

Proletarian Era

Volume 46 No. 11
January 15, 2013

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

Price : Rs. 2.00

Long Live Comrade Lenin



22 April 1870 21 January 1924

“The bourgeoisie needs hirelings who enjoy the trust of a section of the working class, whitewash and prettify the bourgeoisie with talk about the reformist path being possible, throw dust in the eyes of the people by such talk, and divert the people from revolution by giving glowing descriptions of the charms and possibilities of the reformist path.”

(Collected Works, Vol. 29, p 508)

Concerted attempt to mischannelize historic Delhi movement against rape

URGENT NEED TO FOIL IT

The brutal incident that shook the very roots of humanity, after a 23-year-old was gangraped in a private bus in the capital city of the country, has stirred uproar in the society. Through the 13 days that the life of the 23-year-old woman hung in the balance, people particularly the youths outraged at the sickening callousness of the power that be at the galloping increase in number of rape, gang-rape and sexual violence on women spontaneously came out and hit the streets of Delhi demanding justice and exemplary corporal punishment to the guilty. Inspired by that, the whole country burst into protest, thronged the streets and took out processions. We have shown in our previous write-up how these brave protesters refused to disperse despite being brutalized with bamboo sticks, steel poles, batons, rubber bullets, tear gas, and water cannons and stood firm on their grounds and boldly marched towards the seats of power like the Presidential and Prime Ministerial residences and Central Secretariat buildings. Even after a

month, the protest agitation is continuing and the rage of the people has not ebbed.

Special significance of this anti-rape movement

A year back also, when octogenarian social activist Anna Hazare gave a call for rising in protest against all-pervading corruption and sensing people's mood, the media also highlighted that call, people responded spontaneously across the country and swelled in number at the scheduled spots in Delhi and other cities and towns. That movement also created history. But, this time it was an instant upsurge particularly of the young people, schoolchildren and college students, especially young women. After rubber bullets, batons and water cannons failed, the authorities tried to block the brave Delhi protesters by closing nearby subway stations and blocking the road to the India Gate monument, the heart of the city. Many metro rail

Contd. on page 2

All India Workers' Conference of AIUTUC

With zeal struggling workers rally en masse to continue fight against capitalism

Bangalore, the fond city of corporate giants, particularly the IT giants, where these representatives of the world capitalist- imperialist system hold frequent global meets and conferences to chalk out their plans for perpetrating capitalist exploitation and oppression in ever-fiercer ways, stared amazed on the

wintery morning of January 4 of this new year of 2013 to witness a scene hitherto unforeseen to common people of the city. They found emerging from the Bangalore City Railway Station a massive, fervent yet disciplined, extremely and neatly decorated procession of about 12,000 working people

marching ahead for the venue of the 3-day All India Workers' Conference of All India United Trade Union Centre. It was the 20th All India Conference of the organization, being held for the first time in Bangalore. It was a procession of workers from all over India, in thousands from Karnataka

and its adjoining states like Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, led by All India Vice Presidents, General Secretary, Secretariat members and other leaders of the organization, and fraternal foreign Trade Union delegates from Sri Lanka, Nepal and Greece. With

Contd. on page 3



A portion of massive procession of workers on 4 January at Bangalore on the occasion of 20th All India Conference of All India UTUC ; Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, President, AIUTUC and member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) addressing the Open Session

Anti-rape movement**Crime on women increasing because of cultural degeneration fostered by ruling capitalism***Contd. from page 1*

stations in fog-shrouded Delhi were closed, gatherings of more than 5 people were banned, 'no go zones' were created, barricades were put up and public transport closed down in key areas to cripple public movement. As a result, Delhi was virtually turned into an impenetrable fortress. Yet the valiant protesters were not deterred or cowered and the movement continued. In fact, more the government upped its ante, more determined were the agitators to bend the government under pressure of movement. In fact, street battles with police administration ensued. The slogan WE WANT JUSTICE rent the air more resoundingly. It reminded one of the heroic people's upsurge of Tahrir Square of Egypt. This unprecedented mass awakening and the grit of the protesting countrymen also elicited wide media coverage. This made the government realize that the vehemence of the people's protest, tumultuousness of the outburst of their accumulated grievances particularly of urban youth this time is much fiercer compared to all others in recent time and hence cannot be curbed by coercive means. So, the government in order to somehow rein the movement initially came out with some banal statements and verbal promises. But that failed to convince the agitating masses. Finally, the government was compelled to take some steps, haul up the culprits, start prosecution process against them and forced to concede to the demand of bringing stricter penal laws for the rapists. But the flame of the people's agitation has been smouldering, not only in Delhi but round the country.

How to deal with willful non-enforcement of law

This goes to show that when mass awakening and action asserts, even the most despotic of the rulers cannot but yield. But, then there is a calculated ploy on the part of the oppressive ruling class and its servitors to misdirect the erupting movement and ensure its fizzling out over a period of time. In the instant case also, there is an indication to that effect. A careful observation would reveal that both from the ruling circle as well as its pliant media, an impression is sought to be created that once a stringent law is framed for the rapists and the guilty of the ghastly Delhi rape case are punished, everything would be

hunky-dory. The whole focus is thus sought to be shifted from arriving at a comprehensive solution to the growing rate of rape and other crimes on women to quick-fix solutions like the death penalty or chemical castration. This is of grave concern.

The agitating countrymen are not only asking justice for the Delhi rape victim. Nor are they that content with a mere legislation. From experience, they know that there are many laws in this country to prosecute criminals. But, in most of the cases than not, it is the flawed implementation machinery, the sabotage from within, the naked connivance of the criminals and anti-socials with police-administration, government functionaries, political satraps, centres of power and even a section of judiciary, which is scuttling delivery of justice. This infirmity in the judicial procedure gives impetus to the rapists and other criminals to thump around boastfully and carry out all foul activities with alacrity. There are thousands of such cases where there is either glaring miscarriage of justice or an unnecessary drag of the court proceedings to prolong the cases for indefinite time, external pressure creeping in from the centres of power to suppress the matter, intimidating or purchasing the key witnesses or some other lapses, often deliberately caused, thereby allowing the accused, in most of the time out on bail, to roam freely or finally exonerated. The utter failure of the law enforcement machinery to curb such crimes is reflected in the very low conviction rates. So corrupt and omnipotent is this nexus that often the whistle-blowers or protesters are to pay with their lives or be implicated in false cases to face harassment, persecution and eve incarceration.

So, what people want is that alongside appropriate legislation, the very enforcement machinery is also brought under strict surveillance and preferably under the purview of statutory bindings. Any dereliction of duty on the part of the implementation team, whether police personnel or investigating officials, or anyone in the judiciary should be punishable offence. Even any attempt on the part of the government-administration, political bigwigs or wielders of money power to shield the culprits, tamper with evidences, deliberate suppression or distortion of facts must be dealt with firmly on

the basis of appropriate legal empowerment. Pending all this, law would only remain in paper or thrown in the waste paper box as a soiled chit. But it is disquieting to find that the ruling parties, other vote-based political outfits and powerful media who are often found to be shedding crocodile tears for the hapless victims of rape and gang rape are showing no concern about, if not deliberately fighting shy of, such a vital and decisive aspect. It is not that they are not aware of the fact or lack ability to understand how things are manipulated or manoeuvred to scuttle due process of law. But, any political party or dispensation as well as media wedded to the vested interest and entrenched capitalist system cannot but act otherwise. That is why, it is futile to expect that the enforcement process would be steered clear of *suo motto* as the utterly corrupt implementation machinery reared and nurtured by the servitors of the outmoded stinking capitalist order and its protectors as well as beneficiaries would come cropper and given the clout and hold they have over the system, no change to the existing malpractice would come by. The only way this vested interest could be shaken is by way of exerting decisive pressure of organized powerful sustained conscious people's movement. Therefore, there should be a powerful movement demanding formation of powerful watchdog committees at different levels of administration comprising genuine people's representatives, right-thinking and well-meaning persons to realize this objective. Once the offenders, wrongdoers and their protectors in the administration understand that they are under strict surveillance of awakened masses and would not be able to skirt punishment if caught red-handed, they would mend a bit and some restraint would be exercised on the ongoing manoeuvring and subversion of the legal provisions.

