of West Bengal state secretariat, state committee and leaders of various mass organizations also paid their tributes. Floral wreaths were offered to him by the leaders of the CPI (M), CPI, RSP and CPI (ML). At the end, a silent procession was organized with his body to Keoratala crematorium where comrades bid adieu to him with the slogan "Red Salute Comrade Anil Sen".

In the death of Comrade Sen, the Party has lost one of the veteran leaders associated with the Party right from the days of its formation.

## SUCI (C) firmly opposes Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2011 and calls for powerful organized movement to annul this anti-working class legislation

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary SUCI (C) issued the following statement on 20 December, 2012 :

We note with deep indignation that the Congress led UPA Government in its frantic bid to serve the greed of the domestic and foreign monopolists and multinationals are hell bent in bringing one after another draconian measures in the name of 'reforms' spelling disaster. On the 19 of December last, it has, in total disregard to public opinion, passed yet another anti-people bill titled "Banking Laws (Amendment) Bill 2011" paving way for more foreign investments into the sector by increasing the shareholders' voting rights from 10 to 26 per cent in private sector banks and from 1 to 10 per cent in public sector banks. Thus, it allows foreign monopoly capital to have a decisive stake in the Indian banking sector and marks augury of gradual privatization of the PSU banks. Though in a haste to get the bill passed, the government, under pressure, had to drop the dangerous provision of permitting the banks to participate in 'futures' trading, a mode of reckless speculation in various items of consumption including food articles, it no doubt revealed the evil intention of the government to allow increased bank funding to punters and gamblers. Clearly this move is another step towards eventual dismantling of the public sector industries and privatizing all industries in general and the banking sector in particular.

It is pertinent to recall that powerful working class movement demanding an end to the then prevailing chaos and disorder in the banking industry and widen its service network, once forced the government to nationalize the banking industry. The government then conceded that private ownership was posing hindrance before realization of those demands. Today it is clear that government in order to meet the necessity of the monopolists of the country is not only out to undo the process of nationalization but also determined to open this crucial sector to foreign MNCs for exploiting at their will. It also bears recall that when, after breakout of the sub-prime crisis, hundreds of private sector banks including some of the giants in the field became bankrupt throwing millions out of job and wiping out billions of dollars of investors' money in no time, the Indian government, bytreading the path of wide scale privatization, would wreak further havoc in the already wretched life of the Indian working people.

We, therefore, call upon the working people to rise in vehement protest against this noxious attempt of the government to expedite privatization of the banking industry and unleash a prolonged powerful conscious movement duly organized from the grass roots level under correct revolutionary leadership to force the government reverse the decision.

### Gruesome gang-rape in Delhi

# Heroic people’s pathbreaking revolt makes history

Viantly fighting for life for long thirteen days, the victim of the recent gruesome gang-rape in Delhi ultimately succumbed to multi-organ failure in a Singapore hospital, she had been removed to on Thursday 27th December last. She had had a terrible ordeal on the 16 December night when a most savage incident shattered her life. Since then she was fighting bravely. During this period, during these few days less than a fortnight, thousand candles were lit up across the country for her recovery and she herself had lit up a candle, candle of her courage, her determination to survive, her alert, conscious and relevant behaviour even in an extremely critical condition. Dimming flame of candle soon turned into wild fire. The fire of protest demanding justice, demanding right to live secured!

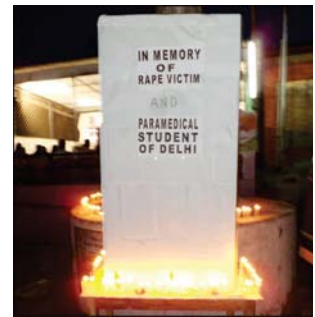
The entire country had known the inevitable; the ghastliness and severity of the incident were enough to put question as to whether she would survive. Yet when the end came, people not just of Delhi, but of the entire country, its youth and students, could not end their duty by observing a minute’s silence or uttering some dry words of bringing the guilty to justice with no time lost, in the same voice as the powerbrokers of Delhi.

On the contrary, the candle she had lit and which had given birth to the wild fire of protest across the country, led thousands of people in this or that parts of the country, including Delhi itself hold silent march mourning her death; recall how courageously she fought, how conscious she had been to give two statements on her ordeal. The wild fire was not to be put out!

