

Proletarian Era

Volume 49 No.10
January 1, 2016

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

Price : Rs. 2.00
Total — 8 pages

What depth has unbridled spree of politics, devoid of values-ethics, by bourgeois parties reached

Be it on the floor of parliament, which the entire band of parliamentary parties hold as 'sacrosanct', or in the electoral processes trumpeted as the 'sacred' road to bourgeois democracy, in day to day politics, or long or short term political adjustments-alliances- combinations : in short, each and every field of politics in the country is recently being marked with abjectly unprincipled, totally unscrupulous, monstrously outrageous activities. The political parties have none to restrain them, face no effective hurdle. So across the whole length of the country, east to west, north to south they just go on freely with their shameful activities, the only goal of which is to earn power and pelf by hook or by crook. On different occasions we have elaborately dealt with different aspects of the anti-people politics, of these parties. But recently and increasingly with every day, the kind of politics they practise, particularly in regard to making combinations with each other, is taking such a deplorable shape that it drives any right-thinking man mad with disgust and wrath. It requires that people be aware of it.

The country is being governed by a BJP government. A few states too. Of late, the party has become the apple of eye of the ruling monopolists which thrust it to power on a so-called Modi wave to gain overwhelming majority in Parliament. So it had no immediate urgency for entering into any fresh combination beyond the existing NDA. But when it had not been in power, and now with the Modi wave vanishing when BJP is taking a beating in different elections, in Delhi or Bihar assemblies or municipal or panchayat elections in Gujarat or MP, the situation was, and may again be, different. To ride to power or to enjoy pelf it did not have any qualm in taking the hands of a party its own rightist flock like AIADMK. Also it took CPI(M), by banner and slogan Marxist, into confidence on occasions. Even now, after conquering, the Parliament as it looked around, it had West Bengal in its view. Soon it came down to that state and Modi himself took up the rein to appease the ruling TMC and its Supremo there. The slate was washed clean before that. The same Supremo, a few days back, had thought of roping in Modi, in the literal sense of the word. Anyway, the move failed, but was followed by TMC leaders facing rigorous CBI investigation charges on corruption. Since then they are blowing hot and cold intermittently; now and then the two, BJP and TMC, are putting heads together and withdraw. Sure, the future has much more to reveal on the BJP.

If BJP is the apple of eye of the monopolists

now, the Congress was so since long. True, it lost power on a few occasions, but it managed to get back aided and backed by ruling monopolists. And it too, had no qualm to take the hand it of the arch-reactionary DMK or again the social democrats like CPI(M). The deals were simple: you run the state you are in or try for that, I will help you; in return help me enjoy the Centre. Things are going on precisely the same way. How, we propose to bring out in due course.

So the two most trusted representatives of the ruling capitalist class, rather the monopolists, have their feet set deep in the quagmire of unprincipled alliance for the sake of power and pelf. Naturally it sets the example for the whole lot of bourgeois, petty bourgeois social democratic parties that survive upon this bourgeois parliamentary system and enter the arena mostly as regional players.

Delhi is the seat of the Union government. Yet Delhi turned out to give the first blow to the BJP. Aam Admi Party (AAP) formed the state government in Delhi on the slogans against corruption of Congress and BJP. It attracted many regional parties by its feat. There were

various talks of forging national combinations. It did not mature. Rather now one after another, AAP ministers and other party leaders are being charged by the court with corruption. AAP and its chief minister respond with counter-attack, bringing out skeletons from BJP cupboard. While there were so many burning problems of people, the Modi government choose to launch only Swatch Bharat or clean India campaign from the capital; now the Kejriwal government from Delhi has launched a campaign for controlling air pollution of the city. People are kept engaged with some kind of circus going on all through the year!

Coming down to the vast playground of the country, in western India, the three major states of Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan are in the fold of BJP; Modi himself sprang up from Gujarat to the national arena, leaving a stooge of him to rule the state, well placed with brute majority. Modi also set the pattern of controlling media there, so that not much can trickle out to people of other states. Even then, recent miserable defeat of BJP in local polls in rural hinterland

Contd. on page 2

SUCI(C) strongly indicts fresh move to rake up Ram Mandir issue by VHP-Sangh Parivar and calls upon people to foil this sinister conspiracy to precipitate communal conflagration

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), has issued the following statement on 31st December, 2015 :

We express our strong indignation against the sinister move on the part of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), a constituent of RSS-led arch Hindu communal Sangh Parivar, to rake up again the dormant Ayodhya Ram Mandir issue with the backing of RSS-BJP and thereby communally inflame the country once more. Peace-loving harmoniously living countrymen had witnessed how by whipping up frenzied communal passion centring round the birthplace of Rama, a mythical character, the Sangh Parivar fanatics had pumelled a historic monument like Babri Masjid into pulp and then insisted on building a Ram Mandir on the relics of the demolished monument. In the aftermath of that, the Sangh Parivar was instrumental behind orchestration of a series of worst communal bloodbath and driving a wedge between two principal religious communities in the country. It has remained no secret that the sole motive behind stoking such communal fire was to create a communal polarization in the country and pave the way for BJP, its political outfit, to be saddled in

power riding on that artificially created divide.

Now when BJP stands exposed before the people and all its pre-poll promises proved to be big hoax, the RSS-BJP-Sangh Parivar in order to divert suffering people's attention from the burning problems wreaking havoc in their life are cunningly reviving the Ram Mandir issue and inciting Hindu sentiment knowing full well the incendiary consequence of such a move. Exacerbating communal divide also helps the ruling bourgeoisie, the mentor of RSS-BJP, to scuttle the possibility of development of a united people's movement rising above caste, creed and religion, against the anti-people policies of the bourgeois BJP government.

While demanding of both Central as well as Uttar Pradesh state governments to adopt stringent measures to prevent any fresh eruption of trouble over the Ram Mandir issue, we call upon the people to remain ever alert against the dangerous ploy of Sangh Parivar to incite communal sentiments and engineer fratricidal conflicts and gory clashes and at the same time cement their unity and fraternity to foil such evil machinations of the vested interest.