Deliberate incitement to base instincts — cause of escalating violence on women

We have in our earlier article of Proletarian Era (vide Vol. 46 No. 10, January 1, 2013) elaborately discussed the vital aspects of the horrific Delhi rape case which has rocked the entire nation and sent chill down the spine of the ruling capitalist class and pointed out that brutal rapes are taking place not

only in India but in the entire capitalist-imperialist world because this menace is bred by the ruling oppressive moribund capitalism. So, passing law as well as stricter fault-free enforcement of the same might at best bring down the crime rate, manipulations and such other aberrations to avoid punitive action for the time being. But that would not eradicate the problem. It is clear to any discerning person that women are now virtually reduced to simply an assembly of flesh and bone of a particular structure, simply an object of satisfying sexual thirst. Hence any woman can be 'consumed' by any male anywhere.

Women's bodies are indiscriminately used to sell commodities. If one takes a drive along any thoroughfare, one will see some model flashing her wares on a billboard. If anyone thumbs through a magazine, a regular newspaper or the special supplements coming with mainline dailies, one will get hit with clothing ads that show more flesh than clothes. One would not get away from sexual themes no matter what channel on TV one turns to. Most of the movies are full of vulgar dialogue and naked exhibitions of lurid sex and mindless violence. The film industry has virtually turned into a semi-porn industry. Not only nudity and sexual advances, raw scenes of physical intimacy even intercourse on celluloid and in print are presented as 'bold and beautiful' representation of reality. It is real violence that incites real. The sleazy scenes teach potential perpetrators of sexual violence and the various methods they can adopt. The lifestyle shown in the movies and the relationship between man and woman portrayed in the films and TV shows arouses the bestial instincts in man and lead to spurt in crimes on women including sexual exploitation in real life. Also, there is a huge increase in pornography materials both in CDs, video games and on Internet. Even an innocent person searching on Google for his or her college project can come across the websites of pornography. Added to this are late night party cultures, discos, dating clubs, fashion shows and beauty contests, addiction to drugs and other intoxicant stuff and of course limitless encouragement to liquor consumption.

As a result of this widespread commodification of female body

Contd. on page 5

All India Workers' Conference of AIUTUC

Surging mass of Indian workers stood as icon of workers' unity

Contd. from page 1

fluttering red flags and banners, the fervent procession beaming with resolve and enthusiasm, raised thunderous slogans of 'Workers of the world unite!', 'Down with capitalism', 'Down with capitalist globalisation' and held high attractively and elegantly prepared posters presenting demands like 'No to contract labour system', 'No to FDI', 'Amend the Minimum Wages Act and ensure statutory minimum wage at not less than Rs.15,000/-', 'Ensure basic trade union rights' and many such others. As this huge mass of toiling people, militant, determined, immaculately disciplined, wound its way to the Freedom Park of the City, more than an hour walk to mark the beginning of the Conference with its Open Session, all along by the sides of the road the common people of Bangalore stood admiringly, careful not to disturb the gravity and discipline of the procession. Their genuine appreciation was shining on their faces and in their comments as they found how despite extreme variation and differences, these toiling common people coming from different corners of the country, presenting different countenances, wearing different attires and speaking different languages demonstrated a rock-solid unity of purpose and attitude to wage determined fight against capitalism, the enemy of people and their life.

Fighting people of today poured down upon Freedom Park, the venue of the Conference, where once the freedom-fighters were hanged in the prison that stood on the same ground during those days of the British rule. After independence the prison was shifted and the ground converted into the present park. All India UTUC held its Conference there with its open session on 4, while delegate sessions were held on 5 and 6 January at Shikshakara Sadana. The park was filled to the brim, people spilling over on to the streets around as different speakers presented their speeches in the Open Session. It was again an unforgettable experience for any member of the organization as well as for any layman from the public, to see how the massive gathering of working people even from villages men or women no matter, sat with rapt attention to follow whatever they could from the speeches made in so many different languages by different speakers. The Open session was addressed by **Comrade**

Krishna Chakraborty, All India President, AIUTUC, and member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C), as the main speaker, by **Comrade K. Radhakrishna**, All India Vice President and President of Karnataka Unit, AIUTUC and Central Committee member, SUCI(C) and **Comrade Shankar Saha**, General Secretary, AIUTUC and Central Committee member, SUCI(C). Fraternal foreign delegates **Comrade George Pontikos**, Head of International Relations, PAME, Greece also representing WFTU, **Comrade Wasantha Samarasinghe**, Central Committee Member, All Ceylon Trade Union Federation, **Srilanka** and **Comrade Jaya Karki**, Vice President, All Nepal Trade Union Federation, **Nepal**, spoke at the Open Session expressing solidarity and good wishes after having taken part in the procession for the whole length with all enthusiasm, their instance creating tremendous encouragement for the others in the procession. A message of solidarity was received from Bangladesh. Fraternal delegate from **Palestine** joined the Conference on 5 January at the delegate session.

The open session speech of **Comrade Krishna Chakraborty** is being published here along with a brief summary of each of the speeches by **Comrade Sankar Saha** and **Comrade Radhakrishna**. To mention further, the Conference was effectively incepted on 3 January with a Quotation and Photo Exhibition with quotations from the great proletarian leaders Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, Mao Zedong and **Shibdas Ghosh** on the outlook, philosophy and tasks of the working class, paintings, graphics and charts depicting workers' movement in the world since its inception. The exhibition made through tireless and admirable efforts of a group of young artists created immense attraction and stir among the workers joining the Conference, as well as the common people of the city. Also noteworthy was a drama on the historic May Day staged by the Komsomol of Karnataka, which too evoked immense appreciation and emotional response from the audience of the delegates, including the fraternal foreign delegates.

The Conference unanimously adopted two resolutions, one on the February 20-21, 2013 All India strike demanding a check on price rise, regularization of contract jobs and Rs.15,000 minimum wage and other demands of the working class, and another demanding stringent measures to curb



Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), addressing the Conference as Guest-in-Chief; Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, seated beside him

menacingly rising atrocities against women.

The 2-day delegate session was attended by more than 1000 delegates from 22 states and fraternal foreign delegates from **Nepal, Greece, Palestine** and **Sri Lanka**. It was addressed by **Comrade Provash Ghosh**, General Secretary, SUCI(C), who delivered the concluding speech of the Conference as its Guest-in-Chief, **Comrade Krishna Chakraborty**, the fraternal foreign delegates and others. Speech of **Comrade Provash Ghosh** and other details of the delegate session will be published in the next issue of Proletarian Era.