We salute thee! The brave and courageous girl who had to leave this world so early, but had left a legacy, left her brothers and sisters in Delhi who did not fail to take up the cudgel she had left for them. We

hail thee! The brothers and sisters, sons and daughters, mothers and fathers of Delhi! In a city so fortified against people’s movements that the police pounce upon even an assembly of four or five people, generally so calm a city, you created a history of moulding it with a new character. You did not lie low cloistered in your self and fear to come out! You protested the ghastly incident, that has come to symbolize the violence and crimes against women committed throughout the country and you condemned the beasts and you detested the powerbrokers who protected, indulged, even connived with those beasts! You thronged in thousands for the cause of seeking justice with the slogan WE WANT JUSTICE. You defied all batons and canons, disdained all prohibitory orders of the rulers, cared a fib for personal safety and put up barricade fight against the armed state machinery refusing to budge an inch till the legitimate demands of yours are met. Your mighty assertion of people’s power

sent shivers down the spine of the rulers and their lackeys. You compelled them to bend down to accede to your demands. Neither carrot nor stick worked for them in quelling the surging agitation shuddered in hatred at the perpetrators and abettors of a heinous crime against a blooming young girl in the heart of the much sprawling capital city of the country prided by the power that be as being splashed with the colour of modernization and glittered in regale touch of global elegance. Out of their wits, the protectors and defenders of the mutilated stinking capitalist system breeding all maladies and miseries were on a frantic search for somehow dousing the fire of people’s discontent and restore *status quo ante* to keep the machine of gruelling oppression and repression propelling. They even muddled with the treatment of the girl which gave rise to series of questions after the death of the girl: Why was the girl removed to Singapore when she had had a cardiac arrest, suffered significant brain injuries, infection of her lungs and abdomen and was in an extremely critical condition? Did not the capital have excellent medical facilities and was not the girl being taken care of? Why did the government hastily take the risky decision of removing such a critical patient over such a distance, a decision termed ‘unusual’, ‘thoughtless’ by even expert



Andaman & Nicobar Islands mourn silently

doctors? Was it then a political decision on the part of the government, as was indicated reportedly by doctors even from within the medical team attending the girl? Was the government trying to deflect the protests? So death of a girl, a victim of a gang-rape incident in Delhi no longer remained a tale of an unfortunate individual. The fire of her cremation mingled with the already raging fire of protest across the country.

The brutal incident that triggered the protest, did and would always do, shake the very roots of humanity and stir uproar in the country. Six drunken youths carried out bestial gang rape of a paramedical student hailing from Uttarakhand doing her internship in a Delhi hospital. The ghastly incident took place in a public bus on the roads of Delhi for about an

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## Silent processions by SUCI(C) round the country



[Top] Chhattisgarh and Ahmedabad in Gujarat



[Top] Jabalpur in MP and Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh

## Delhi people paid tribute to the braveheart with fiery protest against heartless government

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hour not in dead of night, neither in any desolate area, but with a police station in the vicinity. Before and after it, the hapless victim and her male friend were severely beaten up and stripped, finally to be thrown off the speeding vehicle. The police did at least wake up to remove the duo first to AIIMS hospital and then to Safdarjung hospital on being reported by some passersby. From there she was removed to Singapore for more elaborate treatment, where she succumbed to multi-organ failure on 29th. Each time one recalls the horrid incident, one's senses are numbed.

Yet you, the Delhi youth-students-people did refuse to lay numb. You showed the way, raging with the spirit '*Enough is enough*', no more are we going to tolerate. The way you spontaneously rushed to join the protest rally, the way you braced the odds, fought pitched battle with the armed security forces of the state, the way you stuck to your demand and the way you converted your protest into resistance, brought back the memories of the historic Tahrir Square movement of Egypt held two years back where people compelled the then President to step down. It was on seeing such revolts of people that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, founder General Secretary of the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) said long back that unable to bear the yoke of exploitation and oppression people would repeatedly burst out with discontent and wrath, again and again they would try to surge ahead with their demands in waves after waves. They would call for radical change, removal of the rulers perpetrating exploitation. Repeatedly they would beseech our consciousness, would appeal to humanity that change was the necessity.

