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US War Crime In Afghanistan

With shrill war cry and inciting jingoism for days following the terrorist attacks on World Trade Centre in New York and the Pentagon Headquarters in Washington DC, the US imperialists have launched massive air attacks on Afghanistan, a poor war ravaged country inhabited by starving and hapless people. Before launching the brutal attacks, the US imperialists mobilized huge air and naval forces in the Mediterranean, the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea. Other bases in Diego Garcia, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey have also been put to use. Pakistan also allowed its air bases for use of the US airforce. Before this actual attack was launched, India shamelessly offered all possible help to the US imperialists in their war efforts even before any request for such help was sought by the US, by riding roughshod over the glorious anti-imperialist sentiment of the

Indian people. But because of geopolitical consideration, Pakistan stole a march over India which now rues for the "diplomatic affront".

The US imperialists are venting that this attack will not be limited to a single country but will spill over to a number of countries "harbouring terrorism" and the campaign against terrorism will be a prolonged one. In the name of dealing with terrorists, the US war mongers seek out scapegoats to pursue strategic military action.

This war is essential for the imperialists. Before the 11th September incidents of terrorist attacks the recession train was hurtling down the economic tracks of Wall Street. Tens of thousands of workers in computer, telecom industry and software companies had been shown the door. Nearly a lakh of workers of the aviation industry had been retrenched. The

worldwide economic slowdown is vivid. The workers in the USA, Japan, EU and other countries of the world are thrown out of employment because their only guilt is that they have worked more and produced more. They have created such abundance in production and wealth that the existing capitalist society is incapable of consuming. Even before the 11th September incident of terrorist attack the Wall Street Journals had been hinting to the US rulers to come out of the "Vietnam Syndrome", and for that the US imperialists must embark upon a war, and a prolonged one at that.

(Contd. on page 2)

SUCI Condemns US Attack Against Afghanistan

Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, General Secretary, SUCI issued the following statement on 7th October, 2001 :

"In utter disregard of the world opinion the imperialist camp headed by the USA launched war against Afghan people in the name of fighting terrorism.

"We strongly condemn this barbaric aggression and appeal to the people world over to demand immediate withdrawal of the imperialist forces from Afghanistan."

Thousands cry "Stop War" in Calcutta on 11.10.2001. The programme was held by West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI. Another protest was held on 8.10.2001 by SUCI Calcutta District Committee. Both the demonstrations were led by Comrade Provash Ghosh, West Bengal State Secretary. He is seen setting fire to the effigy before the American Centre on 11th October, 2001



Death to terrorism of all brands

Statement of the Afghanistan Liberation Organization (ALO)

At last the day approached for the Islamist terrorist monster to devour its creator. However, it is not the creator but the innocent American people that are paying the price for the bloody act of the

monster. The horrible criminal attack of 11th Sep. on New York and Washington struck thousands of Americans and non-Americans and made them mournful. Afghanistan Liberation Organization which has been struggling against the most rabid section of these forces and has lost its leader and tens of its outstanding cadres and members in the plots and terrorist attacks of the mentioned criminals, understands well the dimensions of the 11th September horrific incident. And for this, it expresses its deep sympathy with the families and friends of the victims and with the US people as a whole.

In response to the attack, the US government is preparing for an unprecedented war, a war with Osama and Taliban as its foremost targets. But do the majority of the American people know that the creator and trainer of the dirtiest Afghan terrorist groups as well as Osama since 20 years is no one else but the US government itself? Do they know that US government could destroy all these

(Contd. on page 8)

Imperialists Need War To Overcome Economic Crisis

(Contd. from page 1)

From the start the US imperialists have taken for granted Osama bin Laden's guilt. The heads of various governments have been apparently offered with "evidence" but it is veiled in so much secrecy that the people at large have not been able to glean a little. The global consensus the US is so keen to build up cannot come about as the governments cannot convince their peoples that the war the US is fighting with their help is a legitimate one. Saudi Arabia, one of the closest US allies, spoke of "sensibilities" that it must keep in mind and did not agree to the visit of Blair, the British Prime Minister, to Saudi Arabia, while Uzbekistan, Oman and Egypt are allowing the US and Britain overflight rights but not the use of their soil. Turkey, a partner of NATO expressed similar reservation. Iran and Iraq, both of which are hostile to the Taliban regime in Afghanistan, have condemned the attacks as indefensible. Despite verbal support by the Western imperialist allies, none of them excepting Britain has directly participated in the attack. Britain which hopes to reclaim some of the past 'glory' of British imperialism has tied itself to the apronstring of the US. Japan, reeling under recession, is covertly participating in the US military offensive because of its constitutional limitations. The other western imperialist powers are concerned that an aggressive US will trample over their own interests. President Bush's rhetoric that this is a war between civilization and disorder, between democracy and barbarism, between modernity and medievalism has not cut any ice to the tens of thousands of anti-war protestors throughout the world. The people of the entire world know the track record of the US, the number one rogue state. The US imperialists pursued burn-all, kill-all and destroy-all policy in Vietnam, in Korea and Iraq. The US engineered a number of terrorist attacks on Cuba besides imposing economic sanctions on that country for decades. In erstwhile Yugoslavia, Grenada, Libya, Panama and Sudan the US imperialists launched brutal attacks and slaughtered innumerable innocent people. In Bangladesh liberation struggle, thousands of intelligentsia, youth and women were killed, tortured or raped by the US backed Pakistani military. President Bush said: "every nation has a choice to make. In this conflict there is no neutral ground." But the people have already made a choice to oppose imperialism headed by the USA.

With the launching of brutal attacks on Afghanistan inflicting huge civilian casualties, massive protest demonstrations have erupted in different countries of the world. Even before the attacks on Afghanistan anti-war protests with touching slogans were held in all the major cities of the US and other countries of the world. Just after the terrorist strike on 11 September, the International Action Center (USA) issued a statement which is reproduced here :

"Our most heartfelt sympathies and condolences are with those whose loved ones were lost or injured on September 11, 2001. At this moment we would all like to take time to reflect, to grieve, to extend sympathy and condolences to all. But we believe that we must do more.

"Unless we stop President Bush from carrying out a new wider war in the Middle East and beyond, the number of victims will grow from the thousands to the tens of thousands and possibly more. A new, wider war in the Middle-East can only lead to an escalating cycle of violence.

"War is not the answer. ...