Speech delivered by **Comrade Krishna Chakraborty**

Dear fraternal delegates from Greece, Sri Lanka, Nepal, **Comrade** General Secretary, Vice- Presidents and the members of the Secretariat of the AIUTUC on the dais, our guests, vast number of participants from all over Karnataka and different parts of India, comrades and delegates.

At the very beginning I would like to extend my revolutionary greetings to all of you on the historic occasion of the 20th All India Conference of our beloved trade union AIUTUC, All India United Trade Union Centre. Comrades, we are holding this conference amidst all-out crisis; crisis not just economical but political, moral, ethical, cultural, educational, in fact covering all aspects of life, is mounting making life miserable, unbearable, suffocating. I will not elaborate on the nature of the crisis. You are facing it yourself. You know what is the condition of price rise, condition of employment in our country, how rising retrenchment, closures are making lives of the working people

miserable. Description of those is not required, you yourself know it. Political situations also need no elaboration; it will simply be seen from the attitude of the governments, for instance, in the case of Honda workers of Gurgaon in Haryana fighting for the right of forming a union that too in a foreign Japanese company. The police encircled the protestors who were marching to the collectorate; workers were mercilessly beaten; government did not care at all. Instead Government uses police to suppress working class movement cruelly. That is the condition. Simply because of the 'crime' of organizing movements 500 workers have been expelled, sacked, made jobless in that very Gurgaon in Suzuki Maruti Company, but government did not take any action. They areset to protect the foreign capital at the cost of the working class of this country. That is the political situation. And the crisis in the field of culture, ethics, morality, you will find out if you see the television. Crimes of all forms, particularly crime against women, are growing alarmingly; no women is safe in this country, even in Delhi, the capital; whether in hospital, university, bus or on streets, no place is safe for women in this country; the same thing is happening in all the states, no less in Bangalore too. When powerful mass movements are growing in Delhi and many parts of the country and world, these criminals are acting freely. Daily rape cases are reported, you open the newspapers you will find it; be it in Tamilnadu, Karnataka or Bengal, known as the land of cultural movements, once a land of raging political movement, of revolutionary movement. Even there the same phenomenon recurs .

And why will it not grow? All

Contd. on page 4

All India Workers' Conference of AIUTUC

Workers' movements must develop on correct revolutionary line under revolutionary party

Contd. from page 3

the political parties are giving tickets to rapists to contest both assembly and parliamentary elections, without any shame. Criminals easily smell the attitude of the government. When thousands and thousands of people burst forth in movement on Delhi streets and that too on Rajpath, sitting peacefully, when they wanted assurance, government did not give any; instead they gave them water cannons, hurled cold water on one of the coldest days of winters, tear gas shells, lathis. What message does it convey to the criminals? You continue with your crime, if there are protests we will take care of protestors. What else does the act of government convey? Such is the socio-cultural condition, here I have told a little only. This is one aspect of the condition in the country, but not the whole. As crisis is growing in the ethical, cultural, moral, political, economic and social fields, so also movements are bursting forth. So it is not one-sided, the situation is not absolutely dark, there is no one-sidedness in nature or society, there is nothing absolute, there is no absolute darkness, there is brightness too. True sometimes darkness is dominant, but now we see after suffering again and again from this kind of oppression, repression, cultural degradation, movements are now bursting forth. There is a trend towards social thinking and movement, highly appreciable. Movement is growing one after another. As crisis is mounting, so are the movements of the working class. In the very recent past you have seen mighty waves of movements in the whole of Europe starting from Greece, Spain, Portugal to whole of Europe, ending in the citadel of capitalism-America, in the Occupy Wall Street movement. Lakhs and lakhs of workers burst forth in movements against capitalism. Despite smear campaign by the capitalists, the bourgeoisie against Marxism and socialism since long, nothing could stop people from bursting forth against capitalism. Among the masses, a period of dullness certainly came over after the fall of socialism particularly in the Soviet Union. Now the working class are realizing from their lives that capitalism is dead, it cannot give anything good to life, capitalism has become moribund; Lenin showed it in the beginning of the last century, proved it by organizing revolution in Russia. Since then hundred years have passed; that dying capitalism

has become ugly throughout the world; lakhs and lakhs of people in the Arabian countries in Middle East burst forth in movement; such is the situation also in India. Whatever is happening in Delhi, it is people who are doing it; nobody has organized them, no big political parties, leave aside Congress or BJP, these are bourgeoisie parties, even the so called communists CPI, CPM, CPML, nobody is in the movement to organize; people themselves have organized; if you take the lead, people will be very much with you against this injustice, against crime on women. Our organization is not very big in Madhya Pradesh. Our party gave a call for *bandh* yesterday in Gwalior and it was a complete success. Entire Gwalior was shut down. So comrades, there is no reason for frustration. On one side crisis is growing, on the other the working class and other exploited people are rushing out to movements. This is a very important stage of working class movement of the world, where we have a very important role to play. Comrades, this I would like to point out to you.

If you study carefully the reasons behind the movements in Europe, in Middle East, in America, or in our country, you will see there were apparently different reasons behind the movements in different countries; but if you make a deeper study the cause of the movements everywhere, be it in Europe, Africa or Middle East, are one and the same against ruthless exploitation, and cruel oppressive rule of capitalism. Capitalism is the cause. The fact is that, all these movements taken separately have tremendous possibilities and potentialities to the extent of bringing about radical change in the society. But that did not happen; unfortunately such promising massive movements, with potential to bring about radical changes finally could not reach that goal. Why? That is what we need to know.

This is because, as great Lenin taught long back, however big and powerful be a movement, if it is without a revolutionary theory and revolutionary party there will be no revolution. Be it in Europe or Middle East, there was no revolutionary leadership, no revolutionary line, that's why the movements stopped short of revolution. That lesson we are to learn. When we are building powerful movements in the country we will have to search and find out the correct revolutionary line, the correct revolutionary leadership, a

correct revolutionary party, as without a revolutionary party there will be no revolution. The working class must realize this at this hour.

So comrades, I tell you one basic thing that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh repeatedly said, reiterating this teaching of Lenin: very often movements will burst forth from anger due to exploitation of the capitalist society; in waves after waves movements will come and will appeal to human conscience for a radical change, for a revolution; but that will not come unless the revolutionary party of the working class becomes that powerful as to lead the masses, organize them, and take them to power. That is the thing required now.

First we will have to understand that India is a capitalist country; not just capitalist, it is an imperialist power. It is exploiting its small neighbours, be it Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh or, Pakistan; people of these countries understand how India is emerging as a powerful imperialist country and how India is establishing regional supremacy and how it is carrying on oppression and exploitation in those countries.

CPI, CPI (M), CPI (ML) and naturally their trade unions, do not accept that India is a capitalist country; they believe that we should bring about bourgeoisie democratic revolution under the leadership of the workers, and thus it will be people's democratic revolution and in that revolution the bourgeoisie, the capitalists - the national bourgeoisie would be an ally. Then the movement, the revolution will be against whom? The country is being exploited by powerful capitalist houses, Tatas, Birlas, Goenkas, Ambanis. And against whom other than these would be their people's democratic revolution be directed? Naxalites do not believe India is a capitalist country, it is a semi-colonial, semi-feudal country, whereas this India is subjugating many small countries. Such is their understanding. They cannot lead revolution in India; they cannot lead the working class against its real enemy, capitalism. The working class must know that its real enemy is capitalism and the capitalist state that protects capitalist exploitation and oppression.

Seeing things more critically, workers will have to understand, the working class as a whole will have to understand, that even if a party believes India is a capitalist country and capitalism has to be overthrown, it will not be overthrown unless that party

fortifies itself with a new culture, a new way of life based on the concepts of proletarian revolution, proletarian class interest, class character, outlook, culture; if it does not imbue the workers with socialist culture, with the idea of socialist ownership over means of production as against individual ownership over means of production as in capitalism, then revolution cannot be led. If the leaders and cadres of the force, the party and its trade union as well, that speak of practising proletarian culture, of fighting against individualism, for social ownership and for impersonal culture, that is for communist culture, proletarian culture, party, are not imbued with this culture and are not practicing it in their lives, they cannot bring about a revolution. Even democratic movement cannot be great without this new culture, new ethics and morality, developing on working class culture and morality. It is not enough if we say that corruption is growing, or even crime is growing, simply because of capitalism. Yes capitalism is the basic cause of all exploitation, but there is still more to consider. The bourgeois humanist value concept which one day was very progressive and revolutionary during, say, French revolution or American war of Independence, or Industrial revolution of England, Germany or Italy, which once inspired people to sacrifice lives for society and social progress, has now become exhausted. If new culture cannot be developed in the society on the essence of these bourgeois humanist values, new civilization cannot be built. Workers' movement is definitely against capitalist oppression and exploitation; it is a basic thing no doubt. But it is needed for creation of a new civilization and a new civilization can grow only on a new concept of life, new culture and new concept of morality and ethics. Old morality sense is dying; so there is no moral conscience, no pricking; you can do any crime against women, you can grab any property, anybody's money, if you have power; so corruption is growing, crime is growing. All this can be fought out only by a force that is imbued with the new proletarian culture, the new morality; only when movement is based on this new morality and culture. Such a cultural movement is not just anybody's affair. The working class of course fights for its economic rights, political rights, but it will also have to fight for a new

Contd. on page 8

Anti-rape movement**Historic people's upsurge should not exhaust in blind alley of legalism***Contd. from page 2*

and continuous incitement to base instincts in the name of entertainment, escalation in crime and violence against women including rape is seen in its worst form. Exposure to 'extreme' pornography in each and every media is developing pro-rape attitudes, beliefs and behaviours, and encouraging committing sexual offences. So, all kinds of sexual offences including rape are rising alarmingly in all capitalist-imperialist countries. Sometimes, it is a brutal rape and murder by a stranger, gang-rape of a girl by her acquaintances or elderly relatives. What makes one fretful is that even a father is not hesitant to rape his own child. As rape is rearing its ugly façade in daily newspapers and electronic media almost every day, we are almost apt to not even pay any remarkable attention to such increasing criminal and barbaric trends in Indian youths and males. This is a terrible situation. If there is no immediate ban on this unbridled promotion of sleazy sex in the name of entertainment and propelled exploitation of female body for commercial gains and the violators are not brought to book, violence on women, rape and gang rape would not be fettered. It is the fast deteriorating cultural milieu of the post-independent period which is inciting base instincts and fostering sexual violence on women—a fact to be kept in mind while deciding to deal a serious blow to this rising menace.

Whose hands behind this calibrated move to destroy moral backbone

Obvious question is who are the benefactors of this spiralling degeneration of the youth and turning the cultural and moral fabric of the nation? Who is funding the multi-billion porn-industry on celluloid, internet, printed material and electronic gadgets to trap and pollute the youth? Who are sponsors of the sleaze shows? Why are the governments and administration passive, if not indulgent onlookers to such widespread proliferation of sex-perversion and criminality? How could the satellite and cable TV channels go almost uncensored by any organized authority? Answer is simple. Because they want the country's people in general and the youth in particular to rot, be dispossessed of all the finer senses, sensibilities, tenderness, ethics,

morality and thus be mentally crippled, emasculated from within. Why they want the youth to be disgorged of all human feelings, rationality, become slave of instincts and exhaust life in aimless desperateness and worst consumerism? Because, it is the blooming youth, fervent and vibrant, who imbued with revolutionary ideology, rises against injustice, oppression and repression, take up cudgels against the heartless rulers and custodians of a decrepit society offering nothing but deprivation to people. From history, the rulers have

social sickness and depravity.

Why government and parliamentarian parties are unconcerned about this danger

Once this cardinal truth is imbibed, it would not be difficult to understand why the government acquiesces in wide promotion of sex-perversion, why the centres of power bend law to protect criminals, why the investigating machinery and judicial process is tinkered with to acquit the culprits. Because, the government is nothing but a caretaker of the ruling capitalist

leaders of these parties have even, in their bid to deflect attention from the main issue, prescribed a dress code for the girls, asked women to stay indoor with the fall of dusk and brushed aside allegations of high incidents of rape in rural areas and so forth. Thus they are not only showing a disparaging attitude towards the women but cleverly hiding the root of the problem. A self-styled religious guru has been so ridiculous as to opine that had the Delhi girl prayed to god at the time of rape, called the rapists brothers and appealed to their conscience, she could have escaped the criminal assault. It obviates to say that such people creating a smokescreen of divine cult are, in effect, nakedly serving capitalist class interest. This only goes to show that all these political bigwigs and so called godmen nurture "misogyny" or entrenched prejudice against women. Using rape and gang-rape as weapon in orchestrating communal violence and pogrom or crushing legitimate democratic movement also feature in the coveted (!) list of performance of the leaders of the ruling parties. That is why, these vote-based parties are concertedly trying to suppress the fundamental point of heinous capitalist conspiracy by only highlighting a legal remedy as the deterrent to this increasing horrendous crime on women and the quarters of vested interest are now burning midnight oil to ensure that the spontaneous movement of the people against rape and sexual violence remains arrested within the precincts of formalism and legalism and gradually fizzles out once the Delhi rape case becomes a closed chapter following certain cosmetic steps.

Well-calibrated bourgeois conspiracy must be foiled

This is a well-calibrated conspiracy on the part of the ruling capitalist class and its servitors. We call upon every right-thinking person gravely concerned at this cultural degradation particularly among the youths to take due cognizance of this ulterior game. This conspiracy must be foiled tracing the correct route. It is here that the question of embracing the correct ideology of the era assumes so much of primacy. When our country was in ferment of freedom movement, there was no such atrocity on women. This is because, there was a pervading influence of

*Contd. on page 6***Successful Bandh in Gwalior, MP, at the Call of SUCI(C)**

Voicing protest against the brutal gang-rape and murder of the Delhi paramedical student and demanding exemplary punishment to the accused, stopping obscene shows in mass media and spurt in liquor business, the people of Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh from all walks of life, common businessmen, transport workers, office employees, and students from schools and colleges, wholeheartedly responded to the call of SUCI(C), Gwalior unit, for observing general strike on January 3. This strike, a landmark in the history of democratic movement in MP, totally paralyzed the normal life. This was corroborated by the newspapers all and sundry. The Hindi daily *Nayi Dunia* reported the next day, "All shops and markets in the city downed their shutters". *People's Samachar* wrote, "Peoples' Bandh in support of Damini". The *Daily Swadesh* wrote, "The people voluntarily observed the bandh." On behalf of SUCI(C), Gwalior, Comrade Sunil Gopal conveyed his revolutionary greetings to the people for making the strike a complete success.