Bourgeois Parliamentary Politics in India

Not only bourgeois- petty bourgeois parties even the so-called Marxists dance to the tune of naked manifestations of decadent bourgeois democracy

Contd from page 1

clearly shows how people are enjoying the BJP rule. Added to it is resurfacing of defection from one party to another between the Congress and the BJP, which has a long history in that state. Even well known leaders change sides. Rajasthan chief minister, in her capacity, has figured as one of the most prominent leaders of the BJP to be involved in corruption beyond neck. However, she survives as other leaders elsewhere too. In Maharashtra the picture is hardly different with the communal forces like BJP and Shiv Sena in power; nepotism, corruption, undercover deals are too many to cite, but those decide the combinations. Besides, the state has a force like the NCP of Sharad Pawar, submerged up to the neck in corruption, presently roaming about and throwing party bashes to pick up any alliance with any party for the sake of privilege, power and pelf.

In southern India Kerala has a history of literacy as well as caste politics and opportunism. It also has a distinction. It is one of the two states where CPI(M), that still goes by the Marxist title, has in the main, one foot, the other one being West Bengal. So it demands a special scrutiny, withheld for now. Karnataka, a rather placid state has however earned fame and name for harbouring mining barons, land and forest mafias etc., and by placing them in very high positions. The magnitude of worst kind of corruption practiced with the backing of the state government had been such that BJP had to remove a chief minister from their party on vehement people's opinion against his corrupt practises; but soon he was back. A regional party, JDS, lead by Deve Gowda once made alliance with Congress for power and when BJP took the chair, Deve Gowda's son was prompt enough to go over to BJP fold winning the post of chief minister. Andhra Pradesh – Telangana is recently coming up from the shell shocks of the secessionist movement that has split the state into two. In that background the huge temporary structure built at the expense of 7 crore (70 million) rupees at the behest of Telangana chief minister to perform a 5-day *Yajna* (ritual-fire) has caught fire, incurring a great loss. Who will make it up: people are yet to see. In the past the state saw frequent see-saw with the major power-contestants Congress and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) roping in other minor ones including the so-called Marxists oscillating between the two. Tamilnadu of this region is distinguished for its fabulously corrupt politicians. The two contending parties, DMK and AIADMK, are at the neck of each other for the power of the state government. From the seats of opposition they charge each other with corruption, come to the power alternately and practice the same from the chair. DMK was partner of the Congress-led UPA government at the Centre and had duly amassed its share and earned countrywide ill fame for its corrupt ministers or their relatives. The present chief minister, the Supremo of AIADMK is charged with limitless personal wealth amassed during her earlier tenure and is

known for her carefree attitude to do anything she likes. Apparently she smells well the buttered side of the bread and she manages to pit herself always against the DMK. Her party has now taken refuge with BJP, to ensure that it finds required ample protection from the power-that-be. Odisha appears to be lying low at present. However, its ruling BJD (Biju Janata Dal) carries with it a long legacy of corruption.

As one moves northeastward, the tumult of parochial separatist forces rent the air almost through all the states of the region. Among them, Assam has its prominence. One of the oldest outfit among the divisive forces, Ahom Gana Parishad (AGP) keeps its narrow politics alive playing between available parties, Congress, BJP or pseudo-Marxist CPI(M). All these parties find means and justification to make use of AGP knowing full well about its parochial chauvinist politics. The other states of the region are pathetically infested with separatism and / or political opportunism manifested in frequent floor crossing by members of legislative bodies at the slightest hit at their self-interests. The most recent example involves defection of 21 Congress MLAs in Arunachal Pradesh. It is thought that the black hand of BJP is well behind this move. In fact, as the ruling power of the country, the BJP is finding it convenient even prerogative for them, to spend from people's money after horse trading, overt or covert bribing and swindling etc.

From the hills of the northeast to the plains of West Bengal : Here Trinamool Congress (TMC), a relatively new-born break-away group from Congress has assumed power ousting CPI(M). Like BJP, TMC is another party boasting of practising values. And like BJP it does not hesitate to make room for utterly corrupt ministers, leaders, activists or supporters, till they are exposed. It does not also hesitate to rope in dissidents from other parties using any means, either by showering freebies- rewards- doles or more significantly by direct or veiled physical threat for life. In making combinations it slips from this end to that. Once it was in the BJP-led NDA, it had Union ministers even including its present Supremo. When NDA lost its wind with waning vote prospect, TMC fumbled backwards. Soon it rode to power pitted against the two utterly discredited parties in West Bengal, CPI(M) after its 34 year long misrule and the Congress thrown out earlier. But thereafter it oscillated between Congress and BJP, weighing poll prospect of either. Once it hobnobbed with BJP, when the latter took the rein of the Union government. Then it smelt that people of West Bengal did not welcome proximity with a communal party like BJP and its minority community support may be hampered. So it maintained a distance. The oscillation still persists. But presently on the eve of ensuing elections, when things are still fluid and uncertain, TMC is again cosyng up to Congress. Mark the way! TMC Supremo Mamta Banerjee rushes all the way to Delhi, attends a marriage ceremony of BJP Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's daughter as

a political gesture, then meets Narendra Modi, BJP Prime Minister avowedly on different issues concerning the state including bargaining for funds. Next day she wishes *happy birthday* to Sonia Gandhi, the top leader of the Congress and speaks in favour of Sonia and Rahul on the National Herald case. The Sonia-Mamata meet emanated cordiality of old friends meeting together. But to people of the country it projects nothing but wild craving for power; TMC does not feel any compunction at embracing the one, whom, the other day, it greeted with choicest invectives! The Sonia-Mamata meet also annoyed the Congress leaders of West Bengal. They had sensed a rising sentiment of the masses against TMC and its Supremo; they also felt, and it appears rightly so, that CPI(M), too, increasingly wish to tie up with the Congress to fight TMC and BJP.

Moving westward from West Bengal, Bihar has often drawn attention in politics of India. It had fervent militant movement during the independence movement. Later against the autocratic rule of Indira Gandhi too, Bihar played an important role during the JP movement. So the ruling class kept it under close observation. For a long time the state became a hotbed of filthy and murderous caste politics, limitless corruption and round-the-clock floor crossing. Every single major party, local or regional, played the caste card. Every day a new party was born, an old party disintegrated. During the later stages of this period Bihar had seen bitter conflict between Nitish Kumar's JDU, once trusted ally of BJP and Laloo Prasad's RJD, an ally of Congress. Both playing on filthy caste politics became arch enemies apparently on the question of power and joining hands with Congress or BJP. Involved in the multi- million rupee fodder scam, Laloo was branded as the king of corruption by Nitish Kumar. The former accused Nitish Kumar of hob-nobbing with communal BJP. But with the last Assembly election on the cards, the country saw them embracing each other with grinning faces, plainly viewing RJD-JDU combine with a prospect of defeating BJP, with whom the JDU was in combination only some time back. Anyway, right now the two, RJD and JDU, together have rode to the power. It remains only to be seen how long they stay together.