"The government is attempting to curb civil liberties and to create a climate in which it is impossible for progressive people to speak their mind.

"The Bush administration is attempting to take advantage of the crisis to militarize the US society with a vast expansion of police power that is intended to severely restrict democratic rights.

"On September 29 we had planned to demonstrate against the Bush administration's reactionary foreign and domestic policy and the IMF and the World Bank. In light of the current crisis, with its tragic consequences for many thousands of people, we have refocused the call for our demonstration to address the immediate danger posed by increased racism and the grave threat of a new war.

"Now is the time for all people of conscience, all people who oppose racism and war to come together. If you believe in civil liberties and oppose racism and war, join us on September 29 in front of the White House. We urge all organisations to join together at this critical time."

On 29 September, more than a million people demonstrated in the US with anti-war slogans. In this rally the US was accused as the biggest terrorist state in the world. It is seen from the opinion poll that more than 75 per cent people of Europe are against this war.

In fact anti-war protestors marched the streets of London, Glasgow, Belgium city of Liege, Melbourne's city square, Sydney as reported from different newspapers. Anti-war demonstrations of thousands of people thronged before US consulate in Cape Town.

It is to be noted that before the September 11 incident of terrorist strike in the US there had been a surge of anti-globalisation movements in different parts of the globe. In Seattle, in Washington, in Genoa and many other places there were massive demonstrations against imperialist globalisation and against IMF and World Bank. The imperialists headed by the US imperialists were cornered. But the September 11 incidents changed the situation and the US imperialists took full advantage of it. History is replete with instances where terrorist acts greatly intensified repression against the common people in general. It is to be borne in mind that terrorism is not revolutionary struggle, rather it stands in the way of the growth of the progressive movement. Karl Marx fought against the individual terror tactics of the German Blanquists and other anarchist brands. Lenin fought against the Narodniks and waged a constant battle against individual terror which ultimately strengthens the hands of reaction and runs counter to waging genuine and necessary revolutionary struggle involving millions belonging to the working class and other sections of exploited masses. Terrorism has always served as a convenient cover for the ruling class to step up its war on the people. And the stark reality is, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban were the creations of the USA to counter the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. History has witnessed that the ruling class also covertly resorts to terrorist acts to justify appropriation of sweeping power of repression as also to serve its ulterior motive. The burning of Reichstag, the German Parliament by Hitler is the most notorious example. The September 11 terrorist strike also provided the US imperialist an opportunity to turn the table against the growing tide of democratic and anti-imperialist movements and to utilize the present situation to further imperialist design.

US imperialist motive

Firstly, taking advantage of the terrorist attack, the US imperialists want to fan up national jingoism within the US in the imperialist interest. Secondly, in the face of

world-wide recession in the capitalist economy, the US economy is in serious crisis leading to large-scale closures of industries. The US imperialists want to artificially stimulate the economy by further stepping up military expenditure. The present war provides an excellent opportunity to them to release the stockpiled armaments in the arsenal so that the military expenditure can be increased to an unprecedented extent for artificially stimulating the sagging economy. Thirdly, the US imperialists can now gag the growing opposition within the country and outside against the production of lethal weapons including the building up of the National Missile Defence on the plea of national security, and embark upon massive production of armaments. Fourthly, by massive mobilization of forces in land and sea in the Middle East and Arab world the US imperialists have further strengthened their control over the oil resources of the region. Fifthly, by establishing control over Afghanistan and increasing their influence over the oil rich countries of Central Asia, the US imperialists are planning to use Afghanistan as a corridor for supply of oil from the central Asian countries. Sixthly, in the background of the growing crisis of world capitalist economy, the contradictions between the imperialist countries were growing centering round slices of world market. The situation following the terrorist attacks will, at least for the time being, turn the situation in favour of the US imperialists by making the other imperialist countries toe the US line. Lastly, the US imperialists have got an opportunity to have sweeping repressive power on the plea of national security to crush the growing tide of democratic movements and anti-imperialist struggle within and outside the country. On the plea of emergency war situation, the other imperialist wolves will also hunt all the progressive forces and try to crush them.

This is not a war between US imperialism and Islam

The imperialist-controlled media, a confused section of people, and of course, the reactionaries are trying to show this US counterblast against terrorism as an attack against the Islam and for that it is shown to be a precursor to a clash between Christianity and Islam. This is an out and out erroneous concept. This notion is not only

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Religious Difference No Bar To Imperialist Aggression

(Contd. from page 2)

unhistoric but smacks of perverse motive, too, to divide the humanity on religious lines. It is erroneous because imperialism and for that matter US imperialism does not go by religion when it attacks any country of its choosing. Had it been so, the US imperialists ganged up with other imperialist war-mongers would not have jumped upon the young socialist state of Soviet Russia in 1917 to destroy it by combined military invasion and economic blockade when most of the Russian people belonged to the Christianity. World people at large know very well how intrigues and terrorist attacks either directly or by proxy are being let loose by US imperialists daily both in Cuba and other Latin American countries whose people are believers in Christianity. The Vietnamese are Buddhists. Are we then to believe that US imperialism mounts invasion sometimes over the Christianity, Buddhism and again over the Islam? No, not at all; it is unhistoric, too. It is worth recalling that before mounting attacks on the erstwhile Yugoslavia some time back, the US imperialists, on the lame excuse of protecting the Muslim-dominated Kosovo people from the oppression of Christian-dominated Serbs, carried out its nefarious gameplan. And again, before launching its invasion on Yugoslavia, the US imperialists dismembered Bosnia from Yugoslavia posing itself to be the champion of Bosnian Muslims. As a matter of fact, the imperialist-capitalists do not abide by any religion. What they stand for is exploitation and plunder, insatiable lust for garnering maximum profit. Towards achieving this criminal end, they may and do make use of religion to suit their shifting interest. That is why, we find them launching attacks on Russia, China, Vietnam, North Korea and Cuba with military might on the pretext of containing onward march of communism, in the past and engaging in a marauding spree elsewhere today to destroy the ever-growing anti-imperialist liberation struggles.