taken a lesson that unless the moral backbone of a nation especially the youth is broken, the obvious rebellion against the oppressive social system cannot be nipped. Dehumanization of the youth is key to prolonging their mutilated existence. That is why, the ruling capitalist class of the whole world, its political agents, its faithful servants in various fields the so called entertainment industry included and the media under its possession and control are arraying their entire arsenal to destroy morality, human essence and humane attributes so that there is no potential danger to their unbridled loot and plunder, usurpation of all wealth and benefits trading on the hunger and destitution of the myriads. This is the ploy. It is also to be noted that apart from all these, moribund capitalism today, having lost the capacity to develop productive industry following inexorable law of history, is either fuelling speculation or massively funding spread of obscenity, vulgarity, sex-perversion and raw violence to serve dual purpose of multiplying profit and intensifying

class. So it is committed to serve and protect the class interest and motive of the capitalist rulers. Hence, it keeps its eyes shut on the ostentatious preparation to accelerate cultural degradation. There is no concern either on the part of the mainstream political parties, whether right, centrist, regional or pseudo-left, as they are clear beneficiaries of this utterly degenerated capitalist system in their run for pelf and power. Rather in their day to day conduct, public speeches, media interview and actions, they often demonstrate how they themselves are living embodiment of vile decadent bourgeois culture. Many of these leaders including legislators are accused of rape and sexual violence. They do not mince matter to pass stupid and sexist remark about the women, squarely shift the onus of preventing the crimes on women, use choicest filths, lewd references and make indecent gesticulation in attacking female opponents and even going to the extent of belittling the brave women protesting against a heinous crime against women as 'dented and painted'. Some of the

Anti-rape movement**Root cause of increasing rape-violence on women must be extracted***Contd. from page 5*

bourgeois humanist thoughts and national spirit which then constituted a congenial ideological mooring of the people at large. Even a considerable period after independence, the problem had not been menacing as trace of that ideological binding continued to work. But as capitalism became more and more crisis-ridden, more corrupt and debased, the festering sores started appearing with all ugliness and multiplied in number with the passage of time. While developing powerful movement to protect and guarantee the honour and dignity of women more particularly to contain the growing crimes on women, it is high time to realize that the question of ultimately freeing the society from the all-pervasive cultural degeneration, brutal and deadly offences like rape, gang rape, sexual assault and molestation is inseparably linked with the question of overthrowing capitalism, the root of all evils. So, in all people's movement, upsurges, bursting protests, the direction of the main blow must be against capitalism and rotten capitalist society.

New movement based on new ethics and morality and correct ideology

And for that, there ought to be an assiduous cult and command of

correct ideology. During freedom movement, the objective was to free the motherland from the tentacle of foreign rule. So, humanist philosophy, nationalist spirit and patriotic fervour gave birth to certain values, newer concepts of ethics and morality which encompassed the whole society. But today, in the context of the rule and exploitation of moribund capitalism, those values and sense of morality have outlived their utility. What is needed now is higher ideology, higher culture, higher ethics and morality. And today, this movement for giving birth to new culture, new human beings can grow only based on the highest ideology of the time, that is Marxism-Leninism. This is historically determined scientific truth.

On this realization, new movement has to be developed based on new, higher proletarian ethics and morality so as to create new higher culture and new man as embodiment of that culture. The milieu of such powerful organized democratic movements under correct revolutionary leadership would provide the right ambience to foster an alternative healthy cultural movement and conduct fierce ideological struggle against all shades of perverted bourgeois culture and debased thoughts. This only can build up an effective

bulwark against the growing rape and violence against women, spree of vulgarism and such other precipitated action to promote cultural degradation. At the same time, this surge of conscious people's movement would keep the government and government parties under check and rein in escalated violence on women.

Historic anti-rape movement must reach logical culmination

It is for this reason that in order to give a crushing defeat to the deep conspiracy hatched by the quarters of vested interest to mischannelize the historic outburst of people against rape and other brutal violence against women—the cause of which lies in the fast cultural degeneration bred by the decadent moribund capitalist system—into blind alley of legalism, this spontaneous agitation is to be given the shape of a prolonged organized movement with a clear anti-capitalist direction so that it could be led to its logical culmination. Otherwise, once the intensity of people's spontaneous outburst ebbs, everything would die down and rape and gang rape would spiral because the source would remain undetected and unchallenged. In that event, everything would veer around usual legalism as has happened earlier and such a glorious uprising of valiant youths

for a just cause would virtually end at that. That is why, our Party while supporting the demand for stringent law to punish the rapists and toning up the administration is repeatedly emphasizing that adequate provisioning of infrastructure, tightening of laws, setting up of fast-track courts, speedy trials, and better policing of the roads might be a part of the charter of demands of the current agitation, but the prime task is to launch a ceaseless cultural struggle to terminate the processes that breed, nurture and shape mindsets and attitudes triggering indulgence into such bestial crimes on women. All vile attempts to divert people's attention from this imperative task and to exhaust people's just movement into the blind alley of reformism-legalism, must be thwarted. The message of Delhi is that rape is not a just disease but outcome of a definite sinister design which must be foiled with the powerful instrument of people's conscious struggle. Wherever an incident of rape or crime on women would take place, people must jump into the fray, build up struggle committees and force the government-administration to take prompt effective action and ensure delivery of due justice. This is the only way to free the society from the scourge of such felonious acts.

Memorandum of SUCI (C) to Justice J. S. Verma Committee

Hon'ble Justice J. S. Verma
Chairman
Justice J S Verma Committee

Dear Sir,

The gruesome gang-rape and savage torture on 23-year old girl in a speeding bus nowhere else but in the very capital of the nation and the most shocking death of the victim after valiantly fighting for life for 13 days have indeed stirred the entire nation and fuming countrymen have come out to the streets braving all coercive machinery of the state to voice protest against the rising number of ghastly crimes against women particularly rape, gang rape and killing. This very case of gruelling crime is vindication of how vulnerable the womenfolk are in the country even after 66 years of independence. In fact, the country abounds in such savage sexual assault and killings. The spontaneous outburst of people's

rage round the country has raised just demand of stringent punishment of the culprits and toning up the penal machinery in such a way that no rapist or rapist-cum-murderer can escape punishment in future. Our Party, the Socialist Unity Centre of India (Communist) (SUCI (C)) fully supports this extremely legitimate demand of the right-thinking countrymen. We are of the firm opinion that necessary law should be so enforced that every rapist is sentenced to life term and there no leniency shown or relaxation granted to such culprits under any so called plea of "extenuating circumstances". And the rapists-cum-murderers must be served with death penalty. In this connection, the Central Committee of our Party, SUCI(C), would like to place the following views, suggestions and recommendations for due consideration of your esteemed Committee on the basis of

reason and merit:—

- 1) It is imperative that the entire judicial process of conviction and pronouncement of verdict is completed as speedily as possible and the real culprits are identified, nabbed prosecuted and punished leaving no scope for miscarriage of justice. In order to ensure time-bound delivery of justice by completing the court proceedings with due expediency and without any hassle whatsoever, adequate number of fast track courts right upto the grass root levels with all necessary infrastructures must be established.
- 2) In order to ensure that medical examination of the complaining rape victim is not tampered with by interested persons from within as is often alleged, a qualified doctor from the side of the victim must be allowed to be present while carrying out

medical investigation of the victim to ascertain *bona fide* of rape.

