

Proletarian Era

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Surging people's protest in China

Inevitable consequence of ruthless oppression by a capitalist-imperialist regime after counter-revolution

China is in turmoil. Waves of protests across cities like Urumqi, Beijing, Shanghai, and Wuhan and across more than 100 Chinese universities had surged forth on 26 November last against strict Covid measures in China. Millions have been affected by nearly three years of mass testing, quarantines, and clamp lockdowns. Zero Covid policy has been proving too much for the people. They are not allowed to leave their homes; many are not getting the most essential items including food.

The present agitation has been sparked by a deadly fire incident at a multistoried building in Xinjiang that took away ten precious lives besides causing burn wounds to many others, as residents could not escape owing to locked entrances. Public protests of various dimensions had been staged by students from at least 79 universities across 15 provinces of China. Students' frustration over the gloomy economic outlook and associated grim job prospects is evident. The agitators held blank white papers to express their discontent, sent a strong message of "enough is enough" to the government. Some have, however, gone as far as calling for President Xi Jinping to step down. One young woman protester was heard saying: *'If we dare not speak out because we are afraid of being arrested, I think our people will be disappointed with us. As a student at Tsinghua University, I will regret it for the rest of my life!'* One protester in Shanghai told the media that it is the first time that such a large-scale dissent has burst forth in China. The government appears to have drastically underestimated the growing discontent towards the zero-Covid approach, a policy inextricably linked to President Xi who recently pledged there would be no swerving from it. Huge police force has been deployed and a rising number of arrests are being made. Even armoured tanks are rolling on the

streets. But then, under pressure of movement, the Chinese authorities have been compelled to withdraw lockdown.

Is the dissent only against stringent Covid measures?

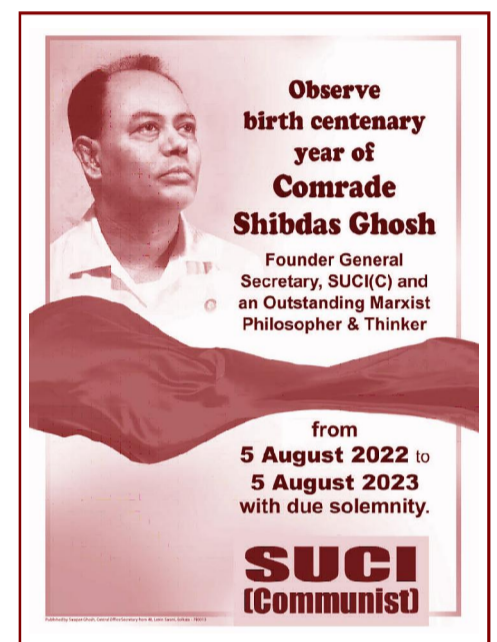
Apparently, the protests reflect the public fatigue and outrage against the stringent Covid-19 policy that has restricted the movements of people in the past three years. Yet, why did the Chinese people knowing full well the danger of resurgence of Covid 19, demand restoration of normal life? Because, for long, much before Covid 19 broke out, they have been in utter distress in every sphere of life. Rise in prices, job loss, unemployment, unfair labour practices, unbound misery in peasants' life, growing poverty and inequality, spurt in crime and corruption, atrocities against women and all such malaises and aberrations have been the hallmark of capitalist China today. Chinese economic growth is slowing and like many other imperialist-capitalist countries, it is also in recession. When the Covid virus was first detected at Wuhan, known as the global industrial hub, the Chinese authorities did not take any preventive step.

Rather, it was criminal on their part to suppress the fact lest the foreign industries located in Wuhan as well as transportation of finished goods and other material to various countries from Wuhan port should come to a halt, inflicting a severe blow to Chinese capitalist economy. Such a despicable move of the

Chinese authorities also exposed Chinese people to a great risk being infected with Covid virus. Afterwards, when it came to light that the pandemic was spreading fast in the country, the Chinese authorities did impose lockdown. In that lockdown, the sufferings of the workers, peasants and other sections of the people increased manifold. The lockdown gave the bulk of China's population a bitter taste of fascist autocracy. In some cases, factory workers have been treated in a way that makes Oliver Twist's trials look like a luxury holiday. So there has been accumulation of wrath and grievances against the policies of the Chinese government for quite some time. So, when the authorities again declared a lockdown, people burst forth in protest movement defying the coercive machinery of the state.

Can such people's outburst be a mark of advancing socialism?

But can such people's outburst be expected in socialism where people's growing needs are met by a planned economy under dictatorship of the proletariat, standard of life is uplifted with passage of time and people happily give labour because they are imbued with ideal that labour creates civilization, and the working class historically has emerged as the vanguard of social progress by leading anti-capitalist revolution and consolidating socialism. No one appropriates others' labour in socialism and the gap between the



rich and poor goes on decreasing. In fact, after Chinese Revolution under the leadership of great Mao Zedong, a severely backward country, almost lurking in abject feudal darkness, began to flourish in every respect as if it was touched by a magic wand. People's happiness and fondness for socialist reconstruction were vividly manifest on their brightened faces. One can have a gleaning of this golden era of socialist China in the famous works of the foreign journalists like Felix Greene, Edgar Snow, Mariatti and others who were flabbergasted to find how China, an opium-addict abjectly poor country, could turn so soon into a highly developed country with progress in every sphere of human development. This magical progress was possible because laws of socialism were operating there in a systematic way under the stewardship of great Mao Zedong.

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Book Stall and Quotation Exhibition as part of year-long birth centenary observation of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, great Marxist Thinker and Philosopher



Vadodra, Gujarat



Agartala, Tripura

China

After examining all the pros and cons based on Marxist methodology of analysis, our Party concluded in 2004 that counter-revolution was completed in China

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Magnificent Cultural Revolution to stem counter-revolutionary rots

Mao Zedong, a great Marxist authority as he was, could sense that after usurpation of power by the revisionist Khrushchevite leadership in Soviet Union, the wheels of socialist progress were reversed there. Similar tendencies were germinating in China also. In fact, some erstwhile stalwarts of Chinese Communist Party (CPC) were degenerating fast to embrace revisionist thoughts. That indeed posed a danger before socialist China. Stressing on the necessity to intensify class struggle in socialism in order to protect it from counter-revolutionary attack and pave the way towards eventual attainment of classless communist society, great Lenin was categorical in his saying that *“the transition from Capitalism to Communism represents an entire historical epoch. Until this Epoch has terminated, the exploiters invariably cherish the hope of restoration, and this hope is converted into attempts of restoration.”*... *“The bourgeoisie, whose resistance is increased tenfold by its overthrow... the class struggle waged by overthrown Exploiters against victorious vanguard of the Exploited, i.e. the Proletariat, has become incomparably more bitter. And it cannot be otherwise in the case of revolution, unless the concept is replaced by reformist illusions.”*... *“...class struggle, which, after the overthrow of the rule of capital, after the destruction of the bourgeois state, after the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat, does not disappear, but only changes its form, becoming, in many respects, bitter.”* (Lenin, *Greetings to the Viennese Workers, Collected Works, Vol. 24, p. 31*). Elaborating further, great Stalin also reiterated that *“The more the socialist system and the socialist economy will be strengthened and consolidated, the more sharpened will be the class struggle.”* (*Problems of Leninism*)