The largest state of north India, also of the country, Uttar Pradesh or UP, is also one of the hottest states of caste and communal politics. From here BJP attained its present rise with the demolition of the historic Babri Mosque and the Ram Janmabhumi issue. Even recently UP had heinous bloody communal flare up at Muzaffarnagar on the eve of election, to divide electorate on communal ground. Leaders from both the BJP, and the ruling Samajwadi Party (SP) were found involved in investigating the conflict and engineering the murderous spree. SP with Mulayam Singh Yadav and now his son at the leadership, is very familiar to people of India for its caste orientation, haughty leaders, limitless

Contd. on page 3

Bourgeois Parliamentary Politics in India

Vitiated politics pave the way for administrative fascism to grow fast

Contd. from page 2

corruption and sheer opportunism. One of its most well-known cases ran like this: in the election for the President of India, the SP lined up with TMC Supremo against the Congress candidate; as usual for the Congress, it resorted to arm-twisting; the SP succumbed and jumped back into the lap of the Congress in a few hours time leaving TMC Supremo flabbergasted. In the last Assembly election in Bihar, it tried to tag itself into the grand alliance with JDU and RJD; but squabble over seat adjustment was enough for SP to bid good-bye. BSP is another party in UP, rival of SP with virtually the same traits of caste-politics and corruption as characteristics. Its Supremo is infamous for her corruption and wealth disproportionate with her income. It rose from SP as a break-away group on the slogan of fighting for the dalits against the higher-caste domination, and has oscillated between Congress and BJP to fetch maximum benefit. In that game it does not find it inconvenient to go and form government with BJP, branded for its higher-caste orientation. Presently on the sideline, it is frantically trying to prove that SP and BJP have tacit understanding towards spoiling communal amity in the state of UP.

States like MP and Chhattisgarh are placed inland, that is geographically centrally in the country. They are also at the centre of corruption map. Madhya Pradesh, in particular, was rocked by a tremendous scam involving recruitment or admission to colleges and government offices. Its most striking feature was that persons concerned, the victims, the accused or even those undertaking any probe have been serially killed one after another. The relatives of the ministers or party bosses were suspected involved. BJP chief minister had been either a passive onlooker to this murderous scam or, suspected also to be involved. As usual for the power that be, he denied any wrong-doing and the Centre did not waver in giving him clean chit. At last a probe is said to be going on, attesting at least to admission of some irregularities.

But after all, starting from Congress or BJP to the regional forces like TMC, AIADMK and others, all these are branded bourgeois or petty bourgeois parties. They sustain upon votes and governmental power, without any consideration of principles and ethics. But, what about those parties which masquerade as Marxists and once used to talk about ideological stands? Their performance would speak of where they have come down to. Perhaps the most talked about among them is CPI(M). It appears, it is still suffering from the back-breaking shock from the loss at the hands of TMC in last few elections in West Bengal. Before that, in course of its 34 year long rule in that state, it virtually did away with all its leftist jargons and postures. And now out of power it does not present any difference from their present rivals TMC in its day to day utterances and activities. Neither in choosing political line-ups. It has found it convenient to line-up with any and every party whenever the move smelt some vote-gain. Thus, it posed anti-Congress to win over people in West Bengal. But at the same time it discovered secular,

democratic trait in the Congress, as against their *rightist* danger Congress(O) or later Jan Sangh or BJP, when it came to talk about Parliament elections. Then it used to forget that it was the Congress which had triggered so many communal strifes since independence. Its eyes were then focussed merely on gaining support from the Congress to gain more seats in the Parliament or some such privilege. Congress, in turn, and particularly when it faced shortage of support, sought for it from CPI(M) ensuring that in return it would not disturb CPI(M) in West Bengal to rule. It became furious with CPI(M) for their withdrawing support from the last UPA government and wanted to oust it from West Bengal. Now it is hailing the same CPI(M) to join hands with it and defeat TMC. In other states too CPI(M) made alliances if it paid to give vote results. There was no question of any principle or *rightist* character. Thus it aligned with all kinds of rightist regional parties like secessionist Telangana Rashtriya Samity or Telugu Desham Party in Andhra Pradesh, arch-reactionary AIADMK in Tamil Nadu, AGP in Assam, even BJP on the floor of the Parliament or in Kolkata Corporation. Now in Kerala, it is preparing to oust Congress from the state government power. In West Bengal on the contrary, it tended to come out of their hesitation to line up with Congress, at the same time mouthing apparently leftist slogans. Even in the last mass meeting in Calcutta, the leaders including its General Secretary criticised TMC and BJP without mentioning Congress. The careful omission was enough to indicate its growing softness towards Congress. By the latest report, in their party plenum, the difference between the West Bengal and Kerala leaders was ultimately smoothened in favour of joining hands with Congress. In the party masquerading as Marxists, while this stand of supporting Congress or not has a conflict between two top leaders behind it, both from Kerala, worst form of groupism is also evident between the veteran leader VS Achutyanandan and Pinarai Vijayan, both of Kerala, the latter once charged with corruption and expected to rise to Kerala CM at the next chance.

RSP, an ally of CPI(M) in West Bengal and Kerala, lined up with Congress in Kerala as there were differences with CPI(M) on seat adjustments. In West Bengal its leaders had been vocal against the big-brotherly attitude of CPI(M). But in both cases it continues to remain in CPI(M)-led UDF and Left Front respectively, because it pays. For that, it clamours for equal distance with Congress and BJP in West Bengal and at the national plane. CPI, once the parent force of CPI(M) and other fractions, is now reduced to another party of the CPI(M)-led 'Left Front' in West Bengal. It did not fumble to frantically coax AIADMK in Taminadu to get their leader Raja elected to the Rajyasabha. Incidentally in West Bengal it was once known as the '*kaushal* party', a party skilful in manoeuvring combinations.

This is the picture of Indian parliamentary politics today. It embraces all the bourgeois petty bourgeois social democratic parties which carry on their opportunist activities unashamed,

undeterred and with no qualm whatsoever. They do not care for any principle, any ideology or values- morality- ethics. And so they dish out opportunistic justifications like 'In politics there is no permanent friend or foe', or they need 'to play upon the mutual conflicts among their opponents' and they require 'adopting flexible tactics to meet the demands of changing situations' and so on. Their only goal is to get hold of votes to gain power and based on that, pelf. All their jargons, slogans and pledges are meant to allure people, befool them with and finally tag them behind their deeds and misdeeds. People, in their turn, are drawn into the vortex and unwittingly dragged towards a disastrous life, where there is no ideology, culture, morality, ethics. The sole purpose of life is reduced to live by any means, in any manner, a life that equals death only. But the agony of seeing politics slump into such decadence, pierces deep into any and every thinking person. They grope in the dark for finding out the reason behind.

Yes, everything has a reason. But one needs a critical scientific analysis to reach at it, to find out what made this wretched condition of politics to develop. The present situation outlined above refers to our country; but it is practically the same, with this or that variation, all through the capitalist world. And it is equally true that things were not like this, when this capitalist world was born from of the womb of feudal states. Those were the days of the Bourgeois Democratic Revolution (BDR), that is the age of development of capitalism. The spearhead of that revolution, the bourgeoisie fought against feudal autocracy, blind faith and superstitious mind-set to bring into the society new ideology, new ideas and concepts, new values-ethics of democracy, rationality, liberty and equality, and phenomenal growth of science and technology. The exponents of these, liberal bourgeoisie of that time, wanted people's voice to be represented in social activities in a system called democracy 'of the people, by the people and for the people'. So they arranged that people cast votes to elect their representatives. They wished that people at large must be made conscious of their rights as well as responsibilities; blind allegiance be replaced with rationality. So people must be educated through persuasion and ideological campaign; must be made conversant with 3Rs, that is reading, writing and arithmetic: the proponents of democracy held. In thunderous voice they maintained that keeping people uneducated, ignorant would lead to what they called 'mobocracy' instead of democracy, a system of ignorant unquestioning mobs. Emphasizing the role of ideology the proponents of bourgeois democracy also held that one man with a belief and conviction in ideology is equal to 99 with only personal interests. In all spheres of social- political activities ideology, moral values, ethics played their significant role to help society come out of the dungeons of feudalism and develop.

But the capitalist world was based on exploitation of labour by capital. Soon it degraded into its decadent stage. The more decadent it has become, the more it has

Contd. on page 7

Continuous disruption in Parliament — In whose interest?

Both the winter and the monsoon sessions of Parliament have been washouts because the Congress and its allies have repeatedly disrupted the proceedings, raising charges of corruption, communalism, intolerance against the ruling BJP. Earlier the BJP followed the same path during the UPA-2 regime on the issue of corruption and 2-G scam. Such parliamentary disruptions are not new in our country. In the late 80's when the Bofors scandal rocked the country, the opposition boycotted Parliament for 45 days. During the Narasimha Rao Government Parliament was disrupted for a fortnight over Sukh Ram bribery incident. During the last BJP-led NDA Government the Congress disrupted Parliament over the Tehelka tapes. Whoever are in the opposition are now resorting to parliamentary disruptions as a political weapon to discredit their opponents, their sole intention being to further their narrow, sectarian petty party interest. All of them, of course, talk big about parliamentary decorum and necessity of maintaining the dignity of Parliament. The bourgeois parties contend that they are fighting to safeguard the people's cause. But this is nothing but a hoodwink. The people of India have nothing to do with such deceptive, parliamentary mockfights of the bourgeois parties. The problems in their lives remain unchanged by the parties' shenanigans. It is known to all that after its emergence Parliament's main job has been viewed as enacting legislation after debates and discussions. But the parties in opposition create ruckus in Parliament to stay in the limelight and attract media attention without bothering about penetrating debates, discussions and exposés hoping that this would give them dividends in the electoral politics, and thereby giving a walk-over to the ruling bourgeois party to pass the laws through brute majority, and if this cannot be done to bring them through the backdoor by promulgating ordinances. These bourgeois parties use the parliamentary forum to feather their own nests. From a revolutionary point of view the first task is to carry out the job of exposing the misdeeds and misdemeanours of the ruling bourgeois government, and echo the voice of people's movements going on outside Parliament and thereby to strengthen the extra-parliamentary mass movements. It is in this sense that Lenin talked about using the parliamentary system to advance extra-parliamentary struggle. What is to be realized is that in a state ruled, in the final analysis, by the capitalist class through its subservient political parties, the exploited and oppressed people, in today's situation of moribund capitalism, cannot expect any relief if they simply rely on the benevolence of the ruling bourgeois parties. The only way to extract some relief lies in developing powerful mass movements centring round people's burning problems. It is too obvious to realize that neither the Congress nor other opposition parties in Parliament are treading this path. It is also to be noted that the essence of the bourgeois Parliament is that it should deliberate on issues which are relevant to the people and decide on the best course. The

bourgeois parties are throwing all such considerations to the wind, and are oblivious about the huge expenditures that are wasted through such activities.

Furthermore, what is to be viewed with grave concern is that over the years serious debates are becoming less frequent, sessions are being shortened and the frequent disruptions do not allow the functioning of Parliament. It is to be realized that in order to pave the path for final overthrow of capitalism in the country, one of the principal intermediary tasks is to disillusion the people about the bourgeois parliamentary system through struggles both inside and outside Parliament and the Assemblies so that the exploited people can be made aware of their real bourgeois character. It is obvious, therefore, that these types of disruption very much stand in the way of performing this historic task. It is also to be understood that what is going on under the façade of parliamentary democracy is nothing but pure and undiluted bourgeois dictatorship. Such disruptions, if they go on indefinitely, would in no way harm the ruling bourgeois class. On the contrary, they would strengthen its rule; they practically foist and facilitate one party rule. Instead of democratic decision making and rule by consent, which was envisaged by the exponents, liberal thinkers of bourgeoisie, tendency to rule by executive fiat would become stronger. Real issues would not get debated in Parliament, but crucial decisions would be taken by the executive head or the Cabinet. Inevitably as a result of such activities being resorted to by the bourgeois opposition parties concentration of power in the hands of the state gets further impetus.

It is to be reiterated that parliamentary democracy arose as the political superstructure of the capitalist system. When the bourgeoisie was a rising force, it fought against autocracy and 'divine right of the king', and upheld the supremacy of an elected parliament which it termed as 'sovereign parliament' to which the king must submit. The early ideologues of bourgeois democracy, Bentham, Mill, Locke, Rousseau, Voltaire and others were champions of people's rights and liberty; and opposing concentration of power in the state, they developed the concepts of the separation of the legislative, executive and judicial functions of the state, and their relative independence. Elected Parliament was viewed as a sovereign body to frame laws, and oversee the entire activities of the three organs, keeping people's legitimate democratic rights and their welfare in mind. The executive wing, that is the bureaucracy, police and armed forces would work with responsibility within the framework of legislations, and judiciary is entrusted with the charge to correctly interpret and implement the laws and check that executive action does not violate framed laws. The cardinal point became, 'government for the people, by the people, of the people'. Such a concept of the system of governance was based on the recognition of freedom and rights of the individual. This was the time of development of capitalism on the basis of free competition. But capitalism, by its

very nature, is based on exploitation of the working class and maximization of profit. From free competition of its youthful days capitalism developed into monopoly capital with concentration of capital in the hands of a few, and ultimately it reached its highest and at the same time its moribund stage of imperialism. The exploitation became more ruthless, intense and extensive. The lofty ideals degenerated; the political institutions became totally subservient to monopoly capital, so did the executive wing, and the judiciary was robbed of its relative independence. More and more power was concentrated in the highly centralized state. Gone are the ideals that parliament is duty-bound to look after the welfare of the people. In all capitalist countries, advanced or developing, parliaments are overtly or covertly controlled by the big but few industrial houses. Decisions are taken in Parliament with the objective of directly helping and protecting the interest of the corporate houses; the august body has no concern that the decisions place additional burden on the people already groaning under capitalist exploitation. Such examples are galore in our country which many articles in Proletarian Era have exposed. Elections are reduced to a farce; choice of the elected representatives does not reflect people's will, but it is the money and muscle power that decides who gets elected, while those working for the people are defeated. The outcome is that dons, mafia lords, criminals get elected in large numbers. Long back a Patna High Court Division Bench including the Chief Justice observed, "Over the passage of years the body politic is getting immune to the presence of criminals in politics, and a person who should have been behind bars and could neither be a voter nor an elector, is on the election scene as large as life." Statistics have brought out that around 30% of the elected members of Parliament and the State Assemblies have criminal cases against them. We know that bourgeois government slap criminal cases against leaders and cadres of the revolutionary party when they violate law in course of democratic mass movements. But criminal cases against many MPs involve heinous crimes like murder, rape and extortion. Thus it is no surprise that hooliganism and rowdiness have become the hallmark of the Indian Parliament.

Thus it is clear that Parliament is now an arena for the dogfight between the bourgeois parties on who can serve the capitalist class better. For the capitalist masters Parliament is no more a useful instrument. The capitalist class is manoeuvring that the system of governance through debates and discussions is done away with, and in its place a system comes wherein their trusted executives run the state machinery, needless to say, according to the diktat of the class. At the same time lackeys of the capitalist class constantly mouth the hollow words that the supremacy of Parliament must be preserved, that it is Parliament that is to enact laws and not 'mobs' on the streets, thus decrying the role of democratic movements outside Parliament. And

Contd. on page 6

In honour of Joseph Stalin Communist Party in the Russian city of Penza plans to open study centre

The communist party at Penza in Russia has declared 2016 "The Year of Stalin" and is arranging a number of events in honour of the late Soviet leader, the RBK television channel reports. Local party chief Georgi Kamenev says a Stalin Centre will host talks and show films to "counter the falsehoods and attacks on Stalin's reputation and legacy with facts and the truth".

The year kicks off with a photo exhibition at the party offices on 21 December - the wartime leader's birthday - and a series of "Stalin Readings" to mark his death on 5 March and will see "renowned scholars and public figures" gather in the city, according to Mr Kamenev. Despite the propaganda against Soviet rule that President Vladimir Putin encourages, Stalin remains bright in memory for many Russians. (Source:-BBC 08-12-15).

Human Rights Day observed in Ahmedabad, Gujarat

On 10 December- Human Rights Day - a meeting was held at Sardarbagh of Ahmedabad in Gujarat under the auspices of different mass organizations and social organizations like Movement for Secular Democracy, Peoples Union for Civil Liberties, All India Mahila Sanskritik Sangathan, Ahmedabad Women's Action Group etc. The resolution that was unanimously accepted at the meeting amply revealed through its content how human rights are violated in India. For instance, India is only second in the world, in respect of illiteracy, in the year 2014, and in the latest UNDP report on Human Development Index on account of rise in life expediency and per capita income, India continues to rank low claiming just one notch to the 130th rank.

AIMSS, AIDS0 an AIDYO demand of the government to change the Juvenile Justice Act so that no underage culprit guilty of horrendous crimes like rape, gang-rape and cruel atrocities on women goes scot free as has been with the 'Nirbhaya' case

Comrades H G Jayalakshmi, General Secretary, AIMSS, Prativa Nayak, General Secretary, AIDYO and Ashok Mishra, General Secretary, AIDS0, jointly issued the following statement on 21-12-2015 :

"The entire country got terribly shocked to see that the juvenile convict accused in the Nirbhaya gang-rape and murder case, who surpassed all other convicts both in rape and cruelty on Nirbhaya that led to her painful death, walked away free completing only three years stay in a special home.

Not only the parents of the victim Jyoti Singh Pandey, who is now popularly known as Nirbhaya, many right thinking people more particularly the Delhi Women's Commission (DWC) have opposed the release of the convict juvenile. The DWC has even gone to the Supreme Court asking whether the convict who had exhibited extreme criminal mind while committing this heinous crime, is really reformed and no more a threat to the society. As reported by The Hindu (dated 21.12.2015) the DWC has expressed serious apprehension "considering the heinous nature of the crime committed by the respondent [the juvenile convict] as well as his behaviour and attitude in a special home confirmed by the government agencies that the respondent may continue to have perverse bent of mind which poses a serious threat to women in particular and society at large".

Everybody expected that such a criminal would get nothing less than capital punishment. But this could not be made possible precisely because of the serious limitation in the Juvenile Justice Act of our country. Naturally, all the right thinking people of the country including Nirbhaya's parents felt it a 'travesty of real justice'.

Seeing the entire episode of gang-rape and murder of Nirbhaya and its legal outcome, and also by observing the continual rise of juvenile crime in the society, a real apprehension is growing among the people about the future. There is a cry among the people for an immediate change of the Juvenile Justice Act.

The confusions that prevail in some persons regarding the change of the Juvenile Justice Act get much cleared off by a recent order by the Supreme Court Justice Dipak Mishra as reported by The Hindu (dated 21.12.2015) in which he rightly points out: "There can be a situation when the commission of an offence may be totally innocuous as emerging from a circumstance where a young boy is not aware of the consequences. But in cases of rape, dacoity, murder which are heinous crimes, it is extremely difficult to conceive that the juvenile was not aware of the consequences."

The rapidly deteriorating situation in which rape, gang-rape and murder are increasingly growing all over the country, even in the capital city of Delhi under the nose of the state and the central governments, demands an immediate change of the Juvenile Justice Act so that no criminal after committing crime like rape and murder can escape stringent punishment on the plea of being a juvenile.

We strongly urge the Central Government to take immediate and necessary steps to change the Juvenile Justice Act accordingly."

Prolonged struggle of comrades help build Nagpur AIDS0-AIDYO office

The inauguration of the state office of AIDYO and AIDS0 of Maharashtra was held on 23rd December, 2015 at Pandhrahodi, Ramnagar of Nagpur. This historic task was accomplished as an outcome of a prolonged effort of a very few comrades, imbued with the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. There was continuous propaganda and collection for the office, which created emotion among people and created appreciation for the organisations. On 23rd December tribute to the Kakori martyrs was offered by Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, Member, Central Committee, SUCI(C), Comrade Dr BR Manjunath, President, AIDYO, Comrade Ashoke Mishra , General Secretary, AIDS0, Comrades Anil Tyagi and Promod Kamble, leading organisers of Party and AIDYO- AIDS0 organisers and supporters of Maharashtra. Comrade Dr BR Manjunath and Comrade Ashoke Mishra hoisted the flag of AIDYO and AIDS0 respectively. The inauguration meeting started with garlanding the portrait of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the Proletariat by Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, Comrade Dr BR Manjunath, Comrade Ashoke Mishra,

Comrade Joyram Viswakarma, Convenor of AIDYO, Maharashtra and Comrade Vijendra Rajput, All India Council Member of AIDS0. Comrade Joyram Viswakarma presided over the meeting. In her brief speech Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee described how the office was built based on the struggle of a few comrades as well as how AIDYO and AIDS0 are building up movements in the state on issues of youths and students, how our party was founded by Comrade Shibdas Ghosh with a very few comrades and how our Party is fighting relentlessly for the toiling masses. She appealed to the audience to come forward and strengthen the organisation. Comrade Dr BR Manjunath also hailed the struggling effort of AIDYO and AIDS0 and appealed to proceed with the same spirit to move forward to take up the issues of students and youths. Comrade

Ashoke Mishra said that the building of the Maharashtra state office proves that everything is possible if there is determination. Comrade Vijendra Rajput rendered an emotional speech and Comrade Madhuri Nikure, Incharge of AIDYO, Nagpur District delivered the welcome speech. The meeting was concluded with the song on Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.



Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, member, Central Committee, SUCI(C) addressing at the inauguration of state office of AIDS0- AIDYO, on 23rd December, in Nagpur



SUCI(C) held a huge rally of over 20,000 people at Bhubaneswar in Odisha on burning problems of people's life and livelihood ; the rally was lead by Comrade Dhurjati Das, Odisha State Secretary, Comrade Shambhunath Nayek, State Committee member and former MLA and other leaders of the Party; a memorandum was submitted to the Chief Minister

SUCI(C) Odisha holds huge rally on people's burning problems

At the call of SUCI(C) Odisha State Committee, more than 20,000 toiling people marched in a protest rally on 7 December from Bhubaneswar Railway Station to Odisha Assembly House to press for implementation of a charter of demands. The charter included demands that the whole State of Odisha be declared drought-stricken, steps be taken to prevent suicides of farmers and compensation be paid to the next of kin of farmers that committed suicide, assault on women to be stopped, price hike be controlled, cheaper electricity be provided, pass-fail system reintroduced and ASHA-Anganwari-Mid-day-meal-Bidi and Construction workers regularized etc. The protest meeting was presided over by State Secretary Comrade Dhurjati Das and addressed by state leaders. Thereafter a five-member delegation led by former MLA and State Committee member Comrade Shambhunath Nayek submitted the charter of demands to the Chief Minister.

AIDSO inaugurate Public Library in Uttarakhand

At the initiative of AIDSO, under the auspices of a public committee comprising eminent citizens and teachers Srinagar Public Library was inaugurated by Shri Maitaniji, ex-president of Srinagar Palika on 20 December, 2015 in Srinagar town, the educational-cultural centre of Uttarakhand. On the occasion, Professor R C Dimri, the President of the library, spoke about the importance of a library. Comrade Meenakshi Joshi, AIMSS leader from Gujarat dealt on library movement and its impact on society. Professor Surekha Dangwal appealed to all students and teachers to study seriously so as to seek ways of solving today's problems. Professor S S Rawat, Vice-President of the library also spoke on the occasion. The programme was attended by a large number of students, teachers and citizens. It was decided

that student volunteers of AIDSO, Uttarakhand will be running the library.

Tripura DSO submit memorandum on reintroduction of Pass-Fail System

On 22 December Tripura State Committee of AIDSO staged a deputation to the School Education Department of the state in demand of reintroduction of Pass-Fail System right from the next session, recruiting adequate number of teachers in schools, distribution of textbooks from January 2016, etc. A 4-member delegation submitted a memorandum to the Joint Director of School Education, Tripura Government, who agreed on the validity of the demands and assured action.

SUCI(C) victory in Uttar Pradesh village panchayat election

In Jaunpur district, UP, at the four-tier Panchayat election, Comrade Dineshkanti Pandey won with a large margin the Pahitiapur Village Committee seat belonging to the Badlapur subdivision. Comrade Dineshkanti of Phattapur Local Committee of the SUCI(C) has since long been building up movements centring round different problems of the local people. This is why, the villagers discarding ideas involving race, caste or community and shunning temptations and incitements voted for such a candidate who stood for peoples' struggle. On 20 December, the villagers held a 'social-cultural meet' at Pahitiapur Primary School ground to welcome the newly elected Panchayyat member. Comrade Pandey greeted the villagers with thanks and pledged for building up more powerful movements. In the same area at Babura village Comrade Raviprakash Singh, another candidate of our party registered a victory too with a huge margin.

In addition, in Pratapgarh District at Seranpur Athgaon, Comrade Alokumar Singh of Gajria Local Committee and in Balia District at Atrauli Karmauta, Comrade Makaradhwaj Chauhan, Secretary, Nagra Local Committee, SUCI(C) have been elected as the village chief.

Bihar people pay tribute to martyrs of independence movement

Patna

In commemoration of the martyrdom of Asfaquallah, the Bhagat Singh Commemoration Committee held a meeting at Langartolli Chowraha in Patna, Bihar on 20 December to pay homage to the great martyr of the independence movement . It was presided over by Dr. Subhas Dubey. Addressing the gathering, Suresh Phulvevi, Secretary, Paigam Cultural Society stressed that the revolutionaries and soldiers of the independence movement rose above caste and creed and fought shoulder to shoulder. Thus, Asfaquallah was a committed Muslim and Ramprosad Bismil a committed Arya Samaj follower, and both laid down their lives together. Today parties in power resort to the policy of divide-and-rule to keep the people disunited, so that they are not able to build up movements based on demands of their life. Taking inspiration from the martyrs the youth of today should unite to struggle for solving their problems. In his address, Jitendra Kumar also said parties in power want to destroy the unity of the masses branding them as Hindus and Muslims. President of Bhagat Singh Commemoration Committee, Shaukat Ali appealed to the youth to follow the

instances of the great martyrs like Asfaquallah, Ramprosad and Bhagat Singh and take the nation forward.

Saraiya

AIDSO and AIDYO jointly organized a meeting on 19 December to commemorate the Kakori- case martyrs of Indian freedom movement at Khaira Chowk of Saraiya, Muzaffarpur in Bihar. SUCI(C) Bihar State Committee member Comrade Rajkumar Chowdhury, pointed out that even 68 years after independence, the dreams of the martyrs have not been realized. Rather the people today suffer under the burden of serious problems and all-out degradation in respect of values and culture. SUCI(C) State Committee member, Comrade Jogendra Ram pointed out that parties in power are taking anti-people policies and fanning up communal and religious intolerance which is creating serious disturbances for the right-thinking people. Jogendra Thakur presided over the meeting. Krishna Kumar Singh, Madhav Bhagat, Ranjit Kumar as well as teachers from the locality were among others who spoke. Songs were rendered on the occasion.

Disruption in Parliament

Contd. from page 4

the subservient media is vociferously propagating this idea.

Given the scenario as depicted above the dangerous phenomenon of continuous disruption of Parliament and the Assemblies is to be studied, and the inherent danger of facilitating and foisting one-party rule, and the further strengthening of the ongoing process of entrenching administrative fascism must be grasped by our countrymen. Throughout the country powerful public opinion is to be built up, which must lead to development of strong mass movements which alone can force the bourgeois parties to retreat from treading this fascist path.

Bourgeois Parliamentary Politics in India

People’s struggle against unprincipled politics is to be made conducive to struggle against capitalism, the root

Contd. from page 3

severed its link with ideology, morality, values and ethics. Free election, fair effective governance have become a far cry. They have been reduced into battle fields of money, muscle and propaganda to gain power and pelf with overt and covert patronage of the monopolists and with the police-military-administration-bureaucracy-even judiciary kept in charge to keep the process running. People, as and when they lack adequate political consciousness are duped, bribed, left intoxicated and unquestioning, even oblivious, of their problems, unattached to any rationality. And the parliamentary parties aided and abetted by their master, the ruling class and its ancillaries, keep on with their nefarious activities, aggravating the decadence of the ambience even more. The facade of parliamentary democracy is maintained to befool people. Only the trusted faithful subservient agents of the monopolists are preferred and monitored to reach the governmental power. The system runs on; and the people also carry on their life to be drawn more and more into destitution, poverty, illiteracy, blind allegiance to the system. Notwithstanding variations, this basic downward trend is the same throughout the capitalist-imperialist world today in this age of moribund capitalism. It is true in its every aspect in our country too. And behind these virulent trends, even the vestiges of pro-people approach and welfare measures, which were there at the very beginning of the capitalist system, are fast disappearing. Parliament and democracy are reduced to bodies of power and pelf seeking opportunist, corrupt individuals, the power gets concentrated in the hands of extra-parliamentary machineries of the state making the road for administrative fascism smoother, despite maintaining the facade of parliamentary democracy. Under the cover of democracy what continues is pure and simple bourgeois dictatorship in its naked form.

But this cannot go on for ever, not even for long. Obviously so long as the capitalism will exist, the system will breed all these vicious trends. And so the ultimate goal is set at overthrowing this system and establish a new socialist system in its place. But that cannot be attained in a day, overnight. And till then, people put into the yoke of drudgery and exploitation must come out of their inaction, their helplessness, and build up united organized mass and class struggles on each and every burning problems of their life. All these struggles for immediate result, should be made conducive to the ultimate struggle for overthrowing capitalism. Thus people need to build up their efforts to resist this vicious trend of unprincipled politics, as it tends to become uglier and uglier with days under capitalism.

There should, however, be no illusion at all that in the parliamentary democracy today, which is really a facade of it, people can not have any relief from their thousand and one burning problems. Only the powerful extra-parliamentary democratic mass and class struggles built on the edifice of the correct ideology and principles as well as lofty culture-

morality-ethics can create whatever pressure needed to force the governments to concede just demands of people. Of course, side by side, it is required to use the floor of legislative bodies, assemblies and parliament to the extent it is possible to vent out people’s voice there.

These uphill tasks cannot be performed without a correct revolutionary leadership, which does not fall prey to the temptations of winning a MLA or MP or a ministerial chair at the cost of ideology and principle. Only such leadership assiduously strives towards building up people’s organized, united struggles on their burning problems including the rampant growth of opportunistic politics bereft of any ideology and principle. In India it is SUCI (Communist) which has grown with this goal of anti-capitalist revolution. To fulfil that revolutionary commitment to the exploited people of the country, it is making every effort towards building up formidable mass and class struggles across the country, against the problems thrust upon people by the capitalist system. The road it leads to is the road laid open to the people to tread upon. This is the need the situation places upon them to realize.



Mass squatting by AIMSS,AIDYO,AIDSO on 16 December at Guwahati in Assam against atrocities on women, including Delhi rape-case

AISEC movement against distortion in school textbooks widely acclaimed in Karnataka

All India Save Education Committee, Karnataka Chapter undertook a series of programmes like seminars, detailed discussions, and district level workshops against rampant distorted, unscientific, unhistorical views in school textbooks of the state demanding their immediate rectification. A Workshop in November 2014, was followed by submission of opinions to the state Education Minister. Under pressure from the teachers and academic community, the state government constituted a Text Book Revision Committee with eminent writer Dr. Baraguru Ramachandrappa as the Chairman. Then there were a South Zone level Education Convention in February, 2015 and two delegations to the Chairman of the Text Book revision committee. And finally in order to rectify factual errors and distortions in text books, an Educational Meet with eminent personalities and teachers was held in Bangalore on 20 December 2015 on the theme of “Designing Textbooks based on scientific and democratic principles.”

In the Meet Prof. S. Shettar, historian and former Chairman of the Indian Council for Historical Research pointed out : ‘The rightist forces are always too eager to bring in changes in education and culture. As soon as they come to power they become very enthusiastic about revising the primary school syllabi and filling the minds of children with their ideology’. Dr Baruguru Ramachandrappa, the Chairman of the Text book Revision Committee took part and received the detailed report of errors and corrections evolved by the AISEC. He said : ‘The entire educational set up carries with it the ugly marks of (this) social division wherein we witness the division among students studying in government schools and international schools as per their economic backgrounds. ... The questionnaire of New Education Policy, framed by the present NDA government... asks whether permanent teachers are essential for educational institutions. It signifies the conspiracy to weaken the public funded education institutions’. Dr.

Prithvi Datta Chandra Shobhi (Historian and Professor, Karnataka State Open University, Mysore and a Columnist) emphasized objective study of the development of history and the transformation that came about in our society. Smt. K. Uma, Karnataka State Secretary, AISEC related the ongoing efforts as ‘attempt to prepare the ground to spread fascist culture’. Mathematician and Vice-President of AISEC, Karnataka Dr Balachandra Rao spoke on “Scientific achievements in ancient India – myth and reality”, Writer and Educationist Prof. P.V. Narayana spoke on “Role of textbooks in moulding the young minds”. Senior Journalist and Vice-President of AISEC, Karnataka Sri Sanath Kumar Belagali made the concluding speech; Dr. Chandragirish, Member, Secretariat, Karnataka State AISEC presided over.

The impact of the movement could be noted in prominent and widest coverage in print and electronic media including leading dailies and leading TV channels of the state.

SUCI(C) MLA writes to Prime Minister on the immediate need to take remedial action to save the starving tea garden workers of West Bengal

To
The Hon'ble Prime Minister
Government of India

16 December 2015

Sir,

I like to draw your kind attention to a matter of grave concern that needs immediate remedial action on the part of the central government:

1. About 16 tea gardens belonging to the Goenkas-owned Duncan group have been lying closed for more than 8 months resulting in a serial death of the workers due to prolonged starvation as they have neither received any salary for the period of closure nor is there any facility of rudimentary healthcare.
2. Death toll has reached as high as 70 in the last 3 months and those alive are virtually staring at death in a precarious condition.
3. The corporate owner has left the gardens without any notice of lock out or suspension of work and as a result of that, the workers are deprived of their right to get the paltry aid that the state government provides to the workers of gardens under lock out.
4. Six more tea gardens of the area are also closed and there also the workers are dying of hunger and going without salary, food or medicine.
5. The tea industry of the state which once was a pride of the nation is now in a critical stage because of criminal neglect on the part of the garden-owners who are only concerned with maximizing profit by all undue means.

In view of this I request you, as a representative of the people, to come forward and take over the gardens for the sake of tea industry as well as the suffering hapless workers.

Sincerely Yours
Tarun Kanti Naskar
Member of Legislative Assembly, West Bengal

SUCI(C) flays exorbitant hike in Railway Tatkal fare

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), has issued the following statement on 24 December, 2015 :

It seems that BJP-led central government, apart from pursuing other highly anti-people policies, is on a spree to hike railway fares exorbitantly at definite intervals. Beginning with 14.2% increase in passenger fare immediately after riding to power in June 2014 followed by a slew of such measures like full adult fare for children between 5 and 12 years of age and close on the heel of doubling the minimum fare in passenger train, the target this time has been the 'Tatkal' fares. According to latest Railway notification,

- The minimum tatkal charges for sleeper class have been raised from Rs. 90 to Rs. 100 and the maximum charge from Rs. 175 to Rs. 200. The amount will vary depending upon the distance travelled.
- The travel charges in AC-III tier have been increased from Rs. 250 to Rs. 300 while the maximum charges have gone up from Rs. 350 to Rs. 400
- The minimum charges for AC-II tier have been raised from Rs. 300 to Rs. 400, and the maximum charges have been hiked from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500.

Passengers travelling in the executive class will need to pay Rs. 400 instead of Rs. 300 as the minimum tatkal booking charge and Rs. 500 against the earlier sum of Rs. 400 as maximum cost.

What is significant is that once again the Government conveniently bypassed Parliament and waited for winter session to end and then announce up to a 33 per cent increase in 'Tatkal' charges. It may be recalled that a year back, the Railway ministry announced that 50 per cent of 'Tatkal' quota tickets would be sold under the existing system and the subsequent 50 per cent under 'premium 'Tatkal' quota of dynamic pricing meaning more the demand, more the cost. The whole and sole aim is to fleece and squeeze common passengers while there is rapid deterioration in every aspect of railway service including safety of journey being under constant threat. Proving the promise of the government of bettering the service consequent on spurt in fare chart a hoax and utter deception, the number of accidents has gone up, incidents of theft, burglary as well as outraging modesty of female passengers are on an alarming rise making train journey virtually a nightmare.

We once again reiterate that such savage economic assaults on the part of the bourgeois government on a regular basis would not only go unabated but assume further proportion unless the suffering people close their rank in right earnest without any further loss of time and organize a united powerful protest movement under correct leadership and exert immense pressure on the government to dare not mount such attacks on them.

MSC held medical camps in flood-affected Tamilnadu

Monsoon rains having hit hard the lives of people in Tamilnadu and adjoining parts of Puducherry, Medical Service Centre (MSC) organized relief efforts in the state. A medical camp was set up at Alambadi in coastal Cuddalore district on December 13 and 14 and other camps were operated from December 15 to 22 in Chennai, particularly its slum areas at Vyasarpadi, Korukkupet, Pulianthoppe and West Mambalam. Doctors and medical workers from adjacent states, especially Kerala and Karnataka, as well as students, youth and women volunteers of AIDS, AIDYO, AIMSS and Breakthrough Science Society from different parts of Tamilnadu worked together. Among them were Dr.

Gangadhar and Dr. Rajashekhar from MSC Karnataka, and Dr. Babu and Dr. Mukundan from MSC Kerala. Local people, including among others, a local pharmacist and a young employee of Pfizer (a medical company) who helped to dispense medicines also joined with enthusiasm in the effort. Utterly devastated and pauperized people of the flood affected areas were subjected to untold misery. On top of that, relief and measures for rehabilitation from the state government were inadequate, to say the least. Besides, subsequent spate of rains and overflow from lakes and discharges from reservoirs also badly hit efforts of relief and recovery of those affected.



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH