

Proletarian Era

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Founder Editor-in-Chief : COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

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“The petty-bourgeois democrats, those sham socialists who replaced the class struggle by dreams of class harmony, even pictured the socialist transformation in a dreamy fashion — not as the overthrow of the rule of the exploiting class, but as the peaceful submission of the minority to the majority which has become aware of its aims. This petty-bourgeois utopia, which is inseparable from the idea of the state being above classes, led in practice to the betrayal of the interests of the working classes, as was shown, for example, by the history of the French revolutions of 1848 and 1871, and by the experience of “socialist” participation in bourgeois Cabinets in Britain, France, Italy and other countries at the turn of the century.”

V I Lenin

From *State and Revolution*

The Hour and its Need

Education faces total peril : time to rise and save it

Education in India is under fresh barrage of severe onslaughts. On several earlier occasions we have shown how education for common people has been under relentless attack virtually since independence, both in the content of education and in how it is catered. The dream of the makers of the Indian nation and our freedom fighters had been of a universal secular scientific education for all. They resisted with all their might the attempts of the British imperialist rulers to curtail education, to bring in harmful changes in the syllabus or to infringe on academic autonomy. For a brief period after independence, under pressure of people's opinion and residual impact of glorious freedom struggle, the ruling Indian capitalist class to whom the state power had been passed on, did not intervene in any significant way towards providing education under the aegis of the government. But as the ruling class set on consolidating their already crisis-ridden Indian capitalist economy and that too as inseparable part of the moribund world capitalism, they were haunted by two fears. One, was that, with employment opportunity on a steady decline in crisis-stricken capitalist economy, it would be dangerous for the rulers to allow the number of educated unemployed to swell. An educated mind would always tend to enquire what was the cause behind this shrinkage in job market. Second one was that, as the crisis deepened and as the ruling class persistently tried to squarely pass on the burden of that crisis on to people, the latter's resentment against rising unemployment, poverty and such others naturally mounted. If correct political consciousness dawned upon the toiling masses, their growing discontent and wrath could find right direction posing a serious threat to the very existence of the exploitative capitalist system. Education was certainly the vehicle to help people achieve that required political consciousness. Hence, it was the pressing class need of the rulers to target education from all directions.

The first axe fell on higher education. With

open declaration to curb educated unemployed, the then Congress-led government brought in a seat restriction scheme to scuttle access to higher education. Policy to raise cost of education in a phased manner was also rolled out. As initial step to dilute the content of education and strip it of its essence of man making, character building and fostering a rational mind, the ruling class cunningly manipulated curricula, promoted blind faith and fatalist submission in place of rationality and struggle. Strangely, it was the CPI (M)-led Front government of West Bengal which provided fodder to their canon by abolishing English as second language and introducing no-detention policy, both at the primary level of schools. To thwart resistance, they nakedly subverted academic autonomy by virtually turning educational institutions into appendages of the government. Handicapped in English, the students found themselves incapable of entering higher level of education. Private English-medium schools started mushrooming in West Bengal as well as in other states.

Finally, it was the 'New Education Policy' framed by the Rajiv Gandhi government of Congress in 1986 (NEP'86) which unravelled in detail the entire gamut of bourgeois conspiracy to commoditize and commercialize education. Instead of noted academicians and educationists, the responsibility of designing the policy of education was entrusted to front-ranking monopolists, like Ambani and Birla. They bluntly pronounced that education was unique investment with ensured return, because people would try beyond their limits to get their children educated. They also made it clear that the government must abandon their responsibilities towards educating people. It gave way to gradual devaluation of government schools and mushrooming of private ones. Private investors, led by the Indian and foreign corporates, were drawn into education business and the profit making motive made the investors, as well as the institutions harvest money and their teachers and students were

pushed more and more into a money-making, career building mode. On the other hand, exorbitantly rising cost tended to debar more and more students from poorer families from having any decent education. Instead of universal education, the system became highly discriminatory. On one side of it, there were the vast multitudes of general students from common poorer families. They were set to be provided with the MLL, i.e., Minimum Level of Learning, with a tag of job-oriented vocational education, which downgraded even that scant education into one with the purpose and outlook of career-building, self-seeking end. On the other side, the few privileged schools which were run at a high cost, with digitized learning etc., provided OLL, i.e., Optimum Level of Learning to the handful privileged few to compete in the global market.

The Union government of Congress had brought the policy in. State governments of all other parliamentary parties, including the BJP and even the so-called Marxists took up the thread enthusiastically. There were other changes, for the worse. No-detention policy introduced in schools in states like West Bengal or in Andhra Pradesh- Telangana (then a single state AP), was incorporated in the NEP'86 and finally further extended into much trumpeted RTE Act in 2009. It struck at the very root of teaching- learning process, no-detention effectively giving way to no-study and thus to disenchantment, drop-out and thus further curtailment of education for common poorer masses of students, languishing under back-breaking poverty. The BJP brought in the element of communalization into the content when it came to power as the NDA government. In the name of value-based education they whipped up majority community religious thoughts and sentiments, superstitious ideas to destroy the democratic- secular-scientific fabric of education, to whatever small extent those might have been persisting till then. There were also the projects like DPEP, SSA,

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The Hour and its Need

Curtailment of education for the masses has been the main plank of education policies, past or present

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dished out, sponsored and sustained by the imperialist capital, provided through World Bank, IMF etc. Those thrust the responsibility onto the parents to ensure that their wards are educated; governments were asked to further shed off their responsibilities; the corporate sectors and their education business were fabulously enlivened.

RSS-BJP follow the same policies

It was on this broad background that the present Union government took charge, with the rabid communal RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh) -BJP combine holding the rein. Since coming to power, they are out to refashion education system. On the plea of doing away with lapses of the NEP'86, they are preparing for introducing a new education policy. But even a cursory scan of the relevant documents as also the reality reveal that they are simply continuing with all the existing policies and measures of the NEP'86. Those are not only kept alive, but are even being given shape to with more vengeance. Not only continued commercialization-privatization is making education expensive. Recently the BJP-led Union government submitted its 'offers' for 'market access' in 'Higher education Sub-sector' to WTO. When brought into effect, it would open up education sector of the country to the WTO-GATS regime making education of this country a *normal* commodity for international trade. It would thus add fuel to the fire of already mounting unbridled privatization-commercialization in education. The latter would be made still more inaccessible not only to the poorer section of the masses but even to people of relatively higher echelon. Accompanying it, the very purpose of education will be more commercialized, course content degraded into still more vocationalization or global market-oriented, academic autonomy, democratic rights of teachers-students-employees associated with educational institutions and scope for independent research will be curbed to follow the diktats of the WTO- GATS. Obviously the move being directed towards protecting and promoting the interests of the capital of Indian and foreign corporate houses will come at the cost of the interests of students-teachers and people of the country, its glorious education system with a long tradition of scholarship and knowledge.