Truly speaking, there is nothing like a unity based on a religion. In the last two world wars fought for capturing world capitalist market, people in all the principal warring groups were mostly Christians. Religious unity or the 'gospel truth of the Bible' could not detract them from raging devastating world wars. Then again, the US imperialist-led all pervasive military attack on the Muslim-dominated Iraq was aided and assisted by all the Muslim

theocratic states of the Arab world. In the wars raging between the two Islamic countries, Iraq and Iran for years, there was no such military line-up as of US imperialism vis-a-vis Islamic states of Middle East. Rather, contradictions and conflicts, clashes and military warfares among the Muslim countries of the Middle East all centred round expansion of respective frontiers, extension of control over oilfields and above all, and establishment supremacy over each other's region. On the other hand, the imperialists, especially the US imperialists, were found to be engaged in hectic efforts to extend their spheres of influence over the oil-rich Middle East and towards this end, they were wilfully causing rifts among the contending Middle East Muslim countries and fomenting clashes among them. There are tactics resorted to, off and on, to incite one country against another thereby making them enmeshed in endless wars to satisfy the imperialist design for domination over the oil-rich Middle East. Bare analysis of the facts stated above unmistakably prove that disputes and wars waged among the Islamic countries have nothing to do with Islamic religion and for that matter any other religion too. Then what for such ravaging war? Is it not for gaining economic and political interests of the ruling clique of the respective Islamic states that drove them into conflicts and clashes among themselves every now and then?

It is to be recalled that the victory of the Soviet Union over fascism in the Second World War, revolution in China, historic liberation struggle in Vietnam, and victory of national liberation struggles in a number of countries of the world had a tremendous impact on the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America. In the Middle East too there was a surge of anti-imperialist, anti-monarchical democratic movements. Especially in Iraq and Iran, communist party led the movement. During this period, the imperialists, the US imperialists in particular, were panicky at the growth of democratic mass movement and the spread of communist ideology among the youth and in order to establish their absolute supremacy over the oil-rich Middle East, they became very active to destroy the growing anti-imperialist and anti-feudal social movements. Towards this end they ganged up with the native exploiting class, the feudal lords and clerics to stir up religious fanaticism in these countries, and in course of it, built

up various organisations with obscurantist religious forces. Gradually national bourgeoisie either directly or keeping the facade of monarchy, usurped state power in many a country in the Middle East. The rulers of these countries have a lavish life-style while the common people languish in abject poverty. And it is only to keep these people blind that religion is used by the ruling elite of these countries to continue their exploitative rule. On the one hand, these ruling cliques provide these fundamentalist forces widest possible encouragement and patronage of all sorts and make use of these to crush the waves of social movement, and on the other, in order to present a united face against the imperialist powers in their contradictions and conflicts centring round keeping control over the oilfields, make use of these dark forces too. Pursuit of such a sinister policy of giving widest encouragement and patronage to fundamentalist forces has given birth to fanatic forces mostly of youths of confused emotion, impulsive action. In the hearts of these youths there lives no fragrance of enlightenment. Instead, there reigns supreme hatred and violence. But the fact remains, had these Muslim states, instead of paying lip service to the cause of the Palestinian people, taken effective steps to present a united face of the Arab world against the Zionist Israel, the Palestinian people would have gained their much cherished Intifada long back. Instead, they all maintain overt and covert understanding and cooperation with the imperialists, the enemies of Palestinian Intifada.

From all available accounts it becomes crystal clear that the imperialists in general and the US imperialists in particular have been exploiting this mischievous policy of double standard pursued by almost all the states of the Middle East in their favour. That's why we find the imperialist powers, off and on making use of arch fanatic forces born out of religious fundamentalism of either Christianity, Buddhism, Zionism, Islam and Hinduism even to suit their purpose.

On Taliban and Osama bin Laden

Afghanistan has been in the midst of a civil war for the last two decades. Victory of the international communist movement had its impact on Afghanistan too and a democratic revolution surged in the country in the early eighties of the last century. Alarmed at this development, the US

imperialists were aiding and abetting Pakistan for bringing about a counter-revolutionary uprising in that country. With this aim in view the Taliban, a rabid fundamentalist force was nurtured for intervention in Afghanistan. Osama bin Laden, a Saudi billionaire was the blue-eyed boy of the CIA for execution of this gameplan. Osama bin Laden was given huge quantities of modern sophisticated arms with massive financial backing by the CIA for execution of the counter-revolution in Afghanistan. Osama has invested billions of dollars in various businesses throughout the world. One of his brothers is a business partner of senior Bush, the former US President. Osama's money invested in big banks of the US and other western countries earned huge interest which is however proscribed in Islam. It is very likely that Laden wants control over Afghanistan to use it as a corridor for supply of the Central Asian oils. Aided by the US imperialists and Pakistan, the Taliban took control of the most of Afghanistan in a bloody civil war in which the Afghan President Nazibullah was brutally killed and hanged publicly after he was hounded out from the UN shelter. At that time thousands of his followers were also executed. They were all Muslims. So Bin Laden and Talibans did not hesitate to murder thousands of Muslims to capture power. The Taliban could not take control of the northern part of Afghanistan which is still under the control of the Northern Alliance. After taking control of the major portion of Afghanistan, the Talibans introduced by force a medieval order in the country. Women in Afghanistan had come to enjoy some amount of freedom after the democratic revolution. They went to schools for learning, they worked in workplaces along with the menfolk. But the Talibans sent back the women indoors and they were not allowed to come out without burkha. The Talibans introduced strict dress code for the ordinary people. Television was banned from the country. Ordinary people who are destitutes were subjected to an inhuman living while the Talibans have been leading a comfortable life of pomp and grandeur with all the concomitant vices by looting and plundering the ordinary people. Islam prohibits consumption of alcohol but the Talibans encourage cultivation of opium and a flourishing narcotic trade. Yet they call themselves to be true followers of Islam! The support extended by

(Contd. on page 4)

US War Against Afghanistan And BJP's Communal Jingoistic Game

(Contd from page 3)

a section of the Muslims who are not conversant with all these things in detail has added further confusion in creating a hallow about the Talibans and Osama bin Laden. So the Talibans' and Osama's call for unity of the Islamic world is not for the sake of Islam but for their self interest. Incidentally, it may be noted that the meeting held recently by 56 Muslim countries (OIC) has not come out with open condemnation of the US attack on Afghanistan. Imam of Mecca also called upon the Muslims of the world not to consider this attack as a US attack against Islam.

While the Talibans are proclaiming *Jihad* and invoking Islam for their self interest, the imperialist controlled-media are also motivatedly projecting this war as a clash of civilizations – a war

between the western world and Islamic world. By this a division is being attempted on communal lines among the common people. The motive is to foil the growth of any united anti-war movement embracing all sections of the people.

Evil motive of the BJP-led government at the Centre

The motive of the BJP-led government is crude and has been rudely exposed when on the very day of the terrorist attacks in the US, the BJP leaders extended the offer of all helps to the US imperialists to launch attacks against Afghanistan, and also Pakistan which they expected to be in the hit list of the US imperialists. On that very day prime minister Vajpayee also appealed to the people for greater economic sacrifices and to tighten

their belt still further in view of the present situation of allout war. The BJP also wants to project the Muslim minority community as the supporters of the Taliban and terrorism. This is utterly wrong and a motivated propaganda. So, with an evil motive, the BJP government banned the SIMI, the Islamic students' organization at this present juncture to fan up communal tension within the country. The BJP's motive is to instigate Hindutva sentiment among the majority community so as to create a communal divide within the country. The main purpose of the BJP, the servitor of the ruling capitalist class, is to thwart the development of any anti-imperialist movement within the country by the Indian people having a glorious anti-imperialist tradition. On the contrary, the BJP wants the majority community to support the

US war effort on the basis of communal line. By playing this communal card the BJP also wants to reap electoral dividend in the ensuing UP Assembly polls.

It is clear that the role of the BJP-led government is against the glorious anti-imperialist tradition of the Indian people and it is dangerous to the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country. So it is time for all anti-imperialist, patriotic and democratic-minded people of the country to come forward to build up movement against the communal and war-mongering policy of the BJP-led government and compel it to desist from extending any help to the war efforts of the US imperialists. At the same time, it is most urgent to build up powerful united militant peace movement all over the world to defeat the war efforts of the US imperialists.

Heroic struggle in the USA against war machinations

As countless toiling people in America are still in deep shock and grief over loss of lives following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon that killed thousands, the US imperialists, under the Bush administration have launched war holding out the threat to every individual and every nation to toe the US line. Side by side the US monopoly owned media have gone allout to unleash a wave of racial hatred and whip up sentiment for a "patriotic" war among the people of that country. At such a critical moment a section of people, at the call of the International Action Centre and numerous other organisations have been making a heroic effort to stem the growing racist jingoism and war psychosis being generated across their country. And for that purpose they have formed a new coalition — Act Now to Stop War and End Racism (ANSWER). Standing at the side of toiling people and sharing their deep grief through countless candlelight vigils, rallies and teach-ins and other forms of campaign including literary campaign, they have been untiringly organizing people and trying to spread sentiments of peace and resistance to racism and war machinations. It is with deep feeling of solidarity and fraternity that we hail their great struggle that culminated on 29 September in demonstrations throughout the USA, comprising over 1,00,000 people against the Bush administration's war drive and incidents of racist

attacks. In Washington D.C., for example, more than 20,000 demonstrators braved the presence of thousands of armed riot police. They carried banners and festoons against war and racist attacks, and some directed against capitalism itself.

When the marchers in the rally realized just how great their number had become a cheer went up, and the sense of elation that gripped them speaks volumes for its success. For as an ANSWER organiser had said the major purpose of the coalition even was to break through the isolation people were feeling under the pressure of the pro-war media campaign.

James Creedon, an emergency medical technician, injured at the World Trade Centre, and one among a host of speakers, said : "I hear people say ... "If you lost people in the World Trade Center, you'd want a war too." Well, I was hurt in the World Trade Center collapse; I was almost killed. I lost four people from my squad and hundreds of other rescue workers.

And I'm here today to stand with the International Action Center and say war will not bring our loved ones back. I say to any calling for a racist war: "Do you know what war looks like? Because I do. I'm at Ground Zero and I know what it means to see the deaths of innocent men, women and children. And a racist war will multiply that a hundred times, a thousand times. Let us resolve to commit our hands, our voices, our bodies and all

resources at our command to say we are going to act now to stop war and end racism." And, add Eric le Compte, School of the Americas Watch, another speaker : "For over 50 years our government has been teaching terrorism in our own backyard down at the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Georgia. We invite you to join us at Fort Benning on November 16-18 to raise our voices to say, "No more — not in our name will terror be taught by our government." Peta Lindsay, a high school student youth organizer said : "As the country moved closer to war, students began to seek out information about the ANSWER rally, realising that though we never agreed to this war, it will be fought with our blood".

In Sanfrancisco too, more than 20,000 people demonstrated as did thousands in other cities across the country, meeting with sympathetic response from passers-by with many motorists blowing the honking their

horns in support. Everywhere varied slogans opposed the war. Some banners read: 'No racist war for oil profits,' and 'Don't use my grief as an excuse for more grief.' But the anti-war movement does not end with the September 29 programme. It had been preceded by many actions, programmes in hundreds of cities and towns from September 20-24, and an extensive campaign to mobilize opinion, like the countless teach-ins in high school and university campuses everywhere, resulting in a nation-wide campus action on September 20 where over 130 campuses participated from Harvard to Berkeley, New Mexico to Rhode Island, calling for an end to the hate and cycle of violence. At the University of California, Berkeley alone over 3000 students came forward, flooding the Sproul Plaza, from where the first salvo against the Vietnam war was fired in the early 1960s, and which has become a symbol of anti-war protest. Similarly, already further follow-up programme has been announced for October 27.

(Report before war started on 7th night)

Anti-Railway Fare Hike Agitation throughout the Country

Condemning the BJP-led Government for increasing the railway fare on the pretext of providing more safety to the passengers, which is in reality a cruel joke with the passengers, SUCI activists in association with public, demonstrated before railway headquarters and held blockades at railway stations on October 1,2001 across the country. To name a few, major railway stations in West Bengal, from Assam to Bihar border in the north, Durg (Chhattisgarh State), Hyderabad, Trivandrum, Ernakulam, Alleppy, etc., in the south, are among them.

India Government's Servile Role in US War Design

When the air is rent with war cry let loose by the USA, the predicament of the BJP-led Indian government obsessed with US-sycophancy is really worthseeing. As soon as the US warlords along with their cohorts raised their battle-cry, the Indian rulers, even without any request from the US government jumped at the belligerent bandwagon and declared their instantaneous support to the US warmongers. The government promptly declared that in the US's war against terrorism it would not only lend unqualified support to the US but also let it use Indian territory logistically including use of Indian air bases, facility of refuelling war planes and even use of Indian military intelligence! Not only that, the Prime Minister Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee in his address to the nation faithfully echoing the voice of President Bush, as also the finance minister Yaswant Sinha and the External Affairs & Defence Minister Jaswant Singh urged the countrymen to keep ready for 'impending war', to remain prepared for 'hard decisions' and 'hard days' to come and 'to sacrifice'. The President of India also followed suit. They created an atmosphere in the country as if it is India which has been attacked!

Why this obnoxious urge of the BJP-led government to identify itself with the war machination of the US hawks? There are so many reasons. But the immediate one is clearly its expectation of getting extra leverage from the US administration in cornering Pakistan on the question of terrorism, especially cross-border terrorism and currying favours with the US for 'solving' Kashmir problem, while claiming at the same time that the India government is against any third party mediation. Historically, as Pakistan is deeply involved in terrorism and, in a way is the mainstay of Taliban terrorism and the USA has waged war against it after the 11th September strikes, the BJP-led government took it for granted that now the US administration would be readily at dragnets drawn with Pakistan and shower unstinted support to India in the changed situation. They thought, the more naked is the support and appeasement to the US war mongering, the more will be the US favour. But now they see all their fond expectations belied! In their race for satisfying the US-imperialists Pakistani rulers have simply upstaged the BJP-government to their utter dismay. Logistically, Pakistan is much more important than India in fighting the Talibans. Besides, it has long intimacy with and experience in handling the Talibans in Afghanistan. So, the US administration demanded help and direct assistance from Pakistan and not from India. But India's BJP-led government most shamelessly offered all-out assistance before those were sought from Pakistan by the USA. However, Pakistani government conceded the US demands and made deals with the White House. And it got a host of advantages including lifting of economic sanctions imposed by the US earlier, relaxations of IMF & World Bank loans, straightaway grant of 5 crore dollar and assurance of another 7.5 crore dollar grant for

weapons, military hardwares and intelligence equipment etc. On the other hand, US government uptil now has not spelt out anything about cross-border terrorism as was expected by Delhi and has not even included Lashkar-e Taiyaba aided and promoted by Pakistan from the list of dangerous terrorist organizations prepared by them to be fought against. Thus, now the BJP government stands completely perturbed and resentments even among the NDA partners against the government's over enthusiasm in appeasing the US in its war-cry are surfacing. A fresh damage control manoeuvre has been launched by the government to refurbish its image inside the country before the saner section of the people and outside. After hectic lobbying the External Affairs Ministry of India has ultimately persuaded the US Secretary of States Colin Powell only to mention Kashmir problem in their agenda of fighting terrorism as a lollypop reward to India. But already, the government's war-mongering character and at the same time its shameful attitude to US imperialists have been completely exposed. However, this is not unexpected from a government led by a party like the BJP with its hated pro-imperialist antecedents and character always opposed to any progressive mass movement and liberation struggle everywhere.

During the post-Independence period and till dismantling of socialism in erstwhile Soviet Union the ruling Indian bourgeoisie maintained a non-aligned posture in between the Soviet Union and the US imperialists with an eye to bargain and extract maximum benefits from both of them for the speediest and freest development of Indian capitalism in the then given international situation. And at that time the Indian ruling class with Congress government at the Centre could easily take advantage of the

existence of two camps – one, Socialist Camp headed by the USSR and the other, capitalist-imperialist under the leadership of USA – in its anti-imperialist posture in view of its major tilt towards the Socialist Camp that helped it assuming an anti-imperialist stance. But after the debacle of the World Socialist Camp it has been continually drifting towards the world imperialist camp headed by the US and consequent upon India's attaining more and more imperialist character and the BJP's coming to power at the Centre, the shift has been all the more naked. On the other hand, after the end of the 'cold war' period, the US imperialists are also changing their stand on Pakistan vis-a-vis India. Earlier, the US had supported Pakistan and backed its aggression in Kashmir but now it is chalking out a new strategic equation to further its hegemonistic design especially in Asian region. It is trying to develop a US-India axis. India also with its much more discernible imperialist traits and aspirations is markedly developing partnership with the US to become a global player. This present steps of the Vajpayee government to come closer to the US rulers stems from the above aspiration also.

The US imperialist rulers have long been trying to meddle in Kashmir in the name of bringing peace although openly it tries to make people believe its unwillingness to interfere into the same. Actually its purpose is not to mediate peace in Kashmir but to meddle into the dispute, to keep alive the imbroglio and domineer both India and Pakistan on this question. Indian Government led by the BJP which is all along an out and out pro-American party, has been surreptitiously vying with Pakistan for US mediation in Kashmir. In our past analyses, we have shown that the US got hold of the Kargil war opportunity to sneak into the conflict and the Vajpayee government too, behind the scene allowed it to do so although publicly it vowed not to allow third party interference in Kashmir. Thus, it threw open the gate to US intrigue in Kashmir to the much detriment of long anti-imperialist heritage of Indian people. Now if this Vajpayee government expects that this imperialist ruling class of USA whose policy is only to meddle or interfere, domineer and subjugate would deliver them peace and 'justice' in Kashmir in lieu of its uncalled-for involvement in US war in Central Asia, it will be nothing but to live in

fool's paradise and actually they have been grounded to that 'paradise' duly!

The government is dishing out excuse of terrorism and particularly cross-border terrorism in defence of its nakedly siding with the US aggressors. But the fact is that India government is no less responsible for terrorism in this sub-continent. As for example, in Kashmir, it is the successive governments starting from the Congress, Janata, United Front supported by the CPI and the CPI(M) directly and indirectly and backed by the Congress from the outside and the BJP government at the Centre have ruthlessly suppressed the democratic aspirations of the Kashmiri people. For years after years Indian military and para-military forces perpetrated limitless repression and are still continuing reign of terror over them, torched villages after villages, maimed innumerable innocent persons, raped Kashmiri women, killed thousands of Kashmiri youths denying autonomy promised under Article 370 of the Constitution of India and thereby betrayed the Kashmiri psyche and in its wake gave birth to Kashmiri insurgency. Otherwise, can these governments, particularly the present BJP-led one, answer why and how a large section of the same Kashmiris who once invited Indian force to fight back Pakistani invaders and under the leadership of Sk. Abdullah voluntarily joined Indian Union, now consider the Indian forces occupiers and even do not hesitate to take Pakistani help in their favour? Today Pakistan government is utilizing the situation i.e. terrorism inside Indian territory to give birth to cross-border terrorism.

Now the BJP-led government is crying hoarse over terrorism and on the plea of fighting terrorism is deliberately creating war frenzy all over the country. The capitalist economy of the country is enmeshed in deep-seated crisis and the lives of common people are passing through a suffocating condition leading even to hundreds of starvation deaths and suicides and the BJP-led government has found an easy ploy in the present inflamed international situation to divert the aggrieved people's attention from the burning problems of their life. Even the Prime Minister and others are making the people panicky saying in public meetings that bombs may be dropped anywhere anytime, the ISI agents are everywhere and they may attack anytime, so on and so forth. Making such wild comments, they are not

(Contd. on page 6)

India Government's Role

(Contd. from page 5)

only creating zingoism within the country but also trying to inflame communal animosity and atmosphere of suspicion everywhere. They are creating such a tense communal situation that anytime communal outbursts may occur. This, they are doing to reap dividend in the coming UP elections and also to divide people's unity on communal lines. The ruling class is also using the situation on the one hand to perpetrate further economic onslaughts on the people and to pump thousands of crores of rupees into defence and military industries depriving the people of food, health care, education and other bare necessities of civilized life. And on the other hand, they are out to trample underfoot the existing civil and democratic rights of the people and to crush their every legitimate movements. A proposal to issue a new draconian ordinance, 'Prevention of Terrorism Ordinance, 2001', is afoot under the aegis of the Home Ministry and this black ordinance will invariably be used to suppress any militant mass movement, in the name of containing terrorism. The

Home Minister Advani has also been pleading for enacting suitable laws for protecting law enforcing officials and forces from Human Rights Commission's possible charges of atrocities on people while meeting terrorist activities. What a nefarious move in the name of fighting terrorism! To muster support for such fight against terrorism and aligning the government with the US-sponsored war, it is convening all party meetings. But what is the role of the opposition parties there and outside? Simply raising some reservations and, at best, holding a demonstration by one or two and nothing more. But such show of movement cannot thwart the present sinister move of the government and the ruling class. Only organized anti-war mass movement added with protracted militant peace movement can meet the challenge of the hour. People must not bear with such despicable role of the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre malaligning the glorious anti-imperialist heritage of our people. We hope, all peace-loving people would realize the depth of the situation and, rise to the occasion.

Protest Against starvation deaths, water cesshike in Koraput, District

A massive demonstration was held at Baipariguda on behalf of SUCI on 27th September. Protesting against recent hike of water cess by 2.5 times and starvation deaths in the undivided Koraput district, Orissa.

Two thousand tribal people, peasants, women and youths took out a rally along the thoroughfares of the Bazar and reached the Block Office where armed police halted their way. The demonstrators held a public meeting in which

thousands of people assembled. The speakers in the meeting, lambasting the government, severely condemned the out and out anti-people policies of the government. They called upon the downtrodden people to organise in thousands and raise their voice against rampant corruption, exploitation and oppression in the society.

A delegation met the Block Development Officer and handed over a memorandum addressed to the Chief Minister.

Protest Against War-Machination by the US imperialists

Bangalore :

Hundreds of SUCI volunteers and common people on 29.9.2001 protested near the Mysore Bank Circle at 10-30 A.M. with the slogans "Down with imperialist warmongers", "Oppose war fought in the name of fighting terrorism".

Comrade K. Radhakrishna, State Secretary of the SUCI addressed the rally.

Ahmedabad :

As a part of International Protest Day against American War Machination, organised by All India Anti-Imperialist Forum, Ahmedabad Chapter, a protest meeting was organised at Ahmedabad on 29th September, 2001 at Gujarat Sahitya Parishad Hall.

Prof. Devavrat Pathak, President, People's Union for Civil Liberties presided over and addressed the meeting. Shri Girish Bhai Patel and Comrade Vishmay Shah also spoke.

Guwahati

Strongly condemning the US attack on Afghanistan, the SUCI today (8.10.2001) burnt the effigy of the US President George W Bush at Panbazar, Guwahati. Earlier the SUCI supporters shouting anti-imperialist slogans paraded the main streets of Guwahati and before burning the effigy, Comrade Kantimoy Deb, member of the Assam State Secretariat addressed the gathering.

Bangalore

Thousands gathered at the Janatha Bazaar Circle at Bangalore on 8.10.2001 raising thunderous slogans against American imperialism which has unleashed a barbaric war against defenseless Afghan people. Emotionally charged students, youth and women shouted 'Down with war monger America' as the effigy of George W Bush was consigned to flames. Comrade K. Radhakrishna, Karnataka State Secretary addressed the gathering.



Anti-war protest in Patna on 10-10-2001 by SUCI activists



Anti-war protest in Bangalore. Another anti-war demonstration was held in Bangalore on 29.9.2001.

Protest Rally and Convention Against Imperialist War Cry

On September 29, the All India Anti-imperialist Forum held protest rally/demonstration throughout India against US war-cry. Here below, a few reports, so far received from different States.

Calcutta

In solidarity with the call of the International Action Center of USA to observe 29 September as a day of protest against the war-cry, war preparations and encirclement of Afghanistan by US imperialism and its allies on the plea of fighting against terrorism, the All India Anti-imperialist Forum, West Bengal State Committee, organized a massive rally in Calcutta. It took out a procession from the central part of the city that ended before the American Centre in the heart of the metropolis. The procession was led by eminent intellectuals of the state and was attended by determined fighters of anti-imperialist struggles from different sections of society.

At a brief meeting in front of the American Centre a resolution condemning the war-mongering of USA was moved and adopted.

Tamilnadu

The Tamilnadu Unit of the All India Anti-Imperialist Forum held a demonstration today, September 29, 2001, in Chennai, near the Valluvarkottam in Nungambakkam. It started at 10.00 am and ended by noon.

Towards the end of the demonstration, N Chandrasekar, a member of the Tamilnadu unit of the AIAIF, addressed the gathering. He began by unequivocally condemning terrorism of all kinds, and expressed his condolence on behalf of all to the thousands of families of the people from the USA and other countries who had lost their beloved ones on 11th September.

At the same time he declared US imperialism to be the worst enemy

of mankind. He observed : it is a menace to world peace, freedom and sovereignty of other countries, especially as a strong socialist camp is not there to check its global ambitions. In fact, it is US imperialism that nurtured and bred Islamic fundamentalism, Osama bin Laden and the Taliban and used them against all progressive democratic struggles in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Now, finding itself at the receiving end of people's wrath, hatred and agitation in countries around the world, the recent spate of worldwide protest movements against WTO, World Bank, IMF and recent G-8 summit, it is trying its best to utilize this incident to divert people's attention to terrorist crimes and hide its own crimes against the democratic rights and sovereignty of people of all countries, especially Asia, Africa and Latin America.

He showed how rulers of all these other countries, like India, were also exploiting this incident to further curtail their own peoples' democratic rights, under the plea of eradicating terrorism, as people's movements were bursting out everywhere due to the miseries being perpetrated by the policies of liberalization, privatization and globalisation.

Slogans were raised strongly condemning the Vajpayee Government for offering the facilities of the country's military bases and other help to the USA in its war campaign against Afghanistan, even before a request had come from the US Government. People were urged to stand up against such servile attitude and moves, which go against the long tradition of anti-imperialist

struggle in our country.

Hyderabad

The Andhra Pradesh (AP) preparatory committee of AIAIF organized a protest meeting on 29-09-2001 at Press Club, Hyderabad. Sri A. B. K. Prasad, a renowned journalist of AP, Prof. K. Chakradhar Rao, retired Professor of Osmania University and Comrade Sridhar, Secretary of the State Organizing Committee of SUCI addressed the gathering. Comrade D. Ramesh Patnaik member AIAIF, presided over the meeting.

Kerala

Immediately after the terrorist attack on the world Trade Centre in New York and the U.S. Defence Head Quarters, Pentagon, in Washington on Sept. 11, All India Anti-Imperialist Forum, Kerala Chapter had issued a press statement condemning the heinous deed in severest terms and paying homage to the thousands of innocent people who lost their lives and many more injured.

The joint statement issued by eminent persons including Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, All India President, Anti-Imperialist Forum, Dr. N. A. Karim, noted educationist, former Pro-VC of Kerala University and the State President of Anti-Imperialist Forum, M. V. Devan, a wellknown artist, P. Govinda Pillai, CPI (M) leader, K. Govinda Pillai, CPI leader, K. P. Kosalaramadas, noted trade union leader, Prof. R. Laxmana Iyer, All India Secretary, Indo-China Friendship Association and many others.

The Forum also noted with great concern the nefarious plans of the U.S. Imperialism and its allies to plunge the whole world in a war in the name of fighting terrorism.

On September 29, a protest rally and convention was held in Trivandrum, the state head quarter. The peace rally was led by Dr. N. A. Karim, State President, All India Anti-Imperialist Forum, Kosalaramadas, veteran trade union leader, Comrade C. K. Lukose, State Secretary, SUCI and many other prominent persons.

Another massive anti-war demonstration amidst heavy downpour was held at Cochin on 29th September.

Delhi

Activists of the All India Anti-Imperialist Forum's Delhi unit held a protest demonstration on 8.10.2001 in front of the American Centre in the morning to protest against the Anglo-American attack on Afghanistan. Police used violence in an attempt to suppress the demonstration. The contingent held

(Contd. on page 8)

Mass upsurge in Muzaffarpur

About a month back criminals in Muzaffarpur kidnapped Golu, a 4 year old boy, the only child of a bank clerk, for ransom and returned his mutilated body. Criminals are close to the police.

Numerous such shocking incidents over decades in Bihar had made the state a potent volcano. Golu's murder added fire to it, and Muzaffarpur erupted. When shocked people in countless number spontaneously came down on the streets, police killed two of them like dogs and injured many. This news spread like wild fire. On 26th September, people fought a pitched battle with police. Trigger-happy police of the Ravri Devi government perpetrated mass massacre. Eleven people died and it is never known how many are injured.

However much the ruling class is content to have shattered people's backbone, Muzaffarpur people proved it wrong. To the torched, humiliated and exploited people of other parts of our country this death defying protest is a source of inspiration.

Our party SUCI has called upon the people to turn this upsurge into a sustained movement.

On 13th October a joint meeting was held at Khudiram Basu Maidan at Mazuffarpur participated by SUCI, CPI, CPI(M), FB, RSP, SP.



Anti war protest in Chennai by AIAIF on 29.9.2001

Protests worldwide against cowardice US aggression

Major anti-war rallies took place the last week of September in countries that are close military and political allies of the USA. The media here generally ignored. Rather deliberately ignored to cover them.

In Britain, the US's closest ally, about 5,000 people waited hours in a driving thunderstorm to protest at the Labour Party's annual conference in Brighton where Prime

Minister Tony Blair gave a pro-war speech wrapped in vague promises to "change the world." The protesters chanted slogans condemning Britain and the US. "Blair, Bush, CIA: how many kids did you kill today?" They shouted in reference to the British and US bombing of Iraq.

Italy saw two major protests; one in Naples on September 27 that

drew 30,000 protesters, according to the organizers; one in Rome on September 29 that drew 1,00,000 people. The protest in Naples was aimed at the military build up and threat of a global conflict in the wake of the attacks in the United States. Naples, which is home to NATO's southern command, was supposed to play host to an important NATO meeting, but it was moved to Brussels, Belgium. The demonstration was, however, not called off. The marchers were mostly students. They chanted slogans, "We don't want another war. Stop the violence, stop the hate." They carried portraits of Karl Marx and Che Guevara.

Two days later, on Sept. 29, the Refoundation Communist Party (PRC) called out 1,00,000 people to march "for peace and against war." The procession went through the streets of Rome to the sound of music that has disappeared from the US airwaves since Sept. 11 "Sunday, Bloody Sunday" by U2 and "What a wonderful world" by Louis Armstrong.

Some 10,000 marched on September 27 in Athens, Greece, against being dragged into a US and NATO war in the Middle East.

On Sept. 29 police in Istanbul, Turkey, arrested some 50 people trying to hold a protest against plans for a military response by the United States. The protesters gathered in the

Bakirkoy, on the European side of the city, under a banner "Anti-war platform," before police arrested them. Among the slogans shouted by the group were "No to war" and "Curses upon American imperialism."

Over 1,000 anti-war protesters marched in Sydney on September 29 calling on the Australian government to stop its military role in the US war. The protesters carried banners: "Stop this racist war" and "Money for jobs, not war."

In Montreal, over 1,000 people demonstrated ... On September 22, several thousand rallied in the German cities of Berlin, Cologne, Bremen and Kassel, carrying banners reading "Enough deaths" and "No retaliation," the Reuters news service reported. ... Prime Minister Tony Blair has been a major backer of Bush's "anti-terrorist" campaign. In London about 5,000 people gathered near Blair's official residence at 10 Downing St. Many carried signs reading: "Stand shoulder to shoulder for peace and justice. No more violence."

The protests also held in Manchester and in Glasgow, Scotland. ... in Italy some 7,000 people demonstrated in Florence on September 23 along with smaller demonstrations in other cities.

In Liege, Belgium, on September 22, some 2,000 mostly young people protested against the war.

Death to terrorism of all brands

(Contd. from page 1)

terrorists and heroine-kings exactly the way it did with Noriega of Panama if it paid the least attention and concern about the far-reaching interests of the American and Afghan people and democratic values and human rights? The US didn't do because it wanted to use them as its running dogs during the cold war.

Now as the religious terrorism has reared its disgusting head and slap in the face of its yesterday's mentor, the US government shouldn't take the revenge of the appalling attack from the people of Afghanistan, the people who have already been terrorized, looted and impoverished by the Northern Alliance, Taliban and Osamas.

None of the media in the West explains when, how and by whom the Islamist terrorists were created, trained and equipped, because in this way the one who has to be held responsible by the people of America in nobody else but those at the very helm of the US.

Apparently America, at first thought that through fostering the fundamentalist groups in Afghanistan it could obtain a base in the heart of Asia for achieving its political and economic aims. But it seems that the control of most of these religious hired murderers is no longer in the hand of the US. And they, possessing vast financial sources and a safe haven such as Afghanistan are going to wage a "crusade", to which Mr. Bush has also indicated

The ruling classes of America, without considering the interests of the majority of the US people, are not taking the incident of 11th September as a warning to completely wash its hands off the fundamentalist organizations and regimes, let alone their elimination. On the contrary, they want to exploit it as a favorable opportunity to suppress the oppressed nations and anti-imperialism and anti-reactionary liberation movements. And by doing so, it not only will solve its domestic quarrel with the

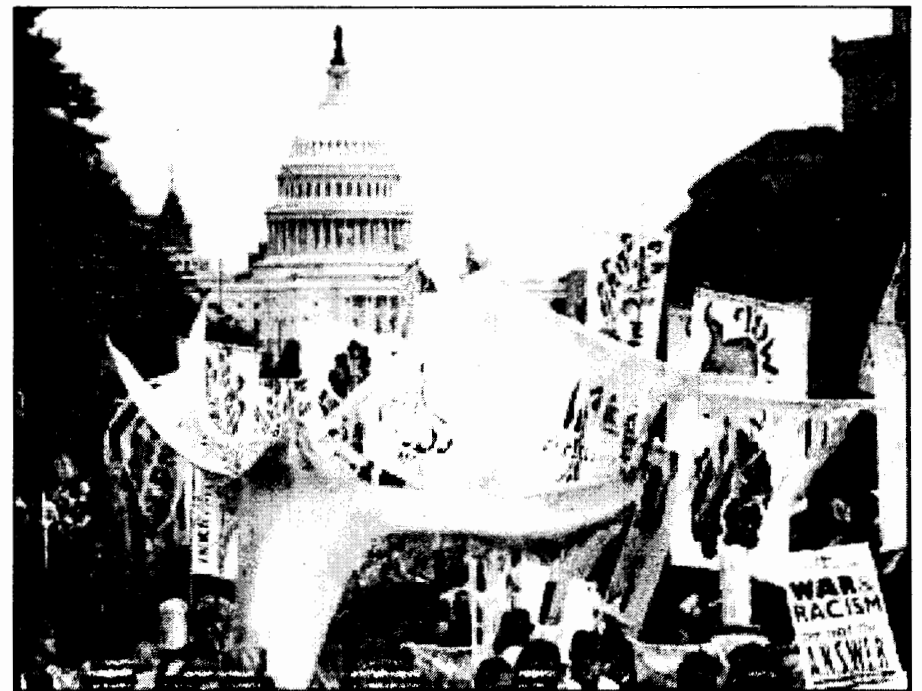
Islamist fundamentalists in its favor but also strengthen and stabilize its undisputed domination on the world and whitewash its vulnerability.

In addition, US, through this new pretext, tries to suppress and hold back the ever-increasing of anti-war and anti-globalization movements within America and in its Western allies which brings under question the very principle of capitalist system.

Though even in Muslim countries, most people don't support the fundamentalist Islamists, the US blind retaliatory act could change the situation in favor of the fundamentalist forces. Nonetheless, we hope that with the fading of today's emotions, the US government, under the pressure of people, especially the powerful working class of the US, won't find it possible to add fuel to the religious contradictions in the world and as a consequence further vitalize the religious and non-religious reactionary forces by its militaristic policies.

Afghanistan Liberation Organization (ALO) which has been engaged in struggle against the dirty religious creatures of US, Iran, Pakistan and some other Islamic countries for years, now too will continue its struggle against the Taliban and other reactionary bands till the end. Liberation of Afghanistan is not possible unless the setups dependent to Pakistan and criminal regimes of Iran, Saudi Arabia etc. are overthrown.

Cooperation of the Afghan and other people of the world is the only way for a successful and effective struggle against religious terrorism. And it is the task of all proletarian and revolutionary movements of America and other developed capitalist countries to practically demonstrate their inspiring impact and presence in the current showdown of religious terrorists and their yesterday's masters by securing a militant solidarity with the progressive movements in underdeveloped and backward countries and in the first place Afghanistan.



Anti-war demonstration at Washington on 29th September, 2001

Rally and Convention Against Imperialist War

(Contd. from page 6)

its ground for over 15 minutes in the face of brutal police attack. Even as the protesters were raising anti-imperialist slogans and waving placards and banners condemning the American action, the police were assaulting some of the demonstrators from behind. The activists then marched in procession to Jantar

Mantar where a street meeting was held. This was the first protest demonstration in Delhi after the attacks began last night. A press statement condemning this cowardice attack on the Afghan people and explaining the economic-political motive of US imperialism was also released by the Delhi unit.