As their student, Mao Zedong had no hesitation in saying that *“there are two ‘swords’: one is Lenin and the other Stalin. The sword of Stalin has now been discarded by the Russians... We Chinese have not thrown it away... Unlike some people who have tried to defame and destroy Stalin, we are acting in accordance with objective*

reality.” He also warned about possibility of establishment of capitalism through counter-revolution if revisionist line was pursued, overtly or covertly by the capitalist-roaders if there was a slack in intensifying class struggle in the ideological-cultural spheres. In his words: *“do classes exist in socialist countries? Does class struggle exist? We can now affirm that classes do exist in socialist countries and that class struggle undoubtedly exists...because of the existence of bourgeois remnants internationally, because the petit-bourgeoisie exists and continually generates a bourgeoisie, therefore the classes which have been overthrown within the country will continue to exist for a long time to come and may even attempt restoration... Otherwise a country like ours can still move towards its opposite. ...If our children’s generation go in for revisionism and move towards their opposite, so that although they still nominally have socialism, it is in fact capitalism.”* (Speech in 1962)

So, when he could make out that the counter-revolutionary forces were consolidating their strength and roping in even some leading persons of CPC as well as Chinese government, he launched the historic Cultural Revolution in 1966 involving not only the party but the entire masses of people with a view to preventing the danger of capitalist counter-revolution by intensifying class struggle in the realm of ideology and culture. Mao took a great risk by encouraging open polemics over ideological differences involving not only the party, government and state but the entire people and thereby deducing correct Marxist line and approach that was found to be eluding. It stirred not only the socialist China but the entire world. The tremendous drive and momentum and boundless wisdom of the working people manifested in the Cultural Revolution far exceeded the imagination of the revisionist-reformist leaders. Many including a host of so called leftists dumped criticism on Mao Zedong for this ‘adventurous’ step. But only one voice, that is of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Founder General Secretary of the SUCI(C) and an outstanding Marxist leader and thinker of the era, hailed this Cultural Revolution as magnificent. At the same time, as a fraternal party, he also drew attention to a few shortcomings of this Revolution in ideological and political fields with a view to strengthening

Mao leadership and proletarian internationalism.

Capitalist-roaders reversed the process after Mao’s demise

Unfortunately, great Mao could not complete the entire process of Cultural Revolution as he passed away on 9 September 1976, a month after Comrade Shibdas Ghosh breathed his last. In absence of Mao Zedong, the weavers of counter-revolutionary intrigue like Deng Xiaoping, whom Mao termed capitalist-roader, later christened Chinese Khrushchev, rode to power with the backing of the counter-revolutionary and reactionary forces, both within and outside China. He began the reversal process under the garb of providing socialism ‘a human face’, openly advocated in favour of private capital and later even commenting that *“It is glorious to be rich”*. He also said—*“It doesn’t matter whether a cat is black or white, as long as it catches mice”* meaning that as long as the economy develops, it is immaterial whether laws of socialism or capitalism are followed. He thus openly contradicted Mao Zedong’s famous words—*“Politics in command”*—by which Mao wanted to emphasize that socialist rules must guide economic development, and any other path, if espoused for, would be suicidal.

But as the wrong line was adopted by Deng leadership, the inevitable tragedy did happen. As a culmination of cult of modern revisionism in economic, political, social and cultural spheres of the degenerated CPC and Chinese government who abandoned pursuance of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought, socialism was under grave threat. Capitalist-roader Deng leadership had floated a slogan of *“Chinese style of socialism”* in 1978 to camouflage augury of the process of establishing capitalism by dismantling socialism. Right to private property, private ownership of the means of production as well as right to profit had been restored. Commune system has been totally dismantled. Thus, private property in agriculture had been reintroduced by totally dismantling commune system and bringing in contract and lease systems. Special Economic Zones were set up as enclaves of unbridled loot and plunder for the imperialists. Stock markets were established, bourgeois consumerism and rotten cultural thoughts were being encouraged. The doors were opened to the capitalists for unrestricted entry in the CPC. Thousands of

revolutionaries who were true followers of Mao Zedong thought were removed from the liberation army and the party. Simultaneously those expelled during great Cultural Revolution for anti-revolution and anti-party activities were rehabilitated in the party. Through all these steps, counter-revolution was completed under camouflage of socialist phrase mongering by allowing bourgeois liberalism to swamp the party as well as social-cultural-educational spheres of the country. Thus capitalism was established. Similarly, last vestiges of dictatorship of the proletariat had been wiped out and instead a one party bourgeois dictatorial rule, which is tantamount to fascist dictatorship, had come into force in China. Our Party after examining all the pros and cons and developments, came to the conclusion in 2004 that counter-revolution in China was complete.

And from then onwards, all features of dying capitalism, all the evils, malaises and aberrations of decadent moribund capitalism are writ large on the face of China which not merely remained a capitalist country but has become a formidable imperialist power. China Direct Investment Abroad (FDI or finance capital) expanded by US\$ 40.2 billion in September 2022. China is reportedly reaching out to the world through the ‘Belt and Road Initiative’. This belt, in fact, is a fastening buckle of imperialist economic oppression. It is also making effort to create a sphere of influence of its own.

But to befool not only their own countrymen but the toiling masses of the entire world, the Chinese counter-revolutionary capitalist leadership still carry the signboard of communism. They also feign to respect Mao Zedong, because he is still held in high esteem by the Chinese people. Unfortunately, many pseudo-communists and some left-leaning parties and groups, both in our country as well as other countries, are also deceived by these cunning overtures and believe that socialism still persists in China. And this has come handy for the Western imperialists headed by US imperialism to propagate that what is happening in China marks the murky face of socialism.

Festering sores of capitalism are surfacing with all virulence

A cursory glance at some facts compiled from various media reports and surveys would be revealing about capitalism ruling in China. Deng leadership once was boasting of economic growth. But whose growth it was? Surely not of common people but of oligarchs like Jack Ma. The present Chinese leadership even claimed to have

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How “Nari Shakti” in India is at forefront of ruling BJP’s “development journey”

“From financial inclusion to social security, quality healthcare to housing, education to entrepreneurship, many efforts have been made to put our Nari Shakti. These efforts will continue with even greater vigour in the coming times.”—said Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Taking a cue from that, Union home minister, Amit Shah, virtually second-in-command, boasted “Prime Minister Narendra Modiji has changed the thinking of women’s development into the resolve of women-led development and opened the doors of opportunities.” If they have meant appointment of Draupadi Murmu as President and Nirmala Sitharaman as Finance Minister as surge of “Nari Shakti” (Women’s power), then, of course, it is their privilege. Otherwise, condition of women in India is horrific.

If one opens the daily newspaper, one finds at least four to five incidents of brutal crimes committed against women. But these are only the number what is reported. Several times more is the number not reported. Crimes vary from murder, kidnapping, rape, gang-rape dowry deaths, suicide, honour killings, domestic abuse, sexual assault, acid attack, female foeticide, infanticide and so on. “According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in 2011 there were more than 228,650 reported incidents of crime against women, while in 2021, there were 4,28,278 reported incidents, an 87% increase.” Same Bureau also reported incidents of crime against women increased by 15.3% in 2021 compared to the year 2020. However, in the last six years (2016-2021) crime against women rose by 26.35% from 338,954 cases in 2016. With more than 56,000 cases, the BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh, tops the list. Last year (2021), police recorded 31,878 rapes—the numbers show a steep rise from the previous year (28,153). With tens of thousands of rape cases reported annually, India has earned the moniker “the rape capital of the world”. In 2021, police received complaints from 137,956 women—which breaks down to about one every four minutes. It’s an increase of 27% from 2016 when 110,434 women sought police help. Last year, police recorded 6,795 dowry deaths—or on average, one every 77 minutes.” Majority of cases under crime against women were registered under ‘Cruelty by Husband or His Relatives’ (31.8 per cent), followed by ‘Assault on

Women with Intent to Outrage her Modesty’ (20.8 per cent), ‘Kidnapping and Abduction of Women’ (17.6 per cent), and ‘Rape’ (7.4%), according to the NCRB report. Hindus have the highest number of missing girls attributable to female foeticide in India, a new report prepared by the Pew Research Centre has revealed. According to their analysis, at least 9 million girls are ‘missing’ in India as a result of female infanticide from 2000 to 2019. To compare, this is slightly lower than the entire population of Uttarakhand.

Not only that. The National Commission for Women in 2020-21 received 26,513 domestic-violence complaints from women, an increase of 25.09 percent compared to the 20,309 complaints registered in 2019-20. Around 31% of all crimes against women registered in 2021 were of domestic abuse, followed by assaults and molestation at 20.8%. The rate of cases registered per lakh women population increased to 64.5 in 2021 from 56.5 in 2020. The National Commission for Women in 2020-21 received 26,513 domestic-violence complaints from women, an increase of 25.09 percent compared to the 20,309 complaints registered in 2019-20. 20 women die every day as a result of harassment over a dowry—either murdered, or compelled to commit suicide. Of late, the brutality has taken on a new dimension. The killing of an intimate partner (one live-in-partner) by another partner in one or the other part of the country in a most savage way. The bodies of the murdered woman are chopped in various parts and thrown away at multiple locations. The parents are also taking extreme steps of killing their own daughters when they are found to be in love with a boy of another caste or religion. About 300 acid attacks on women are reported in India each year. The mindset of the people against the women can be judged from the data that 65% of Indian men believe women should tolerate violence in order to keep the family together, and women sometimes deserve to be beaten.

As regards education and health, female literacy rate in India lingers behind at 62.3% for women as compared to 80% for men. Many girls in India are married at a young age and drop out of school after they complete their primary education due to societal pressures or early pregnancies. 13.5 percent of girls between the ages 15-16 are out of school because of that. Child labour and lack of feminine hygiene

products keep girls from coming to school and contribute to the illiteracy rates and continuous lack of education. A 2015 study found that approximately 28.2% of children whose mothers have no education have an educational level of primary or lower, while only less than 1% of children whose mothers completed high secondary education have an educational level of primary or lower. As mothers in India remain uneducated, they negatively impact the education of their children thus the educational disparities become a cyclical, intergenerational issue. Similar is the case with health of women. A quarter of Indian women of reproductive age are malnourished, with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of less than 18.5 kg/m². 66.4% women are suffering from anemia.

Cause of this predicament, sufferings and maltreatment of Indian women lies in socio-political reality. The women in India are still bound within the obsolete putrid feudal thoughts and customs. She is still considered as a private property of the man. Such is the discrimination for girl child that starts from the cradle itself in decadent moribund global imperialism-capitalism, of which the ruling Indian capitalism is an inalienable part. So, it is compromising with the outdated outmoded discriminatory feudal mindset and social injunctions that prescribed subjugation of women. To this is added the rotten thought of consumerism bred by dying capitalism-imperialism. This consumerist mindset coupled with hangover of feudal patriarchy has given rise to the thought of objectification of women. This is the crux of the problem.

Let us end with an invaluable quote of great Lenin: “Could there be a more damning proof of this than the calm acquiescence of men who see how women grow worn out in petty, monotonous

household work, their strength and time dissipated and wasted, their minds growing narrow and stale, their hearts beating slowly, their will weakened! ...What I am saying applies to the overwhelming majority of women, to the wives of workers and to those who stand all day in a factory. So, few men—even among the proletariat—realize with how much effort and trouble they could save women, even quite do away with, if they were to lend a hand in ‘women’s work’. But no, that is contrary to the ‘rights and dignity of a man’. They want their peace and comfort. The home life of the woman is a daily sacrifice to a thousand unimportant trivialities. The old master right of the man still lives in secret. His slave takes her revenge, also secretly. The backwardness of women, their lack of understanding for the revolutionary ideals of the man decreases his joy and determination in fighting. They are like little worms which, unseen, slowly but surely, rot and corrode. I know the life of the worker, and not only from books. Our communist work among the women, our political work, embraces a great deal of educational work among men. We must root out the old ‘master’ idea to its last and smallest root, in the Party and among the masses. That is one of our political tasks, just as is the urgently necessary task of forming a staff of men and women comrades, well trained in theory and practice, to carry on Party activity among working women”.

(Source: Time.com 27-06-19, Violence against women, WHO dated 09-03-21, shethepeople 21-04-20, Crimes against women-legal services India, down to earth 28-12-20, hwnews 24-01-22, outlook 30-08-22, BBC 13-09-22, ballardbrief, bmc nutrition 22-08-22, The Wire 06-09-22, Press Information Bureau, government of India, 03-10-22, Lenin on the Women’s Question’ by Clara Zetkin)

BJP is the largest recipient of corporate funding

Through a report published by the Election Commission, it has been revealed that in the last financial (2021-22) year, the BJP topped the list of procuring cash donations of Rs 614.52 crores. This is over and above the huge contribution of Rs. 2,555 crores it received through most opaque electoral bonds.

As per Association of Democratic Freedom (ADF), in the last four years, the proceeds of 94% of bonds sold from Gujarat were received by BJP. Second on the list of recipient of cash donations is the Congress with Rs 95.44 crores while the Aam Admi Party has been a close third with Rs 44.54 crores. Strikingly, the CPI(M) bagged a cash of nearly 10 crores.

China

This anti-covid agitation is outburst of accumulated wrath against the growing distress and misery

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eradicated poverty in 2021. But that is a travesty of truth. Poverty is swelling. Between 80 and 90 percent of Chinese people are categorized as poor as per criterion prescribed by World Bank. When a peasant woman in a poor village north of the Yellow River in Shandong province was asked by a surveyor how often she had meat or eggs, “Never,” she said. Is her 14 year old daughter in school? “No.” Does her 8-year-old son have any toys? Her answer was, “None.” Almost 150.8 million Chinese people are malnourished. Why this swelling number of poor? Because like any other imperialist-capitalist country, the gap between the rich and the poor is growing fast. The richest 10 percent of China’s population owns nearly 70 percent of total household wealth. Since the 1990s, a good number of the bureaucrats belonging to the Party, which through rapid degeneration has become a typical bourgeois party with a ‘communist’ signboard, had started becoming capitalists by buying up the remnants of state owned enterprises for a song. And with this bourgeoisie in command, the production relation also assumed the labour-capital character which presupposes ruthless exploitation of labour by the capitalist owners of the means of production for maximization of profit. Chinese workers who had once experienced the boon of socialism under the leadership of great Mao Zedong, started facing abuses that include unpaid wages, wages below contract pay (after deduction of various fees, deposits, and “fines”), unsafe working conditions, brutally long working hours, and involuntary confinement. Child labour is also pronounced in China today. In a documentary film titled *China Blue*, one could see employees of the blue jean factory working for pennies an hour, less than the minimum wage, and often forced to work overtime—even overnight—to meet shipping deadlines. Thus, it can be seen that the much-trumpeted growth of imperialist China was achieved on the backs of workers, particularly those migrating from inland provinces to special economic zones on the coast. These migrant workers face lower wages, longer hours, no access to social services or benefits, and open discrimination. This is just like the conditions for immigrant workers elsewhere.

Rising prices are making life more difficult for working people and dragging down their living

standards. China’s consumer prices rose in September 2022 at their fastest pace in more than two years, reported the National Bureau of Statistics. China’s “factory gate” prices—a measure of what manufacturers charge wholesalers for products is growing at the fastest rate. Demand amongst consumers has weakened too for household goods, clothing, and food due to rising prices. Like all imperialist-capitalist powers, practice of artificially boosting demand through credit-driven economy is in operation in capitalist China.

Excessive taxation, local corruption and declining services are problems faced by many people in the Chinese countryside. The cost of food, fertilizer and seeds has risen so much that the earning of the farmers is dipping. Describing a remote village in Anhui Province, two reporters had written so a few years back: “This is a village of empty rooms, children left behind and frail grandparents who struggle to hold it all together. Most of the able-bodied adults have left the hamlet of rutted, muddy roads and drought-withered fields of corn. The parents have migrated to the big cities for work and their young children stay with grandparents, great-grandparents or any other relatives. Researchers estimate that at least 58 million—nearly a quarter of the nation’s children and almost a third of its rural children—are growing up without one or both of their parents. This is the harrowing spectacle of **rural China**.”

Unemployment is soaring. In July 2022, the youth jobless rate hit a record of 19.9%. And, with 11.58 million students due to graduate into the job market next year, these students’ prospects are not looking bright.

In socialism, a strong programme involving the development of health services in towns and rural areas and emphasizing the growth of preventive **healthcare**, was put in place. Now in capitalist China, the supply and demand for health care is predicated on people’s ability to pay. As the majority of the health care facilities are historically based in towns and cities, this has produced a further skewing of resources towards those areas where incomes are greater, or where widespread insurance cover exists. Patients need to bear a sizeable part of the cost of prescribed drugs.

Despite all claims of expanding education, cost of **education** in

China is becoming increasingly unfair to the poor. If one adds to the inequalities in buildings, books, and teachers, and the greater availability of private tutoring and extracurricular activities, the gulf between students in large cities and rural belts as well as small provinces is huge. By 1999 the number of private institutions had reached 1,270—outnumbered public institutions by three to four hundred. Enrollment in private educational institutions to over one million, giving China one of the largest private higher education sectors in the world.

News of slavery, torture, human trafficking, and children imprisoned in conditions “worse than dog kennels” has exploded like a bomb in China. Hundreds of millions have watched the shocking, heart-rending television footage of dazed, mistreated, half-starved slaves as they emerged from captivity. **Corruption** has been a central issue for public discussion. While the marriage between power and money is a growing concern, Present Chinese President Xi Jinping himself admitted in September last that corruption in the country remains severe and complicated. In 2021, around 5.03 million incidents of **crime** were recorded in China.

Beggars in China are reportedly seen in large numbers near tourist places and subway stations. Criminal gangs in the Guangdong industry hub of Dongguan have been enslaving large numbers of physically disabled children, and forcing them to work as beggars on the street. Likewise, prostitution has become a roaring trade. Flourishing prostitution. Prostitutes are found in five-star hotels, karaoke’s, entertainment centres, dance halls, boxing clubs, beauty parlours, hairdressers, barbershops, saunas, bathhouses, massage parlours, nightclubs and on the streets. In one survey, 10 percent of men admitted having paid for sex with a prostitute. By one count there are around 1 million full-time prostitutes in China and perhaps 8 to 10 million more that sometimes accept money and gifts for sex.

Precarious condition of women Just after victory of people’s democratic revolution in China in 1949, women under the People’s Republic of China had gained constitutional rights equal to those of men as well as increased mobility and higher than ever social and economic status. They were aided by the banning of arranged marriages and concubinage and, in the mid-

1950s, Chairman Mao, while commenting on a report about tripling of productivity in a village where it was decided to pay women the same number of ‘work points’ as men, declared that ‘women hold up half the sky.’ But that China has ceased to exist. Now, every 7.4 seconds, a woman in China faces domestic violence. About one in four women in China are said to have endured domestic abuse. It has been estimated that an average of more than 80,000 rape cases occur in China each year. In recent years, rape cases have represented about 15% of all criminal cases. Nearly 30 million Chinese children could have been victims of sexual assault, researchers say. Few cases ever make it to court because of social stigma and lack of awareness.

From what has been stated briefly above, it is evident that aberrations and malaises which are essential features of dying capitalism, have made deep inroads in imperialist China. Howsoever is the effort on the part of the Chinese authorities to hide the reality from the global people, the fire of discontent and dissent could not be doused. It bears recall that when the Tiananmen Square protests followed by brutal crackdown on the protesters took place in June 1989, our Party guided by Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought had categorically stated that “*the incident came as a rude shock to the revolutionaries and progressive people of the world. The students’ agitation that had burst forth in Beijing and other places voiced many grievances accumulated in social life there, particularly the burning issues like inflation, price rise, corruption etc. which were the products of a long practice of revisionist policies pursued by the then Deng leadership.*”

It was not difficult to understand that the reactionary forces, both internal and external, were making use of the situation to carry through their design of counter-revolution by capturing political power and eventually overthrowing the socialist system of China”. We had appealed to the whole Chinese party and people of China “to take concrete lessons from those painful happenings, have unshakable faith in Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought, launch vigorous struggle against revisionism and restore authority of the great leader Mao Zedong steadfastly adhering to the path of continued class struggle under the dictatorship of the proletariat which was the real guarantee of socialism in China”. But hardly any heed was paid to that earlier.

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Nicobar Islands are now targeted for ecological destruction and eviction of aboriginals and tribes

It has become a common phenomenon for all to witness that over the time, lands are being seized by the Government in our country citing 'development' as the pretext without caring for large scale eviction of impoverished people. Under the garb of 'development', the objective is to hand over land to the monopolists and multi-nationals for establishing their hegemony over these areas, mostly forest or arable lands.

We had earlier seen forcible grabbing of cultivable land from the peasants either without or with meagre compensation for setting up capital-intensive industries with logistic advantage and easy transport of produced goods. This was seen in Singur-Nandigram in West Bengal during the rule of the CPI (M) in the state. Also land was acquired in other states like Maharashtra by the BJP government for setting up Special Economic Zones (SEZs) where the corporates enjoy a slew of tax and other infrastructural facilities virtually free of cost as well, as they are not required to obey the labour rules and hence are free to exploit labour like anything. Then we saw the BJP government framing policies favouring a very conscious larceny of village resources to benefit the corporate giants and gradually deprive the abjectly poor and underprivileged tribal people and forest people to hold onto their right on forest land.

One of India's few pristine and contiguous tracts of forest, Hasdeo Aranya in Chhattisgarh is home to rare plants, endangered animals such as sloth bears and elephants, sal trees and also contains an estimated 5bn tons of coal. The BJP government has given out contracts to mine four of those six coal belts which would destroy at least 1,898 hectares of forest land besides evicting thousands of abjectly poor and under-privileged tribals. It is also alleged in circumvention of the existing Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 (which recognizes the rights of the forest dwelling tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers to forest resources), Hasdeo Aranya's land acquisition was conducted without the consent or consultation of the indigenous people. By the government's own account, nearly 2.5 lakh people 50% of which are tribals from Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat, have been displaced for building Narmada Dam and reservoir in Gujarat. As many as 75,000 tribals are severely affected because of installation of the 'statue of unity' by the BJP government in Gujarat.

And now, it has been the turn of the union territories like Andamans and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu. It is learnt that a Great Nicobar Infrastructure Project, worth 75,000 crores, is on the anvil under monitoring of the Niti Aayog, a government organization. Why Nicobar? Because it is having a 'commanding' geostrategic presence in the Bay of Bengal that allows India access to South and South East Asia. It naturally has incited the BJP Government, subservient to the class interest of

the ruling monopolists, to be eager to reach out ample commercial benefits to their masters. Though the Government cannot claim to be totally transparent in its intent to advance the above-mentioned project, as far as can be gleaned from media revelations, it is majorly a military project. Aiming to construct a military-civil, dual use international container shipment terminal (IPTT), a green field airport along with big commercial cum luxury tourist hub, a film city, a casino and a shipping project are to be part of the plan. This amply suggests that Nicobar is to be turned into an investment for reaping super profit for the large corporates. Reportedly, as part of the Project, orders have already been released to reduce forest areas, nearly 166 km of the island which constitute 80% of the total being green forests that harbour rare 330 varieties of flora and fauna. There can be no doubt that the process would severely endanger the ecological balance of the island.

To compensate the damage due to deforestation that will follow, the alternative suggested by Andaman-Nicobar Integrated Development Corporation Limited is to grow trees in non-forest lands. Absurdity par excellence! How can this so called alternative to about eight lakhs of age-old trees that the island has nurtured be called suitable? Also, Islands region comes under the high-risk seismic zone V category, the most severe of them all. The islands are also highly vulnerable to submergence due to sea level rise, floods and cyclones. Also in the instant case, UNESCO recommendations against destruction of greenery have gone unheeded and anxiety and concerns of the environmentalists have been conveniently overlooked.

Besides disturbing ecosystem, the tribal reserve of 751.070 sq.km, 84.10 sq.km would be de-notified. Obviously, the existence of indigenous aboriginal tribal groups viz Jarawas, Sentinelese, Great Andamanese Onge, Nicobarese and most rare group Shompen will be under threat. It has been the common experience of all that whenever poor people are displaced from their hearth and home because of seizure of land by the government, mostly by force and in the commercial interest of the monopolists and multi-nationals, there is hardly any suitable relief and rehabilitation of the ousted populace residing on the acquired land for generations, despite customary assurance that their interests would be protected.

It cannot but, therefore, be a cause of serious concern of every right-thinking people, scientists, environmentalists as well as progressive forces who are committed to uphold the cause of the tribals, forest-dwellers, poor peasants and other sections of the toiling masses bearing the brunt of inhuman capitalist exploitation. They need to rise to the occasion and assert pressure of united opposition to stall such devastating projects.

(Source: Earthview 10-01-22, Economic Times 21-09-22, Andhra Jyoti-10-12-22)

Central government's decision of stopping scholarship will badly hit SC/ST/OBC and Minority Students

The BJP leaders and ministers have virtually tired the people by harping on the slogan— *Sab ka sath sab ka Vikash* (development of everyone) as they find the reality diametrically opposite. While there is a boosted development of the ruling monopolists, the common toiling masses are being pushed towards the precipice of destitution, if not utter ruination. The monopolists and the super-rich are blessed with plethora of tax concessions and waivers, condoning loan defaults and opening of new and newer avenues to reap maximum profit through favourable government policies and liberal privatization of various sectors. But for the oppressed downtrodden, what is prescribed is withdrawal of whatever little rights and facilities they are still having.

Latest is the scrapping of government scholarships to the economically marginalised sections. Hitherto, the students of SC, ST, OBC and minority section (students of six minority religions) used to get a monthly stipend of Rs. 225/- (non-residentials) and Rs. 525/- (residentials) for ten months in a year along with one-time allowance of Rs. 750/- and Rs. 1000/- respectively for purchasing books. The Central Government and the State Government used to bear 75% and 25% of this financial responsibility. But the BJP-led Central Government has already stopped the scholarship for OBC students up to class VIII. Now that is extended to the students belonging to the economically marginalized SC, ST, OBC and minority sections thereby making them worst victims of commercialization of education.

The Central Government has argued that as the students from class I to class VIII receive free education, they should not get any scholarship. On the same logic, it can be said that as the monopoly tycoons are making fabulous wealth, they should no more be allowed any financial concession of any form. But this government, like a one-eyed deer, is prone to see the interest of only a tiny section of ultra-rich while the oppressed and deprived millions are left to fend for themselves. Who does not know that classroom education in government schools bereft of any infrastructure as well as sufficient number of teachers is not sufficient for a student now. So, they try to go for private tuition, if affordable.

Secondly, textbooks as well as exercise books are becoming costlier with every passing day. How would the underprivileged students buy them? Union Finance Minister has informed Parliament that banks have written off bad loans (virtually belonging to corporates) worth Rs 10.09 lakh crore in the last five financial years. The central exchequer has lost tax revenue worth nearly Rs 1.84 lakh crore in two financial years due to lower rate of corporate tax. If these losses can be borne, what little expenditure the government would save by curtailing the meagre aid of Rs. 225/- to the economically marginalized students? We know the government has no answer to this other than playing the broken record of *Sab ka sath sab ka Vikash*.

Self-arrogated credit for providing covid vaccination but shrugging off the liability of death

Head I win, tail you lose! Who has not seen PM Modi's face on Covid vaccination certificates, posters and media advertisements to create an impression as if he is only to be credited for 'the glory of 150 crore vaccination' in India. Even the BJP made it an issue during poll campaign in various state assembly elections. Let us not refer to the total chaos, utter mismanagement, shortage of injection vials, whimsical arrangement of inoculation programmes that the common Indians have been victims of during the pandemic which, among other things, resulted in over 40 lakh deaths as claimed by unofficial sources. But this very government is now shrugging off the liability of deaths that occur after vaccination.

The Central Government has filed an affidavit before the Supreme Court where they have said that the government cannot be held liable for paying compensations to the families of those who died during administration of Covid19 vaccines. The affidavit came in response to a petition filed by parents of two young women who died due to side-effects after being administered the vaccine last year. The government has a weird argument. It says the vaccines in use under the vaccination programme were

manufactured by third parties. Who these third parties are? Are not they the private manufacturers who have made fortunes by selling vaccines at exorbitant prices? Will the government hold the third parties (vaccine manufacturing companies) liable for compensating these bereaved families? The health ministry is silent about that. The affidavit has further claimed that the victims were not forced to take the vaccines; they took it voluntarily.

What an excuse! If that be so, why does the government take credit of vaccination? Why did they crowd the street walls, lampposts, train compartments and media in arrogating to itself the credit? Did the government disclaim their responsibilities prior to the vaccination programme? There is no data about total casualties that occurred after vaccination. Any civilized government worth the name would have preserved such information.

But, in digital India where minutest details of every individual are recorded through various means, how could such an information be missing? No one in government-administration can be made accountable for the answer to such uncomfortable questions. Because they all are Caesar's wife!

China

Chinese people's agitation is needed to be channelized along right track based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought and further enriched version contained in Comrade Shibdas Ghosh Thought

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People need to rise up again to bring back socialism

What socialism can really deliver had been amply demonstrated in Soviet Union under the stewardship of great Stalin and in China under great Mao Zedong. Now the people of both the countries are realizing what they have lost. So, the recent people's outbursts throughout the length and breadth of China are thus not just against Covid 19 restrictions. Untold exploitation and growing sufferings have led people on the streets.

It is also a fact that the rulers of imperialist China at the initial stage of Covid 19 did not take positive steps to stop its spread, rather kept Wuhan open for worldwide business transactions in the imperialist interest. Now the rulers have been strangulating the country in the name of containing Covid 19. Added to this there are widespread agitations against capitalist onslaughts from all directions. The growing anger at the prolonged zero-Covid lockdowns has added to an undercurrent of unrest at deteriorating economic conditions which have led to growing unemployment and a waning belief among young people in Chinese Premier Xi Jinping's nationalistic "China Dream"—a euphemism for more and more economic and political concentration in the hands of the imperialist

state as a mark of tightening grip of fascist autocracy. It is heartening to see the oppressed people of China rising against capitalist onslaught. What is needed is to channelize these movements along right track based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought as well as the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh who had further elaborated, developed, enriched this noble ideology and brought its understanding to a new height. Then and then only they in due course would be able to overthrow the present regime of capitalism in the country and bring back socialism thereby ending the nightmare they are having today.

(Source: Journal of Public Health Medicine 02-04-96, Foreign Affairs 2001, China Labour watch 22-08-01, Monthly Review--July-August 2004, Monthly Review November 2005, Socialistworld 06-07-07, The Guardian-22-07-2007, Xinhua 16-12-07, Red Lights: The Lives of Sex Workers in Postsocialist China by Tiantian Zheng, University of Minnesota Press, 2009, Freedom Socialist Party December bulletin 2013, China Insider-20-03-14, China Daily 20-03-14, The Chinese Health Care System, by Hai Fang, Peking University, April 2016, International Tag 31-10-18, South China Morning Post 11-05-19, brookings.education 21-01-21, BBC 15-04-19, 28-02-21, 24-06-22, 26-11-22, 27-11-22, World Bank 01-04-22, channelnewasia.com-28-06-21, Factsanddetails.com July 2022, Forbes 26-07-22, China story 19-09-22, CNBC-13-10-22, The Conversation 29-11-22, Global Times 01-12-22, ceicdata.com July-September 2022)

Union Finance Minister and her tackling of 'economic' questions

Banks have written off bad loans worth Rs 10,09,511 crore during the last five fiscals, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Rajya Sabha on 13 December last. The banks recovered an aggregate amount of Rs 1,32,036 crore from the written-off loan accounts, during the said period, she said. Obviously, recoveries have been measly, around 10% only.

"As the borrowers of written-off loans continue to be liable for repayment and the process of recovery of dues continues write-off does not benefit the borrower," said she. But when asked about the details of accounts in which loans worth Rs 10 crore and above were written off and the names of the top 25 defaulters, it is informed that disclosing borrower-wise credit information is prohibited. In other words, people are in the dark as to who, obviously the big corporates, are the defaulters whose unpaid loans are written off from the books of the banks, meaning those are categorized as non-payable bad debts. But FM says that the defaulters are not benefitting by the write-offs. But she skirts clarifying what concrete steps the government is taking to recover the dues and punish the offenders who have simply embezzled public money by not paying back the bank loans.

Likewise, when one MP from a south Indian state sought a response from the Union government on the steps being taken to tackle the depreciating rupee against the US dollar, the FM merrily sidestepped the answer and instead ridiculed the member for his weak Hindi, bad food habits and dressings. When the offended MP tried to object, the Lok Sabha speaker, also a BJP nominee, warned him saying, "if you stand up time and again, I will have to send you out". After a brief interruption in the proceedings, the concerned MP pointed out that when rupee was at 66 against the dollar during Congress regime, the present BJP Prime Minister had stated that rupee had gone to the ICU. So now when the rupee is at 83.20, it seems like it is heading towards the mortuary. "Does the government have any action plan to bring back the rupee home healthy from the mortuary?", he queried.

In response, the FM said: "India has the fastest-growing economy, but the opposition has a problem with it. Everyone should be proud of India's growth, but some people take it as a joke...some people in Parliament are jealous. The MP should know if he is quoting Modi at that time, not just the rupee but all other economic indicators were in ICU. Today, India is the fastest-growing economy." What a novel answer to a very pertinent question! Only chest-thumping and weird claims without any obligation whatsoever to provide supportive facts.

This is not the first time the FM's comments in Parliament drew criticism. In December 2019, the Finance Minister had said, "I don't eat a lot of onions and garlic, so don't worry. I come from a family that doesn't care much for onions." Few months ago she said that "Indian Rupee has not weakened but in reality, it is the US Dollar that has strengthened". When asked about rising inflation after she placed the budget of 22-23, her answer was "Every budget doesn't speak about inflation and its impact. But of course, talking of numbers, money, credit, liquidity, and also supply and demand of essential goods and others, you keep in mind inflation". When asked whether her government had set the agenda of bringing back black money and whether there is any data of recovery of black money, she said, "The money that is returning to the bank that too, in a way, is black money. I am not saying all of it is black money, but some of it is." The FM and her bench-thumping party MPs and ministers have thus been demonstrating on the floor of the House how bankrupt they are in answering pertinent questions and at the same time, how adept they are in beating about the bush.

(Source: Business Insider 02-02-22, The Tribune India 13-12-22, The Wire 13-12-22)

World proletarian revolution alone can bring about desired emancipation from oppression and repression

(Comrade Asit Bhattacharyya, veteran Polit Bureau member, SUCI(C), delivered an inspiring and educative speech in Assamese in Guwahati on 26 April last on the occasion of observance of the 74th Party Foundation Day. The original speech in Assamese and its Bengali translation were published in instalments in Ganamukti and Ganadabi, our Assamese and Bengali organs respectively. It has been felt necessary to publish its English translation in Proletarian Era in instalments. The first, second, third and fourth instalments were published in the previous four issues i.e., Vol. 56 No. 5 dated 15 October and Vol. 56 No. 6 dated 1 November 2022 and Vol 56 no7 dated 15 November 2022 and Vol 56 no8 dated 1st December 2022 respectively. This is the fifth and final instalment. Responsibility of translation error and inadequacy of expression, if any, lies with the Editorial Board of Proletarian Era.)

But the parties claiming themselves to be leftists, like the CPI(M) and allied parties too are much the same. While posing as opposition, they have been behaving in the same way as the other bourgeois parties do. There is hardly any difference between their politics and conduct. Yet it is necessary today to glaringly expose the extremely anti-people steps taken by the ruling party and prove that they are enemies of the people. But there is no such attempt by these opposition parties, whether the bourgeois parties or the pseudo-communists. Rather the amity between the ruling BJP and the opposition is only surfacing. Not only that the pseudo-Marxists are entering into opportunist alliance with other bourgeois parties on this or that pretext with the sole objective of winning seats in the elections by hook or crook. Such politics is clearly against the interest of the people. Of late, the opposition parties have adopted another hypocritical approach. They do not build up extra-parliamentary movements against the out and out anti-people policies, legislations and measures of the government to uphold people's demands. But often by raising some slogans to play to the gallery, they do not allow the legislatures to function. Sometimes, they stage walk-outs on a regular basis. When they leave the House like this, it comes to the advantage of the government. The government often takes the ordinance route to promulgate anti-people legislations and then absence of opposition in the House facilitates safe passage of those legislations. Simply from electoral interest and to curry favour with the ruling bourgeoisie, these parties in opposition are taking up this suicidal path. How can the truth about capitalist exploitation-oppression, the extremely undemocratic fascistic activities of the ruling dispensation be exposed before the people in this manner? Once or twice, this kind of walk-out from or boycott of Parliament might be of some value. But if the deadlock goes on for days together, how can the revolutionary duty to unmask the character of the ruling party be discharged? On the other hand, it helps the ruling party to give the opposition a bad name. The

ruling party then gets the opportunity to impress upon the people that the opposition is irresponsible because being elected by popular vote, they have been creating stalemate situation. In whose interest the opposition is doing so? On top of it, how can the hollowness of bourgeois vote politics be proved to the people?

In reality, there are only two contending forces in politics

In this connection, I would like to remind you of a very valuable analysis of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. By observing this opportunistic conduct of the opposition, he had sensed that a yet more opportunist politics was in the offing. So he pointed out that although outwardly there appear to be many opposing forces in this capitalist system, but in reality, there are only two contending forces. One force comprises all the bourgeois parties and forces while the other is represented by the real opposition, the revolutionary party. You would find how this analysis of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh is proving to be correct with every passing day. There is no need to elaborate how the opportunist power-monger bourgeois leaders are frequently changing party—from the BJP to the Congress and vice versa, from the BJP to the TMC and vice versa and so forth. There is virtually a wave of opportunist defections. These turncoats in bourgeois politics is ultimately helping the BJP who is in power both at the Centre and in many states. More the position of the RSS-BJP is strengthened with the backing of the ruling class, more ruthless is the capitalist oppression-repression.

The impact of bourgeois thought is on all sections of the toiling masses irrespective of caste, creed, religion, region or ethnicity. In order to ensure that united movement against this crass communal force like the RSS-BJP, the government using administration is skillfully spreading severe anti-Muslim hatred throughout the country. In absence of security, the Muslim populace is spending sleepless nights. Is it by any means helping the Hindus? Did any of the great preachers of Hinduism advise to spread hatred, violence against any other religion? Did they recommend killing of people of different religious faith? Did any of

the luminaries or great freedom fighters ask to embroil the Hindu and Muslim communities in internecine killings? Can you find a great man who preached for such carnage and bloodbath? The Indian national bourgeoisie and the British imperialists only triggered heinous communal thoughts and divisiveness. They did so to destroy the freedom movement, make people victim of oppression-repression and thus partitioned the country entailing disaster for the working class and common people.

By defeating BJP in election, communal politics cannot be thwarted

Today the grievances of exploited and oppressed masses, be they Hindus or Muslims, are about to explode. To foil this, the RSS-BJP, the most loyal force of the capitalist class, are spewing worst form of anti-Muslim venom. Certainly, by this noxious act, they are trying to resist surge of united struggle of the poor exploited Hindu and Muslim people. At any cost, this malevolent communal force will have to be defeated. The extremely harmful impact of communal RSS-BJP on the common people has to be effaced by conducting intense ideological-theoretical struggle. Mere inflicting an electoral defeat would not abolish the RSS-BJP. It cannot be overlooked that there is a justified ground for the Hindu masses to nurture grievance against the extremely harmful acts of Muslim fundamental forces. It is by using these grievances to dishonest end, BJP-RSS have, through a vile campaign, been to some extent successful in arousing hatred among a good number of Hindu people against the innocent, toiling, exploited and oppressed Muslim masses. This hatred cannot be removed by anyhow defeating the BJP in election. The essential task is to unite all exploited people, regardless of whether they are Hindus or Muslims, irrespective of their caste, language or religion, and organize them fearlessly in protracted and uncompromising mighty movements based on higher ethics, morality and values against the burning problems of their life. The new morals and values that this united movement would give birth to would be the real

powerful weapon and effective deterrent to the sinister murderous communal politics of the RSS-BJP. Being involved in this higher movement for a common cause and against a common enemy, oppressed people belonging to both Hindu and Muslim communities would easily be able to ride above all sorts of communal divisive thoughts. While conducting such a powerful united extra-parliamentary movement, if any election comes up, then all those parties and forces fighting shoulder to shoulder would participate in the election as part of that ongoing movement. This united force of movement would alone ensure defeat of the BJP in election.

Here I would like to point out that though the correct process of inflicting crushing defeat on the RSS-BJP is known to us, there are immense hurdle before rolling it out. The anti-BJP bourgeois parties of different hues can in no way be brought out of the confines of vote-politics. On the other hand, the position of the pseudo-communists like the CPI (M), CPI is no different. They are not at all interested to build up united people's movement. On the contrary, they are very much eager to join hands with the Congress and other bourgeois outfits with a view to gaining electoral mileage by raising anti-BJP slogan and thus exploiting the strong sentiment among the democratic-minded people of the country against communal politics of the RSS-BJP. As a result, the BJP is getting license to exacerbate anti-Muslim hate campaign.

The Congress and other bourgeois parties in opposition, continue to be silent spectators of such fascistic attack on the life and livelihood and religious beliefs of the people. They are in no mood of resisting this. By peddling so called soft-Hindutva, they are, in fact, helping the BJP. Keeping in mind the next Lok Sabha election in 2024, the BJP is taking full advantage of the situation to further divide the parties opposed to it in the arena of parliamentary politics.

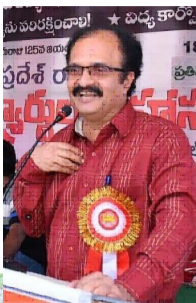
SUCI(C) is a revolutionary party armed by the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. There is no other weapon, no other ideology in the hands of the people other than

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AIDSO Andhra Pradesh State Conference resolved to resist NEP-2020

7th Andhra Pradesh State Conference of AIDSO was held on 17 and 18 December 2022, at Tirupati centred on the theme of opposing disastrous National Education Policy 2020. 250 delegates attended the conference. Those who addressed were

State Secretary, SUCI(C), S. Govind Rajulu, A.P. State Secretary, All India Save Education Committee and Comrades R.



A part of delegates at the APAIDSO State Conference Comrade V N R Sekhar addressing (Inset)

Dr. Murali Karnam, Professor, Nalsar Law University, Comrades V N R Sekhar and Sourav Ghosh, President and General Secretary, respectively of AIDSO, Comrades B S Amarnath, AP

Gangadhar, Ajay Kamath and A Satyanaryayana, all AIDSO leaders. A 40 member state committee with Comrades V Harish Kumar Reddy and E Mahesh as President and Secretary was formed.

AIDSO demands adequate financial compensation to the families of the Manipur accident deceased

Expressing profound grief over the death of 26 students of Yaripok Thambalanu Higher Secondary School in a tragic road accident in East Imphal district of Manipur on 21 December 2022, Comrade Sourav Ghosh, General Secretary, AIDSO, said in a press statement issued on the same day that like the rest of the country, if the government does not take effective measures to improve the road and transport system in the states of North East India, such tragic incidents will happen again and again. If students are to be taken somewhere for an educational trip or for any other purpose, it is necessary for the authorities to be very careful keeping in mind the road conditions. While expressing deepest condolences to the bereaved families, AIDSO demands adequate financial compensation to those families and providing necessary free medical treatment to the injured students.

3rd UP State conference of AIUTUC held with pledge to strengthen revolutionary working class movement

The 3rd UP State Conference of All India Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC) was held on 10 December 2022, at the Panchayat Bhavan in Moradabad. A presidium comprising Comrades Hiralal Gupta, Islam Ali and Dharm Dev conducted the proceedings. In his inaugural speech, Comrade Shankar Das Gupta, General Secretary, pointed out, inter alia, that the basic difference between AIUTUC and other unions lies in its consistent endeavour to make the workers politically conscious while conducting movements based on higher proletarian values and culture.

Comrade K Radhakrishna, President, AIUTUC, in his address, stated that to be able to confront the challenging problems faced by the workers today, it is imperative to strengthen AIUTUC, the revolutionary workers' front.

Delegates at the Conference hailed from different districts of the state including Kanpur, Allahabad, Jaunpur, Mathura, Sambhal, Lucknow, Pratapgarh and Moradabad etc. unanimously elected from the conference a 27-member strong working committee with Comrade Vijay Pal Singh as the President and Comrade Balendra Katiyar as the Secretary.

Corrigendum: We sincerely regret that in Proletarian Era dated 15 December 2022, the date of sad demise of Comrade Pushpendra, UP State Secretary, SUCI(C), was inadvertently mentioned as 7 September instead of 7 December 2022.

World proletarian revolution alone can bring about desired emancipation from oppression and repression

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Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought for being emancipated from the yoke of capitalist exploitation. The bourgeois parties like the BJP, Congress are arch enemies of the people. At the same time, it is also true that the pseudo-communists like the CPI (M), CPI are helping the rightist politics by abandoning the path of movement. It is also being seen that the ruling bourgeoisie is also encouraging this "leftism" of the CPI (M), CPI. By chewing the cud of leftism, the CPI (M) and its allies had served the capitalist class during their 34 years of uninterrupted rule in West Bengal.

This was nothing but outright betrayal to the people. We ought to understand that Hindu fanaticism cannot be fought by Islamic fanaticism. Rather, it would cause immense harm. Communist ideology is the only deterrent to communalism-fundamentalism. So, the Hindus, Muslims and other sections of the toiling masses irrespective of caste, creed and language, will have to be united under the banner of communism. All communal conspiracies will have to be foiled by all the oppressed people by unitedly participating in the movement for ushering in communism.

The twin struggles against communalism based on democratic values and for overthrowing capitalism by revolution can alone resist communal forces in various parts of the country. You need to take that initiative. I want to say firmly that there is no reason to be frustrated. 90% Indians are poor working people. If they cement their struggling unity, the RSS-BJP

would be dislodged from the socio-political arena. I have said in many meetings that when the freedom movement was being conducted mainly along leftist line under the leadership of Netaji Subhash, the people of undivided Bengal did not allow Shyama Prasad Mukherjee of Hindu Mahasabha to find any footing. Such a current of powerful movement has to be released based on Marxism-Leninism-Shibdas Ghosh Thought.

We need to conduct relentless struggle with the objective of accomplishing anti-capitalist socialist revolution. Militant class and mass struggles are to be developed. In course of that, we shall be more and more educated by the illumining revolutionary teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh. Please bear in mind that an unjust system does not persist for long. People of West Bengal have ended the 34 year long rule of the CPI (M). People of India also drove the 51 long years of autocratic regime of the Congress to its downfall. Likewise, the BJP would also have to go. No one can survive long based on injustice. The struggling people imbued with genuine leftist thought would bring to an end this anti-Muslim hatred and attacks on the Muslim people by the RSS-BJP.

This united struggle will be based on democratic values. Aggressive communalism of one community cannot be the antidote of aggressive communalism of another community. Only revival of powerful militant united leftist movement can alone extricate communalism. The danger of communalism which is virulently rearing its ugly head can be countered only by building up a democratic platform of uniting all oppressed people and unleashing struggle based on that. (Concluded)

November Revolution Anniversary meeting at Nagpur, Maharashtra, on 16 December



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF : PROVASH GHOSH