Then again the most disastrous decision to abolish pass-fail system in schools incorporated in the RTE Act 2009, which as mentioned, has virtually totally destroyed the drive and desire for teaching and learning and has thus acted as an essential part of the design for curtailing scope of higher education for the common students, particularly of poor and middle class families, still remains in operation. Despite total rejection of the policy by virtually the entire population of students-teachers-guardians and educationists of the country reflected in written submission from 20 odd different state governments and declaration by the BJP-led Rajasthan state government to reintroduce pass-fail system (i.e., withdrawal of no-detention policy), and despite the fact that the policy document on the proposed new national education policy presented by the

current Union government explicitly admits that school *children are not learning the basic skills*, of reading, writing and arithmetic, the same BJP-led Union government is still dilly-dallying and buying time.

The policy document on the proposed new national education policy is further replete with instances that the present Union government is enthusiastically continuing the policies of the earlier government like withdrawal of government responsibility towards education of people, setting up of strong centre of power for control over educational affairs in the name of bringing in uniformity and control etc. All these measures faced vehement criticism from education-loving people of the country as being detrimental to the cause of education and prevented the earlier government from implementing these in full. Yet, the present government silently carries on with the same policies under verbose lip service of amending the earlier lapses.

RSS- BJP hidden agenda: Saffronization

But over and above, the RSS-BJP combine which now monitors the BJP-led Union government is busy with a still more dangerous attack on education. Cunningly using the lapses of the Congress-led UPA government and people's sentiment against their anti-people policies, the BJP government has set out with implementation of the RSS-BJP agenda of saffronization of education on their branded concepts of *Hindutwa*. Interestingly they keep this agenda totally hidden under the many-worded much-hyped national education policy document. This ushers in new, harder days for education in India.

Never effectively protesting the Congress government's policies, rather accepting those wholly, the RSS- BJP combine repudiate those only after coming to power and that too for playing to the gallery. They thus hold that the education which the earlier governments promoted as modern education was really westernized. They called for its *Indianization*, a call which was aimed at whipping up of national frenzy and thus hoodwink people. What their real intent is, is clear from their own words.

In June 2015, addressing a conference of Hindu Education Board, an RSS-affiliate, attended by their important personalities like Union HRD minister, Railway minister and minister of state for Finance, RSS general secretary Krishna Gopal stressed on "complete overhaul" of Indian education saying "only assimilation of Hindu thoughts into country's education can provide perfection of means and finish confusion of ends".

In September 2015, during deliberations at a meeting of Education and Culture Ministers of BJP ruled states and the Centre, besides RSS affiliates, the Minister of State for Culture Mahesh Sharma provided details of the BJP government's plan to rid the country of "cultural pollution" and inculcate "values" among young minds and said that the government will not be deterred by criticism that it was trying to promote RSS ideology.

And what that ideology is, becomes clear from Primary and Secondary level text books

made compulsory in Gujarat. There, Dinanath Batra a well known ideologue of RSS held that 'Modernization of education does not mean westernization, but Indianization' (p8). And his *Indianization* is intimately linked with religion as he thinks 'It is better to die for one's religion. An alien religion is a source of sorrow'. (p118){from *Sikhhan nu Bharatiyakaran* by Batra}.

Elaboration of this theme is obtained from various points. The RSS-BJP combine, i.e., their leaders and activists are rewriting textual history in the line of and on the basis of the *Hindutwavadi* outlook of RSS/Sangh Parivaar, which attempts are criticised by renowned and established historians. In course of this attempt, those writers are not only doing away with 'scientific temper', they are even betraying basics of 'historical temper', the critics hold. They are catering mythological anecdotes as historical facts, concealing the truth that it is possible to be proud of Indian achievements in the past without claiming mythology to be history'.

In their attempts to cater their *Hindutwavadi* outlook, the RSS- BJP combine also target school textbooks. New textbooks even for early school children are being filled with superstitious ideas, false notions, wild even ridiculous claims of ancient glory of India, and so on. They are inspired by the pronouncements from none other than the BJP Prime Minister who even commented that the elephant head of the Hindu Idol Ganesh showed that Indians had known plastic surgery. It is futile to provide the long list of such ridiculous claims. However, one or two may be of interest. In some book for children by Dinanath Batra, mentioned above, it is claimed for example, that stem cell research was known to Indians some thousands of years ago as the birth of 100 *kauravas* of the epic *Mahabharata* proved. Here again, educationists, professors, teachers and students are voicing their protest from different parts of the country.

Even the platform of science and international scientists like the Science Congress was and is being disgraced by downright anti-science ideas and pseudo-science to claim that discoveries in modern science including certain fundamental inventions were all made in ancient India or that Shiva, the Hindu God was an eminent environmentalist. Science Congress papers are being invited by the departments of Sanskrit of different universities and the writers neither seem to have been engaged in any kind of serious pursuit of science or research, nor were they scientists of any repute. Yet these self-styled authors go to the extent of claiming that the most advanced inter-planetary aircrafts were known in Vedic India and the *Kurukshetra war* of the epic *Mahabharata* escalated beyond the earth to the moon and finally to the Mars. The warriors reached those places on aeroplanes. They claimed : 'To understand Einstein, one needs to read Vedas', and so forth. Obviously such glorification of ancient India could only draw ridicule and criticisms from eminent educationists and scientists of the country and abroad. But that did not dampen the RSS-BJP people. In August 2014 a Supreme Court judge asserted that given

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The exploiter and the exploited cannot be equal

(Of late, there is a trend among not only a section of bourgeois intellectuals but even those who call themselves Marxists-Leftists to talk of pure democracy expunged from its class basis. Taking a cue from that, they sing in praise of bourgeois parliamentary democracy and seek to create illusion about bourgeois vote politics which negates the need for preparing the masses for anti-capitalist socialist revolution and establish proletarian democracy. In the name of 'recognizing the changing situation' and necessity to come out of 'orthodoxy' of classical Marxism-Leninism, a sizeable section of 'official leftists' in avid pursuit of rotten revisionism-reformism are thus vulgarizing the basic tenets of Marxian science. The selected excerpts from the first portion of great Lenin's celebrated work "The Proletarian Revolution and the renegade Kautsky" might help in rebutting the revisionists-reformists and uphold the kernel of Marxist analysis of the question.)

"Kautsky, the biggest authority in the Second International, gives us a highly typical and glaring example of how the verbal recognition of Marxism has led actually to its conversion into 'Struveism,' or into 'Brentanoism' (that is, into a liberal bourgeois doctrine, which recognizes a non-revolutionary 'class' struggle of the proletariat, and which was most shockingly expressed by the Russian writer Struve and the German economist Brentano). We see this also from the example of Plekhanov. By means of obvious sophistry they rob Marxism of its revolutionary living spirit; they recognize everything in Marxism except revolutionary methods of struggle, preaching and preparing them, training the masses precisely in this direction.... The working class cannot play its world-revolutionary role unless it wages a ruthless struggle against this renegade, spinelessness, subservience to opportunism and unexampled vulgarization of the theories of Marxism. Kautskyism is not a fortuity, but a social product of the contradictions within the Second International, a combination of loyalty to Marxism in words and subordination to opportunism in deeds.... Kautsky... completely distorted Marx's teaching, trimming it up to suit opportunism... The question of the dictatorship of the proletariat is a question of the relation of the proletarian state to the bourgeois state, of proletarian democracy to bourgeois democracy. One would think that this is as plain as noonday. But Kautsky...utterly fails to understand what is what! ...he poses it in the manner of the liberals, speaks of democracy in general, and not of *bourgeois* democracy; he even avoids using this precise, class term, and, instead, tries to speak about "pre-socialist" democracy...which is so agreeable to the bourgeoisie, for it is tantamount to embellishing bourgeois democracy, and obscures the question of the proletarian revolution... How is this monstrous distortion of Marxism by that Marxist textualist Kautsky to be explained? As far as the philosophical roots of this phenomenon are concerned, it amounts to the substitution of eclecticism and sophistry for dialectics.... Kautsky has made increasingly rapid progress in this art of being a Marxist in words and a lackey of the bourgeoisie in deeds, until he has become a virtuoso in it... It is natural for a liberal to speak of "democracy" in general; but a Marxist will never forget to ask: "for what class?" Everyone knows, for instance (and Kautsky the "historian" knows it too), that rebellions, or even strong ferment, among the slaves in antique times at once revealed the fact that the antique state was essentially a *dictatorship of the slaveowners*. Did this dictatorship abolish democracy *among*, and *for*, the slaveowners? Everybody knows that it did not. Kautsky the "Marxist" said this monstrously absurd and untrue thing because he "forgot" the class struggle.... Kautsky then goes on to point out the difference between dictatorship

and despotism... To try to evade a definition of the dictatorship of the proletariat by philosophizing about despotism is either crass stupidity or very clumsy trickery... It must be explained to Mr. Kautsky that *both* these forms of government, like all transitional "forms of government" under capitalism, are but varieties of the *bourgeois state*, that is, of the *dictatorship of the bourgeoisie*. ... The proletarian revolution is impossible without the forcible destruction of the bourgeois state machine and the substitution for it of a *new one* which, in the words of Engels, is "no longer a state in the proper sense of the word"... The *form of government* has absolutely nothing to do with the case here, for there are monarchies which are not typical of the bourgeois *state*, such, for instance, as have no military clique, and there are republics which are quite

Excerpts from V I Lenin

typical in this respect, such, for instance, as have a military clique and a bureaucracy. This is a universally known historical and political fact, and Kautsky will not succeed in falsifying it.

If Kautsky had wanted to argue in a serious and honest manner he would have asked himself: are there historical laws relating to revolution which know of no exception? And the reply would have been: no, there are no such laws. Such laws only apply to the typical, to what Marx once termed the "ideal," meaning average, normal, typical capitalism.... In defining dictatorship, Kautsky tried his utmost to conceal from the reader the fundamental feature of this concept, namely, revolutionary violence. But now the truth is out: it is a question of the contrast between *peaceful* and *violent revolutions*.

That is where the trouble lies. Kautsky had to resort to all these subterfuges, sophistries and fraudulent falsifications only in order to *dissociate* himself from *violent* revolution, and to conceal his renunciation of it, his desertion to the *liberal* labour policy, i.e., to the bourgeoisie. That is where the trouble lies... Kautsky the "historian" so shamelessly falsifies history that he "forgets" the fundamental fact that pre-monopoly capitalism — which reached its zenith actually by 1870's — was by virtue of its fundamental economic traits, which found most typical expression in England and in America, distinguished by a, relatively-speaking, maximum fondness for peace and freedom. Imperialism, on the other hand, i.e., monopoly capitalism, which finally matured only in the twentieth century, is, by virtue of its fundamental economic traits, distinguished by a minimum fondness for peace and freedom, and by a maximum and universal development of militarism. To "fail to notice" this in discussing the extent to which a peaceful or violent revolution is typical or probable is to stoop to the position of a

most ordinary lackey of the bourgeoisie.... Dictatorship is not a "form of government"; that is ridiculous nonsense. And Marx does not speak of the "form of government" but of the form or type of *state*. That is something altogether different, altogether different. It is altogether wrong, too, to say that a *class* cannot govern: such an absurdity could only have been uttered by a "parliamentary cretin," who sees nothing but bourgeois parliaments and notices nothing but "ruling parties."... To sum up: Kautsky has in a most unparalleled manner distorted the concept dictatorship of the proletariat, and has transformed Marx into an ordinary liberal; that is, he himself has sunk to the level of a liberal who utters banal phrases about "pure democracy," embellishing and glossing over the class content of *bourgeois* democracy, and shrinking, above all, from the use of *revolutionary violence* by the oppressed class. By so "interpreting" the concept "revolutionary dictatorship of the proletariat" as to expunge the revolutionary violence of the oppressed class against its oppressors, Kautsky beat the world record in the liberal distortion of Marx.... If we are not to mock at common sense and history, it is obvious that we cannot speak of "pure Democracy" so long as different *classes* exist; we can only speak of class democracy. (Be it said in parenthesis that "pure democracy" is not only an *ignorant* phrase, revealing a lack of understanding both of the class struggle and of the nature of the state, but also a thrice-empty phrase, since in communist society democracy will *wither away* in the process of changing and becoming a habit, but will never be "pure" democracy.)... "Pure democracy" is the mendacious phrase of a liberal who wants to fool the workers. History knows of bourgeois democracy which takes the place of feudalism, and of proletarian democracy which takes the place of bourgeois democracy... Kautsky takes from Marxism what is acceptable to the liberals, to the bourgeoisie (the criticism of the Middle Ages, and the progressive historical role of capitalism in general and of capitalist democracy in particular), and discards, passes in silence, glosses over all that in Marxism which is *unacceptable* to the bourgeoisie (the revolutionary violence of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie for the latter's destruction). That is why Kautsky, by virtue of his objective position and irrespective of what his subjective convictions may be, inevitably proves to be a lackey of the bourgeoisie.

Bourgeois democracy, although a great historical advance in comparison with medievalism, always remains, and under capitalism cannot but remain, restricted, truncated, false and hypocritical, a paradise for the rich and a snare and a deception for the exploited, for the poor. It is this truth, which forms a most essential part of Marx's teachings, that Kautsky the "Marxist" has failed to understand. On this — the fundamental — issue Kautsky offers "delights" for the bourgeoisie, instead of a scientific criticism of those conditions which make every bourgeois democracy only a democracy for the rich.... Not only the ancient and feudal, but also "the modern representative state is an instrument of exploitation of wage labour by capital." (Engels, in his work on the state.) "As, therefore, the state is only a transitional institution which is

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‘Right to work must be recognised as Constitutional Right’

— demands AIUTUC in the Finance Minister’s Pre-Budget Meet with the Central Trade Unions

The Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley held Pre-Budget Consultation Meeting with the leaders of Central Trade Union Organisations on 4th January, 2016 in, New Delhi. A joint memorandum submitted by 11 Central Trade Unions, to the Union Finance Minister was prepared based on broader consensus in the perspective of long drawn movement on 12 point Charter of Demands, which contained, *inter-alia*, the demands for fixation of minimum wage at Rs.18,000 per month, concrete measures for employment generation and containing price rise, restoration of old pension scheme scrapping the New Pension Scheme for central and state government employees, recovery of NPAs and regularization of all Scheme Workers including Anganwadi and ASHA and rejecting FDI in Defence, Railways and Strategic Sector etc.

Endorsing the joint memorandum, Comrade Sankar Saha, General Secretary, AIUTUC, among other points, said, “Today, in keeping with precepts of capitalist globalization, relentless import of industrial goods including capital goods and consequent dumping of basic metals like steel and others, is threatening the very existence of indigenous industries leading to aggravation of unemployment, poverty and various other ills of privatization. It is for the interest of finance capital of our country, which was aspiring for long to emerge as a superpower, the government introduced the policy of globalization and signed

the GATT ’94. None imposed it on us. AIUTUC opposed tooth and nail the policy of globalization and demanded of the government to quit WTO. Consequently hard-hit are the common people for whom the government has no concern. It is regularly increasing tax on oil to deprive people of the benefit of 400 % dip in international crude price. The government has subsidized the monopoly houses and corporate sector to the tune of Rs. 5,89,285.2 crores in 2014-15 in the form of various tax concessions and relaxations on customs and excise duty which has neither stimulated industrial growth nor created employment opportunities. Bad debts or NPA with the banks are piling up alarmingly, a fact which has been corroborated by no one else but the RBI Governor who even said that big promoters or industrialists are arm-twisting the banks for not making a row over loan default. The government’s promise of recovering black money has proved to be a hoax. While the government is empowering the employers with the right to ‘Hire and Fire’ and seeking retrograde amendment in various labour laws on the plea of implementing the Recommendations of 2nd National Commission on Labour, there is no move to recognize ‘Right to Work’ as a fundamental Constitutional Right. The contractual engagements in regular nature of work are out-numbering the existing regular employees in Government and Public Sector Units. This practice must be stopped forthwith.”

Vibrant Gujarat reels under severe unemployment

It has become customary not only with Prime Minister Modi, his party BJP and its leaders but also with a major section of the bourgeois media to refer to Gujarat as model of industrialization and development. But fact is otherwise. Recently, for 2,480 posts of a fixed salary of Rs 7,800 for 5 years in the state, 12, 25, 000 applications have been received. Not only that. For collecting application forms, there is a prescribed fee of over Rs 200 which means as high as Rs 27 crores would be collected from jobless youths in desperate need of work. Any comment from the torch bearers of ‘Vibrant Gujarat’? (Source: — Gujjupost.com 03-01-15)

Spearheaded by SUCI(C), a dharna was held and a memorandum submitted by Chandigarh Jansangharsh Committee on 29 December at the State Secretariat in Haryana against erasing the name of the immortal martyr of the freedom movement, Shaheed Bhagat Singh from Chandigarh airport and naming it after late Mangal Sein a RSS man, BJP leader and former deputy chief minister. The Haryana government was forced to withdraw the proposal under pressure of people’s opinion.



Demanding upgradation of safe and secured rail service and to introduce new passenger trains in Guwahati-Murkongchhelek route at day time, extension of Dekargaon-Rangiya passenger train to Guwahati, new train in Guwahati-Silchar route etc. SUCI(C) organized an agitation programme in front of N.F. Railway headquarter at Maligoan, on 29th December, 2015. Later on a memorandum was submitted to the General Manager of NF Railway demanding immediate fulfillment of the demands. Comrade Suratzaman Mandal addressed the gathering.

Comrade Rajaram Roy Mandal passes away

Comrade Rajaram Roy Mandal, Member, South 24 Parganas district secretariat, West Bengal, a former head of local panchayat and a renowned mass leader who served jail sentence for 14 long years after being implicated in a false case by erstwhile CPI (M)-led front government, passed away at an age of 66 at Calcutta heart Clinic and Hospital on 27 December, 2015 after prolonged illness and due to renal failure. All the diseases he contracted during incarceration. Though belonging to a relatively affluent family, he, after coming in contact with the Party and Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought through Comrade Yakub Pailan, departed member of the Central Committee, embraced revolutionary life and through struggle emerged as natural leader of the oppressed peasantry and hence a sore in the eyes of the vested interest. His conduction of the panchayat in a corruption-free manner also invited wrath of the interested circles. In 1980, he narrowly escaped an attempt on his life by CPI (M)-backed goons. He also played an important part in developing powerful Save Education and Secondary Teachers’ movements. After granted bail by High Court after 14 long years, he came out of the jail with a broken health. Despite that, he tried to shoulder whatever Party responsibilities he could. In his death, the Party lost prominent leader and organiser. Immediately on hearing the news of his demise, senior Central Committee and State leaders rushed to hospital and later at Party’s Central Office in Kolkata and paid floral tribute to him.

On 9 January, his memorial meeting was held at Bele-Durganagar area of South 24 Parganas where Comrade Saumen Basu, Member, Central Committee and West Bengal State Secretary discussed the various important educative aspects of his revolutionary life. Comrade Tarun Kanti Naskar, Party MLA from Joynagar, also spoke paying respect to his struggling life.

If Modi becomes PM, Pak intruders won’t dare to cross border: Amit Shah

Claiming that the country’s borders were not safe under the then regime, the BJP leader, now its President Amit Shah, earlier said on 22-04-14 at an election rally for NDA nominee “Once Modiji becomes PM, leave incidents of beheading of Indian soldiers, the Pakistani intruders will not even dare to enter into Indian side”. Attacking the Congress-led UPA government, Shah also said . “Modiji is contesting polls not for winning at the hustings, but for winning hearts of the people.”

Oops! The reality particularly after the Pathnakot incident proves his astrological prediction a damp squib and shows how he and his party have been continuously bluffing the countrymen in order to secure vote and stay in power.

(Source:—Indian Express 23-04-14)

COMMENTARIES

Who are embezzling public fund with alacrity

After receiving Rs 30,000 crore worth of subsidy from the Gujarat government in various forms and expressing disgust at not being able to set up Nano factory in Singur, the Tatas have closed down their Nano factory in Sanand. Why so? Was there any protest movement against forcible land grab? Surely not. Closed down because there is no market for Nano. What do those who banged their head for not having Nano plant in Singur which, according to them, would have opened a floodgate of employment, say now? Would Tatas pay back Rs 30,000 crores with interest? Similarly, liquor baron Vijay Mallya and his son sunk in Rs 6000 crores of bank loans in closed Kingfisher Airlines. It is also learnt that Rs 7.5 lakh crore of bank loan is locked as Non-Performing Assets with banks. Large promoters have the strength to "impede any action" taken by banks to recover stressed assets, as Reserve Bank of India governor Raghuram Rajan said. Rising non-performing assets (NPAs)—loans that do not yield returns—especially in case of public sector banks, have been a cause of concern for the RBI as well as the government. But most of these loan defaulters are large corporates and big industrial houses whom Rajan has indicated as big

regulate Congress"—remarked Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont, USA. "In fact, the greed of Wall Street and corporate America is destroying the very fabric of our nation," he added. Mr. Sanders reiterated that banks must stop taking advantage of vulnerable people. What he meant that US economy is controlled by the giant corporates and the powerful speculators' lobby of Wall Street—a fact which he exposed in course of his electoral campaign. (Source—Hindu 08-01-2016)

“We’re going to take out seven countries in 5 years, starting with Iraq, and then Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and, finishing off, Iran” –

Yes. This is what General Wesley Clark, retired 4-star U.S. Army general, Supreme Allied Commander of NATO said during the 1999 War on Yugoslavia exposing US plan of expansionism and war of occupation which has partially come to be true. It is also confirmatory of the fact that US imperialists have been behind escalating war tensions, instigating subversive activities and engineering change of regimes, not pliant to their dictates, in West Asia and Africa. Iraq is occupied, Libya overrun, Sudan bifurcated, Somalia torn in civil war and Lebanon facing regular hostilities from Zionist Israel, closest ally

SUCI (C) condoles death of veteran CPI leader Comrade A B Bardhan

Expressing deep condolence at the demise of former General Secretary of the Communist Party of India and a front ranking leader of country's left democratic trade union movement Comrade A B Bardhan, Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 2 January 2016 :

We are deeply grieved at the passing away of Comrade A B Bardhan, former General Secretary of the Communist Party of India and a powerful leader of country's trade union movement who endeavoured much to defend the rights of the entire working class of the country when those under severe attacks and thus provided it with newer strength at a very critical time.

While we deeply mourn the demise of such a foremost leader of country's left democratic movement, we also express our solidarity and sympathy with the leaders and cadres of the Communist Party of India who have just lost one of their most beloved and respected leaders.

Debts of Top 10 companies of India

Company	Owner	Debt	Indicative Comparison
Reliance Group	Anil Ambani	1.25 Lakh Crore	Bihar Special package announcement by PM Modi in Aug 2015
Bedanta Group	Anil Agarwal	1.03 Lakh Crore	Biggest Telecom Spectrum auction March 2915
Essar Group	Ruia Brothers Ravi & Shashi	1.01 Lakh Crore	Entire Budget for smart city across India planned till 2010
Adani Group	Goutam Adani	0.96 Lakh Crore	Budget for Bullet Train Project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad
Jay Pee Group	Manoj Gaur	0.75 Lakh Crore	8 times of the Budget fo 12 crore school children's Mid Day Meal in the country
JSW Group	Sajjan Jindal	0.58 Lakh Crore	Cost of 26 Rafael Fighter Aircrafts
GMR Group	GM Rao	0.48 Lakh Crore	2 Mega Thermal Power Plants of 4000 MW capacity, that could supply power to entire Haryana in peak Summer.
LANCO Group	I. Mashusadan Rao	0.47 Lakh Crore	
Videocon Group	Venugopal Dhoot	0.45 Lakh Crore	Equivalent to 93 numbers of Mars Missions by India
GVK Group	GVK Reddy	0.34 Lakh Crore	MAGNREGA Scheme Budget for nation 2015

promoters. What he has not said that while the banks capitulate before these 'giant' defaulters, they would merrily confiscate a Rs 1 lakh worth of agricultural land from a poverty-stricken peasant if he defaults a loan of just Rs 10,000.00. This is the spectacle of capitalist India.

Still, the bourgeois government and the economists-columnists on the pay-roll of ruling monopolists are nakedly advocating for further lowering of bank interest to enable the big corporates avail of further loan at cheaper rate caring a fig for those whose hard earned savings in banks would earn progressively lower return in a spiralling inflation economy. This is the 'aam admi' face of exploitative corrupt capitalism and its servitors. The following chart would show how the large corporates owned by top monopolists have been sitting on huge debts they received from various financial institutions at the cost of people's interest:— [See Chart]

Greed of Wall Street and corporate America is destroying the very fabric of US

"The reality is that Congress doesn't regulate Wall Street. Wall Street and their lobbyists

of US. Iran is sought to be appeased through peace manoeuvre for the present and Syria is sought to be destabilized through ISIS. Anti-war peace-loving democratic minded people must stand united against US imperialists and their machinations to save the world from ruination. (Source: Global research—18-11-2015)

Rs 1 lakh crore loan from Japan for running Bullet Train

What is the immediate need of the country? Surely not food, shelter and clothing of the myriads of poverty-stricken countrymen. Not also effective step to curb starvation deaths and suicides of debt-trapped peasants or retrenched factory workers. Even step to arrest growing atrocities on women is no priority. Not imperative is to give some relief to the train passengers who are shelling out more and more money to buy tickets but find railway travel short of a nightmare with fast deteriorating service and lack of safety. What is priority is to run a Bullet Train from Mumbai and Ahmadabad, the commercial capital of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state. At least that is what BJP Prime Minister feels. So, he has gone to Japan and manage to secure assurance of a loan of Rs 1 lakh crore from them for the project—no matter if it increases debt burden on the pauperizing countrymen. Japan has offered to meet 80 per cent of the project cost through loan, on condition that India buys 30 per cent of equipment including the coaches and locomotives from Japanese firms. After all, we are to exhibit to the world that we not just 'digital India' but "Bullet Train" India. (Source:— ndtv-profit 22-10-15)

Plight of common Americans on the rise

The middle class in America is dying. According to brand new numbers that were just released by the Social Security Administration, 51 percent of all workers in the United States make less than \$30,000 a year.

The report that the Social Security Administration just released reveal the followings:-

- 38 percent of all American workers made less than \$20,000 last year.
- 51 percent of all American workers made less than \$30,000 last year.
- 62 percent of all American workers made less than \$40,000 last year.
- 71 percent of all American workers made less than \$50,000 last year.

The federal poverty level for a family of five is \$28,410, and yet almost 40 percent of all American workers do not even bring in \$20,000 a year.

If one worked a full-time job at \$10 an hour all year long with two weeks off, one would make approximately \$20,000. This should tell something about the quality of the jobs that US economy is producing at this point. It has been estimated that it takes approximately \$50,000 a year to support a middle class lifestyle for a family of four in the U.S. today, and so the fact that 71 percent of all workers make less than that amount shows how difficult it is for families that try to get by with just a single breadwinner. (Source:- Washingtonsblog.com 21-10-15)

Corrigendum

Please read the opening line of 3rd para of the joint statement by AIDS, AIDYO and AIMSS on Juvenile Justice Act (p.5 of P Era 01-01-16) as "Everybody expected that such a criminal would get nothing less than stringent punishment" in place of "Everybody expected that such a criminal would get nothing less than capital punishment". The mistake through oversight is regretted.

The Hour and its Need

RSS-BJP menacingly revamp its agenda of saffronization of education

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a choice, he would like to introduce the *Bhagavad Gita* and the *Mahabharata* for study from class 1 in schools. While the IIM- Indore offers some 'gyaan' (knowledge) on *Bhagavad Gita*, a professor of that institute who is as well a member of International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) suggested that the well-known scripture would help management students on how to combat challenges in their professional as well as daily personal life. In September 2015 the said Minister of State for Culture laid out that Ministries of Culture and HRD are working on a plan to teach *Mahabharata*, *Ramayana* and *Gita* soon in schools and colleges. In the BJP-run state of Haryana, the government designating the state as the sacred land of Kurukshetra, the battle field of the epic *Mahabharata*, introduced study of *Gita*, in primary section of schools from 2015-16 session and later up to the university level.

Moreover, to penetrate into the masses and to indoctrinate the soft budding minds of children with their vicious saffronized thoughts, sentiments and practices, the RSS-BJP wherever they have the power, are issuing dictates or *fatwas* to make Hindu religious customs and rituals like *Saraswati Vandana*, *Bhojan Mantra*, *Havan* etc. compulsory in all educational institutions, making them binding for students of other religions to perform from the very beginning of school education.

So Indianization or rather Hinduization do not go peacefully. There are surreptitious moves, cunning tricks and above all, red eyes of *fatwas*. Added to it there are still more vicious omens. For instance, in Gujarat, that served as the springboard for the present Prime Minister to reach the national arena and that teaches Mr Batra's books, social studies textbooks published by the Gujarat State Board of School Textbooks show authors finding faults with the Indian freedom movement and glorifying Fascism and Nazism (incidentally it is nothing new for the RSS whose founders and mentors held the same views). While a Class VIII student is taught 'negative aspects' of Gandhi's non-cooperation movement, the Class X social studies textbook has chapters on 'Hitler, the Supremo' and 'Internal Achievements of Nazism' with a frighteningly uncritical picture of Fascism and Nazism.

It appears that the RSS-BJP ideologues and activists are inspired by the fact that once Hitler had said that if he could control the text books, he could control the state. What he meant that if the arena of education could be brought under the direct command of his fascist administration, it would be easy for him to control the very pattern of thinking of the countrymen, regiment the thought process, turn the minds into a mystic ally of blind faith, fanaticism, jingoism and thus facilitate the process of fascization of the society.

So this is the admix of values that the RSS-BJP combine wish to acquaint students of the country with. And all these are coming in the name of clearing education of maladies and vices.

If these are not virulent attacks plaguing the education system to die pathetically, what else these could be!

RSS-BJP agenda: relentless attack on autonomy to thwart resistance

But the attacks do not stop here. The attackers are aware that they would face criticism and resistance at every step. So they want a free road for smooth implementation of their agenda. And true to their nature they have chosen their path. They start with installing RSS loyalists in key positions including at the helm of the national policy making and regulatory institutions, like the NCERT(National Council for Educational Research and Training, which prepare model textbooks for schools), ICHR (Indian Council for Historical Research, entrusted for authorization of the officially recognised history and for conduction of historical research), ICSSR(Indian Council for Social Science Research), ASI (Archaeological Survey of India) and such others at all levels of education as well as culture, history etc.

They disbanded the advisory committee of the journal of the ICHR, that had 21 eminent historians from India and around the world. These rational-minded historians had taken umbrage when a book authored by D N Batra containing historically inaccurate as well as downright absurd content was recommended as secondary reading in Gujarat schools. They were thus banished to be replaced with known RSS loyalists, though of little or no repute as historians. The process did not end with it.

Recently the reshuffled ICHR amended the funding rules, withdrew the special status that the Indian History Congress (IHC) enjoyed since 1972 and then stopped the vital financial assistance to the IHC granted every year for organising its annual session, just on the eve of the next session. As the matters stand, about a year back the Congress had criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his remarks on plastic surgery in ancient India and passed a resolution at its annual session in Delhi, cautioning against "combining myth and history".

Similarly there has been move to control Indian Institute of Managements in the name of efficient administration. Thereby the Union government with overriding power on hitherto fully autonomous Board of Governors of the IIMs, will be able to direct the institutes on questions of policy which will have to be treated as final.

The above instances are a few of the lot which shows how the RSS-BJP and the Union government led by them are curbing the autonomy of educational-cum-cultural institutions to pave the way for smooth implementation of their agenda.

Attacks no longer on education only, those come upon entire common people

Even this brief account does not leave any doubt that the education system of the country faces an abysmal darkness with an all-out attack

coming down on it. The same devastating policies continue, carried on from previous regimes. Scope for even a minimum decent wholesome education for common students are squeezing out day by day. The Pass-Fail system, abolition of which has been strongly condemned by people concerned with education, is yet to be reintroduced, though no-detention equating with no-study has been tremendously affecting the quality of teaching-learning processes. Without putting a bridle to rampant privatization- commercialization, the policy document of the proposed national education policy throws a leading question: *Should fees be enhanced to Rs 500/- p.m., when the expenditure is more than Rs 2000/- per person ... with waiver for needy students*. Obviously it is meant to lead towards exorbitant fee hike. Emphasis on market-oriented vocationalization of education or the newly introduced slogan of skill development commensurate with global market only promotes rabid commercial approach to learning. Governments are fast withdrawing their support to sustain a lively and effective education system for all. Even the policy documents are fraught with deceptive or distorted views of reality. And over and above these, virulent saffronization of education is demolishing the minimum structure of secular scientific education in the country.

In short, the total ambience is vitiated with abject communalized thoughts, profit-seeking commercialization, distortion in content and approach, deception in catering the hidden agenda and intervention in case of any opposition, including rising intolerance with those critical of this attitude as also people of minority religious communities. A total anarchy prevails all around the scene. With essence of education lost in the wind, and in the ambience mentioned above, even the traditional relations between teachers and students are being painfully vitiated. Students belonging to the organizations of the ruling party, be it the BJP at the Centre or TMC in West Bengal, are even not hesitating to assault teachers for their different views; some teachers, in turn, are not thinking twice to rape female students repeatedly under threat of spoiling their career. The governments instead of thinking out remedies to these, are busy promoting high-tech, digitized education for the privileged which is completely bereft of any one-to-one, leave aside, personal relationship between teacher and taught. Hence in the given conditions such an approach is sure to further vitiate the situation. And on top of it to thwart any resistance and to implement their policies which are really coming out as vicious designs, the governments are centralizing power along with curbing autonomy of educational institutions by overt or covert means.

The results are appalling, both immediate and long term. According to the EFA Global Monitoring Report 2010 (UNESCO), India's rank was 105 among 128 countries (in 2001 also India ranked exactly 105 among 127 countries) and

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Lenin on bourgeois parliamentarism and democracy

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used in the struggle, in the revolution, in order to hold down one's adversaries by force, it is pure nonsense to talk of a free people's state: so long as the proletariat still uses the state, it does not use it in the interests of freedom but in order to hold down its adversaries, and as soon as it becomes possible to speak of freedom the state as such ceases to exist." (Engels, in his letter to Bebel, March 28, 1875.) "In reality the state is nothing but a machine for the oppression of one class by another, and indeed in the democratic republic no less than in the monarchy." (Engels, preface to *The Civil War in France* by Marx.) Universal suffrage is "the gauge of the maturity of the working class. *It cannot and never will be anything more than the present-day state.*" (Engels, in his work on the state. Mr. Kautsky very tediously chews the cud over the first part of this proposition, which is acceptable to the bourgeoisie. But as to the second part, which we have italicized and which is not acceptable to the bourgeoisie, the renegade Kautsky passes in silence!)... Take the fundamental laws of modern states, take their administration, take the right of assembly, freedom of the press, or "equality of all citizens before the law," and you will see at every step evidence of the hypocrisy of bourgeois democracy with which every honest and class-conscious worker is familiar. There is not a single state, however democratic, which has no loopholes or reservations in its constitution guaranteeing the bourgeoisie the possibility of dispatching troops against the workers, of proclaiming martial law, and so forth, in case of a "violation of public order," and actually in case the exploited class "violates" its position of slavery and tries to behave in a non-slavish manner. Kautsky shamelessly embellishes bourgeois democracy and omits to mention, for instance, how the most democratic and republican bourgeois in America or Switzerland deal with workers on strike... Oh, the wise and learned Kautsky keeps silent about these things! That learned politician does not realize that to remain silent on this matter is despicable. He prefers to tell the workers nursery tales of the kind that democracy means "protecting the minority." It is incredible, but it is a fact! In the summer of this year of our Lord 1918, in the fifth year of the world imperialist slaughter and the strangulation of internationalist minorities (i.e., those who have not despicably betrayed Socialism, ...Kautskys, the Hendersons and Webbs *et al.*) in all "democracies" of the world, the learned Mr. Kautsky sweetly, very sweetly, sings the praises of "protection of the minority."... The learned Mr. Kautsky has "forgotten" — accidentally forgotten, probably ...a "trifle"; namely, that the ruling party in a bourgeois democracy extends the protection of the minority only to another *bourgeois* party, while on all *serious, profound and fundamental* issues the proletariat gets martial law or pogroms, instead of the "protection of the minority." *The more highly developed a democracy is, the more imminent are pogroms or civil war in connection with any profound political divergence which is dangerous to the bourgeoisie...* The learned Mr. Kautsky could have studied this "law" of bourgeois democracy in connection with the Dreyfus case in republican France, with the lynching of Negroes

and internationalists in the democratic republic of America, with the case of Ireland and Ulster in democratic Britain with the baiting of the Bolsheviks and the organization of pogroms against them in April 1917 in the democratic republic of Russia.... Take the bourgeois parliament. Can it be that learned Kautsky has never heard that the *more highly* democracy is developed, the *more* the bourgeois parliaments are subjected by the stock exchange and the bankers? This does not mean that we must not make use of bourgeois parliaments (the Bolsheviks made better use of them than any other party in the world, for in 1912-14 we captured the entire workers' curia in the Fourth Duma). But it does mean that only a liberal can forget the *historical limitations and conditional character* of bourgeois parliamentarism as Kautsky does. Even in the most democratic bourgeois state the oppressed masses at every step encounter the crying contradiction between the *formal* equality proclaimed by the "democracy" of the capitalists and the thousands of *real* limitations and subterfuges which turn the proletarians into *wage slaves*. It is precisely this contradiction that is opening the eyes of the masses to the rottenness, mendacity and hypocrisy of capitalism. It is this contradiction that the agitators and propagandists of Socialism are constantly exposing to the masses, *in order to prepare them for revolution!* And now that the era of revolutions *has begun*, Kautsky turns his back upon it and begins to extol the charms of *moribund* bourgeois democracy. Proletarian democracy, of which Soviet government is one of the forms, has brought a development and expansion of democracy hitherto unprecedented in the world, precisely for the vast majority of the population, for the exploited and toiling people. To write a whole pamphlet about democracy, as Kautsky did, in which two pages are devoted to dictatorship and scores to "pure democracy," and *fail to notice* this fact, means completely distorting the subject in a liberal way.... Proletarian democracy is *a million times* more democratic than any bourgeois democracy; Soviet power is a million times more democratic than the most democratic bourgeois republic.

To fail to see this one must either deliberately

serve the bourgeoisie, or be politically as dead as a doornail, unable to see real life from behind the dusty pages of bourgeois books, be thoroughly imbued with bourgeois-democratic prejudices, and thereby objectively convert himself into a lackey of the bourgeoisie.

To fail to see this one must be incapable of *presenting the question* from the point of view of the *oppressed* classes.... Kautsky does not understand this truth, which is so clear and obvious to every worker, because he has "forgotten," "unlearned" to put the question: *democracy for what class?* He argues from the point of view of "pure" (i.e., nonclass? or above-class?) democracy. He argues like Shylock: my "pound of flesh" and nothing else. Equality for all citizens — otherwise there is no democracy.

We must ask the learned Kautsky, the "Marxist" and "Socialist" Kautsky:

Can there be equality between the exploited and the exploiters?... If we argue in a Marxist way, we must say: the exploiters inevitably transform the state (and we are speaking of democracy, i.e., one of the forms of the state) into an instrument of the rule of their class, the exploiters, over the exploited. Hence, so long as there are exploiters who rule the majority, the exploited, the democratic state must inevitably be a democracy for the exploiters. A state of the exploited must fundamentally differ from such a state; it must be a democracy for the exploited, and a means of *suppressing the exploiters*; and the suppression of a class means inequality for that class, its exclusion from "democracy"... Kautsky does not understand these explanations. Infatuated with the "purity" of democracy, blind to its bourgeois character, he "consistently" urges that the majority, since it is the majority, need not "break down the resistance" of the minority, nor "forcibly hold it down" — it is sufficient to suppress *cases* of infringement of democracy. Infatuated with the "purity" of democracy, Kautsky *inadvertently* commits the same little error that all bourgeois democrats always commit, namely, he takes formal equality (which is nothing but a fraud and hypocrisy under capitalism) for actual equality! Quite a trifle!

The exploiter and the exploited cannot be equal.

Resist attacks on education to forestall rise of fascism looming large

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continues to figure, along with a bunch of African countries, and one or two Asian ones, such as Pakistan and Bangladesh, in the group of countries of low educational development index (EDI) behind countries economically poorer than India. In 2012 Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Secretariat's Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) ranked India at 72 out of 73 countries just above Kyrgystan, Indian students faring miserably in 2-hour tests meant to conduct comparative analyses, across vast international contexts, of 15 year old students for "reading, mathematical and scientific literacy". (73 out of 74 in 2011)

And in the long run with the entire ambience

in such a vitiated shape, it is the moral backbone of teachers and students or anybody concerned with education and even people at large that is going to be shattered. The situation thus does not remain an affair concerned with education only. It is a grave calamity that people of the country face. With moral backbone of future generations shattered, it becomes the fertile ground for fascism to grow. And then what has started as eulogy of Hitler, fascism and Nazism in one state, will raise its ugly head over the entire nation to cripple it for years to come, for generations to follow. The omens are looming large at the near horizon calling for each and every democratic-minded person to recognize the danger and come forward to resist it.

All India Camp of All India DSO at Ghatshila

Under the auspices of the AIDSO an All India Camp and extended Council Meeting were held at the Study Centre of Marxism- Leninism- Shibus Ghosh Thought at Ghatshila between 31 December and 3 January. 448 delegates from 18 states of the country joined the Camp. The

Proletariat Comrade Shibus Ghosh; along with those they had also been asked to study different discussions by the great leader on fascism as well as *Pather Dabi*, the famous novel of the great humanist writer Saratchandra Chattopadhyay.



Comrade Provas Ghosh addressing All India Extended Council Meeting and Camp of All India DSO at Ghatshila (above); a portion of the delegates (below).

delegates had been asked to come prepared after studying *Crisis in Culture and Fascism* and *Gandhism-a critical study* (a compilation in Hindi), the two books of the great leader of the

student organisers went back to their states with firm resolve to make successful, the scheduled programme of the All India Committee to resist all-out attacks coming down on education.

AIDSO condemns police atrocities on protesting FTII students

Comrade Ashok Mishra, General Secretary, AIDSO in a statement issued on 9 January, 2016, strongly condemned the police atrocity on the students of FTII who were protesting against the entry of Mr. Gajendra Chowhan and his four other colleagues (whose only eligibility is that they are hard-core RSS activists) to its campus. This horrifying incident, he said, is a testimony to Modi

Government's scant respect to the voice of opposition and democratic movement. It once again reiterates the fact that to implement its agenda, the central government will resort to any means, even brutal repression. It also proves that to implement its policies, the Central Government will not hesitate to appoint its stooges and trample upon all democratic norms, he added. He once again expressed solidarity of AIDSO with the fighting students of FTII and demanded immediate resignation of Mr. Gajendra Chowhan and four other members of the FTII Governing Body.



Left parties including SUCI(C) demonstrating in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan on 7 January

The first two days of the four-day long camp was spent on discussions on different problems of education in which the delegates and all India leaders took part. In one session Professor Soumitro Banerjee, General Secretary of Breakthrough Science Society dealt with Science in ancient India – *Myth and reality*. In the last three sessions, Comrade Provas Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI (Communist) presented his valuable discussions on different questions on fascism raised by the delegates. He also made a discourse on *Pather Dabi*. The four-day camp created great enthusiasm in each and every participant. The

SECRETARIAT OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE

In its meeting held in Kolkata from 28 to 31 December, 2015, the Central Committee of SUCI(C) decided to constitute a Secretariat comprising its following members:

1. Comrade Debaprasad Sarkar
2. Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee
3. Comrade Sankar Saha
4. Comrade Satyawan
5. Comrade C K Lukose
6. Comrade Gopal Kundu
7. Comrade Saumen Basu
8. Comrade K Radhakrishna

Karnataka AIDSO protests bringing education within purview of WTO

AIDSO organized state wide protest demonstration, convention on 12th Dec 2015 against WTO meet at Nairobi, Kenya.

In Karnataka, protest demonstration was organized at Raichur and effigy was burnt. Protests were organized at Gulbarga, Davanagere, Dharwad in Karnataka. A convention was organized at Bellary. Eminent personalities and education loving people of the city participated in the convention.

In the state capital, Bangalore protest demonstration was organized at Mysore bank circle, addressing which AIDSO state president Comrade V N Rajashekhar said that bringing education under GATS has resulted in death blow to democratic education. The standard of education has fallen drastically since then. The Indian government had offered to bring higher education under the ambit of GATS in 2005. So the WTO-Nairobi meet is out to make a stamp of approval to this offer. This must be vehemently protested by all the students, teachers and all education loving people of this country. The whole of student community must raise the banner of Scientific, Secular Democratic Education."



SUCI (C) held a rally of villagers led by Comrade Lily Das, District-in-charge at Seraiella Kharsawan in Adityapur on 23 December and a deputation therefrom to the Deputy Collector demanding ration cards be issued immediately to all families with necessary removal of rampant irregularities and lapses.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH