

Proletarian Era

Volume 44 No. 15 Organ of the SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA (COMMUNIST)
March 15, 2011 Founder Editor-in-Chief : COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

Price : Rs. 3.00

RED SALUTE COMRADE STALIN



Comrade Ranjit Dhar, Member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(Communist) paying revolutionary tribute to Stalin, the great leader of the proletariat, on 5th March, at the central party office in Kolkata.

SUCI (C) denounces sinister attempt of the imperialist powers led by US imperialists to meddle into the internal affairs of Libya

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI (C), in course of a statement issued on 5 March, 2011, called upon the freedom loving, anti-imperialist people of the world to come out in strong protest against the vile move of the US imperialists of not only bringing sovereign Libya within the fold of its sphere of influence but of ensuring a firmer foothold on the entire Middle East as a part of pursuing their sinister hegemonistic design. Expressing total solidarity with the anti-imperialist, democratic minded people of Libya in their just struggle against tyranny and suppression and hoping that they will succeed in thwarting this heinous effort on the part of the US imperialists, Comrade Ghosh also firmly held that there ought not to be any outside interference in the internal affairs of Libya and the Libyan people must be left to settle all their internal problems in the way they deem fit and proper.

Union Budget 2011-12

By the Rich, For the Rich, Of the Rich

When Pranab Mukherjee, Union Finance Minister (FM) and one of the most trusted political leaders of the oppressive ruling monopolists, rose to present the General Budget for 2011-12 in Parliament, India stepped into the 21st year of so-called economic reforms in compliance with the prescripts of capitalist globalization that entailed complete disaster in the life and livelihood of the common people. "I see the Budget for 2011-12 as a transition towards a more transparent and result oriented economic management system in India", he remarked in the opening paragraphs of his budget speech. The columnists-economists tailored to view things from the perspective of the ruling class and its hang-ons, of course, customarily roved around certain phrases and jargons like 'high growth-orientation', 'balancing growth with containing inflation', 'macro-economic stability', 'crafty art of lowering budgetary deficits' and the latest coinage 'financial inclusion', both before and after presentation of the budget. As usual, the big industrialists and monopoly houses are upbeat after seeing the budgetary proposals which they heralded as 'Bold from the Blue'. But one need not be a financial expert, academician or number-crunching statistician to understand the package of deceptions, deprivations and camouflages that this budget has doled out to the common people, beset by gruelling and savage economic oppression. If approached from the people's point of view, the hideous underbelly of the budget will be revealed in no time.

The pressing economic issues

What had been and continue to be the pressing issues wreaking havoc in people's life? Is it the percentage of economic growth achieved, increase in the quantum of foreign investment, so called rationalization of tax structure or fiscal consolidation? Or harrowing rise in the prices of food articles and other essential commodities, rising power tariff, mounting unemployment and job loss, all-pervading corruption, unavailability of basic amenities like education, healthcare including medicines, water and civic services and above all, lack of minimal economic security? The FM has not missed to iterate that the government has "to strengthen food security, improve education opportunities and provide

health facilities at the level of households, both in rural and urban areas." But has he addressed any of these issues in right earnest or either bypassed them or perfunctorily touched some of them in absolute vague, if not misleading, terms while remaining absolutely focused on reaching out yet more bagful of concessions, benefits and other facilities to the exploitative monopolists, big corporates, rich and the affluent? Let us take the issues one by one and verify.

Soaring price line and food inflation

There is no need for any introduction to the phenomenon of soaring price line which is making common people bleed white. Why are the prices rising? Is there any divine endowment or is it man-made? In capitalism where motive of production is to earn maximum profit, price rise is endemic of the system. But what is adding fuel to the fire in this current phase of moribund decadent crisis-ridden capitalism is limitless hoarding, black marketing, price manipulation and speculation. Hoarders are creating artificial scarcity, black marketers are jacking up prices taking advantage of that, middlemen and other intermediaries, corrupt to the backbone, are manipulating price to their sweet will, punters who are indulging in widespread speculation on food and other articles on the stock market are also pulling the strings from behind to manoeuvre prices of items they put a bet on. So it is a nexus, a vicious circle which is operating in full swing abetted by an out and out corrupt administration which also gets a share in the booty. Can the Finance Minister or his "economist" Prime Minister dare to say that they are not aware of this?

Then what are the specific steps the Finance minister has have indicated to break this nexus and give relief to the people? Alas! Nothing. See what he said in his speech: "The recent spurt in food prices was driven by increase in the prices of items like fruits and vegetables, milk, meat, poultry and fish, which account for more than 70 per cent of the WPI basket for primary food items. Removal of production and distribution bottlenecks for these items will be the focus of my attention this year." He also added: "At the beginning of the year, food inflation was high for

Contd. on page 2

Union Budget 2011-12

Not a single people's issue has been addressed

Contd. from page 1

some cereals, sugar and pulses. Towards the second half, while prices of these items moderated and even recorded negative rates of inflation, there was spurt in prices of onion, milk, poultry and some vegetables" and admitted that "the huge differences between wholesale and retail prices and between markets in different parts of the country are just not acceptable." "Bravo! But what had caused this bottleneck between production and distribution or the huge gap between wholesale and retail prices? There is no answer. What are the mitigating steps according to the budget proposals? Only one—the Finance Minister's 'focus of attention'. Could there be anything be more hypocritical than this!

Come to the question of inflation. Inflation denotes a situation where too much of money chase too little a goods and hence pushes up prices. Printing of additional currency notes that the government undertakes to finance budget deficit also contribute to create inflationary pressure. Even if the bourgeois pundits present figures, which are mostly cooked up, to claim prosperity at the level of masses, there will be no taker because this is so glaringly contradictory to the lurking reality. The Finance Minister has claimed that "total food inflation declined from 20.2 per cent in February 2010 to less than half at 9.3 per cent in January 2011." Curious enough! As per his admission, prices of essential food items have been going up. But at the same breadth, food inflation is stated to have declined by over 45%. What is true? Common men find from their experience that claim of food inflation going down substantially is a hoax and the figures furnished are propped up through manipulation. It may be recalled that in the last year's budget speech also, the Finance Minister admitted that double-digit food price inflation far in excess of overall wholesale price index inflation was a major concern. But at the same time, he squarely attributed the cause thereof to "erratic monsoons and drought like conditions" leading to "supply side bottlenecks in some of the essential commodities." He then went on adding that "Government is acutely conscious of this situation and has set in

motion steps, in consultation with the State chief ministers, which should bring down the inflation in the next few months and ensure that there is better management of food security in the country." (Budget Speech 2010-11) But even after a year, he still continues to talk of 'supply bottlenecks' and makes that a plea for galloping rise in food prices. What had then the government been doing throughout the year to contain prices abate price rise and remove supply bottlenecks? Does he not owe an explanation to the people for this?

Defunct Public Distribution System

One would also recall that last year, the Economic Survey presented by the same Finance Minister clearly held that the much trumpeted Public Distribution System (PDS) had become practically defunct because "the storekeepers (i) sell off this subsidized grain in the open market, and (ii) then adulterate the remaining grain and sell the diluted product to the BPL and APL households, who have no choice in the matter." After open admission of this rampant corruption having dismantled the PDS that was supposed to provide rationed amounts of food items and other essential commodities at below market prices to the impoverished masses through fair price shops, the Finance Minister talked of introducing a 'food coupon system' in which instead of grain being supplied at subsidized rates to PDS shops, the ration card-holder will get a food coupon worth the subsidy amount which he or she can redeem from the PDS shop. It was claimed that this would help reaching out the subsidy directly to the card holders and thus would be an effective alternative to the existent corruption-ridden PDS. We at that time showed that the very system would open another floodgate of corruption.

But the Finance Minister has remained conspicuously silent about either the food coupon system or revival of PDS. Nor has he made any statement as to whether the government had been a wee bit serious in checking widespread corruption in PDS through appropriate administrative measure. We know he dares not haul up these

corrupt PDS functionaries who corner ration stock and then sell it in the open market at higher prices because the ruling parties thrive on these shady operators. However, in order to make people believe his grave concern about "serious flaws in our supply chains" which he found to have been exposed in "the recent episode of inflation in vegetables and fruits," he has, this time, talked of a third project. This latest innovation, according to him, would address the issue of "non-availability of adequate vegetables and fruits despite growing production because of bottlenecks in retailing capacity." And that newly fangled project is establishment of "Mega Food Parks." There is no explanation as to how these 30 odd Mega Parks ensure food security and availability of food articles to the common masses at fair price. Only he has invited private houses to invest in storage capacity and cold chains and avail themselves of the concessions granted under the "viability gap funding scheme of the Finance Ministry." So when everyone knows that a racket of cold storage owners, private traders and hoarders-blackmarketers in connivance with corrupt administrative officials is artificially manipulating food item prices, the government, instead of breaking that unholy nexus and taking upon itself the responsibility of providing food to the citizens, is only opening newer avenues for the profit-greedy private entrepreneurs to mint profit by trading in the hunger of millions.

Issue of Corruption and Black Money

As regards the question of containing corruption that has permeated every sphere of governance as well as commerce and business, the FM has really dazzled us with his acumen of dodging by parading in a gymnastic of words. The preamble to his budget speech contains this priceless piece: "Certain events in the past few months may have created an impression of drift in governance and a gap in public accountability. Even as the Government is engaged in addressing specific concerns emanating from some of these events in the larger public interest and in upholding the rule of law, such an impression is misplaced. We have to seize in these developments,

the opportunity to improve our regulatory standards and administrative practices. Corruption is a problem that we have to fight collectively." First of all, he has subtly denied any dereliction on the part of the government in reining in corruption or booking the scamsters and fraudsters. At the same time, he has sent out a signal that all-pervading corruption is no aberration of the system, no great a menace, no serious an offence but merely a problem and since fighting corruption is a collective responsibility, blaming the government for it is an abortive exercise.

