

Proletarian Era

Volume 55 No. 21 Fortnightly Organ of the SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA (COMMUNIST) 8 Pages
June 15, 2022 Founder Editor-in-Chief : COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH Page : 1 ■ Price : Rs. 2.00

SUCI(C) severely condemns offensive remarks of BJP spokespersons

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 7 June 2022:

“The most condemnable and unpardonable derogatory remarks by the two national spokespersons of the ruling BJP are neither personal nor accidental. These are outcome of the prolonged communal hate campaign against Islam and ‘Glorification of Hindutva’ by the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar in order to divide people on religious line, foment communal tension and riot as well as create ‘Hindu vote bank’ to reap benefits in the hustings. Moreover, it is intended to create fascist culture by inciting blind Hindu fundamentalism. What is noteworthy is that it has taken some days for the BJP leadership to wake up after sharp criticism from the Islamic countries where the Indian multi-nationals have business interest and who contribute much to India’s economy through bilateral trades. The Islamic countries are irked at the mild punishment to the guilty spokespersons whom the BJP leadership branded as ‘fringe elements’. Such punishments are nothing but eyewash to hoodwink people.”

Precipitated row over Gyanvapi Mosque and other Islamic shrines and monuments to exacerbate communal Hindutva

With extreme agony and a tormented heart, we have been observing that in recent years, a spate of unabated communal violence, in the name of foisting Hindutva, is sweeping the country, leaving behind bloody trails and travails of hapless people. The frequent bouts of frenzy including murderous assault against the religious minorities on the pretext of so called cow vigilantism and love jihad as well as deliberate provocative actions like chanting *Hanuman Chalisa* on mike to counter *Azaan* from the mosques, wielding deadly weapons in the religious processions and raising anti-minority hate slogans while passing through minority—dominated areas and then levelling allegation of processions being attacked and, above all, the bogey of all mosques and Islamic monuments having been built by destroying Hindu temples like Ajodhya, Varanasi Gyanvapi, Mathura Shahi Idgah, Tipu Sultan Masjid, Qutub Minar in Delhi, Taj Mahal in Agra and Ajmer Sharif—all are purported to whip up communal Hindutva passion, frighten the minority citizens, engender fratricidal conflicts and keep the air surcharged with tension. This anti-minority bashing of the

Hindutva brigade, in turn, is paving the way for minority fundamentalism to raise its ugly head and trap the minority youths into its fold much to the glee of the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar because that helps them in further accentuating Hindu communal frenzy. In fact, there are some opportunist minority leaders who have been cornering Muslim votes based on fundamentalist and sectarian slogans, upsetting the religious-casteist electoral arithmetic of most of the opposition and thereby helping the RSS-BJP to win elections by garnering Hindu votes through further communal polarization. So, clearly all these are nothing but calculated moves on the part of the RSS-BJP to drive a wedge deeper and deeper into the unity and fraternity of the toiling masses by fomenting religious fanaticism and thereby avidly pursue the most infamous policy of “Divide and Rule” that the British imperialists cunningly followed in colonial India. A systematic orchestrated reign of terror is unleashed with an ulterior motive of turning this land of diversities that constitute our greatest civilizational inheritance, into a ‘Hindu Rashtra’ or a theocratic

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Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought is the only way to emancipation

Comrade Provash Ghosh at the 24 April meeting in Kolkata

(This is the second and final instalment of the English translation of the speech delivered in Bengali by Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), at the 75th Party Foundation Day meeting held at the Shaheed Minar Maidan, Kolkata, on 24 April 2022. The first instalment was published in the Proletarian Era dated 1 June 2022. Responsibility of translation error or inadequacy of expression, if any, lies with the Editorial Board of Proletarian Era.)

CPI (M) has increased strength of rightists by maligning leftism

You need to know one more thing. After 1967, the United Front (UF) came to power again in 1969. The home ministry was with the CPI (M). Taking advantage of being a bigger party, it started attacking the other parties of the UF extensively. It began telling people that if they come to the side of the CPI (M), they would get jobs, enjoy many other privileges and would be able to make money through extortion, theft, plunder and by forming real estate syndicate. The



entire police were made pliant to its commands. Such a condition was created by it as it wanted to finish off the other constituents of the UF.

Even it raised a slogan that the UF was not required anymore. Time had come to form a class-based front meaning a government of the CPI (M) and its mass organizations. Seeing all these big brotherly attitude and muscle flexing of the CPI (M), Comrade Shibdas Ghosh said in 1973: “Not only did they succumb to degraded bourgeois culture even while chanting Marxist jargons and proclaiming

themselves as revolutionaries, they also tarnished the noble ideology of Marxism itself before the right-thinking people, the students and the youth of the country. That the Chhatra Parishad and the Youth Congress could muster their present strength after the United Front period was thus an indirect result of the increase of strength of the CPI(M) during the rule of the United Front. On seeing the degraded culture and mentality among the students and youth under the influence of the

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Election and revolution are not one and the same

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 CPI(M), which surfaced very much during the days of the United Front, most of the guardians and wide sections of the common people wondered: Good heavens! if this is what the Marxists are like, if the characters we meet now-a-days all around and in schools and colleges show what Marxist-Leninists are like, may we be spared from such Marxism. Naturally, as a result of this reaction, the common people tended to swing towards reaction, even though temporarily... A party may talk of Marxism-Leninism, but if its influence causes degeneration in morality, if its cadre succumb to vile and degraded culture, if in conduct and behaviour they lack politeness, modesty and decorum, if they shrink from ideological conflicts or avoid the course of discussions based on reasoning and seek to defeat opponents by use of physical force, if they indulge in cowardly assaults under any pretext whatsoever, if they indulge in neglect of duty, then despite all loud and tall claims their ideology cannot be truly lofty, not to speak of being a Marxist-Leninist ideology."²

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh did not see 34 years of CPI (M) rule that started from 1977. Their aggressive threatening attitude became more pronounced then. Even people were afraid of talking against the CPI (M) inside their houses believing that even walls had ears. Be it daughter's marriage, performance of last rites of the parents, sale of immovable properties or giving house on rent—everything had to be done through intermediation of the CPI (M) touts. From promoting of building construction to all kinds of contractual works, all were controlled by them. The CPI (M) agents were planted in every police station. Even the job of a peon in any college could not be obtained without recommendation of the CPI (M) leaders. Today, the TMC is doing exactly what the CPI (M) had done. But the TMC is doing all these more nakedly. The TMC criminal brigades are present everywhere. At the time of CPI (M) rule, you had seen how the election of Kolkata Municipal corporation was held at gunpoint. The CPI (M) had also rigged the elections indiscriminately. It opened fire to suppress movements of the workers and the

peasants in order to appease the monopolists, both domestic and foreign. What dastardly an attack the CPI (M) brought down on the peasants in Singur and Nandigram! Clad in police uniform the CPI (M) criminals indulged in gang-rapes, killed so many people with bullets. In independent India no party other than the CPI (M) had earlier engaged criminals to suppress democratic movement by resorting to gang rapes.

We had denounced this brutal attack and developed protest movement. Like the RSP and Forward Bloc, we did not sign a bond of slavery to the CPI (M). Right from the day the CPI (M) had been saddled in power in 1977, we had organized mass movements against its anti-people policies. We had built up a mighty language movement involving front-ranking educationists and intellectuals like Sukumar Sen, Pramatha Nath Bishi, Premendra Mitra, Dr Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, Nihar Ranjan Roy and others and compelled the CPI (M) government to restore teaching of English right from primary school level. Under pressure of our sustained movement, the CPI (M) government had to reduce transport fare, hospital charges and power tariff. We also wrested many other legitimate demands. Because of that, the CPI (M) was furious against us and murdered over 200 of our leaders and workers in the districts of South 24 Parganas, Bardhaman, Purulia, Nadia and Murshidabad. The CPI (M) leaders wanted to wipe out the SUCI (C). The principal assistant of the main CPI (M) leader under whose stewardship our comrades were killed is now a TMC MLA. Likewise, the CPI (M) had unleashed a reign of terror in the state. There was no principle, no ideology, not even any scruple. Since it was in power, one would have to go to it for jobs. Otherwise, one would not get a job or promotion. On the contrary, one would have a punishment transfer. There are instances where peasants were debarred from cultivation or found their ponds having been poisoned because they had refused to bend before the CPI (M). Everything, including the police had to be compliant with the fiat of the CPI (M) leaders and their criminal brigade. That is why Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had warned that because of defaming of Marxism by the CPI (M), right reaction would raise its ugly head.

I would like to recall that in the first general election in 1952 most of the seats of Kolkata city were won by the undivided CPI. Leftism was highly acclaimed in the towns. We have seen in our student life that any school or college student used to feel ashamed to say that his or her father was a Congress man. Inspired by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's teachings, I associated myself with the Party in 1950. At that time, I had seen that the CPI workers had an urge for revolution though that party was never a Marxist one. Because, it is necessary to accept Marxism-Leninism as a living philosophy, apply it in every aspect of life and develop it further by concretizing it in the concrete condition of India. Lenin had done that in Russia in the then international situation. So, we call it Leninism. Mao Zedong had done that in China and so we call that Mao Zedong Thought. But the CPI had never cared to do that here. The CPI leaders had only studied Marxism scholastically and blindly followed the international communist leadership at that time.

Realizing this as an indispensable necessity, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh took upon himself the historic task of scientifically applying Marxism-Leninism in Indian condition and in the process could provide answers to all the questions that arose in the post-Lenin period in the international arena, in the spheres of philosophy, politics, science, art-literature, culture and mass movement. He also clearly brought to the fore why Marxism is needed in our country. In course of ideologically defeating the reigning bourgeois thoughts in the economic-political-social spheres of the country, he enriched and developed Marxism-Leninism. Lenin had developed Marxism. So, he was an authority of Marxism. After Lenin, Stalin was the authority. Similarly, Mao Zedong was also an authority. In the same process, Comrade Shibdas Ghosh emerged as personified expression of Marxist authority. But the CPI did not grow in this process right from the day of formation. So, from the beginning till today, the CPI and later the CPI (M) had and have still been practising petty bourgeois politics under the garb of Marxism.

You had come to know that before the last parliament election, from the hills of Darjeeling to the seashore of Patharpratima, the CPI(M) workers had only one maxim—'first Ram, then Bam' (meaning lefts). In other words, they wanted people to vote for the BJP to defeat the TMC so that they could come back to power later.

Was it published in Ganashakti, the Bengali organ of the CPI (M)? No. But this adage reverberated everywhere. Thereafter, the CPI (M) workers, leaders switched to the BJP in large number. So, the CPI (M) lost its vote bank. Now the CPI (M) leaders are trying to recover that vote bank. Another section of the CPI (M) joined the TMC. The criminal brigade which the CPI (M) had once nourished and used has also shifted allegiance to the TMC. Even before the last assembly elections, it had brought one Pirzada (Muslim clergy), branded him as secular and entered into unity with his party simply for securing Muslim votes. In this very Maidan, it not only organized joint meeting with him but gave him prominence over all others. This is the politics of the CPI (M).

Lenin had taught that the real communists openly admit and analyze their mistakes, if any, openly and correct themselves to forestall recurrence in future. But so far, the CPI (M) has not done it. Because it is not a communist party. It was never so. It only passes the buck on others and gives itself a clean chit. The militant leftism which their leaders practised earlier is also abandoned now. Now it has become an out and out vote-based party. We urged upon the CPI (M) leaders to follow true leftist line. But they, instead, are treading the path of vote-oriented 'leftism' in the name of Marxism. Only we alone are moving along the path of struggling leftism. Our appeal to you all—please do not shun Marxism-Leftism out of your revulsion for the CPI (M). As genuine Marxists, we are holding aloft the banner of militant leftism. Here lies the difference between the CPI (M) and our Party. You need to understand that.

Venom of communal fanaticism is spewed in petty political interest

Another danger has appeared in the country. That is the danger of fascism. Backed by the monopolists and multi-nationals, the RSS-BJP have usurped power and have now created a horrific environment by raising the slogan of communal Hindutva to a high pitch. This is also posing a big threat and obstacle before class and mass struggles. You know about the brutal anti-Muslim pogrom orchestrated by the Hindutva communalists in Gujarat. Later, such communal bloodbaths have taken place in Delhi and other parts of the county. Of late, they are surcharging the environment further with escalated communal tension by making provocative gestures from the Ram Navami processions while

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Youths are emasculated from within, divorced from courage to stand up against injustice

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passing through the minority-dominated areas, hoisting saffron flags on the mosques, banning azan, demolishing houses and properties of the Muslims with bulldozers. I have already told that one of the prime objectives of all these evil deeds is to fan up religious fanaticism, spiritualism and traditionalism. These are what fascism needs. This was initiated by the Congress; now the BJP has raised it to further heights. Another objective is to disrupt the unity of the oppressed people. Religious divide is precipitated with a view to preventing people from going against the government and developing united movement against the burning problems of life like price rise, unemployment, job loss etc. If you are a Hindu, who is your enemy? Your enemy are the Muslims. Similarly, who are the enemies of the Muslims? The Hindus. Thus, a religious conflict is being fomented. A fanatical Hindutva mindset along with hatred against the Muslims is being spread throughout the country with virulence. Among the Hindus also, the underprivileged so-called lower caste people are oppressed and persecuted by the powerful upper caste headmen. One after another Hindu religious festival is organized with grandeur. So many Hindu deities are being worshipped—Ram, Hanuman and what not. I would say why worship Hanuman alone? Why not worship Bibhishan (a mythical character of the Ramayana who betrayed his own elder brother Ravana and went to the side of Ram) as well? Maximum help Ram received from Bibhishan in conquering Lanka. Ram could not have defeated Ravana without aid and assistance from Bibhishan. So, start organizing Bibhishan Puja also!

Along with the BJP, all parties are actively involved in these Pujas. More is the spate of religious cults, more engulfed is the country with sinful acts in contravention of the scriptural advice. At the time of elections, all party leaders are going to the temples, mosques or churches in full media glare. This phenomenon was absent during the freedom struggle. Stepping from one temple to the other, means using religion for seeking votes. This hypocrisy was absent at the time of freedom struggle. Those who want to grab both Hindu as well as Muslim votes like the TMC offer pujas in the temples and then follow Islamic

rituals during Eid. Thus, they try to appease both communities to get votes. In this way, religion is used to garner votes. Again, among the Hindus, various sub-divisions are created like Dalits, SCs, STs, OBCs and so forth to work out electoral arithmetic based on caste and ethnicity. Adivasis are also used as vote banks. Another ulterior motive is there. So long as religious blindness would enshroud people's mind, they would not hold capitalism responsible for all their woes and wretchedness. The Hindus would hold that their misery is due to the sins they committed in their previous birth. These are all pre-determined by destiny, ordained by God. The Muslims would similarly believe that all their distress and woes of their life are *khoda ki marji* (will of Allah), *nasib ka khel* (fait accompli). As a reaction to counter Hindu fundamentalism, Muslim fundamentalism is also raising its ugly head. This religious blindness and religious hatred are fraught with immense danger. Please keep in mind that unless the doctrine of the RSS-BJP is defeated by conducting an intense ideological struggle, this poison would remain in the soil even if the BJP loses in the election.

Who is a Hindu— Vivekananda or RSS-BJP?

Now I shall read out some portions from the works of a great man of 19th century. He said: *"The conquest of India by the Muslims gave the poor a taste of emancipation. That is why, one fifth of the population of this country became Muslim. This did not happen on the strength of arms. It is sheer insanity to think that such had happened because of arms power and acts of destruction. The poor wanted to be free from the clutches of the zamindars and the priests."*³ He further added: *"no religion ever persecuted men; no religion ever burnt witches, no religion ever did any of these things. What then incited people to do these things? Politics, but never religion; and if such politics takes the name of religion whose fault is that?"*⁴ He also said: *"If I had a son, I would not have given him any religious tutelage except practising concentration, one para of prayer and chanting mantras. Thereafter, in course of growing in age and listening to various opinions and advices, he would have been acquainted with something which to him would*

*have been the truth. It is very natural that simultaneously with full freedom and without having any conflict, my son could be a Buddhist, my wife a Christian and myself a Muslim."*⁵ The luminary who had made all these observations is no more. Would the BJP call him a Hindu? What I read out were from the works and speeches of Swami Vivekananda published by Ramkrishna Mission. Was Vivekananda a Hindu or the RSS-BJP leaders are Hindu? Ramkrishna, the mentor of Vivekananda, had offered namaz in mosque, prayer in the church and at the same time worshipped Hindu goddess Kali. He said as water, pani (water in Hindi) and jal (water in Bengali) are one and the same, likewise Bhagavan, Allah and God are also one and the same. Was he a Hindu or not? So, what the RSS-BJP are doing has no connection with Hindu religion. They do not obey any religion. You have just heard from Vivekananda's saying that religion had never taught to persecute others. It is politics meaning nasty power-monger politics which sets one group of men against another. The RSS-BJP practise that nasty politics. So those who are devout Hindus cannot support the Hindutva of the RSS-BJP. We, the Marxists, are atheists. We have difference with Vivekananda's spiritual philosophy. But we respect him as a great man. He had great affinity for mankind and a nationalist. We agree with his bold pro-people observations. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had taught us to respect all great men.

Education policy of BJP goes against the thoughts of Renaissance

I want to place another important aspect before you. At present, the education system that the BJP is trying to establish through its New Education Policy by including myths in the syllabus, prescribing study of the Gita, introducing Saraswati prayer in the schools, etc., all go against the thoughts of Renaissance. Raja Rammohan Roy, pioneer of the Indian Renaissance, wrote to the British rulers that *"The Sanskrit system of education would be the best calculated way to keep this country in darkness... We find [however] that the Government are establishing a Sanskrit school under Hindu Pandits to impart such knowledge as is already current in India...The pupils will*

*there acquire what was known two thousand years ago with the addition of vain and empty subtleties since that is produced by speculative men...Nor will youths be fitted to be better members of society by the Vedanta doctrines which each of them believe, that all visible things have no real existence...as the improvement of the native population is the object of the Government, it will consequently promote a more liberal and enlightened system of instruction, embracing Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, Anatomy, with other useful science."*⁶ Later, Vidyasagar went a step ahead to say: *"For certain reasons, which it is needless to state here, we are obliged to continue the teachings of the Vedanta and Sankhya in the Sanskrit College. That Vedanta and Sankhya are false systems of philosophy is no more a matter of dispute. These systems, false as they are, command unbound reverence from the Hindus. Whilst teaching these in the Sanskrit course, we should oppose them by sound philosophy in the English course to counteract their influence."*⁷ Vidyasagar did not believe in God. He was an atheist. The people of entire India bowed their heads before Vidyasagar as mark of reverence. Ramkrishna went to his house to pay respect to him and invite him to come to Dakshineswar which was famous for Kali temple. But as Vidyasagar did not believe in God, he had not gone to Dakshineswar. Yet Vivekananda hailed him as one of his most revered men. The enlightened thoughts of Renaissance that were upheld by Rammohan, Vidyasagar, Jotiba Phule and later Rabindranath, Saratchandra, Premchand, Nazrul, Subramania Bharati, are now all abandoned by the RSS-BJP to lead the country into an abyss of darkness. What they are doing are all against Renaissance and scientific education.

RSS had opposed Indian freedom movement

The RSS-BJP talk so eloquent about nationalism. But it is also necessary for you to know what was the role of RSS-Hindu Mahasabha (predecessor of BJP) in the Indian freedom movement. I have with me all the books. I can read out to you what the RSS-Hindu Mahasabha stated at that time. M S Golwalkar, one of the chief mentors of the RSS said in his books 'Bunch of Thoughts' and *"We and our nationhood defined"* that the freedom

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Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

Vicious spread of communal Hindutva is sullyng the socio-cultural mosaic

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movement against British imperialism in undivided India was reactionary. All the leaders and activists of the freedom movement were reactionary because they did not support the efforts to establish a Hindu state. So, no leader of the RSS-Hindu Mahasabha took part in the freedom movement. V D Savarkar initially was associated with the Anushilan Samiti and was jailed. But after sometimes, he wrote one after another mercy petitions to the British rulers and was released from the jail with an undertaking to support the British government in every possible way. We have the copies of those petitions with us. Savarkar was the man who said in 1937 that Hindus and Muslims constitute two separate nations. Mohammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Muslim League, reiterated this two-nation theory in 1939. Then who was responsible for partition of the country? Who would provide the answer?

The RSS opposed the August movement of 1942. Hindu Mahasabha also opposed it. You will be surprised to know that during the Second World War, Hindu Mahasabha and Muslim League formed coalition governments in undivided Bengal, Sind province and North-West Frontier province. In Bengal, Fazlul Haque of Muslim League was the Chief Minister while Shyama Prasad Mukherjee of Hindu Mahasabha was the deputy Chief minister. Savarkar wrote to British government opposing the 1942 movement saying that they were ready to help the government in every possible way. The same RSS-BJP are now teaching patriotism to the countrymen. The RSS-BJP were not only opposed to Renaissance and freedom movement but are against true Hindu religion. People need to ponder over all these issues.

Capitalism has no concern about growing misery of people

Comrade Shibdas Ghosh had taught that so long as capitalism would be there, people would have no respite from growing oppression, repression, coercion, unemployment and price rise. Please keep in mind that Indian capitalism after attaining the stage of monopoly has given birth to multinationals, exporting thousands of crores of capital to buy industries, mines, etc., abroad. To capitalism, nation, common

people, interest of the country and welfare of the countrymen do not matter at all. Its only aim is to maximize profit. Wherever it would find cheap labour and raw material, it would go there for reaping benefit of profit maximization. The Congress while in power had served this ruling capitalism as its trusted representative. Now the BJP is doing the same thing. So, the BJP is now on a spree of selling industries set up with public money like banks, mines, power industry, oil industry, insurance companies, transport divisions, etc., to the monopoly houses and multinationals so that they could amass huge profit from these sectors.

The national debt of Indian government is as high as \$ 2.75 trillion (Rs. 184 lakh crores approx.). 52.4% of government revenue is spent towards interest of this huge borrowing. This very BJP over the last few years has foregone revenue of nearly Rs 50 lakh crores by giving tax concessions, tax waivers and condoning defaulted loans. India is abode of 33% of global hungry. For them, the BJP government has no relief or help to offer.

Howsoever loud is the drum-beating about industrialization by both central and state governments, there is no scope for that. The entire imperialist-capitalist world, including India, are enmeshed in a severe escalating market crisis caused by virtual exhaustion of buying power of the people. Dreadful recession has set in. Lakhs of factories are downing shutters throwing crores of workers out of job. In last three years, 2, 38,223 industries, big and small, have closed down. There is no figure available for Indian unorganized sector which employs over 90% of the labour. The number of middle class households has come down from 9.90 lakhs to 6.60 lakhs. On the other hand, industrialist Mukesh Ambani, earlier the richest Indian, has increased his earning by 400%. Gautam Adani, the second richest industrial baron, has seen his wealth jumping by a whopping 1830%.

This is how the oligarchs are swelling their purse whereas people at large are being pauperized. The sole objective of capitalism is to ensure maximum profit of the industrial tycoons. It has no headache for the growing distress of the countrymen nor is it concerned about the nation or country going to

the dogs. It has no obligation to the society. Same can be said about the leaders of the bourgeois parties subservient to ruling capitalism. By hook or by crook, they need to make fortunes for themselves by winning election and ascend to the seat of power. So, they have no qualm whatsoever in indulging in deceits, malpractices, utter falsehood, corruption, sheer hypocrisy in the name of religion and inflaming communal conflagration. They also feel no obligation to people. The poisonous impact of all these is degrading the society and family lives. As the capitalists have one point agenda of earning maximum profit at any cost and the sole concern of the bourgeois leaders is to capture the seat of power, similarly the common people, particularly the young generation, are afflicted by crass individualism and selfishness.

Anyhow they are to make money to enjoy life. Sense of just and unjust, conscience-pricking, love, affection, tender feelings are all on the verge of extinction. Sons are driving out old parents or sending them to old age homes after usurping all properties and money. Sometimes, they are even killing them for property. Girls are lured with fake love, enticed to elope and then sold. Even wives, daughters and sisters are also sold for money. Marital lives are disturbed because of suspicion and extra-marital affairs. Harmful effect of such maladies is affecting the children. In its decadent moribund stage, capitalism round the world including our country is spelling disaster in all walks of life. Capitalism is destroying civilization and is the greatest enemy of mankind. It is ruining economy, politics, society, culture, morality, everything. The scientists are giving warning about global warming and asking the global leaders to reduce use of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. Glaciers in the Antarctica and glaciers on Himalayan peaks are melting. Sea water level is rising and soon it would engulf the shores. One after other thunderstorm is wreaking havoc. But capitalism is unfazed: let air pollution take place, let greenhouse gas emission increase because those are contributing to reduction in cost of production and entailing more profit! It does not matter if oxygen supply is lessened or holes are created in the stratospheric ozone layer. This is the horrid face of capitalism which cares for nothing other than profit maximization. Against this vicious enemy, workers-peasants-students-

youths-women all need to stand up unitedly. So are needed united organized anti-capitalist movements.

Had there been struggling leftism, historic peasant movement could engender deluge of protests

But only launching of movement would not suffice. Movements are bursting forth spontaneously in various parts of our country as well as round the world. The historic peasant movement continued for one long year braving all odds, withstanding scorching sun, torrential rains and biting cold. Over 700 precious lives were lost. Ultimately, the movement succeeded to achieve most of their demands. No national or regional bourgeois party including the Congress, AAP, SP took part in that movement. Because none of them wanted to displease the monopoly houses. The peasants of Punjab were the main force of this movement. But AAP took advantage of this movement in Punjab election capitalising on the accumulated grievance against the Congress which was ruling the state. The participants of the peasant movement had raised slogan against the monopolists. But they did not try to understand what is monopoly, what is capitalist economy, what is meant by state and the necessity of fighting against all these pending which they might face repeated attacks. We have tried our best to acquaint them with all these. But there was no one by our side. There was a huge opportunity if the CPI (M), CPI would have upheld the banner of struggling leftism as they did in the 1950s and '60s. This peasant movement of Delhi could rouse the peasants of the entire country to develop a massive movement. That would have, in turn, inspired the workers to embrace the path of struggle. Thus, mass and class struggles could have got a fillip. But that opportunity slipped out of hand. We tried to spread the message of the movement to every corner of the country. But we could not do that as per necessity with our singular effort. In last March, a two-day all India strike was observed at the call of the central trade unions. People of West Bengal have noticed how our comrades worked day and night to make that bandh successful. Did anyone find the CPI(M) in the field? It featured only in the media. And the CPI (M) workers arranged some small gatherings on the Bandh days and a few days around to get media coverage. This is its condition today.

So, what I want to say is that movement needs to be developed against the horrific attacks of

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Gyanvapi Mosque

Ulterior motive of turning this land of diversities into a 'Hindu theocratic state' hoisting saffron flag

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state hoisting saffron flag which is totally against the spirit of Indian Renaissance and our glorious freedom movement. In fact, this is a grandiose design on the part of the ruling monopolists which the BJP, as their faithful political servant, is now out to implement.

A reference to Ajodhya verdict

The verdict delivered by the Supreme Court on the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid issue, had made BJP and Sangh Parivar jubilant as they could find out a judicial justification for their criminal act of destroying not only a historical monument like Babri Masjid but also other mosques, religious shrines and installations bearing Islamic names. However, this ruling to any rational mind as well as those having respect for the judicial system of the country, could not but appear preposterous as the contentions were clearly tinged with communal overtones and hence subversive of secular principles. Countless excavations by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and Archaeological Department of Banaras Hindu University among others, in present day Ajodhya and different places, had yielded absolutely nothing. Not a single object or ruins that could even be faintly associated with the urban setting mentioned in the Ramayana, not to speak of such antiquity was found. Not even a coin or seal that could point to the possible historicity of Rama or the legendary Ajodhya was unearthed. So, the verdict surprised the whole world as well because nowhere in the history of democratic jurisprudence has religious faith been placed above law and historical evidence. Moreover, 'The Places of Worship Act, 1991', prohibits "conversion of any place of worship" and provides "for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on the 15th day of August, 1947, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto". While delivering the Ajodhya verdict, the Supreme Court had referred to this Act and said that it manifested the secular values of the Constitution and strictly prohibited retrogression. Yet it gave a ruling which contradicted its own words. Further, the Supreme Court's verdict was awkward on another count. It accepted that the Muslims had been illegally and forcibly dispossessed of their mosque and that the 1992

demolition was a crime. Yet it allowed the site to be given to those who were still standing trial for that crime. In 1949, in a surreptitious move, in the darkness of night, idols were smuggled into the Babri Mosque. It was called an act of crime by the apex court. Seventy-three years later, another wrong was committed in broad daylight, under the supervision of the judiciary and with the Supreme Court watching.

Naturally, the verdict caused serious concern and agony among the democratic, secular minded, saner section of the people of the country including many jurists and created doubt about the neutrality and impartiality of the judiciary. One of the eminent jurists has not minced matters in calling the verdict a 'crime piece'. As Marxists, our Party also considered the verdict to be virtually a supreme denial of justice ignoring all norms of law and prescripts of jurisprudence and ethics. But, for obvious reasons, the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar were elated. They wasted no time to announce that 'Ajodhya to baas jhanki hai, Kashi Mathura baki hai' (Ajodhya is only the initial shaking, Kashi-Mathura are still left). Accordingly, within two years and a half of the Ajodhya verdict and in the face of accumulation of mounting discontent against the misrule of the BJP on the eve of several assembly elections, claims have been proffered that Gyanvapi Mosque is built on the land of Varanasi (earlier Kashi) Vishwanath temple and the owner of Mathura Idgah belongs to God Krishna. One would recall similar claim was made that 'Ramlala' (God Ram) was the owner of the plot on which Babri Masjid was built.

Glimpse of Court cases over Gyanvapi mosque

In December 2019, a Varanasi-based lawyer, Vijay Shankar Rastogi, filed a petition in the lower court citing construction was illegal and sought an archaeological survey. In April 2021, five women petitioned that they should be allowed to perform daily darshan, pooja and other rituals of Maa Shringar Gauri and other deities within the old temple complex. Based on that, the Varanasi court directed the ASI to carry out the archaeological survey and submit its report in the court. The litigants claimed the existence of an image of the Goddess on the western wall of the mosque situated adjacent to the Kashi Vishwanath temple. In March 2022, the

Allahabad High Court rejected the petition filed by the caretakers of the mosque against the order of the judge who had appointed a court commissioner to inspect the site. The survey was conducted by the team without any hindrance. Several petitions have been filed before the Supreme Court, Allahabad High Court and Varanasi Court in the Gyanvapi Mosque-Kashi Vishwanath Temple case alleging that the mosque was built by Mughal emperor Aurangzeb after demolishing the Kashi Vishwanath Temple in the 16th century.

Finally, the case reached the Supreme Court on 13 May 2022 days after a Varanasi local court directed to allow continuation of a videography survey at the religious complex. The Supreme Court refused to grant an interim stay on the videography survey of the Gyanvapi mosque. But it categorically said that despite being sealed, offering namaaz (prayer) in the mosque cannot be banned. The three-day survey was conducted under tight security. On 16 May, a local court in Varanasi ordered the district administration to seal the spot in the Gyanvapi mosque complex. However, it was claimed by the Hindutva zealots that a 'Shivling' (Holy symbol of Hindu religion associated with Lord Shiva) was found in the Wazukhana (ablution tank) during the court-mandated videography survey. On 20 May, the Supreme Court transferred the trial of the case in which Hindutva parties have sought permission to pray at Shringar Gauri and in Gyanvapi complex from civil judge court to district judge court in Varanasi.

On the evidence part

However, in a revelation that is bound to demolish the Hindutva narrative of a "Shivling" having been found in the Wazukhana of the Gyanvapi mosque, Mahant Rajendra Tiwari of the Kashi Vishwanath temple, that is located adjacent to the mosque, has said that the structure is indeed a fountain, and not a "Shivling" as claimed by lawyers representing the Hindutva petitioners. In an interview to Aaj Tak, Hindi News TV channel, Tiwari said, "I have been seeing that talab (Wazu tank) since I was a child and used to go play there." He added, "It is not right to call just any stone structure a 'Shivling'." In fact, he was more concerned about the destruction of actual "Shivlings" for the

construction of the Kashi Vishwanath corridor that the BJP Prime Minister inaugurated with much fanfare in February last. He asked, "When the corridor expansion was taking place, they demolished Shivlings—Karuneshwar Mahadev, Amriteshwar Mahadev, Abhimukteshwar Mahadev and Chandi-Chandeshwar Mahadev. These are the presiding deities of Kashi. They also demolished statues of the Panch Vinayaks—Durmukh Vinayak, Sumukh Vinayak, Mukh Vinayak, Jau Vinayak and Siddi Vinayak—and removed them from their moolsthan (original place on installation). But no one will speak about this." In fact, the Hindu priest also dispelled rumours about Muslims allegedly desecrating the "Shivling" by doing 'kulla' (spitting backwash into the tank). "Nobody does 'kulla' in the tank. They just use the water to wash their hands for Wazu", he said. Mahant Ganesh Shankar, another ascetic involved in prayers at the Kashi Vishwanath temple, revealed that to the best of his knowledge the structure found is a fountain. He said, "We have been seeing it since childhood. Fountains come in various designs and are located in the middle of water bodies. Sometimes they have a stone base. To the best of my knowledge, it is a fountain, and not a 'Shivling' as claimed by the Hindutva petitioners", he observed. Notably, while the Hindutva zealots are busy proving illegal occupation of land by the mosque, the fact is that a plot measuring 1700 thousand sq. ft. on the mosque land was released by the mosque committee when the UP government had asked for the same. Yet, the Hindutva group is now demanding prohibition of the Muslims to enter the mosque premises. In fact, a fresh petition has been filed in Varanasi Court in this regard.

The Hindutva plaintiffs claim that the earliest Vishweshwar temple was constructed in the 11th century by a Hari Chandra. But this assertion appears to be based on hearsay rather than historical research. Now they have further claimed that, "Historians have confirmed that Mughal emperor Aurangzeb had issued 'farman' (edict) on 9 April 1669 for demolition of the temple of Adi Visheshwar (Kashi Vishwanath) at Varanasi." But if one flips over the pages of authentic history, one would find that the earlier Vishweshwar temple was destroyed by Qutub-Ud-Din-Aibak during Mohammad Ghori's rule in 1194. In the 1500s during the liberal reign of

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Gyanvapi Mosque

History is conveniently distorted to buttress hideous agenda of communal polarization

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the Mughal Emperor Akbar, it was not only permitted to build temples but, in some cases, rebuilding of temples was even sponsored. In fact, some of the Hindu Rajputs of Rajasthan, who were allies of Akbar, participated actively in the construction of Banaras *ghats* (landing-stage on the river bank) and temples during this part of the Mughal period. This history is simply glossed over.

Ruckus over Mathura Idgah, Qutub Minar, Tipu Sultan Mosque and Ajmer Sharif

It is pertinent to recall that only a few months ago, in the run-up to the Uttar Pradesh assembly polls, the then deputy BJP chief minister Keshav Prasad Maurya had tweeted that the construction of grand temples was already going on in Ajodhya and Kashi (Varanasi), and that the party was getting ready to build a similar grand temple in Mathura. Such a position taken by one of the top leaders of a BJP government was in line with the age-old Sangh Parivar campaign to reclaim the land in Varanasi and Mathura where mosques are believed to have been built on temple land in the 17th century by Mughal ruler Aurangzeb. What is the fact about the Mathura Idgah? There was no row over Krishna Janmabhoomi (birthplace of Lord Krishna) in Mathura earlier. The Mathura temple is connected with the Idgah with a 'holy darwaza' (door). Muslim women in a regular line of descent have been stitching the dresses and making the crowns of all deities including idol of Lord Krishna inside Mathura temple. During Ram Navami, an old Muslim singer regales every one with his masterly rendition of *kirtan* (a kind of Hindu devotional song based on Lord Krishna). Gajni Mahmood and thereafter Sikander Lodhi had plundered Mathura in 1098 AD. Based on that, the Hindutva groups are out to make people believe that Emperor Aurangzeb (who ruled India from 1606 to 1707 AD) had built the Idgah on the ruins of a demolished temple. Emperor Akbar had allotted 135 bighas of land for construction of Govind Mohan temple. His great grandson Aurangzeb, had neither reclaimed that land nor destroyed the temple. Even he did not touch the Gopinath and Madan Mohan temples either. Rather it was notified twice in 1697 and 1707 that the temples would continue to own the lands as before. The priest of Madan Mohan temple

appealed that the land deal (chaknama) issued during Akbar's time was lost during Jath rebellion. Aurangzeb ordered fresh measurement of land and renewed the deed. In 1593, Akbar banned hunting of peacocks in Mathura. He also exempted tax on cows being reared there. Aurangzeb endorsed all these policies and also declared that no obstacle should be created on the grazing grounds. The Keshabdev temple which was encircled by a railing of gold by the brother of Aurangzeb, was the epicentre of the Jath rebellion. While suppressing the rebellion, Aurangzeb destroyed the temple. It had nothing to do with religion.

After the Gyanvapi Mosque survey, a controversy was fuelled over Delhi's Qutub Minar. The Hindutva zealots claimed that idols of Hindu deities were found there and the monument was built by Raja Vikramaditya, a Hindu emperor, and not Qutub al-Din Aibak. Earlier, Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) spokesman Vinod Bansal claimed that Qutub Minar was actually 'Vishnu Stambh' and the structure was built with materials obtained after demolishing 27 Hindu-Jain temples. The Ministry of Culture of the BJP government, to everyone's dismay, has instructed the ASI to conduct the excavation and iconography of idols at Qutub Minar. Now the ASI in an affidavit has informed the Court that the Qutub Minar is being preserved since 1914. Now, it is not possible to change its structure nor can the demand for performing any Puja there be acceded to. Now another Sangh Parivar affiliate, Narendra Modi Vichar Manch, has sought permission of the Mandya district administration, Karnataka, to allow Hindus to pray inside the Jama Masjid in Srirangapatna, which was built during Tipu Sultan's regime in 1782 and is a heritage site maintained by the ASI. The Hindutva outfit has claimed that a Hanuman temple once stood inside the mosque. Claiming the mausoleum of Sufi saint Moinuddin Chishti in Ajmer, the second largest pilgrimage of the Muslims after Mecca, was once a temple, another Hindutva group has demanded a survey of the premises by the ASI. More such weird claims might be in the offing.

Vivekananda and such cooked-up controversy over Mandir-Masjid

Swami Vivekananda whose photo is displayed by the RSS-BJP-

Sangh Parivar to flaunt their "Hindu" credential, had severely deplored construction of temple and decorating idol with ornaments when millions were dying out of hunger and starvation. Strongly denouncing any act of 'destruction', he held that "*destructive reformers are of no use to the world.*" "*Ten million rupees are spent to open and close the temple doors at Kashi and Vrindavan. Now the deity is changing his attire, now he is having his meal, or maybe he is providing pinda for all the ancestors of the atkurir beta, (i.e. sons of barren mothers) and all the time the living god perishes for the want of food, for want of education...A mortal sickness is aboard in our land. The entire country is one vast lunatic asylum.*" (Vivekananda, Messages and Works)

He also exhorted that if anyone wanted to be a devotee, it was not necessary for him or her to know whether Krishna was born in Mathura, what he exactly did or when exactly did he recite the Gita. Would the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar dare to say before devout Hindus that Vivekananda's views were baseless and nonsense?

Singling out Muslim kings and invaders is bigotry, not truth

Vivekananda had also said plainly that "the temple of Jagannath is an old Buddhist temple. We took this and others over and re-Hindunized them" Does anyone shriek with outrage at this. No. Because this truth provides no fodder for opportunistic sectarian politics and scope for gaining revenues, headlines, eyeballs, political clout, and electoral mileage. Much more 'paying' is to screech about Muslim invaders and emperors though history holds out that misdeeds on the part of Hindu, Jain, Buddhist and Sikh rulers are much more in number. Greater was their reputation. The greater their loot and killings. Truth-seekers can find many instances of sins and depredations of rulers of religions and castes. Historical heroes galore can be crucified as sinful villains. Hindu kings destroyed one after another temple for looting gold and costly jewellery hidden under the edifice of the idols. So, a focus on wrongs committed by the Muslim rulers is bigotry, not truth. Equally flawed is equating the religious affiliations of the kings and emperors with those of the common people. Are all Muslims responsible for Aurangzeb's faults or would one point out fingers at all Maharashtrians for the barbarity committed by the Maratha robbers in Bengal and Gujarat?

Definite design behind raking up fictitious issues

The obvious question arises: is there any logic, whatsoever, behind reclaiming plots where the common Muslim people have been offering prayers for hundreds of years by suddenly 'discovering' those to be 'Hindu' lands? Do such claims and heating up the water have any bearing on the burning problems the people, both Hindus and Muslims, are reeling under? Then why rake up such irrelevant and uncalled for issues? The answer is not far to seek. That is the bread and butter of the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar. Is it not in order to hide the fact that all burning problems of life are bred by ruling capitalism that the Hindutva brigade, now in power with the blessings of the ruling bourgeoisie, is bringing the precipitated Mandir-Masjid conflicts to the centre stage and veering around those. And exactly that is happening. The BJP has released a theme song titled 'Modi government architect of new India', the highlights of which were the construction of the Ram temple in Ajodhya and the Kashi Vishwanath corridor in Varanasi. It even showed a glimpse of the upcoming Krishna Janmabhoomi temple in Mathura. Considering the meteoric rise of Hindutva fanatics in the last decade with obvious backing of the ruling monopolists, would it be incorrect to say that it is the Indian Muslims who have every reason to fear that their historical sites and religious places might come under the pall of destruction?

The Place of Worship Act 1991

In this regard, a reference is needed to 'The Places of Worship Act' passed by P.V. Narsimha Rao's Congress government during the Ram Mandir movement. The purpose of the Act was to maintain the religious nature of a place of worship as it was on August 15, 1947. The only exception to this object was the Babri Masjid dispute. Section 3 of the Act states: "*No person shall convert any place of worship of any religious denomination or any section thereof into a place of worship of a different section of the same religious denomination or of a different religious denomination or any section thereof.*" Section 6 of the Act made it clear that "*Whoever contravenes the provisions of section 3 shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.*" Section 4(1) of the 1991 Act, inter alia, declares: "*...the religious character of a place of worship existing on the 15th day of*

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Gyanvapi Mosque

Democratic-minded right-thinking persons need to imbibe social necessity of exposing conspiracy behind fostering Hindutva

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August, 1947 shall continue to be the same as it existed on that day." Section 4(2) stipulates: "If, on the commencement of this Act, any suit, appeal or other proceeding with respect to the conversion of the religious character of any place of worship, existing on the 15th day of August, 1947, is pending before any court, tribunal or other authority, the same shall abate, and no suit, appeal or other proceeding with respect to any such matter shall lie on or after such commencement in any court, tribunal or other authority." The word 'conversion' used under Section 3 of the Act has been defined under section 2(b) of the Act, which states that, "'conversion', with its grammatical variations, includes alteration or change of whatever nature."

So, if the suit filed by five Hindu women seeking a declaration from the Varanasi court that Hindus are entitled to have *darshan*, perform rituals and *pooja* of Maa Srinagar Gauri, Lord Ganesh, Lord Hanuman and other visible and invisible deities within the Gyanvapi mosque is upheld, it would mean changing or altering the nature of the Gyanvapi mosque from what it has been since August 15, 1947. Glaringly that goes against Section 3 of the Act and hence the plaint not only is not maintainable but the plaintiffs are liable for punishment. But then with fascist autocracy tightening its grip, even judicial machinery is also sought to be made committed to the whims and dictates of the rulers.

The aforesaid Act is currently under challenge before the Supreme Court by the BJP. Its spokesperson has challenged the constitutional validity of Sections 2, 3 and 4. It is argued in the challenge petition that the impugned Act is offensive to Articles 14, 15, 21, 25, 26 and 29 of the Constitution and also violates the principles of secularism. A three-judge Bench of the Apex Court had issued notice on the petition on 26 March, 2021 and tagged it with the petition filed by the BJP spokesperson. However, a larger Bench of the Apex Court had upheld the constitutional relevance of the aforesaid Act while dealing with the Babri Masjid dispute, back in 2019. The Court had then said that by enacting the aforesaid law, the state has enforced a constitutional commitment and operationalised its constitutional obligations to uphold the equality of all religions and secularism, which is a part of the basic features of the Constitution. Yet, a review of the Act is under way and a fresh petition has been filed in the Supreme Court in May last challenging the validity of certain sections of the

Act. Because unless the Act is repealed, it is difficult for the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar to move ahead with their pernicious agenda.

Only assertion of truth by thinking people can expose the sinister design

Clearly, this escalation of hate and violence against the minority community, the planned hype over a non-issue like Mandir-Masjid, distortion as well as concoction of history and cunning efforts to obtain judicial nod to surreptitious claims centring on justification about Hindutva supremacy are not only aimed at creating communal polarization of the masses along religious lines to secure votes of majority Hindu population and be saddled in power but also to thwart surge of people's organized movement based on the brewing discontent over the burning problems of life like astronomical rise in prices, mounting unemployment, plummeting income, increasing poverty, non-availability of proper education and healthcare, growing crime and corruption, spurt in atrocities against women, etc. It is the canine teeth of the communal beasts which seek to feast on the flesh and blood of hapless impoverished downtrodden masses. These communal fiends not only seek to precipitate bad blood among the peacefully living neighbours but take the fuelled paranoia to such a peak as to make the people dread staying in their hitherto amiable neighbourhood any more. The reported riots occurring in some places are not riots in proper sense but planned onslaught on religious minorities involving administration and at times, committed judiciary, by vested interest fostering communal Hindutva. Thus, in a fascist autocratic regime, crimes on humanity are committed with a veil of spurious religious sentiment to woo the politically unconscious masses in the process of plotted reactionary upsurge. So, such attacks are taking place continuously in the country. Hence, a united voice ought to be raised against this arch communal agenda of the RSS-BJP which poses serious threat to the very unity of the country and allows inflamed passion to rule over human sense and civility. We call upon the democratic-minded right-thinking persons, including historians, jurists, social scientists and other sections of intellectuals to imbibe the social necessity, harness their knowledge and prudence to expose the futile claims, negation of history and deliberate precipitation of social unrest anchored in arch Hindu communalism of the RSS-BJP. (Source: The Wire 05-08-20, 16-05-22, 17-05-22, 18-05-22, 23-05-22, 31-05-22, OpIndia 18-05-22, 19-05-22, DNA-20-05-22, India Today- 22-05-22, Times of India-23-05-22, India Express 24-05-22, Sabrangindia- 24-05-22, ABP- 24-05-22, 25-05-22, 26-05-22, 29-05-22, India TV 27-05-22)

Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech

RSS-Hindu Mahasabha opposed freedom movement

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capitalism. At the same time, that movement needs to be based on correct political line, higher ethics and morality and under correct revolutionary leadership. Above all, what is imperative is the lofty ideal of Marxism-Leninism-Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought. It is wrong to presume that since socialism has been dismantled in Russia and China, Marxism has lost its relevance.

Truth of Marxism cannot be determined by whether socialism exists in Russia or China

Please bear in mind that Marxism is a scientific philosophy. As science is based on experimentally verified truth, so is also Marxism. It is true that socialism has collapsed in Soviet Union and China. But neither Lenin nor Mao Zedong had ever said that if socialism persisted in their respective countries till the end, then and then only correctness of Marxism-Leninism would be proved. This is a science, a scientific philosophy. Electricity, transport, agriculture, industry--all are running based on definite scientific laws. Voyage in space and to other planets is also due to development of space science. Science is unravelling truths of various domains through experimentation, investigation and verification. By dialectically coordinating and correlating all particular truths of particular domains discovered by particular branches of science, Marx had discovered the general scientific laws. That is Dialectical Materialism or Marxism. Had there been no revolution in Russia or China, still then correctness of Marxism as a scientific philosophy would have been beyond question. Marx had discovered the generalized concepts of the laws governing the ever-changing nature, animal world, human life and social development so that men could consciously act in the process of those laws to change the world and keep the pace of progress unhindered. Marx had shown that in accordance with these laws, society had transited from primitive clan society to capitalism via the intermediate stages of slave-master system and feudalism. Next would be established socialism by overthrowing capitalism. Later, would come still higher communist society. This is the inexorable law of development of history.

Lenin had accomplished revolution taking advantage of the conflict within the capitalist-imperialist camp during the First World War. Soviet socialism had shown what socialism is capable of. In Soviet Union, there was no unemployment, no retrenchment, no price rise, no starvation death; no loss of life due to non-availability of proper healthcare. People of Soviet Union used to get water, fuel, electricity and medical treatment free of cost. Prices of food and essential item were very cheap. No fee was required for fighting cases in the courts. Education up to the highest level was also free. Proper maintenance of scientists, litterateurs, economists, philosophers, educationists, artists were the responsibility of the socialist state. Soviet Union achieved remarkable progress in science. The workers used to get compulsory leave for 15 days with full pay to

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Comrade Satyawan, President, AIKKMS, addressing the open session of the three day West Bengal state AIKKMS conference held at Debagram, Nadia District, from 1 to 3 June 2022



Comrade Provash Ghosh's speech**Strengthen SUCI(Communist), the revolutionary party of the proletariat***Contd. from page 4*

recover health. The socialist state took the full responsibility of that. The state had established many libraries, cinema halls and theatre halls so that the workers and peasants could cultivate knowledge and enjoy cultural entertainment. Working time was reduced from 8 hours to 7 hours and then 6 hours. Both men and women had equal rights, equal honour. Witnessing this socialist society, Bernard Shaw, eminent humanist, intellectual and playwright, was highly attracted and commented that there is true democracy in Russia where Stalin is at the helm. Romain Rolland had said that if Soviet socialism was destroyed it would no longer be the proletariat of the world alone who would be enslaved, but the entire world would be thrown several stages behind. Netaji Subhashchandra said that the Soviet Union had shown what genuine civilization is. Rabindranath wrote that had he not gone to Russia, his life's pilgrimage would have remained incomplete. Three years before his death, Rabindranath, in a letter to a younger poet Amiya Chakraborty wrote: *"In spite of some defects, I would see the shape of a new era for mankind in that hermitage and so I became full of joy and hope. Nowhere else in the history of mankind did I observe such a permanent cause of joy and hope. I am aware that Russia has established this new era on a revolution; but this revolution is against the most cruel and powerful vices of mankind; this revolution is a verdict of atonement against long years of sin... This new Russia is engrossed in an arduous practice of removing a death missile from the ribs of human civilization—that which is known as 'greed'. Automatically comes in mind—that their struggle be victorious..."* At the fag end of his life Rabindranath wrote a pamphlet titled "Crisis of Civilization". Crisis of which civilization? The capitalist-imperialist civilization which he denounced. Though he was a believer in non-violence, but he wrote a poem whose principal lines are:

"Vipers are breathing poison all around,
Voice of peace, tender, will sound a jesting whisper.
Before I'll take leave
I call out to all,

who, to take to fighting the monster,
are readying themselves in every home."⁸

Who was that demon? Imperialism-capitalism-fascism. This Rabindranath was a different Rabindranath. He wrote such lines in his penultimate days after seeing the horror and holocaust of imperialism-capitalism-fascism. If these luminaries were alive today, they would have shed tears at the collapse of socialism in Russia and China. We also have to remember that it is Marxism which had shown what are the factors that could lead to such disaster of socialism as has happened in Russia and China. About this, Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin-Mao Zedong-Shibdas Ghosh—all these authorities had provided valuable teachings. They had also shown what constitutes the cause of collapse of socialism and how to avert that. So, Marxism alone shows the path of emancipation. Drawing necessary lessons from the disaster of socialism in Russia and China, we need to protect socialism in the days to come following the guideline provided in the treasure-house of Marxism.

For emancipation of people, we need more characters like Kshudiram and Pritilata

Today, we have two options. Either we allow capitalism to continue and thereby exacerbate crisis in every sphere or we organize anti-capitalist socialist revolution to emancipate ourselves from this stranglehold of ruthless oppression. In order to accomplish socialist revolution, you have to strengthen SUCI (C), the only genuine revolutionary party on the soil. You are already helping our Party. We need more support from you. We also need more valiant soldiers of revolution from your families. Today, CPI (M) do not get youths into its fold. But a large number of youths are joining our Party. The CPI (M) used to allure the youths with promise of providing jobs and money. But we are getting response from the young generation on the strength of higher ideology based on the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. But we need more youths, who would gallantly fight like Kshudiram-Benoy-Badal-Dinesh-Bhagat Singh-Chandrasekhar Azad-Ashfaqullah, embrace martyrdom like Pritilata. Please come forward and give your children to us for

leading a life of honour and dignity. We would appeal to the intellectuals not to suffer from frustration, not to heave sigh by seeing this harrowing situation. Please take lessons from the luminaries of the 19th and 20th centuries who boldly stood against feudal, colonial oppression and imperialism-fascism, respectively. Please do not sell your intellect and talent to the ruling parties to get some prized posts, official awards or membership of a high-powered committee. Or do not shut the door of your mind by thinking that nothing would happen in this country, no need to understand politics, all parties are the same etc. Please keep in mind that if there is a fire or flood, neither a hut nor a palace is spared. No one is able to escape. Today, the fire of destruction is aflame. It would leave no one unscathed. Right at this moment, every part of the country is plunged in dense darkness, wails of innumerable hapless people and starving children are renting the air. There is no means to get food. In this darkness, women are forced to indulge in flesh trade to feed their children as their husbands are jobless. They are all commodities in the prostitution market. Many women are trafficked in this all-pervading darkness. Screaming of raped women is piercing the sky.

So traumatic is the situation. So long as capitalism-imperialism would exist, oppression and repression would be more intensified, poverty would go on increasing, bribe, plunder, corruption, reign of the criminals, hypocrisy of the power-monger leaders, cry of assaulted women, starvation deaths - all would continue and intensify. And the only way of emancipation from this horrifying situation is to tread along the path shown by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the path to accomplish anti-capitalist socialist revolution. Today, the people of India have to decide whether they would allow this imperialist-capitalist rule and oppression to persist and strengthen fascism or organize socialist revolution.

This Party is yours, so responsibility of nurturing it is also incumbent on you

Based on Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's teachings, we have unleashed another movement. He

taught us to learn from the life and struggle of the doyens of Indian Renaissance, the representatives of uncompromising revolutionary trend of Indian freedom struggle. The youths are also to be inspired to draw lessons from them. So, we have to observe their anniversaries in a befitting manner. Just at a little distance from this Maidan, you would find the living statue of martyr Kshudiram. Being inspired by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh's teachings, Comrade Tapas Dutta, departed member of our previous Central Committee, had sculpted this statue of a great revolutionary fighter. Throughout the country, our leaders and workers are struggling to draw necessary lessons from these great men and revolutionaries. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh advised to be educated from the struggle of all the leading lights of anti-imperialist movement.

First, we all have to struggle against capitalism by learning from these great fighters and in their continuity. Then, after assimilating and exhausting their teachings, we need to step up our struggle by having a break with their ideology to attain yet higher proletarian revolutionary character. You all shower praise on our workers because of their good qualities and conduct. But you should know that the source of their grooming is Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought. Comrade Shibdas Ghosh taught us to win people with love, reasoning and decent courteous behaviour, not by falsehood or cunningness or flexing muscle. We are following that teaching only. Our appeal to you is that if you find any deviation in any of our leaders or workers, please criticize them. Because this is your Party. So, the responsibility of saving this Party is incumbent on you. With this appeal, I conclude my speech today.

Foot Notes:

- ². On Cultural Degeneration and Unemployment Problem—Whither the Solution, SW Vol. III
- ³. 3, 4, 5—Vivekananda's Collected works (Bani o Rachana)
- ⁶. Letter to Lord Amherst
- ⁷. Letter to F. J. Mouat—Vidyasagar Rachana Sangraha
- ⁸. Free translation from the address of Rabindranath on his 80th birthday felicitation

Make SUCI(Communist) candidates victorious in Tripura Assembly bye election

**6 - Agartala—Comrade Malin Debbarma
8 - Town Bardowali—Comrade Shibani Bhaumik**

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