Thus you, Delhi students-youth-common people gave vent to the questions that were driving countrymen mad: How would the Union and Delhi governments now view the loss of life of the innocent victim girl who succumbed after putting on a brave fight for life for 13 complete days in consequence of a heinous incident that took place under the very nose of the highest centre of power of the country? If lax policing helped the culprits of the present case carry on their criminal act for nearly an hour on Delhi roads, was not removing a critical patient beyond medical necessity to Singapore a hasty

decision to deflect protests? How could the Union and Delhi governments tolerate these ghastly violence perpetrated upon innocent women and children for years together which is evident from the phenomenal rise in rapes in the city and country? How many rapists have been condemned to severest punishment for their violent crimes in the country in recent years? Even if the rape-victim is not murdered, is the social ostracism she has to bear all through her life anything less tragic, less violent so to say, if not more? With all these, you created a tsunami of protest across the country; you awakened the countrymen from the slumber, shaking them out of the stupor, you struck at their conscience inspiring them to stand fresh and firm with all might against the growing attacks on and injustices against the people in general and the womenfolk in particular.

Thus women protesters joining the protest cried out '*We want India to be a safe zone for women*'; aggrieved students remarked, '*Despite massive public outrage, the official response to this incident has been disappointing, with no one in office willing to take responsibility for the sorry state of affairs. And it is very strange that the government is using force to silence us*'; no brutality, no red eyes or arrogance, no attempt to create confusion or deflect attention from the real issue could, however, quench the fire of wrath and resentment. With bruises on body and pain from merciless beating by the police, a 75 year old man from Haryana, said lying injured: *I could not run like a youth ... I don't know what my mistake was and how I was a threat to them that they decided to hit an old man like me*. Pointing to the policemen around, he said: *Your lathi will not break my spirit. I will be here until justice is meted out to the victim*. So indomitable was the mood and fervour of people's movement.

As the protests mounted, initially the governments and the police, including the highest centres of power of the country, their master the ruling capitalist class thought that this was nothing but a routine protest and tried to ignore it remaining silent. The parliamentarian politicians of major parties of both the treasury or opposition blocs, who are constantly on the look-out for issues to stage uproars in the House, initially found the incident a convenient one to trade customary charges against each other. It is worth mentioning

that most of them, irrespective of hue, as part and parcel of the exploiting capitalist system that is prolonging its moribund life by pandering to all kinds of debased thoughts and perverse proclivities in order to dehumanize the people, are guilty of either perpetrating or indulging in atrocities on women including rape and molestation.

But unfortunate for these people-in-power, initially mute or keen to cash on it, the victims, people on the streets had been drawn to the limit of their endurance; this time they refused to yield meekly. They spelt it out clearly: '*Enough is enough*'. They rent the air of the capital city with the cries for strictest punishment for the accused that reverberated across the country. In clear terms they put the union and the Delhi governments in the dock, accusing them to have indulged or even connived with the criminality and criminals to turn the capital city into a capital of rapes, a hell for women and children. So, protesting people in the rally or on the streets, in public places or in private, became vocal to demand stringent punishment for these power-mongers at the highest echelon by bringing them down from their seats of power.

The latter, the powerbrokers visibly got into panic as they found that appeals and poses were not working; people were resolute and unbending. They feared that protests may sweep across the entire city and beyond that around it, the entire city of Delhi may turn into battle field. They had the memory of Anna Hazare-led movement against corruption in the recent past still alive. Thus on face of this present mass outrage that had burst forth like a violent earthquake shaking the national capital and its powerbrokers, the arrogant, brute, power-mongering state machinery crumbled like a pack of cards, was forced to come down to knees. Slammed by the Delhi High Court the Delhi police had to suspend five policemen for negligence of duty; the Union government announced setting up of a judicial commission to probe the incident and suggest measures for improving the safety of women. The Union Home Minister also indicated amendment of criminal laws to provide for enhanced and more effective penalty in "rarest of rare cases". The High Court arranged for daily hearing of rape-cases. The pronouncements, however, stank with usual cunning evasiveness on

the questions of what would be the time frame for setting up the commission, what kind of effective punishment is envisaged or how would the rarity of cases be determined. In spite of all the poses of the powerbrokers, the protesters, along with the countrymen could find no reason to lay faith upon their words; from their past experiences they knew these would turn out to be eyewash and would hardly be implemented as soon as people's movement and vigilance are withdrawn. So the protests continued and turned into pitched battle with the Delhi police and other security forces on the streets of Delhi.

The panicky government, the administration-police, the ruling class turned frantic. The whole country stood aghast at the scenes of repressive atrocities of the Delhi police and other security forces of the states, pampered with people's money, brought down upon the protesters. The whole country stood imbibed to see how the youth-students and people from Delhi and around withstood the repression to hold their ground. The country saw how in the biting cold of Delhi the Delhi police let the water-cannons loose upon thousands of students-youth and others who had come to give vent to their feelings in solidarity with the victim in abject agony, how they came down with the brute lathicharge and tear-gas shelling upon the protesters to claim boastfully that they have cleared the rally-spot only to find new rallies elsewhere; how the powerbrokers instead of putting up stage-shows of one or two dignitaries before a small section of protesters and seriously opening a dialogue with them took resort to trampling of democratic rights and to using brute force along with prohibitory orders around Raisina Hill, the VIP enclosures for ensuring security of the VIPs in face of demonstrations of unarmed people who were demanding minimum security for their life and dignity; the governments threw the entire transport system of the city into doldrums to prevent protesters from joining protest rallies; they deployed para-military forces for the justice-seeking citizens; and last but not the least, they clamped curbs on media; the police attacked journalists who were covering the demonstrations and police atrocities, they vandalized cameras and other broadcasting equipments so that the world cannot see how the

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# Dehumanized criminals take refuge behind police-government-politician nexus

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Union and Delhi governments and their police-administration were behaving with the protesters. As soon as the protesters responded to being attacked by state forces, a police spokesman labelled them as 'hooligans', 'perpetrators of violence' and 'trouble makers', who had taken over peaceful protests. TV footage and countless photographs taken across India clearly showed that the protests had indeed been hijacked by hooligans – but with a rider the hooligans in question were all wearing police uniforms. And these hooligans let loose by the government and their masters themselves perpetrated violence of the worst kind by severely injuring people like a 75 year old man or a 50 year old woman, among many such others with brute baton-charge or tear gas shelling for the simple reason that they had dared to join the protest rally against a ghastly rape? It established justification of people's observation: *'You can get raped, but not protest against rape in the World's largest democracy.'*

And what was the background on which these incidents took place including the recent gruesome gang-rape in Delhi that also killed the victim in the end as also elsewhere. All these took place or were perpetrated under the very nose of the same Union government, the Delhi government and their police-administration, whose inertia, even indulgence to the extent of connivance, could make rape the fastest rising crime among all the total cognizable offence in the country as it had to be admitted by the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), where the recent gang-rape was one of the 228,000 crimes reported against the women in the year; where Delhi decidedly tops the list of both rape and molestation registering 635 in 2012 (from 507 in 2010) rape cases more than those from five other major cities namely, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad put together. It must not be forgotten that rape is one of the most unreported crimes. Virtually 90% rape cases are not reported because of reluctance of the victim to depose in court for fear of social stigma, for negative medical opinion and other causes. While in urban India rape cases are held up from delays inherent in the legal process, in remote areas like the tribal belts of central India and elsewhere, conviction is virtually non-existent. This becomes particularly evident in

cases involving high-up accused. In such cases police-government-politician nexus does not even record the FIR; it deliberately drags the case over years; even if accused are chargesheeted, a large number are acquitted because of poor investigation, witnesses turning hostile or otherwise. These encourage criminals take shelter with the nexus. In totality, these together simply contribute to helping rape in particular, and crime in general, to rise sharp and fast.

And this goes on with direct or indirect indulgence of the government and its administration, in connivance of the government and the criminals. When the government and the police pounce upon the protesters against the gang-rape with severe water- cannons, batons and tear-gas shells, does it not act as direct indulgence to the criminals who laugh at the protesters from behind the curtain? Under pressure of the movement some particular accused may be punished, but criminals do not fail to note the indulgence in crime by the government. This is borne in the attitude of officials and ministers when some of them says "Does it mean that women should roam in the nights just because we got independence in the middle of the night?" Or some other adds: "The way women are dressing is responsible for rapes". One may only ask - why the rural women who dress in a traditional way are raped, why infants and children are raped, why girls in decent school uniforms are raped, why old women are raped, why hospital patients are raped? Is it because of their dress, or because of their roaming night? Thus, even during the recent protests across the country, there were reports of rape of a four year old girl child in Hyderabad, 11 year old girl in Gulbarga of Karnataka, another girl in Indore, three and half year old child in Burdwan, a housewife in Barasat of West Bengal, a minor girl in Ferozepur of Punjab, twin sisters in Salem of Tamilnadu .....the list goes on... some even was murdered.

Think of the entire scenario of the country. The government allows unbridled propagation of pornography through internet and other means, opening the deluge of sex and sex-related crimes not just in private, even in public life. When the governments promote liquors-drugs in name of earning revenues and alluring youth to these evil practices; they allow rampant catering of sex and violence through films and media including the

electronic media in particular, they stand mute at the barrage of blue films and vulgar videos directly portraying and thus virtually acting as lessons of rape and other sexual acts and crimes drawing youth and students in numbers to those, they allow use of vulgar provocative portrayal of women body in advertisement of any and every commodity to attract consumers and reap harvests of profits there from, they cleverly sanctify flesh trade and thus indulge in trafficking of women and children for that, they preach by overt and covert means that satisfying self is the prime object of life which sermon naturally leads to frantic efforts to satiate even the beastly instincts of life without caring to judge what is right or wrong, just or unjust, ethical or unethical. By all these the governments not only indulge in crimes and criminals, they give effect to elaborately planned designs of the ruling capitalist class. This is the design the rulers hatch from their fear-complex of revolution. This is the design which destroys the very base of values-morality-ethics-culture in social and individual life, destroys the cultural-moral-ethical backbone of youth-students in particular and people in general. Thus dehumanized they are prevented from joining the revolutionary struggles against injustice, discrimination or oppression, shoulder to shoulder with exploited, oppressed people. Instead they are dragged into dungeons of aimless, immoral, criminal life. It must be realized that nobody is born as rapist; it is the decadent capitalist society that drives people, more so youth to become criminals, rapists. Women and children, the soft targets are the most frequent and pathetic victims of this rise in criminality. Exposing this heinous design of the capitalist rulers, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great proletarian leader made the invaluable words for exploited oppressed people: "...however acute a form oppression and penalty may assume, the people of a country, a nation can still stand up firm and erect raising its head high even amidst severest of torture if its moral strength is not decimated. .... bourgeoisie too knows it, they have taken this lesson from history that just through state oppression, through coercion by the state machine and brutal repression by the police and the military – ultimately they may not be able to keep the people subdued. So the bourgeoisie conspires to break the backbone of

the nation; cleverly destroy the moral backbone! Foster base instincts and vile traits..... and get all this accepted as being quite natural among the people of society." (Present situation and main danger to democratic movement; 1974; quoted from Selected Works, Vol. IV)

Thus all over the capitalist-imperialist world, the ruling capitalist class of one and all capitalist countries, is frantically trying to give effect to this design. Sex and sex-related violence and crime are thus spreading like wild fires to become a menace in all these countries. During the last decade such crimes hovered around 80,000 to 95,000 cases per year in USA and 12,000 to 16,000 cases in UK (England and Wales), to mention only two of the leading imperialist countries. Nearly a fifth of teenaged boys and a third of girls of western countries experience sexual molestation at such tender ages of life; some countries like UK think of providing free contraceptives to teenagers of schools and colleges to prevent unwarranted pregnancy from unbridled sex acts.

One can only lament for days under socialism, when prostitution was eradicated socially in erstwhile socialist countries, sexual crimes reached zero incidence, women experienced the fresh and lively ambience of entering into all walks of life on equal footing with men. Modern revisionism instrumental in bringing about counter revolution in those countries entailing dismantling of socialist camp and turned those countries capitalist. But once these countries including the constituents of mighty Soviet Union and China turned capitalist, crimes including sex-crimes not only reappeared but soared menacingly.

Clearly, more decadence capitalist societies are getting into, more severe and menacing are becoming these features of cultural degeneration. So long as the capitalist society exists, there will be no real respite from this spate of abject cultural degeneration. The dragon with thousand heads, venomous teeth and red eyes will reign supreme. With one head lost under pressure of people's resistance, it will make up for it with rejuvenation of another head. The air of capitalist – imperialist countries is thus rent with ever-increasing wails of victims, women and children. Over and above the yoke of capitalist exploitation and oppression they

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## Comrade Provas Ghosh's Appeal

# Rapists are born in the labour-room of capitalism

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the beastly criminals threw her out from the speeding bus into the street. We salute this valour and valiance of the young girl. "I want to live" said she before losing consciousness. But the country, the state did not let her live. Repeatedly she demanded stringent punishment to the culprits. But would the actual culprits be booked and punished? That question is what our conscience is confronted with.

We want exemplary punishment to the offenders of this ghastly crime. We want stringent law to be in place for that. At the same time, we like to iterate that whatsoever stringent may be the law or punishment, rape and gang-rape would continue and rise in number. Every day, every moment, rapes are taking place in this land. Even tiny girls are not spared. If this be called civilization, what would then be barbarity? Many more thousands of girls would be raped, many of the rape-victims would lose their lives, the survivors would remain as half-dead. Such scenario would remain unaltered till there is any permanent remedy to the malady of rape.

Right at this moment, the 'high profile' leaders of the country are no doubt shedding crocodile tears for the hapless rape victim. But, deep in their mind, they are hoping that shortly everything would subside, simmering rage would ebb, fizzle out as had happened on earlier occasions. Within weeks, republic day would be observed on 26th January with pomp and grandeur. In the 'august' presence of these 'charismatic' leaders, canon-booms would raucously proclaim the triumph of the biggest democracy on the earth. Proudly they would present illuminating picture of how fast the country is 'progressing and developing'. Presidential palace, ministerial offices, secretariat buildings would glitter in gaudy decoration. Under this dazzling display would be suppressed today's

grief and saddened mood, perhaps. Beneath this festive glaze would lie the pervasive darkness of wail and woe of the country. When the president, prime minister, industrialists, business tycoons, chief ministers and the leaders of the big political parties would be agog in celebrating country's independence with variety entertainments and luxurious food in 5-star hotels, a number of hungry street children, customarily known as urchins — starving for days, having no shelter, no warm clothes in chilling cold — would be found scavenging left overs of the feast in the nearby dustbins. These children do not know where their parents are, how they have been lost, delinked and scattered in the vagaries of life. The country teems in millions of unemployed, under-employed, retrenched workers and employees, evicted poor peasants and agricultural labourers. Every year, millions are dying of starvation, due to lack of healthcare. Many are committing suicide to end life at one stroke rather than suffering from pangs of death for days. Unable to bear with the cry of starving children, millions of women are initiated into flesh trade. Trafficking of women and children has assumed an alarming proportion. The spectacle is harrowing, immensely painful. On the other hand, a handful of capitalists and business houses have been thriving by usurping the entire wealth of the country, plundering the nation with alacrity as did once the British imperialists.

Is it the freedom for which Kshudiram-Bhagat Singh-Chandrasekhar Azad-Asfaquallah-Surya Sen-Pritilata and others laid down their lives? Is it the independence for which Netaji Subhas had waged a historic struggle? Did they ever think in the wildest of their dreams that such sordid would be the state of affairs in politically independent India;

women would be raped with such feral ferocity? Then whose freedom is it? Glaringly, the freedom is of the monopolists and big business to oppress and exploit with impunity, the freedom of the criminals and anti-socials, created and nurtured by them, to carry out murder-rape-robbery at will. The government parties like the Congress-BJP-CPI (M)-Trinamool Congress-SP-BSP-DMK-ADMK-JD(U)-BJD are all servitors of this capitalist class. Backed by the money-power of the capitalists, whichever of these parties gets a chance to be saddled in the coveted seat of government, it serves the masters as their ardent political manger. All mutual fights, clashes and quarrels among these power-seeking political parties are centred on the mad race to grab power. Whichever of them is installed in power, it only pockets public money for self-aggrandizement. All of them are neck-deep in corruption. In the regimes of each of them, rape is a daily occurrence. Of course, each of them tries to either deny or downplay any incident of rape in its rule, dumps such incidents as fabricated or dismisses them as attempts to defame the government. All of them are today shedding tears in media glare while calculating how best they would be able to reap benefit of this incident in the next elections. In what condescending a way they view women is evident from a few recent utterances of theirs that transcend all barriers of rudimentary decency. The BJP chief minister of Gujarat passed a remark that one of his political rivals "has a 500-million-worth girlfriend". Taking a pot shot at the surging outrage of Delhi people, the son of Indian president, a newly elected member of parliament, commented: "Those who are coming in the name of students in the rallies, are beautiful

women, highly dented and painted". Short of calling the Kolkata's Park Street rape victim a prostitute, a woman Trinamool Congress MP commented that "it was not a rape case but a deal going sour between a lady and her client." From the rostrum of a public meeting, a former minister and now deputy leader of the CPI (M) in West Bengal assembly threw a question to the lady chief minister of West Bengal, "If you are raped, what will be the compensation you would charge?" All of them are leaders of their respective parties. They belong to different parties but share the



*Vzaj in Andhra Pradesh*

same culture.

Deeply pained at the virtual extinction of human faculties among the poor workers engaged in construction work site, great litterateur Saratchandra wrote many years back in his celebrated novel 'Srikanta': I am not grieved at the death of a human being because if one is born, one has to die one day. I am appalled at the demise of humane qualities. Greed of the rich for wealth has turned human beings into heartless animals. Because, the rich knows that unless the poor is brought down to the level of animals, they cannot be forced to work like animals. He had said this after seeing how capitalism was destroying finer senses, tender feelings, love, affection and benevolent mind. But he and his predecessors as well as contemporaries like Rammohan, Vidyasagar, Jotiba Phule, Vivekananda, Rabindranath, Lala Lajpat, Tilak, Gopabandhu, Jyoti Prasad, Subramanya Bharati, Premchand, Netaji Subhash, Nazrul did not live to see the horridness engulfing the country today and the escalating number of rape and gang-rape nor could they ever think of such adversity taking over. In the obscurantist bigot patriarchy-dominated feudal society of India under British imperialist rule, there was prevalence of medieval tortuous customs and practices like child marriage, burning the widow on the funeral pyre of husband



*Kolkata on 29th December*

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Comrade Provasch Ghosh's Appeal

Ferment and fire of movement emboldened with correct revolutionary ideology must spread wide

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(Sati), polygamy and widow-bashing. Enraged at these, Vidyasagar once remarked "Let not the women be born in a country where the menfolk are so cruel, bereft of any compassion and affection, dispossessed of the sense of right and wrong." What would have been his reaction to the soaring number of rapes and gang-rapes marking the extent of morbidity the society is encumbered with today?

Noticing the way the ruling Indian bourgeoisie is out to demolish human qualities, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat and one of the foremost Marxist thinkers of the era, had said 36 years back with grave concern that even if the people of a country, a nation go without food, remain half-starved, face severest of tortures, they can still stand up firm and erect raising their head high and fight against the oppression-injustice if their moral strength is not decimated. The rulers are well aware of that. They know so long as people are having ethical and moral courage, no array of coercive arsenal can suppress the rising tide of mass upheavals. So they are hell bent to destroy the moral backbone of the nation, wipe off the glorious legacy of the past luminaries and revolutionaries, make people particularly the

students and youths rootless by delinking them from the high cultural standard attained during the days of our Renaissance and freedom movements. Instead, they are plunging the youth into the dungeon of vile individualism and self-centredness, vulgar consumerism, all kinds of sex-perversion through massive promotion of degraded culture through liquor-gambling-obscene dance-pornography-blue films and such other foul means. This annihilation of cultural and moral base as well as pollution of the youth is today a class necessity of the ruling bourgeoisie haunted by the fear-complex of anti-capitalist revolution. So, the situation has turned so horrific today. Not just true human beings, even the animals do not rape or gang-rape. So these rapists are neither human beings nor animals. These inhuman rapists cloistered in human bodies have not been born out of any mother's womb. All children are born innocent. Animals are born with their respective physical forms and characteristics. But human beings are born with human body alongwith a mind, a blank paper at birth and acquire their characteristics, qualities and blemishes, virtues and vices from the prevailing society. These rapists are born in the labour-room of decadent moribund capitalism, the prime

enemy of the people. The same very capitalism has made female body a commodity of the consumerist market. So long capitalism would be in vogue, it would go on giving

Delhi braving the biting winter and disdaining the batons, tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannons of the rulers. We hope that the flame and ferment of this battle would be



Joint protest rally by AIDS0, AIDYO and AIMSS in Delhi on 29 December

birth to innumerable rapists and rapes would spiral in number. Therefore, in order to put an end to all crises and problems plaguing the wretched life of the people as well as to permanently ensure safety of women and abolition of crimes like rape, it is imperative to overthrow capitalism, the root of all evils, and establish new socialist society. Otherwise, this profound grief and rolling tears of today would be of no value.

We convey our revolutionary greetings to the thousands of brave young people particularly the hundreds of young girls who have been putting up a heroic and historic battle for so many days in

further emboldened with the correct revolutionary ideology of the time and spread like wild fire. From that fire would be born innumerable Kshudiram-Bhagat Singh-Pritilata who, imbued with Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought, the highest ideology of the era, would build up well-organized anti-capitalist revolutionary movement.

Turn your grief into strength, searing blaze of hatred into indomitable fighting spirit.

With revolutionary greetings

Provasch Ghosh  
General Secretary  
SUCI (Communist)

01-01-2013

Silent processions by SUCI(C) round the country



[Top] Assam, [middle] Tamilnadu and Jharkhand

[Top] Haryana, [middle] Allahabad, UP and Tripura

[Top] Kerala, [middle] Chandigarh and Odisha

## Fight against crime linked with fight against capitalism

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have to bear the yoke of menacingly rising criminality that tells pathetically upon their security and dignity. So, fight against crimes in general and rapes in particular can not be fought without directing the main blow against the ruling capitalist system itself. The spontaneous outburst of people's wrath that may send a tsunami of protest across the country is a reality, as it did in the present Delhi mass outrage and is a formidable force no doubt. But it cannot and must not end in itself if it looks ahead for the crime it is protesting to end. And here lies the necessity of revolutionary leadership in democratic mass movements.

It was in recognition of this necessity that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great proletarian leader opined: "So while conducting movements, these are matters to be looked into very seriously. It is imperative to pay attention to whether the base political line of the movement is correct, that is, whether it contains the strategy and tactics of the anti-capitalist socialist revolution. This apart, in order to identify the correct leadership in the movement, one has to find out which is the party or who are the forces truly interested in building up struggle committees .... through these movements as the instruments of people's struggles. And who are those who in reality create hindrance to the formation of these people's struggle committees under various pretexts, and in its stead want to mislead the people by passing off the expansion of the party's organizational strength and the tightening grip of the party over the people as the growth of the people's political power. Besides all

these, for identifying the correct leadership in the movement, it has to be particularly noted that which among the different parties taking part in the movement is the party whose leaders and workers are reflecting, in their day-to-day political struggle, higher ethical, cultural and moral standard conducive to anti-capitalist socialist revolution." (Problems of mass movements in India; 1975; quoted from Selected Works, Vol. III)

In tune with this invaluable teaching, the movement that is initiated with the spontaneous outburst of protest in Delhi is required to develop into organized movements to resist the crimes in all states across the country combining all forces that are ready to join hands. Powerful resistance movement need be built on each specific case wherever in the country it may occur. Movements are to be launched to put immediate effective and definite curb upon the various means which the capitalists are using to spread cultural degeneration. Thus propagation of pornography, liquor and drugs through internet and other means, sex and violence through films and media, vulgar provocative portrayal of women body in advertisement; sanctification of flesh trade and human trafficking of women and children, preaching of self-satiating object of life leading to unethical means of life and livelihood including crime upon women must be firmly and immediately halted. At the same time a countrywide massive cultural movement on the strength of higher ideology and culture be launched to expose the designs of the ruling capitalist class to break the moral backbone of people. Massive sustained

## SUCI(C) hails Delhi people's movement

In a statement issued on 22 December, 2012, Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) said:

When it was expected that the Union and Delhi state governments would seek apology to the rape-victim and Delhi people for their failing to protect the victim from such a disaster and would assure them that such incidents would not recur, we are shocked to find instead that the Delhi police came down brutally with tear-gas, batons and water cannons upon the protestors coming from all sections of people from all walks of life, who were rightly demanding proper and immediate action from their peaceful massive rally in front of the President's palace. We strongly condemn the Congress-led Delhi government and Delhi police for this totally unwarranted act of theirs and urge upon the governments to perform their duty without delay, which the entire country demands of them to do.

We are constrained to note that in Delhi as also in the entire country, all the ruling parties stand guilty of having failed to prevent rise of such crimes as that of Delhi so much so that there is no security of life and dignity of women all over the country on face of rising atrocities on them. On the one hand, the capitalist system of the country is robbing students, youth and common people of humanity and values as a result of which a section of them are falling victims to increasing crimes; on the other hand without taking strictest measures against these crimes, the governments are really indulging these crimes and criminals. In such a situation, the way Delhi students, youth and people have come out to streets in protest with the demands braving all attacks stands out as highly praiseworthy effort and we expect that students- youth and common people all over the country will come out resolutely in fraternity to force the Union and Delhi governments meet the demands raised.

movements on the burning problems of life and livelihood that crop ups every day from the existing capitalist exploitation and oppression must also go on serving as the bulwark of one and all specific struggles for justice. Delhi has amply and emphatically illustrated that people are lying dormant with wrath and resentment against the powerbrokers that survive in connivance with corruption, crime and criminals. People are ready to burst forth. A spark, a candle is required to light the prairie fire. The tsunami of protest generated by the Delhi students- youth and people has left

this message for the countrymen. As the revolutionary party of the country, Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) calls upon exploited people of the country to receive the message with due regard and earnestness and join and help the efforts of the Party relentlessly striving to develop formidable organized sustained movements on each and every issue, people face in their life. If and when the unprecedented outrage of people in Delhi is elevated to massive countrywide movements, will the people be able to bring real justice, to dedicate it to the memory of the unfortunate yet heroic girl, *Damini* of Delhi.

## Silent processions by SUCI(C) round the country



Bangalore in Karnataka



Muzaffarpur in Bihar

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