However, lest the people should still indict the government of inaction in this regard and question that why the black acts like UAPA applied indiscriminately against political opponents are not used for booking the corruption-kingpins, he did indicate a really 'coveted' step in this regard. "A Group of Ministers", he informed in budget speech, "has been constituted to consider measures for tackling corruption... speedier processing of corruption cases of public servants, transparency in public procurement and contracts, discretionary powers of Central ministers and competitive system for exploiting natural resources...and will make its recommendations in a time bound manner." Incredible indeed! When the ministers themselves are accused of either being involved in or acquiescing in the acts of crime and corruption, FM finds them to be the right persons to handle the issue. Moreover, time is not the essence in submitting the recommendations which, therefore, may take decades or even centuries to come by.

Equally fantastic (!) has been his skill in dealing with the issue of black money. It is already reported that lakhs and crores of rupees of black money are in circulation. Black money is harmful for the economy. It is expended largely on luxury and conspicuous consumption. It is also stashed away in foreign banks. Tax is not paid on these transactions. As a result, the government loses revenue and the economy is distorted. Right from 1950s, black money has constituted a parallel economy which is not reflected in calculation of inflation but contributes to hefty price rise.

Contd. on page 6

Assembly election of Assam

The state reels under severe crisis on the election-eve

The 13th General Legislative Election of the state of Assam is going to be held on 4 and 11 April next. Well before the formal announcement of this election schedule by the Election Commission, the Congress, the BJP, the AGP and other bourgeois political parties have swung into political campaign in their bid to form the government. Being parties of the capitalist class and thus sustaining upon the money of the capitalists, these political parties have already started spending huge money to hoodwink people. They are spreading communal and divisive mentality in the name of religion, language, ethnic groups etc., violating all democratic norms and thereby reducing this election to a farce. Competition amongst these parties to capture governmental power has already reached such a nasty stage that this or that leader of this or that political party have shifted their allegiance overnight to another party at the lure of nomination for an assembly seat or other benefits. The ugly face of decadent bourgeois culture that has gripped these political parties is manifesting itself through this instance of ensuing election exposing the hollowness of their so-called ideology.

The Congress has ruled the country as well as this state for the major period since independence. The AGP was in power in the state for 10 years; their last 5 year's rule was supported by the CPI(M) from outside and with direct participation of the CPI in the government. The Janata Dal ruled the state for one and half years. Though the BJP had never been in power in the state, it was at the Centre for several years. But in what respect have the people benefited from their rule except becoming pauper and destitute day by day? What else have the rule of these parties done other than facilitating loot and plunder of common people by a handful of capitalists? It has only sharpened class polarisation dividing the society into a handful of rich, the capitalists and the millions of toiling people, the myriads of exploited. Hence, on such a backdrop this election to the state Assembly of Assam is going to be held when, at the same time, the people of the state as well as of the whole country are reeling under severe all out economic- social crisis. Particularly devastating and shocking is the lack of any attempt by the central as well as state governments to control the skyrocketing rise of prices of all essential commodities which, in fact, allows the reign of the black marketers, hoarders and unscrupulous corrupt business houses, who usually fill the money bags for election of all the bourgeois parties, to continue to rob the people unchecked by raising the prices to their whims. On the other hand, this sky-high price rise has already raised huge outcries amongst the common people who find it hard to arrange two square meals a day. Together with this unscrupulous,

inhuman and abnormal way of squeezing people by the capitalist class to maximize their profit, what has shocked the people of the state further is the incidence of scams of thousands of crore rupees involving the entire administrative machinery, that is coming to the surface one after another. Already a CBI enquiry is in process on the scam of rupees one thousand crore in the North-Cachar Autonomous Council. This is one of the instances for which the government has been forced to agree to install an enquiry under pressure. In reality, however, there have been allegations of corruptions involving huge sums of money in respect to all autonomous councils. Loot and plunder of the money allotted for different development work meant for construction of roads, embankments etc., without the work being done or partially done, has become a regular feature in the state. CAG report has also pointed out rampant corruption on issuing of false ration cards, materials allotted against which go straight to the open market for sale. Villagers below poverty line meet with bitter experience of partisan and corrupt approach in distribution of BPL cards. The same is true also in case of NREGA. People are fed up to find that corruption has spread over the entire administration so deep that they can not get any legitimate work done without bribery; they find it difficult even to have regular salary bills cleared in time.

It is known to all that all the north-eastern states including Assam are among the most economically backward states of the country. The crisis is manifested much more severely here. Since the Indian capitalist class came to power in the era of moribund capitalism, the economic growth and

industrialization under Indian capitalism was stunted throughout the country. But even then, whatever industries developed in other states of the country in the early periods after independence, could not be witnessed in Assam. There was neither any initiative on the part of the government to this effect. The Congress could rule the state one term after another without any disturbance and without taking up any developmental work as well. It managed to do so just by playing chauvinist card to drive disunity among the people. The undivided CPI instead of making any attempt to develop united left-democratic movement chose to survive by tacitly supporting the chauvinist forces. In spite of that, most of the few industries that grew hither and thither, have already been closed down by now. In reality, there are no big or heavy industries in the state except some oil refineries. Even the minimum infrastructure that is needed for industrialization does not exist. Communication system is the worst. Electrification of railway lines and their expansion remain a far cry. Though there is immense potentiality of producing few thousand mega-watts of hydel power in the state, no initiatives to that effect were to be found on the part of any government. Certainly the crisis of capitalism stands as the root cause. But this inept, sterile attitude of the governments that have ruled the state, has been largely behind the fact that there is also no climate for the growth of industries here. As a result the problem of unemployment has aggravated to an unthinkable dimension. The unemployed youths who are unable to find a way out to earn something with dignity are constantly being pushed towards unethical means of livelihood, many of them have joined different secessionist forces out of frustration. The social atmosphere has deteriorated unimaginably and menacingly.

Rural scenario is no less frightening, if not more. Successive governments, pursuing the policy of globalization, have withdrawn all sorts of subsidies once meted out and have also allowed the multinational companies to enter into the agricultural economy. The latter, in turn, are dictating the price of seeds, fertilizer, pesticide etc. Peasants, in turn, have been forced

to purchase all these at very high prices, though they are not getting due prices for their own produce. Consequently, for most of these, peasants are forced to opt for distress sale. This problem together with the ever rising prices of all essential commodities have enmeshed the common and poor peasants in debt trap, forcing them to sell out their land to money-lenders and rich peasants. The number of landless peasants is rising at an alarming rate. Having no scope to earn livelihood in villages, these huge masses of landless peasants are rushing towards towns in search of jobs. There too, though some are eking out a living, for example, as rickshaw-pullers or casual labourers, most of them are forced to find shelter on streets as beggars facing starvation, even ultimately death. None of the state governments of the past seems to have cared for this and taken slightest initiative to improve the agricultural economy. Out of 3950342 hectares of cultivable land of the state only 105000 hectares, that is 2.6% has irrigation facility. Peasants are compelled to depend upon the nature's mercy. The fury of flood and erosion of the river Brahmaputra are not only forcing hundreds of thousands of peasants every year to loose their harvests of hard labour, but also are uprooting them from their land and home, ultimately turning them into rootless beggars. The demand raised by our party for a scientific and permanent solution to protect people from floods of the Brahmaputra has simply fallen flat on the governments. Assam was a state of surplus paddy production, but due to abysmal neglect, now the state has to import paddy from other states to meet the demand of the market. Even it has affected the prospect of improving state exchequer from surplus food production.

Having no interest to draw schemes to improve both industrial and agricultural sectors to boost up the state's economy and revenue in the process, the governments have only resorted to the policy of imposing taxes and increasing tariffs. Newer and newer tax burdens are being imposed on people every year. Both rural and urban land taxes have been increased enormously. This year

Contd. on page 4

Assembly election of Assam

Big political parties only aided divisive chauvinist forces

Contd. from page 3

alone the rural land tax has been increased to become three times that of the previous year. The state-run corporations like State Electricity Board, State Transport are running at a loss due to lack of administrative efficiency and farsightedness, as well as from extreme corruption. The state government is continuously increasing electricity tariff and hiking bus fare and shifting the entire burden onto the shoulders of the common people. It is pushing these corporations towards privatization. It is also continuously increasing charges of various medical tests and bed charges in all the medical colleges and government-run hospitals, virtually converting these into private nursing homes and thereby making it almost impossible for poorer people to avail of medical treatment. What a shame that the government is issuing thousands of licenses for wine shops on the plea of raising revenue of the state which is seriously effecting the social atmosphere both in towns and villages! As a result of these dangerous policies of the government, the per capita average income in the state which was 4.1 % higher than all India figure in 1950-51, has now gone down to almost 37 % below all India level. The number of BPL people in the rural area is 59.43 %, vide 1998 statistics. What a dreadful end the people of state are being led to!

The policy of the state government in regard to education has been shaped in a manner so as to permanently close the door of higher education to the common and poor students. Already there is sharp indignation in people against the 'Sarba Siksha Avijan'. Under it, the promotion up to class VIII has been made automatic without any pass-fail system. Primary education is worst affected. Most of the primary schools are running with one teacher, meant to teach up to class V within the confines of a single room. A magician they are supposed to be, as it appears! Many schools do not even have a room. The students of common and poor people studying in these schools are being deprived of any education at all. Passing out with such a background, they will not be able to cope up with any further higher education afterwards. Students of

well-to-do and rich families who can afford higher fees, are, however, studying in English medium schools which do not fall into the purview of this system, and getting proper education they are being adequately groomed to be able to go for higher education. Fees in colleges are also being continuously and exorbitantly raised to send college education beyond the reach of poorer students.

The political scenario of the state is also extremely grim. It may be recalled that in the mid-seventies, left democratic movements were gaining strength in Assam. 23 MLAs of different left parties including 2 of our party won the election in 1978. To forestall the growth of left-democratic movement and to divert the attention of the people from the ruthless capitalist exploitation, the regional bourgeoisie and all the reactionary forces of the state gave birth to the Assam movement in late 1979 under the slogan of driving out so-called foreign nationals, mainly steered and geared by the AASU (All Assam Students' Union). The movement was based on racial hatred, that caused killing of thousands of innocent people belonging to the minority community. It was semi-fascist in nature. The leaders of the movement asked the leaders and cadres of national political parties to leave their party and join the AASU or face the consequences. Many were threatened and some were killed. In the Assamese speaking people, the leaders of the movement raised a false alarm that their language and culture were at stake and that the AASU movement was a struggle for existence for the Assamese-speaking people. In consequence of this movement the concept that all the oppressed people, irrespective of caste, creed, language and religion, are to fight unitedly against the capitalist exploitation, started to fade away. In those dark days too, our party guided by Marxism-Leninism and thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, tried to expose the obnoxious theories propagated by the leaders of the movement. For that, our party published and distributed thousands of leaflets and several booklets facing threats and attacks from the chauvinist forces and also took all initiatives to give shape to a seven party combination to defeat the chauvinist propaganda.

As against the demand of the leaders of the movement to fix 1951 as cut off year for detection of foreign nationals, as per our suggestion the seven party combination upheld that 25 March, 1971 should be the cut off date for detection of foreign nationals, taking the national commitment and international pact (viz., Indira-Mujib pact) into consideration. The seven party combination also firmly upheld that the detection of foreign nationals should be done through judicial processes. The Central Government had to agree to our demands and ultimately the Assam Accord was signed in the year 1985 between the Central Government and the leaders of the movement agreeing on the two demands raised by us. Also the IMDT Act was promulgated. It also may be recalled that after the signing of the Assam Accord, the AGP, a political party formed by the leaders of the AASU movement, came to power in the state in 1986 and started to pursue their chauvinist policies. It issued a circular making learning of Assamese language compulsory in all schools including that of the Barak Valley where district level official language is Bengali. It sparked off strong reaction in the Barak Valley and amongst Bodo and other tribal communities of the state. At our initiative a Sangram Committee was formed in the Barak Valley and the movement was launched by it. In that movement, two youths died as martyrs from police firing after which the government had to withdraw the circular. But taking advantage of the strong grievances generated amongst the Bodo and other tribal communities, separatist forces within the Bodo community started movement for a separate state. Similar movement also developed among other tribal communities in demand of respective autonomous areas. Giving due and full recognition of the genuine grievances of people, and citing examples of the states like Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland etc which were carved out of Assam, our party pointed out to people that with the formation of separate state or autonomous council, common people will not be benefited in any way. Rather, an elite group will come to power which in connivance with the ruling capitalist class will

continue exploitation further. It will also stand in the way of developing united movement of all oppressed people of different language, religion and ethnic groups against the capitalist class which is the main enemy and whose ruthless exploitation is the cause for all miseries of the common toiling people, one and all. We maintained that it is also a fact that the chauvinist forces can be isolated only by developing united movement. Many Bodo people were convinced of our arguments, but all other political parties including the CPI(M) and the CPI extended support for autonomous council and the Bodo autonomous council was formed. Later the Congress(I) government coming to power in 1991 extended it to all other tribal communities with the sole motive of bringing rift amongst different ethnic groups. As a result of all these, the state had to witness a series of ethnic clashes, the latest being the clashes between the Rabha and Garo communities that took place since the first day of this year. The disastrous effect of the Assam movement does not end here. From the womb of this movement grew the secessionist movement of the ULFA demanding sovereign Assam and for achieving which armed struggle was launched. Sensing the disastrous consequences of this movement and analysing from historical, social and political angles, our party explained in a booklet that the people of Assam had fought together with the rest of the country against the British imperialist rulers and in the process had given birth to the concept of Indian nationhood. A nation state has emerged based on that concept, even though the Indian capitalist class betraying the cause of the people, has come to power in this nation state. Since all these remain historical facts, in view of these the strategic and tactical line of the ULFA stands totally wrong. All the people of the country including Assam face the task of fighting against the Indian capitalist class, uprooting it from power and establishing socialism. Quoting from the teachings of Mao Ze Dong, we pointed out that if the political line be wrong whatever sacrifices are made, the consequences will be disastrous. In the booklet, we urged

Contd. on page 5

Assembly election of Assam

Support forces which genuinely hold high the banner of leftism

Contd. from page 4

them to review their political line. Now the ULFA leaders have sat with the Central government for a negotiated settlement and we have again urged them to demand, amongst others, for a package programme of industrial and economic development of Assam; after all, economy is the root issue. It is up to them what they will do. But what we have observed is that the ULFA leaders who have sat for negotiation with the government have already adopted the AASU line and are talking of deportation of foreign nationals as the main issue. Is this the cause for which more than twelve thousands youth, who could have been fighting cadres of democratic movement, had to be sacrificed!

Chauvinist forces are still moving around with their conspiracies and the central as well as the state governments are appeasing these forces. Conceding to the demand of the AASU to update NRC in Assam on the basis

of a new rule exclusively for Assam, the Central government has already issued an ordinance on 9 November, 2009. This has struck off the Rule 4 of Citizenship Act for Assam which stipulated house to house enumeration and instead has introduced a new Rule 4A exclusively for Assam. According to this new rule each person will have to apply for citizenship, and establish in it the claim that his or her name or the names of his or her forefathers are there in the list of NRC 1951 or in any voters' list up to 1971. This is in total violation of other rules of citizenship Acts. Further, even the governments are not in possession in full, of the list of NRC 1951 and voters' lists up to 1971. This was revealed while the government initiated the process in Barpeta and Chaygaon revenue circles in the name of 'Pilot Project'. To update NRC on the basis of some non-existent documents is nothing but a conspiracy to deny citizenship to hundreds of thousands of genuine

Indian citizens belonging to the minority community. Our party alone exposed this conspiracy long back, even before the promulgation of the ordinance, in leaflets distributed in thousands and later in a booklet. Our party also organized people, formed people's struggle committees and staged demonstrations. As a result, people developed the mood to boycott the process of Pilot Project and the government had to suspend the programme temporarily. It is noteworthy that the CPI(M) and the CPI have not uttered a single word against this conspiracy. Even the AUDF, a party which came into existence just before the last Assembly election with the backing of Jamiet Ulemaye Hind, projecting itself as the saviour of the Muslim minority community people and having won some seats in the last election by spreading Muslim fanaticism, did practically nothing against this conspiracy. They rather confused people by saying that once the NRC is updated, the problem of

minority people will be solved forever. This party, the AUDF, has adopted this opportunistic line solely for the reason that it is staging a tight rope walk in between the Congress(I) and the AGP to share power with them, whoever between the two may form the government. Political opportunism in the state has developed to such a stage that the AUDF has publicly announced boastfully that they will be the king maker as either the AGP or the Congress(I) will have to take their support to form the government.

In such a volatile political situation, what was urgently needed is to give birth to a left-democratic alternative on the basis of a common agreed programme and a code of conduct. But the CPI(M) and the CPI have long back shunned the path of left-democratic movement, and continuing their opportunistic politics instead of accepting the task of exposing the chauvinist forces ideologically,
Contd. on page 9

Comrade Manik Mukherjee attends anti-imperialist symposium in Turkey

In the wake of the recent vigorous people's upsurge in the Middle East including northern Africa, there was an International anti-imperialist symposium held in Istanbul on 25 -27 February last, at the call of the Peoples' Front, an instrument of struggle against imperialism formed by the communist and anti-imperialist forces of Turkey. The symposium was organized mainly by The DHKC- C, the Communist Party of Turkey and was scheduled to deliberate upon the core theme of *Peoples' Unity against imperialist aggression* with an aim to develop and consolidate unity of people engaged in anti-imperialist struggles in different countries of the world. Representatives from 18 countries including Egypt, Tunisia, Lebanon, Palestine, Iraq, Syria, Venezuela and others took part. Comrade Manik Mukherjee, General Secretary, IAPSCC and Member, Polit Bureau, SUCI (Communist) was invited to represent India.

The symposium included a few sessions to discuss on different aspects of imperialist onslaughts, aggressions and conspiracies. One session was particularly marked for

discussing increasing racial hatred and rabid racial jingoism in Europe, as well as severe economic onslaughts on the working people there. Three sessions on the first day were allotted to discussions on imperialist attacks and resistance against it in the Middle East, including Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan etc. Three sessions on the second day discussed elaborately on the problems in Turkey, recent movements of Egypt and Tunisia, revolutionary alternative against imperialist attacks and experience in regard to developing unity at the national as well as international levels

The symposium decided that there would be held one convention or symposium every year. The declaration also emphasized that the right to resist is a sacred legitimate right of people, which no force can take away or destroy. People enjoy the right to adopt every possible means and methods in their fight against the imperialists or their allies. Vehemently protesting against the attempts to shift the burden of the present acute crisis of the capitalist world on to the people, the symposium firmly iterated that socialism is the future

of our people, as it is in socialism that emancipation of people from oppression and exploitation can be achieved. Extending its call to people of different countries who are suffering from imperialist aggression and exploitation, the symposium called for developing worldwide unity of all political organizations and people fighting against imperialism. Only a united organization can lead people to the correct path, intensifying their fight further. The declaration also expressed to adopt concrete ways and means to develop such a unity against the imperialists.

Taking part in the discussions Comrade Manik Mukherjee said that it is with the goal of coordinating anti-imperialist struggles going on in different parts of the world and developing the global unity, that the IAPSCC has been formed. He added that towards the beginning of the nineties of the last century, when after the collapse of the socialist camp, the imperialists intensified their aggression, we felt the urgent need to develop anti-imperialist movements. At that time, many people viewed that without the socialist camp existing and with the

imperialist left in an irresistible position, there can not develop any resistance or even protests. Capitalism-imperialism would say the last word. We could not share this pessimism. We realized that contradiction within the womb of society, would make people raise their heads again and will urge them to hold the banner of socialism high again in face of severe imperialist aggression and exploitation. Even if it has not been possible to thwart the imperialists totally, the spontaneous protests throughout the world against the imperialist aggression on Iraq bears testimony that people are ready to put up resistance. It only demands leadership to guide them. The recent people's upsurge in the Middle East is further the inevitable outcome of capitalist exploitation and oppression. It is true that these movements have not been able to identify capitalism as the root cause of people's sufferings and miseries and to present the programmes of overthrowing capitalism to establish socialism. But the courageous upsurge in demand of democracy braving all oppressions and attacks of capitalism has definitely earned historic significance.

Union Budget 2011-12

No concrete measure announced to contain price rise of food items

Contd. from page 2

There are two forms of black money, one that is generated by businessmen and another by politicians and officials. According to media report, total black money in India is \$ 1456 billions or Rs 72 lakh crore. This amount is about 13 times larger than the country's foreign debt. Dishonest industrialists, scandalous politicians and corrupt IAS, IRS, IPS officers have stashed away huge ill-gotten money in their illegal personal accounts. As per media report, one Hasan Ali Khan, who has of late been rounded up for money laundering and defaulting tax to the tune of Rs 30, 000, 000 crore, is suspected to be linked with transfer of \$8 billion worth of black money from Swiss bank. Innumerable Hasan Alis, it is an open secret, are roaming around and even occupying higher posts in administration, corporate world, renowned organizations, sports and other bodies and high powered committees. If this huge amount of black money is unearthed, the entire foreign debt can be repaid in 24 hours. If the surplus, after paying foreign debt is invested in earning interest, the amount of interest will be more than the annual budget of the Central government. So even if all the taxes are abolished, then also the Central government will be able to maintain the country very comfortably. The situation has come to such a pass that even the Supreme Court could not but comment, "what the hell is going on in the country?"

But the FM does not seem to be perturbed at all. Just a few days back, he refused to name the bigwigs in the money laundering game and black money operation owing to 'legal constraints'. It is also a common practice in this country to show amnesty to the black money holders and large tax evaders through voluntary disclosure scheme and such other measures. This very Congress-led UPA government with the FM as one of its important cog and screw and with a very 'honest' scholastic PM leading it, as is known to all, is showing extreme leniency, if not meting out a kind of official pardon, to the key accused in IPL cricket, Commonwealth game, 2G and 3G spectrum scams and many such other cases. So the FM ended his responsibility by informing the nation that, "Government has put

into operation a five-fold strategy which consists of i) Joining the global crusade against 'black money'; ii) Creating an appropriate legislative framework; iii) Setting up institutions for dealing with illicit funds; iv) Developing systems for implementation; and Imparting skills to the manpower for effective action." It does not require much of a modicum of grey matter to understand the implicit vagueness in such utterances and a clear evasion of the immediate task of taking punitive actions against the culprits. All "Green Hunt" and such other kinds of military actions are directed against the semi-clad, half-starved poor populace or protesters against ruthless capitalist exploitation. But the smugglers, criminals, thieves and hunters belong to the category of Caesar's wife. Last year, the FM had proudly announced a symbol of Indian Rupee as a mark of distinct identity against US \$, British pound or Euro. But now perhaps Indian Rupee has carved out its unique identity in colour, black.

It may be added in this connection that as apprehended by our Party as well as a section of thinking individuals, the hoax of much-trumpeted microfinance model has been laid bare. Particularly in the state of Andhra Pradesh and some other states, gross financial irregularities involving Micro-finance institutions (MFIs) have been reported. Moreover, telling tales of savage exploitation of poor villagers by the micro-credit providers, leading to hundreds of suicides by debtor villagers have been reported. There is public outcry against this latest form of worst capitalist exploitation which, even the Reserve Bank of India governor termed as "no better than money lenders". But the FM and his government instead of banning this system and ordering a probe against alleged irregularities has preferred to extend more support to the knavish operators of the same by proposing to create a "India Microfinance Equity Fund" of `100 crore and a "Women's SHG's Development Fund" with a corpus of `500 crore.

Unemployment, Education, Healthcare

Last year also, there was no separate mention about the government's definite programme

for arresting the spiralling unemployment, reopening of closed factories and reinstatement of the retrenched workers. Same is the case this year as well. Apart from formal announcement of budgetary allocation for the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) Scheme under which the rural have-nots are supposed to get jobs for 100 days, there was no other declaration of any concrete plan for employment generation. Following the same tradition, the FM has also carefully bypassed this pressing problem of unemployment. There is no mention of how far even the NREGS has performed. Reports reveal that corruption, nepotism and failure on the part of the government to provide even average 30 days' job has proved the scheme to be a caricature of its declared objective and instead constitutes a very effective conduit for pilfering public money by corrupt administration and ruling political party satraps. As per revelations in the media village sarpanches have to pay a commission of 20 to 50 per cent to the government officials under the NREGS. The officials also receive huge commissions in the supply of the 40 per cent material component of the programme. Even, late Rajiv Gandhi once remarked that only 15 paise out of a rupee sent from Delhi reaches the beneficiary. If one rupee is spent in a government programme, the common man receives 15 paise. The bureaucracy pockets the remaining 85 paise and makes a killing in the process. But the FM has maintained an eerie silence over these issues. He has also not cared to increase the amount paid under NREGS knowing fully well that a paltry sum of Rs 100 per day (the beneficiary, in fact, does not receive even 60% of that) is a pittance compared to the price level of basic needs of life. But, the FM boastfully arrogated to himself the credit for increasing the salary of the *Anganwadi* workers to Rs 3,000 pm and that of the helpers to Rs 1,500 pm that too, under pressure of sustained movement of these workers. Going by the educational qualification, nature of job and recruitment procedure, these workers have every legitimate right to be paid on par with the Upper Division clerks in the government sectors and the helpers on par with the Group D employees.

Though the FM sounded optimism about industrial development, the fact is that as per government's own admission, industrial growth index dipped to just 2.6% — a figure, we know, has also been sought to be inflated to the maximum through a slew of statistical juggleries and sleight of compilation. The FM and his government boast of increased investment in various sectors. This has no meaning whatsoever as quantum of capital investment does in no way guarantee commensurate generation of employment in the present moribund capitalist system. In order to ensure maximum profit, most of the capitalists go for capital-intensive industries powered by modern technology with manpower requirement either pegged to insignificant a number or reduced to nil. It is for this reason that a word 'jobless growth' has been coined by the imperialist-capitalist world. Under such circumstances and in an environment of regular closing of running industries and falling industrial outputs—inevitable in crisis-ridden capitalist economy—where is the scope for gainful engagement unless the government comes forward with some definite plans to open under its aegis industries which would be planned in such a way as to provide every employable person suitable avenue for gainful engagement? But the FM's redress proposal in the current budget is simply amazing! The FM informed that plans are afoot to create 15 crores skilled workers by 2022. What about their absorption in the industry? As per statistics provided by him, "skill training has so far been provided to 20,000 persons. Of these, 75 per cent have found placements." In other words, 15,000 skilled workers have found employment. Even if one assumes, for argument's sake, that the figure will increase in geometric progression, what will be the figure in 2022? Maximum 50 lakhs. Then, what would the rest 14.5 crore do? So the stories of skill enhancement and so forth befit fairy tales, not an economic management policy document.

Come to education. The FM announces an allocation of Rs 52,057 crore which is just 4 % approximately of total budget expenditure of Rs 12, 57,729 crore

Contd. on page 7

Union Budget 2011-12

Issues of corruption and black money operation deftly bypassed

Contd. from page 6

proposed for 2011-12. With more and more private investors encouraged to enter into the education area for minting maximum profit, gradual exit of the government from the field of education, decline in the standard of government-run institutions, cost of education soaring beyond the means of even the middle class people, let alone the poor, curtailment of higher education and making it an exclusive preserve for a few rich and affluent, how does this reflect even an iota of intent on the part of the government to improve the standard and access to education? If one views the budget proposals in conjunction with the recommendations of National Knowledge Commission, Yashpal Committee and all other government appointed bodies as well as a few reforms recently undertaken in the field of academics, hollowness of the claims made by the FM would be laid bare in no time. For example, in keeping with the DPEP (District Primary Education Programme) plan mooted by World Bank and other foreign agencies, the government launched so-called *Sarva Siksha Abhiyaan* (SSA) which sought to discard all time-tested teaching methods and principles including acquiring knowledge through three "R's i.e. reading, writing and arithmetic, emphasized on multi-grade teaching without appointing sufficient number of teachers and that too on contract basis, reduced the role of the teacher to 'class room manager' and advocated a 'no detention' policy. Teachers claim that their position is virtually reduced to that of a cook of midday meal. Things have come to such a pass that even guardians are refusing to send their wards to schools for education. Thus, it has virtually killed primary education, yet receiving huge budgetary support. Likewise, when it is boasted that lot is being done for secondary and college education, fact is that the steps taken by the government in the fields of secondary as well as higher education are systematically stripping education of its essence, drastically curtailing scope of higher education, slowly bringing out education from the ambit of the government and handing over to private houses to be run on a commercial basis. While a few

universities are opened here and there for public consumption, required increase in the number of secondary schools and colleges is not taking place. Appointment of teachers on contract is another aberration in higher education. Most of the colleges are asked to be 'self-financing' which means a huge drag on the cost of higher education. Thus door of higher education is getting closed to common students and the so called budget allocation towards education is virtually turning out to be a damp squib.

Naturally, there is surge of protest against this scheme from the thinking people. But, the FM continued to pretend that he and his government are very keen to promote education and hence giving so much of financial assistance to the academic institutions. But if one notices carefully, grants provided this time under the head "Innovations" are to a select few big specialized institutions and a few universities access to which are restricted to a few rich only. Alongside, he has besides increasing allocation to devastating SSA, proposed another similar anti-education scheme titled "Vocationalisation of Secondary Education" and thus gradually inched a step further towards shattering the educational standard.

Health-care

Same is the case with healthcare. Plan allocation is only Rs 26,076 crores, which is merely 2.2% of the total budget expenditure. This clearly indicates that the government is in no mood to improve the appalling healthcare system marked by absence of rudimentary basic facilities like proper buildings, hygienic conditions, electricity and water supply in rural health centres and most of the government hospitals. Rural healthcare, everyone is aware of, is not even in a shambles but has totally collapsed. There is no doctor at the primary health centres. But the government in keeping with the policy of capitalist liberalization-privatization is on a spree to hand over the entire health sector to profit-greedy private players who are amassing huge wealth by commercially selling medical service to the people who can afford it. Even under the name of Private

Public Partnership (PPP), a sweet-coated substitute word for backdoor privatization, many important even crucial services like running Intensive Care Units, Pathology etc. in the government hospitals are entrusted with private operators for a profit. And to add salt to the injury, the FM has imposed a 5% tax on all services provided by hospitals with 25 or more beds that have the facility of central air-conditioning. That means, such additional cost will have to be borne by the patients whenever they would need treatment in ICCU or ITU units or are operated upon in an OT which are normally done in an air-conditioned system. Steep rise in the cost of medicines is another aspect that further denies the impoverished and have-nots' minimal scope for cure or even temporary relief. Already the government hospitals have stopped supply of many essential drugs free of cost to the patients. Unable to afford medicine, the poor belonging to BPL and even APL categories are forced to embrace death. The FM did not feel that the matter deserves any attention. Otherwise, he could have intervened in, what he says, "sweetening the pill" by initiating effective steps to bring down drug prices and at least ensure availability of essential medicines in government hospitals free of cost. On the contrary, he has imposed 1% excise duty on allopathic medicines and for the first time brought both homeopathic as well as ayurvedic medicines within excise tax net to slay the slain.

Petrol, Diesel, Electricity

Last year, the FM deregulated retail price of petrol and warned of extending the same to diesel, kerosene and LPG cylinders advancing the age-old plea of spurt in international crude prices. In several articles on the pages of Proletarian Era, we had clearly exposed the falsity of this logic. But the FM still persists with that and though he has cleverly opted for avoiding any direct reference to that, the very proposal of reaching out direct fuel subsidy to the poor smacks of a possible deregulation of retail fuel prices which, as everyone understands, has a cascading effect on soaring price line. Moreover, the poor peasants who somehow manage to run shallow diesel

pumps, will find such regular fuel price escalation extremely difficult to bear. Already, the petrol-diesel prices have been upwardly revised several times during the last financial year and a repeat is very much in the offing during the current year as well. And as usual, such increases will be 'off budget' and deregulation of entire fuel tariff might also be introduced through an ordinance.

Moreover, there is continuous increase in the power tariff under this or that pretext making the citizens shell out more money on this account. Talks are doing the rounds that there would be a significant increase in coal prices which will entail further jump in power tariff making domestic consumers and small traders yet more back-broken. The budget, however, considered such an important aspect having tremendous bearing on the people's life, a non-issue and paid no attention to give any succour to the common man from this escalating power tariff.

Military budget is soaring

While there is no productive allocation towards social and public welfare sectors alongwith no spelling out of definite mechanism to ensure percolation of the benefits to the actual targeted segment, most unproductive military budget continues to receive overflowing favour from the FM. This year's allocation is as high as Rs 1,64,415 crore inclusive of Rs 69, 199 crore for capital expenditure which is 42% of the total capital outlay in the budget. Militarization of economy, as our Party has shown, has become a common feature of every capitalist-imperialist economy to somehow stave off the aggravating acute, insoluble market crisis it is ridden with by creating an artificial stimulation in the demand for certain basic goods that warrants increased production of arms and ammunitions. It does not matter if the people starve or remain ever deprived of basic needs of life—defence of the country has to be strengthened at any cost. As an inseparable part of world capitalism-imperialism, Indian ruling class is also pursuing the same course.

So-called financial inclusion

For the past few years, a term

Contd. on page 8

Union Budget 2011-12

Privatization of essential areas continue unabated in the name of reforms

Contd. from page 7

'financial inclusion' has been cunningly floated by the quarters subservient to ruling capitalism to feign how serious the regime is to reach out benefits of economic growth to the downtrodden strata of the people. Of course the very word 'inclusion' confirms that growth which the bourgeois government and its pliant columnists-economists clamour for has indeed been 'exclusive' and obvious beneficiaries have been the monopolists, big corporates and business tycoons, the handful of rich and affluent as well as the privileged bureaucrats-bourgeois politicians-ministers and their associates. Unable to disown this glaring reality of rich becoming richer and the poor poorer, the apologists of the oppressive bourgeois system, one would remember, advanced a queer logic last year that if abundant prosperity is guaranteed to the rich, some of it will inevitably percolate down to the impoverished and have-nots. Last year's budget was thus entirely dedicated to the rich and capitalist class and the FM wanted us to believe that "For the UPA Government, inclusive development is an act of faith." From life's experience, people have come to know how faithfully the government has acted in this regard by continuing to "carry coal to New Castle" and intensifying pauperization of the toiling millions.

The FM is once again back with his faith on 'financial inclusion' in this budget albeit with a little change in the style of presentation. Admitting that "the country has carried for long enough the burden of hunger and malnutrition", the FM reiterated the government's plan to introduce a National Food Security Bill which was talked about in the last budget also. One has to wait to see how far the proposed Bill secures food for the countrymen.

But going by other prescriptions of "financial inclusion", it is better to keep one's fingers crossed. The FM as a step towards ensuring inclusive growth has prescribed more availability of bank credit to the peasants and certain incentivization for timely repayment of loans. This is nothing but a clever

ploy to divert attention from the real problem. Is availability of loan the main problem of the peasants or it is escalating cost of fertilizers, pesticides and other agricultural inputs coupled with non-availability of remunerative prices for the produce which is turning life nightmarish for the 70% peasant population of the country? On the other hand, forced by the pressing need of financing minimum requirement of cultivation, the peasants are opting for hefty loans but are defaulting in repayment because of being deprived, if not cheated outright when going to the market for selling the crops. Unscrupulous traders and hoarders in league with corrupt government officials deny them due prices and often coerce them to distress sale. Hapless peasants find no remedy to this defrauding as no government machinery comes to their rescue. That is why, the number of suicides by defaulting peasants has crossed 2 lakhs in this country whose FM claims to have achieved a "swift and broad based" growth. What else could be greater mockery of inclusive growth!

Tax proposals—exemption for the rich, burden on poor

It is pointless to spend more words on this subject as facts speak the truth. There is no additional tax imposed on the huge profit making private sector. Rather corporate surcharge has been slashed from 7.5% to 5% and many of the excise and other duties brought down perhaps as a part of so-called fiscal stimulus that the government embarked upon to provide increased tax exemptions and concessions to the private houses and monopoly groups. Though marginal exemptions have been granted to the individual tax paying community that hardly constitutes 3 to 4% of the total population, imposition of indirect taxes in various forms show that the apparent benefits are straightaway wiped out. While direct taxes have been reduced by Rs 11,500 crore, indirect taxes by statement have been hiked by Rs 11,300 crore which, as everyone knows from experience will increase manifold as the days progress and other fiscal factors come into operation. The FM has also said that

he will extend Value Added Tax (VAT) or central excise to another 130 items hitherto not attracting such tax. He will bring another 240 items under tax net when his pending proposal of Goods and Services Tax (GST) is implemented. Even a flat 10% levy has been imposed on ready-made garments and made-ups. Needless to say that the manufacturers notwithstanding the plethora of concessions and waiver they enjoy in the current tax mechanism, will straightaway load this additional dose of tax on the prices as currently is seen in case of much- clamoured Value Added Tax (VAT). Thus, it will be people who will ultimately bear the brunt as the government would not prevent the manufacturers from recovering the tax amount from the consumers nor will it make reduction mandatory in retail prices of items on which the duties are lowered through appropriate legislation. Moreover, major subsidies on fertilizer and food are estimated to have been cut by over Rs 20,000 crores compared to revised estimates for 2010-11 which will entail more woes to the common masses.

Gate opened further to foreign monopoly capital

On the other hand, sensing that the foreign monopolists with huge idle capital in their hands are desperately seeking avenues for making profits, gate is opened to them for widespread speculation in the Indian capital market. The FII (Foreign Institutional Investors) limit for investment in corporate bonds, with residual maturity of over five years issued by companies in infrastructure sector, has been raised from \$5 billion to \$25 billion. This will raise the total limit available to the FIIs for investment in corporate bonds to US Dollar 40 billion. FIIs would also be permitted to invest in unlisted bonds with a minimum lock-in period of three years with the additional benefit of trading amongst themselves during the lock-in period. Indian mutual Funds are also permitted to sell equity schemes to foreigners. But all these are hot money chasing speculation and shall in no way help bettering the lot of the suffering people but help speculators and market manipulators to swell their

coffer. On the contrary, premium on life insurance policies will rise as there is fresh impost of a tax of Re 0.15 for every Rs 100 premium. The FM has also indicated allowing upto 49% FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) in Insurance firms and the apprehension is that following the same route, many other sectors like the Retail business will also be opened to foreign capital ownership.

Some juggleries of numbers

Economists-columnists owing allegiance to ruling capitalism prefer number-crunching to in depth analysis of the budget proposals. But numbers more than often flatter to deceive. By showing that the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of India is estimated to have grown at 8.6 per cent in 2010-11 in real terms, the FM has sought to prove the country's economic prosperity. But as we have shown many a times GDP growth does not prove prosperity of all and sundry since it does not indicate equitable distribution of wealth created. The hallmark of true economic prosperity of the country is the rising living standard of the entire people. In our country, however, the reality is just the opposite with the living standard of the toiling masses on a steady dwindle. Secondly, the FM has stated that Gross Tax Receipts are estimated at Rs 9,32,440 crore which is an increase of 24.9 per cent over the Budget Estimates for 2010-11 and Non-Tax Revenue Receipts for 2011-12 are estimated at Rs 1,25,435 crore. This, he has claimed, has brought down the revenue deficit from targeted 4% to 3.4% of GDP. Moreover, fiscal deficit to GDP ratio is projected to come down marginally to 4.6% this year. But this is a clever ploy to understate the figures. If GDP figure is shown to have risen by 28% (implying GDP deflator, which is defined as the level of prices of all new, domestically produced, final goods and services in an economy and measured as the ratio of nominal (or current-price) GDP to the real (or chain volume) measure of GDP, to be 18% on year on year basis), fiscal deficit as a percentage to GDP will appear to be lower. But, if one takes the actual figures, it will be

Contd. on page 9

Union Budget 2011-12

Door further opened to speculators, market manipulators and tax evaders to rob the people

Contd. from page 8

seen that fiscal deficit projected is Rs 4,12,817 crore higher than the even revised estimate of Rs 400,998 crore. Likewise, revenue deficit is as high as Rs 2, 69, 844 crore. The deficit would have been much more (estimated to be 6.3% of GDP) had not there been the bounty of 3G spectrum auction receipts estimated around Rs. 1,10,000 cr. The government has claimed that net market borrowing would come down to Rs 3,43, 000 crores in 2011-12. But once adjusted for short term borrowings and usage of cash surplus, it would turn out to be much more.

Disinvestment

Moreover, the FM like last year is on a spree to hand over the Public Sector undertakings to the monopolists and large corporates in the name of disinvestment. These PSUs, one would recall, were set up after independence under people's pressure with public finance and provided jobs to many. Cunning as he is, the FM sought to create an impression that because of disinvestment or selling out

government's shareholding in these PSUs, people will be able to buy those shares from the market and own them. But, even a layman would understand that no common man will afford purchasing these shares which will be cornered by the big monopolists and thus capture ownership of these people's assets. The target of disinvestment this year is Rs 40,000 crore which will mop up substantial non-tax revenue for the government. But the consequences will be disastrous. Private operators will run these units after considerable restructuring predominant in which will be huge reduction in manpower, worst exploitation of labour both in terms of unhealthy working condition as well as reduction in wage and extended working hours, flagrant violation of rules and regulations including that of air pollution etc., threat of closure and so forth.

Tax collection

The FM has sought to take credit for better tax collection. But the fact is tax evaded by the rich and influential is much more. From the

media reports, it has come to light that total amount locked up in tax disputes as on March, 2010 is Rs 1,43,000 crores. Just the tax demand on Hasan Ali, one of the black money operators taken into custody of late, and his associates is around Rs 72, 000 crore which is more than amount for food subsidy of Rs 60, 000 crores or health ministry's budget of Rs 30, 456 crores in 2011-12. According to budgetary statement, revenue foregone in the last three years due to tax concessions, mainly provided to the corporate sector under so-called fiscal stimulus project, is as high as Rs 3, 61, 415 crore. The whole nation is also aware that the 2G spectrum scam has cost the exchequer to the tune of Rs 1,80, 0000 crore as per Comptroller of Audits and Accounts. It is also pertinent to mention that although the government these days deliberately avoids disclosure of printing of additional currencies to finance deficits, from all available indications, it is clear that such being resorted to on a massive scale which also, as we mentioned earlier, pushes up inflation. And this is done keeping Parliament completely in

the dark.

People left high and dry

Obviously the industrial house and corporate sector are effusive in praise for such a budget which has given them more than what they expected as doles and concessions. But in every respect, there has been nothing but deceit and deprivations for the people at large. As we have said earlier, suffering millions must realize that no political party subservient to the class interest of ruling capitalists can offer any relief to them in the budget which is nothing but a blueprint of escalated squeezing of the poor and increased bonanza for the rulers. So there will be pretended empathy for the poor, tall talks of inclusive growth and hollow promises of bumper opportunities but at the end all will end in a fiasco. Suffering people must therefore rise in protest, in united organized movement and wrest some of their legitimate demands under pressure of movement. There is no other way they can dissuade the bourgeois government from repeating such deceptive budgetary exercise to pauperize them on a higher scale.

Forthcoming assembly election of Assam

Contd. from page 5

combined with the AGP in 1996 projecting it as progressive, and ultimately forming a government. Later in 2001 they had to part with their progressive friend as the AGP combined with the BJP in that election. Even in the present critical situation in the state these parties have not changed their line and continue with their opportunistic politics.

In such a situation our Party alone is trying to uphold the noble banner of leftism, is organizing movement, one after another, on the basis of our strength. In the past, as in the difficult days of the Assam movement and the ULFA movement, we organized people's movement on demands of construction of rail-cum-road bridge at Jogighopa-Pancharatna and at Bogibill and compelled the government to revise the decision of bus fare hike etc. In recent times too, quite a large number of movements have been organized at

district and local levels. It is true that we could hardly organize state level movement due to organizational weakness and the State Committee is engaged in attempts to make it up as quickly as possible. We hope that our participation in this election will help to a great extent in this direction. In this connection we mention a few of the movements organized during the last two or three months. Powerful demonstration was held on 7 January last; district level strong movements have been organized in demands of construction of spur at Soulmarri and at Beldubi of Goalpara district to protect the region from flood and erosion. In culmination of different forms of movements organized by our party, a total successful 'Bandh' was observed in Lakhimpur district on 12 January last in demand of withdrawal of unscheduled bus fare hike, immediate resumption of suspended train services up to Guwahati and conversion of railway

line to broad gauge. Series of movements were organized on issues of the Barak Valley, including demonstration in Delhi in demand of immediate completion of construction of broad gauge railway line from Lumding to Silchar. The latest among these movements was the massive rally organized at Silchar on 4 March last. There were also conventions at different districts and ultimately a huge demonstration at Guwahati on 17 February last, by AIDS against the education policies of the government. It may be mentioned here that in recent times, a strong controversy has surfaced in the state centering round the construction of a 'big bandh' (dam) at Subansiri in Arunachal Pradesh. Various forces are opposing this on parochial line. Publishing a leaflet and distributing it in thousands amongst the public, our Party has urged people to consider that whereas production of electricity is essential for the development of the region and can

in no way be neglected, the central government should at once set up high level expert committee acceptable to all to verify as to whether the plan has been drawn taking into consideration the seismic susceptibility of the area and other factors, which can endanger the area and life of people. Further, any construction work should remain suspended till this verification is completed. Our views have found wide appreciation among people. This and our continued efforts towards building up movement on the burning problems of people's life, all these have enhanced the image of the Party amongst the public in general and have drawn large number of people closer to the Party. Under the circumstances, the State Committee of the Party, SUCI (Communist), appeals to the people of the state to make the Party candidates victorious in the ensuing election in the interest of carrying the voice of democratic movements on to the floor of the Assembly, thereby giving further impetus to the movements.

Political Scenario of Kerala

In the name of 'Development' Congress and CPI(M) vying to serve the monopolists

Kerala is going to poll on 13 April 2011 to constitute its 13th Legislative Assembly. The two ruling dispensations who take the chair in the state alternately, viz. United Democratic Front (UDF) headed by Congress, the most trusted representative of the ruling oppressive Indian capitalist class, and Left Democratic Front (LDF) headed by pseudo-Marxist CPI (M), now appeasing the ruling class in every possible way for pelf and power, are all set with their usual game plans of humbug and deception with the fullest support of the media and possessing fabulous monetary as well as muscular power to stake in the fray. The last turn was that of LDF. So naturally with Kerala's political track records this time the chance should go to UDF. Moreover, people are so much enraged over the present incumbency of LDF under Mr. Achuthanandan's Chief Ministership due to unheard of levels of corruption, nepotism, power greed, arrogance, ugly group fights, etc., especially of CPI(M), that in the last Lok Sabha elections as well as local body elections just 6 months back LDF was routed in an unprecedented manner as people shifted support to Congress-led UDF, not with a big expectation of things turning better but out of disgust and ire against the anti-people anti-left policies of the pseudo-Marxists and their associates. So UDF had been gleefully calculating an easy walkover with a thumping majority in the ensuing Assembly elections. However, characteristic of Congress and its front partners, bitter quarrels over candidature and seat sharing have already started even before official declaration of election has come out.

CPI(M) is master gamester in the parliamentary playfields and with certain sudden moves and populist gimmicks, they have taken much wind out of the UDF sails. A flurry of charges against the former UDF ministers including sex related ones which Mr. Achuthanandan was keeping under the carpet all these years have been abruptly brought out ostensibly in the wake of some 'new revelations'. One former minister and UDF leader has been put under bars following a Supreme Court verdict on corruption charges, the case being persistently pursued upto the Apex Court personally by Mr. Achuthanandan. All these happened just within the last two months, the fag end of their tenure. And in the State Budget presented on 10 February 2011, promises are galore with the view to appeasing different sections of the people, though hidden under the populist gestures, the real appeasement remains for the so-called investors and private industrialists. On 24 February came the declaration that rice will be supplied at the rate of Rs.2/- per kg for all ration card holders, irrespective of whether BPL or APL, but strangely without any budget allocation. Just on the eve of election declaration, long pending salary revision for government employees has been sanctioned. And before leaving the 'gaddi' they are unabashedly making umpteen numbers of appointments in Government services and quasi government establishments flouting

all norms and making the Public Service Commission a cipher. Newspapers have come out with quite a number of such instances of stark nepotism and favoritism with clear-cut proofs. But nonchalant CPI(M) and its allies are proceeding unashamedly.

On the other hand, provoked by the charges and allegations made against them by the LDF, the UDF is levelling counter allegations and counter charges even against the CM and his son and thus presently the whole atmosphere in the state is vitiated with the mud-slinging and washing of dirty linen by both the sides. What people gather from all these is that both LDF and UDF are equally corrupt and unethical and none cares a naught about political morality and decency. They are now coming out with charges and counter charges when Assembly Election is just at the door-step due to exigencies of vote politics and for the purpose of propaganda only without a modicum of sincerity. Both sides are cautious that beyond a certain limit that would suffice reaping opportunistic parliamentary gains, things should not be dragged an inch further lest their whole nasty deeds should get exposed. During the last UDF rule while moving a no confidence motion, the then opposition leader Mr. Achuthanandan had blamed the government of corruption to the tune of Rs 5,000 crore listing out evidences. Then he heroically declared that if LDF could come to

power, proper enquiries would be constituted and the culprits would be meted out exemplary punishment. Similarly, quite a number of sex-racketeering cases had come to light during that period involving some political bigwigs on which people's movements had surged out, our Party and AIMSS playing an important role in those movements. There also Mr. Achuthanandan had valiantly proclaimed that if LDF was elected, all sex-racketeers and debauchers would be hand-cuffed and paraded in the street. Another sensational declaration was that 70,000 acres of land encroached by the Tata group and another 50,000 acres by M/s Harrisons Ltd would be retrieved and distributed to the landless poor. But needless to say that all these remained bunkum except some hoodwinking performances by Mr. Achuthanandan, making sure that nothing substantial will happen before the present LDF government remits office.

Mr. Achuthanandan's recent blockbuster moves with a view to refurbish his image, though fake, as an unrelenting fighter against corruption has assumed another narrow personal purpose to serve. He wants to retain his parliamentary position riding on the so-called public sentiment in his favour as it was in the time of the last assembly election. CPI(M) state leadership under Mr. Pinarai Vijayan had wanted to keep him away from the fray but could not, due to the outcries from the rank and file and the public, manipulated and stirred up by Mr. Achuthanandan's group. At the same time Mr. Achuthanandan wants to keep his rivals in the party who are known to be close with Lottery swindlers, real-estate mafias and notorious shady characters under constant threat so that nobody dares to come up against him and his position.

But while all these parliamentary power plays are going on relentlessly, what is unambiguously revealed is that neither Congress nor CPI (M) or the two groups within the latter has got any serious difference in so far as policy matters are concerned.

As is usually seen on the eve of every general election, this time also both the fronts had performed the ritual of taking out propaganda Jatha

from North to South. The ruling LDF's slogan has been: "Forward with Development" and "Ensure continuation of LDF rule for further advancement of State's overall development". UDF took out 'Kerala Liberation March' with the slogan: Vote UDF for the all out development of the State which has been blockaded by LDF. What is worth noting in this dramatics is that every five years the role and slogans are getting mutually interchanged depending upon which dispensation is in power and who is in opposition.

BJP, another trusted representative of the ruling Indian bourgeoisie, also recently took out a North-South Jatha in the state which it called 'Save Kerala Journey'. However, by flaunting their vile doctrine of Hindutva, a camouflage of rabid Hindu communal character, it has not so far been able to win any seat from the state either in Assembly or in Loksabha elections. The community organizations of Nairs and Ezhavas, the two major Hindu Communities in the state are traditionally very strong. Muslims and Christians are also sizeable in number and organised too. In fact the Kerala election results are much dependant on the swing propelled by these community-wise organised sections and both UDF and LDF are found to be competing with each other in wooing these community leaders who wield economic might and exercise control over vast number of educational institutions, super speciality hospitals, industries and plantations.

It is to be noted that both UDF and LDF in a routine manner clamour that they are for 'development' of the state. Throughout the world, the imperialist-capitalist rulers have adopted the noxious design of globalization-liberalization-privatization curtailing all welfare activities and minimum democratic and labour rights and opening up all doors for unhindered plunder and loot of domestic and foreign monopolists thereby wreaking havoc in people's life. Capitalist India is no exception to that and with the ruling Indian monopolists who have already acquired imperialist character and aspiring to emerge as a super-power as well as bigger competitor in the

Contd. on page 11

People need to elect trusted soldiers of democratic movement to reflect voice of struggle inside legislature

Contd. from page 10

world market, their pursuit of the policies of globalization has been vigorous. The impact of that is equally devastating in Kerala, a province of Indian capitalist state. Congress as the most dependent political agent of the ruling Indian bourgeoisie is carrying out the behest of its masters meticulously. On the other hand, the CPI (M) desperate to carve out a permanent space in the corridor of power by currying favour with the ruling class is also nakedly pursuing the very same policy in the name of attracting private investment and 'developing' the state.

Every student of Marxism knows that in a class divided society to speak of development and people's common interest in general terms is a hoax. The development of the toiling millions and that of the capitalist owners are not one and the same, rather they are mutually exclusive to one another. This truth has become glaringly clear and irrefutable under the capitalist globalisation regime more than ever before. The gap between a handful of rich and myriads of poor is widening every day. A few have become billionaires but poverty, destitution and unemployment have staggeringly grown in the country as per all available records.

Recently CPI(M) convened a 'Kerala Study Congress' involving economists, IT experts and even leaders from the opposition, ostensibly to outline the future development schemes of the state. They had proclaimed that in matters of development there should be no politics, all should unite. CPI (M) central committee member and Finance Minister of Kerala Mr. Thomas Issac categorically stated: Those who think that without private investment development will take place are fools. Taking the cue, former CITU leader and present Industries Minister of the state Mr. Elamaram Karim later exhorted: The mentality that making wealth is a sin should change. He further added: Only when a reasonable profit is assured, private capital will come to the state and the state will become investment friendly. Whatever may be our ideologies, we cannot but accept this reality. To cap all these, Mr. Pinarayi Vijayan, CPI (M) State Secretary narrated the obstacles and difficulties an investor has still to

face in Kerala, comparing with some other states where warm welcome is accorded to those who come to invest, granting permission within no time. He urged everyone in the state to follow that example. The opposition leader Mr. Oommen Chandy was of course in total agreement, only doubting the sincerity of the words of the CPI (M) leaders. To prove the grit, in the 2011-12 state budget presented by Mr. Thomas Issac, all the future plan outlays are wholly with private investment or under Public Private Participation or BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer). Moreover whatever new projects have come up in the state during the last five years are all with private participation and mostly under SEZ (Special Economic Zones) which are known to be investors' paradise and workers' hell.

And then what is the condition of the people in the state at present? In the state at least 9 SEZs are already in operation and the government has applied for a dozen more. Job security and decent working conditions have become things of the bygone days, particularly barbarous being the conditions in the SEZs. Contract labour system has become rampant. Private investments are bringing in their wake, all anti-working class, anti-people policies and modalities.

Education which had some commendable standard once in the state is in total shambles now due to commercialisation from pre-primary to higher education levels and implementation of the schemes like DPEP, SSA, Sex Education etc. LDF which came to power with the deceptive slogan of 'social control over self financed colleges' has now thrown open not only professional education but even general courses to private agencies especially to the powerful community organisations who are free to impose any amount of fees at their sweet will. Government schools where there are no examinations or teaching and thus suffer from shortage of students, along with their teachers retrenched are closed down in hundreds; 130 more of them are notified to be closed; on the contrary, private institutions are more and more flourishing. In effect education has become inaccessible to the poor and even for the middle class. Likewise

the public healthcare system is also surrendered to the private capital to barter on people's health. Price spiral has become back-breaking especially because the state is not producing even one fourth of its requirement of rice and vegetables. The latest economic survey prior to the state budget shows that in food production, the rate of growth in the state is dangerously falling indicating a precarious food security position. The budget boastfully claims 9% overall growth but admittedly it is, in the main, from tertiary and speculative field, revealing the typical features of 'bubble economy' which has become mark of imperialist-capitalist system round the globe. Government is doing precious little to arrange state procurement of essential food items and to distribute it at a reasonable price to the people, thereby to eliminate the fleecing middlemen from the scene and also to ensure remunerative price to the farmers who are pushed to utter ruin.

In the state, unemployment as per latest figures stands at 40 lakhs. Out of 3 crores population, around 50 lakh people are fetching their means of livelihood by getting employed outside, especially in the Middle-East and Gulf. There also situations are becoming increasingly adverse for them.

But it is the socio-cultural fabric of the state which is in the most calamitous situation. Atrocities and crimes perpetrated on women and children have tremendously increased. The criminals are roaming scot-free. In none of a number of macabre incidences of rape, murder and sex-racketeering of even teenage girls that shook the state in the recent past, the culprits have got punished. Liquor and wine are so lavishly promoted in the state especially under the LDF rule that the state stands first in the country in alcohol consumption. Even school children at their early teens have developed drinking habit as per reports. Hooch is flowing freely as distributed through government-licensed country liquor shops. Consuming spurious liquor, 27 persons died during the last Onam festival season. Still government is allowing opening of more and more Toddy (country liquor) shops. While schools are getting closed on the plea of those

being economically non-viable, newer and newer foreign liquor outlets under Beverages Corporation of Kerala are being established since those, according to the CPI (M) bigwigs, are found to be sound economic propositions. One of the main reasons for increase in crimes especially on women in the state is this pernicious spread of alcoholism. This is playing havoc in the family atmosphere also. In Kerala where industries to name are very few and educated youth are compelled to go outside hunting job, it is only liquor industry and trade that is booming. One of the main sources of income of the government is also from that. But, the people have deep indignation against the liquor policy of the government as evidenced by the protest programmes organised under the auspices of AIMSS wherein thousands joined. Hundreds of anti-liquor people's committees had shaped up throughout the length and breadth of the state, reputed well-known personalities leading them. The people could make out that while the sham Marxists of the CPI (M) and its hang-ons are promoting liquor culture to smash the cultural backbone of the youth, it is the SUCI (C) which, holding aloft the banner of genuine Marxism-leftism is leading crusade against this vile move to dehumanize the youth.

The grossly anti-people, pro-capitalist character of the so-called development drives undertaken in the state in the name of road widening and modernization, implementation of mega projects, expansion of IT sector and SEZ etc. is glaringly revealed. Thousands of people are threatened to be uprooted from their land and livelihood and mercilessly thrown to the street without any rehabilitation or reasonable compensation. For Example in the 800 km stretch of NH 47 and NH 17 sought to be developed, no less than 10 lakh people will be thrown out from their dwelling places, shops and establishments getting a pittance as compensation. The development is envisaged under BOT scheme, in effect meaning nothing but privatisation of the existing National Highways giving scope to the 'developers' to amass crores of rupees by way of collecting toll for decades together. All political parties

Contd. on page 12

Political Scenario of Kerala

Contd. from page 11

are for it excepting our party, SUCI(C). Against BOT, against unnecessary widening of the Highways to 45 metres in Kerala and demanding proper rehabilitation before-hand for the affected, mighty movements have burst out under people's struggle committees initiated by our party as well as Janakeeya Prathirodha Samithi, the democratic platform of movement built up by our Party. Our party whole heartedly supported movements of school teachers and government employees as the government was actually aiming at downsizing in this sector and privatization of education at the instance of the World Bank. Next came the movement of nearly 1 lakh small traders and shopkeepers on face of attack of the MNCs of the country and abroad on the retail trading. We have exposed the real intention behind introduction of unified tax system under VAT as nothing but a step to pave the way for easy entry of multi-nationals into the field of retail trade. VAT is now proved to be one of the major reasons of pushing prices to present hike.

Falling victim to the grievously inimical policies of the governments, more and more people in the state are forced out into the path of struggle. They gained greater confidence and vigour ever since the historic victories in Nandigram and Singur movements where our Party had played an extremely crucial role. In Kerala also our Party is firmly and most consistently with the struggling people, in many a case remaining in the forefront and leading them to victories. Movement against the disastrous DPEP and Sex-Education, against the proposed mineral sand mining in Alleppey coast, against so many unjust land acquisition moves throughout the state and the land mark movement of the landless peasants in Chengara are only a few to name. We have founded a 'Netaji Centre for Socio-Cultural Studies' which is now functioning as a lively centre of various socio-cultural activities. Our Party has undoubtedly earned the recognition among a wide section of the people as the only trustworthy force of movement in the state. In this background, to push forward our correct analyses and the

line of democratic mass movement conducive to anti-capitalist socialist revolution, we are putting up candidates in 26 constituencies spread over 11 districts out of total 14 districts as a whole in the state.

Host of electronic and print media in the state have already started high voltage propaganda with all din and blare projecting UDF, LDF and BJP as the countable forces in the fray whereas our Party with its distinct line of developing people's united movement based on higher proletarian ethics and culture against all anti-people policies of the central and state governments is being completely blacked out. They are out to accomplish artificial polarization of votes in favour of the parties or fronts of their choice. In fact, for long the Indian bourgeoisie has been trying to introduce two-party democracy on the models of Western imperialist powers so that people's choice is restricted between two contending parties or combinations subservient to it. So, irrespective of whichever group or party comes to power, the pro-capitalist anti-people policies continue unabated albeit with some cosmetic changes here and there. In the southern states particularly Kerala and Tamilnadu, this experimentation is going on in full swing with some success. Hence, all efforts are being made in Kerala state to ensure that people do not move away from tilting towards either of the major combinations, LDF and UDF. With all the strength in our command we are trying to explain to the people in this election that when all others in unison are for development of the monopolies at the peril of the common working masses, corruption and cultural degeneration becoming all pervading, it is only our party, SUCI (C) that is striving to build up the real alternative of the people on the basis of the correct line of democratic mass movement upholding higher proletarian cultural, ethical, moral values. We fervently appeal to the toiling people to return our candidates in the poll so that the voice of people's movements reverberates inside the assembly and there is perfect coordination between parliamentary and extra-parliamentary struggles.

MAKE SUCI (C) candidates victorious in the coming Assembly Elections

KERALA

Constituency	District	Candidate
1 Thiruvananthapuram	Trivandrum	Comrade P.S.Gopakumar
2 Aruvikkara	Trivandrum	Comrade S.Sreekumar
3 Karunagappalli	Kollam	Comrade Twinkle Prabhakaran
4 Kundara	Kollam	Comrade V. Antony
5 Punaloor	Kollam	Comrade Shylajakumari
6 Thiruvalla	Pathanamthitta	Comrade S.Radhamani
7 Konni	Pathanamthitta	Comrade Lakshmi R. Sekhar
8 Kottayam	Kottayam	Comrade N. K. Biju
9 Ettumanoor	Kottayam	Comrade E. V. Prakash
10 Changanasseri	Kottayam	Comrade K. Sadanandan
11 Poonjar	Kottayam	Comrade Raju Vattappara
12 Vaikom (SC)	Kottayam	Comrade Sasikala. K. S
13 Thodupuzha	Idukki	Comrade Siby C. Mathew
14 Ambalapuzha	Alappuzha	Comrade K. R. Sasi
15 Kuttanad	Alappuzha	Comrade P. R. Satheesan
16 Harippad	Alappuzha	Comrade K. J. Sheela
17 Chengannoor	Alappuzha	Comrade Venugopal. V
18 Piravom	Ernakulam	Comrade Usha. M. K
19 Alwaye	Ernakulam	Comrade K. K. Sobha
20 Angamali	Ernakulam	Comrade K. C. Jayan
21 Kodungalloor	Thrissur	Comrade Suja Antony
22 Guruvayur	Thrissur	Comrade Premraj. C. V
23 Chittur	Palakkad	Comrade A. Rajeena
24 Kozhikode North	Kozhikode	Comrade P. M. Sreekumar
25 Kuttiyadi	Kozhikode	Comrade Rajan.M. K
26 Irikkur	Kannur	Comrade Anoop John

TAMILNADU

1. Thiyagaraya Nagar (T' Nagar),	Chennai	Comrade G Purushothaman
2. Neyvelli	Neyvelli	Comrade P Chandra

ASSAM

1. Goalpara East	Goalpara	Comrade Azhar Hussain
2. Goalpara West	Goalpara	Comrade Nazmul Hoque
3. Jaleswar	Goalpara	Comrade Abdul Hamid
4. Mankachar	Dhubri	Comrade Suratnam Mandal
5. South Salmara	Dhubri	Comrade Jaynal Abedin
6. Dhubri	Dhubri	Comrade Jamir Kazi
7. Silchar	Cachar	Comrade Tusar Purkayastha
8. Dhalai (SC)	Cachar	Comrade Pranoy Bardhan
9. Sonai	Cachar	Comrade Maharom Ali
10. Karimganj North	Karimganj	Comrade Piklu Dey
11. Patharkandi	Karimganj	Comrade Debangshu Nath
12. Ratabari (SC)	Karimganj	Comrade Manilal Rabidas.
13. Hailakandi	Karimganj	Comrade Sushil Paul
14. Kalaigaon	Daarrang	Comrade Jiten Chaliha
15. Sipajhar	Daarrang	Comrade Paheswari Barua
16. Paneri	Udalguri	Comrade Swarnalata Chaliha
17. Barahmpur	Nagaon	Comrade Sonaram Bora
18. Naharkatia	Dibrugarh	Comrade Mahendra Gagoi
19. Lakhimpur	Lakhimpur	Comrade Birinchi Pegu
20. Dhakuwakhana	Lakhimpur	Comrade Jutika Doley
21. Naoboicha	Lakhimpur	Comrade Sushil Bari
22. Nalbari	Nalbari	Comrade Sabitri Deka
23. Kamalpur	Kamrup	Comrade Sisir Kakati
24. Sarukhetri	Barpeta	Comrade Saidur Rahman Khan
25. Dhemaji	Dhemaji	Comrade Hemkanta Miri

List of candidates in West Bengal election will be published in the next issue.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH

Edited & Published by Asit Bhattacharyya from 48 Lenin Sarani, Kolkata 700 013 and printed by him at Ganadabi Printers and Publishers Private Limited, 52B, Indian Mirror Street, Kolkata 700013. Phone : 2249-1828, 2265-3234 E-mail : suci_cc@vsnl.net, proletarianera@gmail.com, Website : www.suci-c.in