- 3) All sexual assaults should be considered as Aggravated Sexual assault which ought to include gang-rape, custodial rape, child rape or rape during communal or casteist violence as well as in course of carrying out any military operation in the name of combating insurgencies or separatist-secessionist agitations or crushing any legitimate movement of the common people.
- 4) It is also a common experience that the due process of investigation on most of the occasions is manipulated, diluted or scuttled by the investigating machinery by way of either refusing, avoiding or playing down the FIR or recording incorrect and

Contd. on page 7

Memorandum of SUCI (C) to Justice J. S. Verma Committee

Contd. from page 6

incomplete FIR, unnecessarily delaying the required course of action, making the victim shunt from one police station to another for filing FIR, showing intrinsic gender bias in taking down the FIR, dragging the cases indefinitely under this or that plea, frame chargesheets in such a manner as to keep leeway for non-recognition as cognizable offence or dismissal for lack of evidence, indulging in sabotages under external pressure or lure of money and thus allow the culprits to evade penal action in connivance with the black sheep within the system. Money bags, ruling party satraps and the anti-socials basking under them play the influencing game to deny justice to the victims. There are many laws in the country to prosecute and punish various criminals, offenders, money-swindlers, tax evaders and so forth. Yet, most of the persons indulging in such wrongdoings and crimes go away unscathed and there is no abatement rather aggravation of all such crimes because the very investigation and prosecution processes are not free from encumbrances or manoeuvring and the connivance of the investing personnel with the actual culprits is often vivid. So, it needs to be ensured through promulgation of appropriate law that there is no scope for manipulating or scuttling the due process of investigation. If anyone within the system or penal machinery is found to be indulging in any of such unlawful activities to help the rapists or rapists-cum-murderers dodge the law of the land, the said person should also be meted out stringent punishment. In other words, our submission is that not only there should be stringent law for the rapists and rapists-cum-murderers, the legal provisions need also to be suitably modified to ensure that the investigating process and procedure does not have any loophole and there is an appropriate mechanism of checking and rechecking of strictest compliance with the prescribed stipulations.

- 5) There ought not to be any distinction among the rapists based on their so called social status or position, profession or practice. The list should include public servants, military-police-para-military personnel and legislators.
- 6) Alongside the aforesaid

demands for bringing stringency in law and toning up the investigating machinery, we would also like to point out that only making the law stricter would not suffice to stem the rot. There is an imperative need to go into the very root of the problem and try to extricate the same. If the very cause of maladies and malaise, aberrations and deformities, malevolence and barbarity remains intact, only strengthening legal provisions would not beget the desired mitigation, if not proved visibly short of requirement. So, we must take due cognizance of the origin of such savagery raving wild in the country. This phenomenal rise in rape and violence on women including murder is attributable largely to unbridled propagation of puerile sex and sex-perversion through various modes of communication. Use of vulgar provocative portrayal of women body in advertisement of any and every commodity either in both print and electronic media as well as on hoardings in public places without any restriction or objection whatsoever from the administration, making vulgar exhibition of sex and sex-provoking material the main plank of films as well as so called variety entertainment programmes and stage shows and even TV programmes, production and screening of blue films and easy availability of X-rated CDs, DVDs and video games in open market, wide circulation of pornography and obscene literature, filling up supplements and cine news sections of dailies with uncouth and nude photographs of lascivious girls, organization of fashion shows and beauty queen contests, running night clubs, discothèques and pubs and above all, unrestrained easy 'click of a button' access to various promotional material of putrid sex through internet like porn-sites, porn-video films and porn-video games—all these are contributing to incitement of base instincts and viewing women as nothing but objects of consumption for satiating bestial lust. As a consequence, aroused perverted sexual passion is giving rise to virally increasing sexual crimes. If all these are allowed to go on unabated, social pollution cannot be stopped and crime on women averted. So, there should be appropriate legislation to put a complete ban on each and every

mode that wallows in rancid proliferation of sex-perversion in the society and make the executives bound by law to take penal action if there is any violation in this regard. To be more explicit, anyone found involved in any way with any foul act to spread sex-perversion or incite base instincts through any mode of communication, the said person or organization should immediately be booked for criminality and given such stringent a punishment that no one else would dare to commit such crimes.

- 7) It is also noteworthy that most of the rapists are found to be drunk. This shows how the policy of the government to grant permission for opening alcohol shops and of remaining silent onlooker to rapidly growing country liquor dens mostly under the patronage of local touts, political heavyweights and in connivance with the flawed administration, is breaking the moral backbone of the youths and initiating them to commit ghastly crimes. So, there must be immediate steps on the part of the government to stop this prevailing practice of pushing people particularly the youth towards liquor addiction.
- 8) What is most despicable is the 'go as you like' attitude of the governments of all hues whether in the centre or in the states towards this rapid propagation of sex-perversion and consequent rapid pervasion of permissiveness throughout the society. Even no serious concern or anxiety is noticed on the part of the established parliamentary parties either. So, it is necessary that under the initiative of the government, there is an all-out effort to free the social ambience from such vitiation by devising suitable ways and means involving the enlightened section of the country, seeking their opinions, viewpoints and suggestions. Both at national as well as state levels, there should be empowered Citizens' Committees with involvement of eminent citizens, voluntary organizations particularly women's organization and representatives from all political parties to give suggestions and recommendations to the government as also guide and monitor government's action in containing the heinous crime of ruining the moral fabric of the society and allowing savage acts like sexual crimes, rapes and

gang-rapes to proliferate menacingly.

- 9) Our next point is that most of the rapes, gang-rapes and sexual crimes occur in the rural areas and majority of these are not reported. As a result, the victims besides suffering from physical pain also undergo severe mental pain often to the extent of being so traumatized as to be mentally deranged. In order to pave way for these hapless victims to be brought within the ambit of necessary juridical process for obtaining justice, a women force should be constituted immediately. This specially-constituted women's force would be specifically assigned the task of visiting rape victims and molested women who, out of fear or shame refuse to divulge the details of the criminal assault on them and collect all necessary information and complaining by facilitating the process of revelation from the victims.
- 10) It is also imperative that in every police station, both in rural and urban areas, there are adequate number of women police so that there is no intrinsic gender bias while recording the FIR, the victims are not embarrassed by any obnoxious or derogatory questions, are not induced more fear than comfort and face no hurdle while lodging the complaints and are at ease in giving the detailed account of the crime and torture on them freely and fearlessly. In other words, the victims should not be put through a traumatic experience while lodging the FIR which itself deters filing of the complaint in the proper manner thereby hinder the due process of prosecution of the real culprits. Likewise, the trial of rape victims should be preferably under lady judges so that the victims could open up more freely during the juridical proceedings and the evidence part is better presented.

We hope that the Committee would consider our suggestions on merit and reason and incorporate all our demands in its recommendations to the government for bringing appropriate legislation and taking remedial steps to contain the growing crimes on women.

Yours Sincerely
(Provash Ghosh)
General Secretary
Socialist Unity Centre of India
(Communist)

5 January, 2013

All India Workers' Conference of AIUTUC

New civilization on new culture is what workers' movement aims at

Contd. from page 4

culture, a new civilization, which only the proletariat, the working class can create. So Marx pointed out long back that workers can and workers only will change the world, but to change the world, workers must change themselves first. They are born in a bourgeois society. Naturally they acquire the bad traits, vile thinking and culture of degraded bourgeois society. So the workers have to fight uncompromisingly against vulgar culture if they have to usher in a new civilization.

Our organization is aiming at that and it is guided by the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, a great Marxist thinker and philosopher, and a great disciple of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Zedong. That is the greatness of this organization and there it differs from all other trade unions of our country. Today workers will have to understand it, recognize it, strengthen this organization, strengthen the movement led by this organization. They will have to realize that only when developed on the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh can a movement grow today not only in our country but in the whole of the world. Only then one day will it bring their emancipation. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's thoughts have thus to be spread across the world working class movement.

I believe all our members, of course leaders and cadres, even all our supporters, armed with Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's thoughts, will carry the new culture to spread it among the masses of workers, organize them on it to build up a new civilization, where the new culture will fully grow; then women will be truly safe in this country, they will live with real dignity, women, even the oppressed people who are not respected, rather are looked down upon, will also live with dignity and respect to see a new life. All comrades will realize the importance of this basic struggle. With this hope I conclude.

Long live working class movement of the world!

Long live All India United Trade Union Centre!

Long live anti-capitalist socialist revolution!

Red salute to the

great leader of the proletariat Comrade Shibdas Ghosh!

Comrade Shankar Saha

Comrade Shankar Saha, General Secretary, All India UTUC, said



Comrade Shankar Saha, General Secretary, AIUTUC

that nowadays the All India UTUC is working in 22 states, from Kashmir to Kanyakumari, albeit with uneven development, and thus have delegates here from them. Veterans remember days when the first national conference of the organization was held in 1969 at Dhanbad Dharmashala under the leadership of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Now it is finding it difficult to accommodate all the delegates as demanded by the states. The organization is growing, is attempting to surge forward armed with the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. We have realized that without the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, emancipation of working class is not possible, not just in our country. The treasure of Shibdas Ghosh's thoughts is handed over to workers of the world to move forward in the direction of revolution.

Comrade Lenin showed that the proletariat should join trade union to free trade unions from revisionism, individualism, economism. Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, the worthiest follower of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, urged us, the trade union organizers, in his call for revitalization – consolidation, to revitalize ourselves, change and equip ourselves, make ourselves capable to become a leader to lead lakhs of workers in the right direction. Workers are coming to us in large numbers seeking support, but admittedly we do not have enough capable leaders and cadres to send to them, to organise them, to take care of those workers unions.

Comrade Saha then dealt on the plight of the contract workers. The situation is the same in huge steel factories, coal mines, government offices, central government offices or even at the quarters of our Prime Minister. Over and above that, the capitalist owners wanted to change the laws to enjoy complete and absolute right to hire and fire workers. The central trade union leaders opposed the move, while the government joined hands with owners to declare no permanence of

jobs, workers be ready to be hired and fired for a specific contract. India does not give recognition to the ILO's convention no 87 & 98, which guarantees right to form a union and right to collective bargaining.

Recently it was known, there might be amendments to the rule of the ILO scrapping the right to strike against the owners. But we do not stand on the strength of these rights; we rely on the inherent, legitimate right of the workers to protest, and move ahead. Nobody can snatch it away from them and the law books can do it the least. Comrade Saha hoped that the answer to such an amendment would be given by a world level global general strike.

Comrade K Radhakrishna

Welcoming the delegates from various states of the country and fraternal delegates from foreign countries to the Conference,

Comrade K Radhakrishna, Vice-President, All India UTUC, pointed out that thousands of workers of all sectors and industries, unorganised, or organised, ASHAs, Angan-wadi workers, all kinds of employees — well paid or ill paid, contract-bound or incentive based, have

gathered at Bangalore from the length and breadth of the country raising red flags and banners with a single aim, a single motive of putting an end to exploitation.

Comrade Radhakrishna added that like all the hollow assurances by the capitalist rulers of prosperity and development since 1947, the latest slogan of the Congress-led central government that FDI will guarantee prosperity is another such hoax. It is because the source of the problem is not a few policies or change of rulers, the source of the problem is the dying capitalist system. It allows a handful of capitalists to keep becoming richer and richer and millions of people becoming pauperised. That is why the need of the hour is the unity of all the workers across the country to fight against capitalism for the socialist revolution.

Rulers always try to break that unity of working people, a danger for them. But the most important thing that Comrade Shibdas Ghosh the founder general secretary of the AIUTUC taught us is that the rulers are now trying to break the moral, ethical, cultural backbone of the nation, because they know fully well, a starved, hungry, poor, unemployed exploited people can stand up to fight for their rights, provided their moral, cultural and ethical standard is intact.

The recent Delhi rape incident, reveals this truth. It is not just an incident of atrocity. It stands out as an act of barbarism, cruelty, torture, and enjoying that heinous act, by a group of human beings, who are even worse than the beasts of the worst kind. Debates and discussions on the incident galore, but hardly there is any on the fact that such incidents are on the rise because of the direct encouragement by our governments to obscenity in internet, mobile phones, mass media, movies and advertisements. It is that spate of obscenity that is pushing youngsters to become such lust-lorn desensitised beasts.



Comrade K Radhakrishna, Vice-President, AIUTUC

Barring us, no other organisation in the entire country is speaking about this menace. We should now realise that the rulers will not focus on it, because they are being left with this last deadly weapon of breaking the moral backbone of the country. We are thus, demanding first to bring a check on this menace to nip the problem in the bud; but even severest of punishment will not eradicate the problem. That can be only accomplished with uprooting the prevailing capitalist system.

Comrade Radhakrishna called upon the workers to realise this and to breakaway from the shackles of inaction to wage life-struggle on the guidelines of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh thoughts. Comrade Radhakrishna wished that the 20th National Conference of the AIUTUC would lay the foundation for mightier movements.

Receipts and Expenditures for building new Central Party office

The Party gave a call to the comrades and various state committees for contribute to the fund for construction of new Party office building at 48, Lenin Sarani, Kolkata-700014. The details of funds raised so far and expenditures incurred are given below (all in Rupees)

Receipts	Expenditure
1. Andhra Pradesh State Committee —2 lakhs	1. Purchase of land and old building — 1.60 crores
2. Assam State Committee — 8 lakhs	2. Stamp and Registration —37, 10, 415
3. Delhi State Committee —3.10 lakhs	3. Advocate fee —15,000
4. Gujarat State Committee —50 thousand	4. Paper and printing cost (documents) —3,000
5. Karnataka State Committee —7 lakhs	5. Mutation fee —1, 700
6. Jharkhand State Committee —50, 000	6. Arrear Tax —25, 600
7. Kerala State Committee —1.70 lakhs	7. Model of new building —20, 000
8. Madhya Pradesh State Committee —66, 000	8. Architect fee —15,000
9. Orissa State Committee —12, 63, 200	Total expenditure —1, 97, 90, 516
10. Tamilnadu State Committee —2, 86, 500	Balance (in bank)— 46, 21, 801
11. Uttar Pradesh State Committee —6,900	
12. West Bengal State Committee — 1,90, 72, 916	
13. Personal financial assistance —14, 57, 000	
Total Receipts—2, 44, 12, 516	Total — 2, 44, 12, 516

Comrade Tarun Mandal on Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2012-13 (General) in parliament

Speaking on the Supplementary Demands for Grants for the year 2012-13 (General) on 14th December, Comrade Tarun Mandal, SUCI(C) MP from Jaynagar (WB) said, *inter alia*, that Supplementary Grants should be utilized for giving subsidy to Domestic Cooking Gas, so that the cap put on supply of more than 6 cylinders per year to a family, could be removed. Common people, especially low income people are hard pressed due to this reduction of Cooking Gas Cylinders and unable to purchase them with higher market price. While inflation and soaring prices of food grains and food materials are making the life of common people miserable, this additional burden in the form of cut in the number of subsidized gas cylinders will push them to further crisis. It is imperative to increase subsidies on diesel, kerosene, fertilizers, sugar and food grain. Fiscal and current deficits cannot be minimized by inviting more FDI in multi-brand Retail, Pension, Civil Aviation, Telecom and other sectors. It will not generate

employment but destroy existing jobs in Retail sector and spell doom of the farmers. PDS should be revitalized to give benefit to low economic people. Black-marketing and hoarding could be stopped by all out state trading of essential commodities. Unless there is employment, purchasing power of the people will not increase and market can never be stimulated. In the present form of reforms, there is no guarantee of employment. Thus, Indian economy cannot be enriched with the reform measures.

Government should increase budget in Education and Health, 10% each at the minimum. Privatization and commercialization of both the sectors should be stopped and Government should take entire responsibility of education and health of the people of India. Union Government must stop giving economic stimulus, Tax Relief, relief from bank loans to the industrialists. This fiscal policy of extending benefits to capitalists and corporates and pushing the people to ruination must be changed.

AIMSS memorandum to Justice J S Verma Committee

All India Mahila Sanskritik Sanghathan (AIMSS) submitted a detailed memorandum to Justice J S Verma Committee emphasizing the need to mandatorily create a totally hostile atmosphere for all crimes on women throughout the country & Declare Zero tolerance for Rape, swift action and accurate registration of FIR, investigation and reliable resolution of rape cases through fast track courts and stringent and exemplary punishment to the offenders for crimes against women, particularly Rape. Memorandum included suggestions to amend criminal law, judicial reforms, reform of police, medical examination and fixing specific responsibilities of government and media in dealing with cases of atrocities on women.

Miseries Unlimited

An attempt is made here to relate the tale of persecution by the Taliban- the pro-Islam outfit ill-famed for its insurgency and execution of progressive and secular elements. In this case, their target has been Comrade Shafiq Ahmed, a doctor, hailing from Swat and Dhir in Northern Pakistan, which had made the news because of the valiant battle conducted by 14-year old Mallala whom the Taliban had shot at, as she stood up for women's education.

Comrade Shafiq, inspired with Marxist political views, is a member of the Communist Party of Pakistan, ex-provincial secretary for the Pukhtoonkhwa province and member of the audit committee of World Federation of Democratic Youth(WFDY). Since 2006 to 2009, he survived three lethal attacks on his life from the Taliban, with the Pakistan intelligence service ISI-allegedly ally of Al-Qaida and the Taliban operating in collaboration, in the name of the Jihadists. In 2009, while in Athens- attending the 18th Congress of KKE as delegate of CPP, Comrade Shafiq was informed that a Sharia Fatwa(Islamic order for execution) was issued against him- deemed by the Taliban a communist and a heretic. Thereafter, Greece was decided upon as the appropriate asylum for him since progressive left movements were going on there at the time. In the meanwhile though, the Taliban detained his father-forcing him to produce Mr. Safiq in their Shariat court for carrying out the execution order. A few days later his house was set on

fire and later still a bomb-attack was perpetrated at the shelter his internally displaced family comprising his wife, a gynecologist surgeon and his two kids of 4 and 6 years, had taken refuge in, taking a toll of several innocent lives, though Shafiq's family was saved. After a hectic waiting for 2 and ½ years and a second interview, Shafiq was granted political asylum in Greece but despite an ardent appeal, he was denied a family reunion by the Greek Ambassador to Pakistan. Comrade Shafiq then applied to the Greek Embassy in Pakistan for visa as per international law conforming to the Geneva convention, through the Ministry of foreign affairs. In early 2012, Comrade Shafiq's family showed up in the Greek Embassy to this end, but were later grilled allegedly by ISI personnel who spoke against allowing them a family visa even alleging their marriage to be invalid, since Comrade Shafiq being a communist could not husband a Muslim woman. This again forced his family to shift. Their woes are not ended however, Pakistan Ambassador has not only defied the orders of the State of Greece but even wrote a letter to the Minister Dendias demanding of him a cancellation of Shafiq's status of asylum in Greece, also asking for him to be handed over to Pakistan asserting there was no problem there for him. The only thing Shafiq wants is to continue in his status of asylum in Greece and serve the country by contributing to the culture and polity there.

Third All India Conference of AIMSS

29—31 January, 2013

TRIVANDRUM

Welcome address — Prof. N. A. Karim

Guests of honour — Manik Mukherjee,

Leader of anti-imperialist movement

Romila Thapar, eminent historian

Justice Suresh Hosbet, former judge,

Bombay High Court

Representatives from North Korea, Turkey, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and other countries



Pledge signing

“Deeply pained to live in a society where the air is rent with the scream and wail of raped, tortured, persecuted women; a society that turns an innocent child into a rapist, a dehumanized beast; a society that projects a woman as an object of indiscriminate consumption, does not give her the due honour and respect she deserves in a civilized world; I clasp my fists in firm resolve that in order to protect the dignity and honour of the women and insulate myself from the pollution society is trying to submerge me in, I shall, even if I am alone, rise in protest and resistance against any such injustice taking place anywhere in the country and fight shoulder to shoulder with others like the valiant young men and women of Delhi.”

— Signing this pledge is going on round the country in the form of campaign. We call upon all to take this pledge by signing the Pledge form.

SUCI(C) strongly opposes anti-people hike in railway fare

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI (Communist), issued the following statement on 9 January, 2013

The decision of the UPA government to raise the Railway passenger fare from 21 January, is totally unwarranted and anti-people. Administrative expenditure, if it has risen, is not because the passengers are paying less as fare, but for the top heavy administration and rampant corruption which could be remedied by the government. The burden of the failure of the government is now being again shifted to the shoulders of the common people. It is shameful that the local train passengers are also not spared.

Experience says that even after this raise in fare, passenger welfare, safe and accident free journey would not be ensured. The promises of the ministers like previous occasions would remain in paper only. We strongly oppose this anti-people step of the government and demand its immediate withdrawal.

Make SUCI(C) Candidates Victorious in Tripura Assembly Election

Constituency

Town Bardwali
Ramnagar
Dharamanagar
Suryamaninagar
Radhakishorepur
Badarghat

Candidate

Comrade Shibani Das
Comrade Subrata Chakraborty
Comrade Sanjay Chaudhury
Comrade Babul Banik
Comrade Bibhu Lal Das
Comrade Ashit Das



A section of the massive gathering of students and youth listening in rapt attention to Comrade Provash Ghosh in the study class arranged on the occasion of West Bengal state conference in Jaynagar, West Bengal, from 28 to 30 December last.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH