

Two visits—Fine Acrobatic feat by Sm. Gandhi

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Founder Editor-In-Chief—COMRADE SHIBDAS GHOSH

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Movement Against Donation and Capitation system in Bangalore

The Karnataka State Organising Committee of All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO) has begun a protracted struggle against the social evil of donation and capitation Fee system. As the first phase of the movement "Anti-Donation Week" was observed from 22nd Aug to 4th Sept. '82. During the observance of this week the response received from students in schools and colleges and public at large was overwhelming. Viewing this response the Karnataka State Organising Committee of AIDSO decided to take this anti-donation and capitation movement to higher phases by first of all organising a "convention Against Donation and Capitation Fees System". This convention was held on 2nd Oct. '82 at the Senate Hall, Bangalore University City Campus, Bangalore.

Extensive propaganda work was undertaken for this convention throughout Bangalore, Gulbarga and Raichur, through distribution of leaflets and sale of "Vidyarthi Sankalpa" in Kannada as well as in English. This leaflet contained photos and reports of the "Anti-Donation Week" programme as well as the memorandum submitted to the Minister of Education, Karnataka. The sale of this bulletin in thousands created sensation among the students and youths and public who had not seen the like of students' movements in Bangalore. 5,000 leaflets and 6,000

(English—2,000 and Kannada-4,000) bulletins were printed for circulation. The convention was conducted in three sessions.

The inaugural session was inaugurated by the Former Union Minister for Education, Director of Institute for Social & Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, Prof. Emeritus Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. Prof. M. Gopalakrishna Adiga an eminent Kannada litterateur and Educationist was the Guest-in-Chief. Com. K. Surendra Babu President, Karnataka State Organising Committee of AIDSO presided over the inaugural session.

Inaugurating the one day convention Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao urged the government, to institute a commission of enquiry to go into the Capitation Fee System in private educational institutions. He stressed the need for creating public awareness to bring pressure on the government to enact a legislation denying permission to educational institutions based on donation and capitation fees.

After the inaugural speech, Com. Gouthama, General Secretary, AIDSO Karnataka State Organising Committee, placed the report of "Anti-Donation Week," programme.

While delivering Chief Guest's speech Prof. Gopalakrishna Adiga called for a fundamental change in the educational field. He deplored the absence of democratic, scientific, and secular education. Viewing the capitation

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Smt. Gandhi visited the USA and Soviet Union in close succession. India's relation with the Soviet Union has been close, but her relation with the USA has not been cordial for some time past and the US calculation in this region has been tilting more in favour of Pakistan. Since the days of Bangladesh crisis when India entered into a treaty with the Soviet Union — the Indo-Soviet treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, India's dependence on Soviet Union has been increasing both in the economic and military field. But this dependence on Soviet Union alone in the present day multipolar world situation does not serve well the overall class interest of the monopoly bourgeoisie and this is their internal urge for normalisation of relation with the USA or with China while India continues to maintain her closeness with the Soviet Union and thereby her leverage for bargain from both the super powers will increase to a great extent. During her recent visit to the USA and the Soviet Union Smt. Gandhi accomplished this task skillfully through her acrobatic feat in balancing the equation between Moscow and Washington.

The recent visits of Smt. Gandhi to the USA and the Soviet Union once again vindicated the oft-repeated stand of our party that the foreign policy objective of the government of India since the days of Pandit Nehru basically aimed at serving the interest of the Indian aspirant bourgeois class. During the early period of the independence of our country when the world was divided into two hostile blocks, one representing the imperialist-capitalist countries headed by the USA and the other representing the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union, Pandit Nehru while forming the foreign policy of the government in keeping with the hopes and aspirations of the aspirant bourgeois class

enunciated the principle of non-alignment, by which India will not join any of the blocks and will thus be free to seek aid and assistance from both the blocks. The main idea behind this foreign policy of non-alignment is to hobnob with both the blocks to extract maximum concessions from both of them by using the leverage of one against the other. In order to increase its sphere of influence or for economic or military compulsion closeness with one block or with another developed at different times. But as closeness with the Soviet block is no sign of progressiveness of the ruling class so also closeness with the USA does not mean that it has become stooge of US imperialists. While analysing the foreign policy of non-alignment since the days of Pandit Nehru, our party has time and again shown that this closeness is dictated by the class interest of the aspirant bourgeoisie of our country. For various reasons India has been somewhat close to Soviet Union and in 1971 when India and Soviet Union entered into Indo-Soviet treaty of Peace, Friendship and Co-operation, this closeness increased to a great extent. It is no doubt that this closeness with Soviet Union proved to be beneficial to the ruling bourgeois class in so far as this special tie between India and Soviet Union resulted in increased volume of trade and Indian export which has been facing stiff competition in the Western World owing to the protectionist and close door policy of the Western capitalist countries, found a ready market in the Soviet Union and thus Indian capitalist economy got a cushion of immunity although temporary, against the tide of Western recession.

But the crisis in the capitalist economy of the country is intensifying and it has to depend even on outside credit for survival. The economic gain obtained through Soviet Union can not alone avert the crisis.

So the necessity of IMF loan arises. But because of not so cordial relation with the USA in consequence of pro-Soviet tilt in Indian foreign policy and because of President Reagan's tough policy, the sanction of IMF loan was initially found to be rather difficult. Sensing this difficulty, Smt. Gandhi began to mobilize the entire Third World countries against the the USA and thereby succeeding in creating a rift between the USA and its Western allies on this question and ultimately the USA decided not to directly oppose the IMF loan to India.

Now a review for the release of the third instalment of the IMF loan to India is due on January next and so necessary ground work is required to be made for smooth sanction of the same. More over, the irritants in Indo-US relations have been causing much anxiety to the ruling bourgeois class of our country as the Indian bourgeoisie are eager to invest finance capital which is lying idle due to recessionary pressure, in collaboration with the US finance capital in the Third World countries. More over, in order to increase her bargaining position over the Soviet Union vis-a-vis the USA and also to lessen her dependence on the Soviet Union Indian government was feeling the urge to improve her relation with the USA by removing or at least by lessening the existing irritants between the USA and India.

During her visit to the USA. Smt. Gandhi not only made a rapprochement with the US President Reagan thereby paving the way for the release of the third instalment of IMF loan without the direct opposition from the USA, but she managed the nuclear fuel supply to Tarapur at India's terms. The euphoric comments of congressmen and editorial writers that a significant

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Bihar State AIDS O Conference held at Ranchi

The Bihar State Students' Conference under the auspices of the Bihar State Committee, AIDS O was held amidst great enthusiasm on October 8, 9 and 10, 1982 at Ranchi.

The conference was inaugurated by Dr. H.N. Prasad, Head of the Department of Economics, Ranchi College and the Chairman of the Reception Committee, at an open session organised at local Abdul Bari park on October 8. Earlier a large number of students gathered at a rally and after parading in a big and well decorated procession through the main thoroughfares of the Ranchi town, joined the public meeting at the Park. A large number of people from all walks of life had assembled at the meeting to hear the address of Com. Shankar Singh a member of the Central Committee, SUCI and an eminent mass leader of Bihar, who was the guest-in-chief. Com. Dulal Sanayal, President Bihar State Committee AIDS O, presided over the programme. Com. Chhaya Mukherjee, President, AIDS O, the main speaker of the day explained the AIDS O's role in the

present context of student movement in the country. Among the other speakers were Com. Chitta Ranjan Behera, General Secretary, AIDS O, Com. Arun Kumar Singh, Secretary Bihar State committee and Com. Madan Sarkar President, Ranchi District committee.

Delegate session

The delegate sessions were held on October 9 and 10 at the Town Hall with delegates from many schools, colleges and Universities of the state. The first session started on the 9th morning with an illuminating speech of Com. Shankar Singh who urged the delegates to develop student movement against the problems in the student's life on the basis of a correct line and higher standard of ethics and culture. Com. Arun Kumar Singh then placed the draft political resolution before the house on which the delegates participated in a lively

discussion. Supporting the draft many of them put forward some valuable suggestions and amendments. Com. Arun Kumar Singh then moved another resolution condemning the brutal police firing on the peaceful demonstration of the famine affected people of Parajorhi block of Santhal Pargana district. The resolution demanded adequate compensation to the family of members of the deceased and the injured, release of the persons arrested and others.

Next day, in the third session, other six resolutions were moved and discussed on the following issues, the anti-Press Bill of Bihar, labour problems, flood and drought situation in Bihar and other states, communal problem in Meerat, central government's anti-people scheme of no detention up to class eight, language movement in WB, respectively. All these resolutions along with the political resolution were unanimously accepted by the house.

In the last session on the 10th evening, a new and powerful 42-member Bihar

state council was unanimously elected by the delegates. The council in its immediate first meeting elected the executive committee with the following members:—

President:—
Comrade Dulal Sanayal
Vice President:—
Comrade Jogenda Mandal

Secretary:—
Com. Arun Kumar Singh
Members of the secretariat
Comrade Madan Sarkar
Comrade Bepin Mahato
Comrade Rakesh Chand

The newly elected council then declared two programmes of movement —to observe October 17 as the protest day and to organise district level demonstrations on October 20 all over the state against the anti-press Bill, criminal negligence of the State Government in tackling the flood and drought situation, police firing on unarmed people in Santhal Pargana and with other demands.

Then Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, in her address asked the delegates to carry the message of this historic conference to all the corners of state and to engage the whole of their energy to lead the student movement that is going on in Bihar on some democratic demand in the correct way as charted out by the great Marxist thinker Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Comrade Provash Ghosh the Advisor, AIDS O, in his concluding speech, dealt with the present political situation of the country problems before the student movement and democratic movement and the historic responsibility of the AIDS O workers. He called upon the delegates to equip themselves ideologically with the great teaching of Comrade Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, take political initiative at their hands and make the necessary organisational preparation so as to be able to exercise leadership over the student movements.

Then the conference was concluded. But this three-day conference created

Demand to declare Patna district famine-stricken

Under the auspices of Patna Unit of SUCI and Building Workers' Union and Jhoree Nivasi Sangh, the two SUCI led mass organisations hundreds of daily wage earners and homeless people and jhuggi-jhoree dwellers demonstrate before the District Magistrate, Patna on 5th October to press their burning demands, the demonstrators carrying banners of SUCI and other mass organisations, redflags and many demand-posters moved through different main thoroughfares of Patna shouting slogans before they reached the Collectorate where a five member delegation under the leadership of Com. Rekha Sinha met the DM. and handed over to him a memorandum with 8 point demand on behalf of the demonstrators. The demonstrators demanded among other things to immediately declare Patna District to be famine-stricken area due to the havoc wrought by flood and drought.

Comrade Rekha Sinha addressed the demonstrators and asked the people to be organised on a wider scale under the leadership of SUCI and to conduct struggle on different issues of their life.

a great stir among the people of Ranchi. The commendable discipline of the delegates and the high standard of culture they reflected in all the programmes and activities in the conference left a deep imprint in their mind and created attraction towards the organisation, and particularly to the teaching of the leader Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, who had taught them to link up all their activities, all aspects of their life with a higher, nobler concept of ethics and values.



(Above) A section of the gathering of Bihar State Conference of AIDS O at Ranchi

(Below) Central and State leaders of the AIDS O and guests are seen seated on the dais.

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breakthrough had been achieved in Indo-U.S. relations and that Sm. Gandhi's personal contact with President Reagan had been marked by warmth and mutual accommodation. The

agreement on fuel supply to Tarapur through France is cited as an example of the spirit of give and take. The 'New York Times' claims in an editorial that the uranium supply settlement was all in favour of India and that in strictly nuclear terms, India had gained and Reagan administration had signalled its softening stand on nuclear non-proliferation. In this connection it is to be noted that when the relation between India and the USA has been so much embittered on the question of nuclear fuel supply to Tarapur and a regular tussle has been going on compelling India to cut down the consumption of nuclear fuel at Tarapur, Soviet Union readily offered not only to supply the necessary nuclear fuel but also to extend all possible help in building a nuclear reactor during Sm. Gandhi's visit to Moscow on September last. India's lukewarm attitude to this Soviet offer in spite of so much difficulty in securing the nuclear fuel from the USA, clearly indicates the strong desire on the part of the Indian monopolists to come out from the position of absolute dependence on Soviet Union.

Sm. Gandhi's U.S. visit has opened an outlet for the Indian finance capital for joint ventures with the U.S. finance capital. Of late Sm. Gandhi has been feeling the necessity of diversifying the source of defence needs as excessive dependence on Soviet Union is like keeping all the eggs in the same basket and her recent visit to the USA provided an opportunity for future acquisition of military hardwares from that country.

Sm. Gandhi also got an opportunity to explain to President Reagan the Indian position in regard to Afghanistan. Indian

Indian Foreign policy to serve the moribund capitalism

stand on Afghanistan has undergone a definite change in emphasis from its initial position.

Apprehending shift in India's stand President Breznev during his visit to India in 1980 tried to prevent India from taking an open anti-Soviet stance on the question of Afghanistan. And so the joint communique issued after President Breznev's visit did not mention Afghanistan and also for obvious reason Kampuchea and India in exchange extracted liberal economic concessions, from the Soviet Union. But in the nonaligned foreign ministers' conference India made her position clear through shrewd diplomatic manoeuvring. In the draft political resolution presented by India to the nonaligned meet, India toed the Soviet line on Afghanistan and Kampuchea and then played the role of a mediator on amendments moved by other countries to the original resolution. India does not want Soviet presence in Afghanistan, but at the same time any anti-Soviet and pro-U.S. regime is not to her liking as in that eventuality it will be against the interest of Indian finance capital, the sphere of influence of which includes Afghanistan as well. During her visit to the USA Sm. Gandhi reportedly explained the Indian position on Afghanistan to President Reagan and tried to convince him that she would exert her influence on Soviet Union in accepting a nonaligned regime in Afghanistan if the U.S. stops supply of arms to the Mujahadeen and gives up the idea of victory of this anti-Soviet and pro-U.S. force. As Soviet military presence in Afghanistan has never been to the liking of India both from the stand point of the interest of her finance capital and also from the security risk it poses to this country so also Sm. Gandhi can not like the U.S. to increase its sphere of influence in

this region to the detriment of the ruling class interest. This cool arithmetic of the bourgeois class interest reigned supreme in the mind of Sm. Gandhi during her visit to the USA and the Soviet Union. This consideration alone—the consideration to get same aid and assistance for the aspirant bourgeoisie in order to stave off the crisis in the moribund capitalist economy of our country did not deter her from undertaking the U.S. visit at a time when Israel backed by the U.S. imperialisists had been waging a devastating war on Lebanon to liquidate the PLO forces, by trampling all international norms. When Israel armed to the teeth by the US imperialists were denying food, water and electricity to the innocent Palestinians by besieging West Beirut and carrying on murderous assault on them, Sm. Gandhi toasted the health of President Reagan, the murderer in the dinner party and thereby she trampled the glorious anti-imperialist tradition of our country.

Not only that Sm. Gandhi chose this time for her U.S. visit because the USA was condemned throughout the world owing to the US inspired genocide in Lebanon by Israel and so Sm. Gandhi thought it prudent to use this discomfiture as a leverage for extracting some concessions, including nuclear fuel supply for Tarapur.

Soviet Union was closely watching this closeness between India and the USA. This closeness was quite a danger signal to the Soviet union, which has been viewing with concern certain developments during the last few years, like India's attempt for normalisation of relation with China, the hectic endeavour to diversify the source of defence equipment, the massive drawal of IMF loan, difference in approach on Afghanistan question etc, etc. Soviet Union was

not happy with India's effort to procure French made Mirage aircrafts and West German submarines. Reports that the Reagan administration has made an offer to sell sophisticated arms to India have also contributed to Soviet discomfiture. Soviet leadership keeps on guessing what Sm. Gandhi's motivations are and how far she would go. Soviet apprehension has been expressed in no uncertain term in a frank and forthright article written by Soviet deputy foreign minister Mr. N. Firyuin. In the said article while the importance and necessity of Indo-Soviet friendship were stressed, the treacherous nature of the US friendship was pointed out and it was hoped that any rapprochement with the USA will not entail corresponding estrangement in Indo-Soviet relationship and India has been reminded at the same time that the Indo-Soviet ties have contributed to the strengthening of the Indian economy in its most vital sectors and areas. Sm. Gandhi has been reminded that the two countries are engaged in early implementation of the agreement in the field of power, oil and coal industry and South Asia's biggest aluminium combine has been put into operation in Korba, the construction of the first blast furnace began at the metallurgical plant in Vishakapatnam and some units of the giant petrochemical complex has been commissioned in Mathura. This exhaustive list of aid and assistance by the Soviet Union is ostensibly given to impress upon Sm. Gandhi the importance of Soviet Union to India in her grim economic crisis and to woo her from the USA, Sm. Gandhi took note of the Soviet discomfiture at her U.S. visit and exploited the Soviet desire to wean India to the Soviet side during her September visit to the Soviet Union. She allayed Soviet apprehension about India to President Breznev and

managed for an increased transfer of technology and capital to India,

Now this policy of hobnobbing with the U.S. at one time and the U.S.S.R. at a different time in order to extract maximum concession for the Indian aspirant bourgeoisie has nothing to do with people's interest.

But in our country the parties like the CPI and the CPI (M) all along hailed the foreign policy of Sm. Gandhi as progressive. Not only the CPI the CPI (M) in its political resolution adopted at its Vijayara Congress certified the foreign policy pursued by Sm. Gandhi as progressive. But none can be so naive as not to understand the reason for which these parties discover progressiveness in Sm. Gandhi's foreign policy which has ostensibly been formed to serve the interest of the crisis ridden moribund capitalism. The rhetoric against Soviet revisionism by the CPI(M) is of the by-gone days and the leadership of the CPI(M) is outbidding the CPI in wooing the Soviet Union. So one can easily understand the discomfiture of these parties when Sm. Gandhi literally complained to the Soviet leadership against these parties that these parties while eulogising her foreign policy as progressive were ganging up with the rightist parties to oppose her in her internal policies. The reactions of the CPI and the CPI (M) to this complaint of Sm. Gandhi clearly vindicate that what Moscow thinks of these parties matters much to them. Under such a situation a slight pro-Soviet tilt in Sm. Gandhi's foreign policy will seem to these parties as progressive, no matter whether the same has been framed to serve the interest of crisis ridden moribund capitalism of India or not!

Now in this connection it is significant that while Sm. Gandhi is trying to lessen the economic and military dependence on Soviet Union and President Breznev is also apprehensive of this move on the part of India, Sm. Gandhi chose this moment to complain to

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Build up mighty movement of the working class

The Indian working class movement today is faced with a grave situation. The bourgeois government at the Centre and in States and the capitalists, monopolists and non-monopolists alike, in combination, are mounting new attacks on the working class and their trade Union movement daily. Despite inherent weakness in the Indian Trade Union movement, whatever rights had been achieved in course of last half a century through mighty struggles by different sections at different times are all being taken away one-after-one at recent times.

On the issue of wages—the T. U. movement long have been demanding rational wage policy and progressive revision of wages, having a guarantee of need based minimum living wage. But nothing has been done towards that end whereas real wages are constantly being eroded since the days of the 2nd World War, which fact had been even admitted by the economic experts of the 5th Plan Document. Although the T. U. movement achieved one significant victory when it got accepted by the Government at least on principle to have need-based minimum wages from 15th National Labour Conference in 1957.

Spiralling price-rise, unabated inflation, recession in many industries etc. are hitting hard the wage earners; the situation further worsened because of unchecked unemployment and under-employment. In such a situation when working class demand wage-rise the Government under the dictates of the capitalists are resorting to wage-cuts and putting restrictions in various ways before collective bargain for wage-revision.

The Government today is the largest employer through number of public sector undertaking and departmental industrial undertakings and the policies adopted here set the pattern in private sector too. The Government this year has set a more rigid pattern by deciding the parametre in the name of guide-lines through the B.P.E. within which frame wages to be decided. The Finance Minister declared in the Parliament that there can-

not be more than 10% rise in wages in any of the public sector undertakings, wages are to be linked with production and productivity, union negotiating wage-agreements are to guarantee increased production (within existing conditions) and the D.A formula should be as before like Rs. 1.30 per point of rise of cost of living (wherever there were agreements for Rs. 1.67 per point rise were to be cut down). These rigid formulæ set by the government has practically led to mockery of wage negotiation or collective bargaining on this score.

Regarding compilation of Consumer Price Index the government is still following fraudulent method because of which the wage-earners have been deprived of crores of rupees and are being still deprived. The government has not even implemented the Rath Committee report so far.

When the working class being exasperated due to the heavy burden capitalist crisis put on their shoulders started organising united movement against spiralling price-rise and wage-freeze, nay wage-cut, they got the surprised gift from the government in the form of ESMA first as an ordinance subsequently made a law by enactment of the Parliament last year. This piece of law has virtually made a blanket ban on strikes and taken away workers' right to strike which is a fundamental democratic right of the people in this set up. Almost all important industries and services are brought under prohibitory schedule and unlisted industries also may any

time be brought under the schedule. The working class rightly has branded it an anti-Labour Black Act. Before this ESMA government passed the NSA which empowered the government to put anybody at any time under detention without trial. Government also brought the LIC ordinance then act through which bi-partite agreements were thrown aside and wage-cuts forced upon the employees.

All these were made only to strengthen the already long-coercive arm of the Indian capitalist State to further muzzle the voice of protest of the Indian working class and to make them docile slaves to the capitalists. The Indian working class have, of course, not reconciled with these lying-low. United movement was unleashed to protest against such attacks in country-wide scale through numerous demonstrations, protest rallies in industrial centres, cities and in capitals. Country has witnessed massive protest rallies before the Parliament already thrice—17th August and 23rd Nov. in 1981 and 8th July, 1982 and also a one-day country-wide industrial strike on 19th Jan' 82. In many states and areas of the country this industrial strike converged into a massive bandh in which all sections of toiling people enthusiastically and boldly stood shoulder-to-shoulder with the working people and made the programme a success. In Bihar, Orissa, part of U.P., Haryana, Maharashtra there was tremendous people's response and in most of these places the UTUC(LS) unions and their activists played a very significant role. UTUC(LS) unions in Coal and Copper Mines in Bihar, Steel union at Bokaro in Bihar, Rourkela in Orissa, in Iron-ore Mines in Orissa, in Engineering and Textile union in Haryana deserve congratulations for their firm and bold actions. This

is only for illustration in some major industries and not exhaustive.

But the government has not retraced, nor it shows any sign of re-thinking. It is neither possible for it in the midst of present day gravest crisis of capitalism wherein the whole system is under serious challenge and therefore the ruling parties in their bid to defend the system are resorting to fascist measure.

In West Bengal, where a 'left front' ministry headed by the CPI(M) rules and where the chief minister and labour minister both are senior leaders of the CITU, the movement of the working class, not to say of advancing, has been getting all sorts of discouragement and even brutal suppressions. When hundreds of factories and establishments, especially in jute, textile and engineering industries have been kept locked out, throwing over a lakh of people out of employment, either for punishing the workers on their legitimate movement or to pass the entire burden of crisis ridden capitalism on to the shoulder of the working class, it is a revealing lesson to them that the 'left front' government and more particularly its chief minister is piping the tune of class harmony and industrial peace.

He is pontificating that there should not be gherao, strike or any other form of movement that disturbs production and its distribution. He is sermonising that the workers should cooperate with the management to maintain industrial peace and that they should not stage demonstration inside the workplace or even dharna before the residence of the employer. In fact, these are just the things that the Indira Government incorporates in the recent legislative measures. In all fairness to them, it can be said that they have, in fact, given the line, the lead in the new orientation of the central governments policies and measures.

The government is boastful of their achievement in bringing down the number of strikes. But has exploitation on the workers

diminished or increased manifold? Who can be pleased by their boastful claim, the working class or the exploiting capitalist class?

The state government is openly assuring the monopolists and even the foreign multinationals of all sorts of help and co-operation, asking them to mint as much profit as they can but begs them to invest some capital here, as if investment of capital, at this third intense stage of crisis, depends on their begging!

By this policy of class appeasement and positive discouragement to the working class struggle, they have brought the 'place of grave' to reign in the trade union movement of the state however temporary, and a paradise for the national and foreign monopolists to loot and plunder with impunity.

This year the government further unleashed new attacks against the working class and the toiling people. In the last summer session of the Parliament (ending on 16th Aug'82) the Government has rushed through and enacted the I.D. amendment Act and Payment of wages Act and two more bills—the Indian T. U. Act amendment Bill and Hospital and other institutions Bill are tabled and these are likely to be enacted by the next October session of the Parliament. By all these Acts and Bills the Govt. seeks to further curb the T. U. right, right to strike, right to form Trade Unions etc. and by all these measures the Government has armed itself to strike a mouting attack upon the working class movement at a time when the working class and the toiling people of the country have no other alternative but to 'stand-up' and march forward to struggle.

These attacks on the working class are not isolated features. There is vivid sign of growing unrest amongst all sections of toiling people—right from workers, agricultural labourers, small and poor peasants to intellectuals, journalists, teachers from

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Defeat opportunism in United Trade Union Movement

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schools to universities and above-all in the forces like police.

The working journalists and news-paper employees were, demanding higher wages and other benefits. The Palekar award which came after so many years, was itself most inadequate in meeting the journalists' and non-journalists' justified legitimate demands. Yet that too has not been gracefully accepted and implemented by the monopolists of the newspaper industry. According to official information of a total of 1070 news papers only 433 have implemented the award, 30 have enforced recommendation in part, 239 newspapers have not implemented the Palekar award. 31 news-papers establishments have closed down following the award in 1980. 34 news-papers establishments have challenged the award in courts and these cases are still pending. About 278 establishments are outside the purview of the Tribunal award. The government has already received complaints alleging retrenchment of 111 part time correspondents by 33 newspaper establishments.

Some leading big provincial news-papers owned by big houses have recently taken recourse to modernisation by introducing photo-printing technology which in term renders larger number of staff and employees jobless. The government has done nothing, rather completely sided with the monopoly houses in seeing that the statutory award of its own created tribunal, is being blatantly violated. Not only this, the Congress (I) Government in Bihar by its "Bihar Press Bill" have nakedly shown how the ruling class and the government today are determined to suppress freedom of press and expression and take away civil liberty and democratic rights—whatever little is there now today under the bourgeois Parliamentary system in

India. Against this Bihar Press Bill there is unprecedented country wide protests and demonstrations in which not only the working journalists, non-journalist employees but also the editors of the monopoly press joined together, and also the other sections of working people and democratic minded people. The movement against this Press Bill has already taken the form of people's movement, particularly in Bihar where after many demonstrations by journalists and others the movement has completed one phase in the way of massive bandh through-out the state on 10th Sept'82.

Country has again witnessed agitation in the police force in a massive and unprecedented form in Maharashtra, particularly in the Bombay City where the striking textile workers also rallied with the agitating police, which has been mercilessly suppressed. The Armed constables also came-out in agitation in Haryana in the same period of Aug'82. The first time police force in Haryana and Maharashtra wore black badges on 15th Aug'82, the Independence Day and boycotted the Burakhana—the traditional dinner party given by the authorities. They also came out in the streets and conducted agitations for couple of days which also has been brutally suppressed.

No wonder, that the low-ranking police personnel demand higher wages and other kind of fringe benefits in these days of ever-growing cost of living and erosion in real wages. The agitation in the police and para-military forces have occurred on times in the past also like the biggest U.P. Armed Constabulary agitation in 1974 which was termed by government as 'Police Revolt and in which fire was openly exchanged between the agitating armed police and the Army that was deployed for its suppression and where several hundreds were killed. The agitation in C.R.P., B.S.F., Industrial Security

Force of 1978-79 where also fire was exchanged between the agitation forces and the Army at Bokaro (Bihar), Delhi and Punjab. But this time both in Haryana and Maharashtra police agitation, a new feature is witnessed where besides economic demands they are, for the first time demanding their inalienable right to have 'honour and dignity' as human being. They have demanded end of political interference and misuse of the forces for political interest from the political leaders—obviously of the ruling class and parties. Posting, transfers and promotions on political considerations have been decried by the forces themselves. No doubt, this has a far reaching significance, particularly at a time, when in every-day life people are experiencing police atrocities and excesses of all forms. Shooting down people in the name of encounter, torture to kill prisoners in police lock-ups and jails, blinding of prisoners, torture and raping of woman, burning to ashes the villages, merciless beating of peaceful demonstrators, whether workers, peasants or students, intellectuals, journalists no exception all these under the dictates from the leaders of the ruling parties and the money bags and above all the use of police force by the ruling parties of all varieties in suppressing political opponents, peoples' movements and getting elections rigged. Thus the 'Second State' the Armed coercive wing of the Capitalist State is coming up in revolt against the state-machine itself, not only for crumble of bread but also for human dignity and against the most shameful political opportunism, bankruptcy and hollowness of the parties defending the moribund capitalist system. The inherent contradiction within the society is clearly coming up in the surface. Thus one after one stepping towards fascism by the ruling class, is meeting with the logical opposition to fascism though it is yet far

Barbarous attack on primary students, guardians and teachers at Durgapur

On 30th Sept'82, the all Bengal Students' Struggle Committee, Durgapur unit apprehending the move of DSP (Durgapur Steel Plant) authority in abolishing English from primary stage of education and introduction of automatic promotion policy in the primary schools, numbering nearly 40 schools including day and morning shift with about 20,000 students, organised a sit in demonstration in front of the office of the education officer in the Steel township Administration Building. This programme evoked a tremendous sensation within the students, guardians and teachers, who really anxious and worried over the education and language policy of the Left Front government and the move of the Steel Management to implement it from next session.

On 30th September guardians took initiative and went to the education office along with their tiny tots to make the programme a success. Students from many schools including the high schools students parading through main streets of the township in processions, converged to the education office in hundreds. The air vibrated with the vigorous slogans of the adolescents, struck the employees of the T.A. Buildings with admiration, and they left their table and assembled on the lawn when nearly a contingent of CISF men stood firm with lathis & rifle blocking the entrance of the building. They interrupted the speech of the

away from resistance in real sense, mainly because of the fact that the ideological, cultural and organisational hegemony of the revolutionary proletariat has not yet been able to hold firm grip the movements.

But no doubt the situation in essence is very bright. In this background we should consider the situation in our organisation and its task.

student leaders on the plea that there was a prohibitory order of the management in using microphone through CITU, CPI (M), its students wing SFI and other organisations also previously arranged a number of demonstrations but none was obstructed either to enter inside the lawn or to use microphone. Ultimately they resorted to lathi charge over the peaceful assembly of the primary students and guardians absorbed is listening to the speeches of the student leaders, injuring 30 to 40 heads out of which a few had to undergo treatment in DSP hospital. 300 employees of the T.A. Building became infuriated at this incident of indiscriminate, barbarous act of lathi charge of CISF over the peaceful assemblage of the tiny tots and rushed to wards CISF personnels. Seeing the wrath of the mob the CISF people fled away with fear vacating the Campus. After that nearly 600 people rushed to the room of the Chief Town Administrator who quickly locked the door from inside observing the mood of the mob. All the people ghoroeed the room from outside and at the instance of the Police Officers, who reached the spot after the incident he opened the door and came in dialogue with student leaders and the leaders of the Steel Union affiliated to UTUC (L.S.) and he had to submit a complaint in writing to the police.

The incident evoked a tremendous sentiment of indignation and wrath not only against the CISF, the steel management but people in the steel city is also raising question as to how the CISF entrusted with the task of guarding property and security of the plant-property can intercept into struggle of the students and quash it with brutal force when the responsibility of the state government is to look after

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Movement against donation and capitation system

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fee and donation in the light of general corruption in all walks of life he lamented that even the so-called educated were indulging in this type of corruption.

In his presidential address Com. K. Surendra Babu said that the Indian ruling capitalist class is taking all measures to curtail education and to keep the vast majority of the toiling millions in the darkness of illiteracy. In view of the increasing unemployment in the country they are attempting at decreasing the number of educated unemployed. Because of this artificial 'scarcity of educational opportunity' created as a result of curtailment of education private educational institutions are resorting to this anti-student donation and capitation fees system in a bid to amass wealth. Only by developing protracted and mighty democratic students' movement can we put an end to this system, he said.

Following this, the First Delegate Session was held under the Presidentship of Mr. G. K. Govinda Rao, Lecturer, St. Joseph College of Commerce, President of Bangalore University Teachers' Association (BUTA). The main resolution of the convention demanding the abolition of donation and capitation fee system was moved by Com. Diwakar, In-charge, AIDSO, Gulbarga District Organising Committee and was seconded by Com. Uma, member of Bangalore City Organising Committee of AIDSO. Representatives from various colleges spoke in support of the resolution. Dr. Srinivasa Gowda, Secretary of Indian Medical Association (IMA) extended whole hearted support to the resolution. A letter sent by Dr. V.S. Achar, ex-President of IMA was read out. Sri K. Venkata Rao, retired Secretary, Agricultural Marketing

Corporation, Andhra Pradesh, spoke on behalf of the parents. The main resolution was passed unanimously. The President called upon the house to take up the issue and go in for action against this social evil. At the end of this session Com. Goutham announced the formation of the Student Struggle Committee to fight against Donation and Capitation Fee system, comprising of members from various colleges of the city.

The second session started after a break of 30 minutes and it was presided over by Prof. A. M. Dharmalingam, Prof. of Law. Two resolutions were passed — one demanding withdrawal of the curtailment of education scheme and allotment of 10% Central Budget for education and the second demanding

Barbarous attack at Durgapur

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the law and order affair and particularly how the CISF chose to resort to lathicharge when there is a so-called Left Front Government at head of the state who often proclaims that their sacred duty is to encourage democratic movement.

Anyway inspite of CPI(M)'s sneaky attempt to

return of the right to grant affiliation to colleges to university bodies and stopping of encroachment on autonomy of educational institutions. Enthusiastic delegates spoke in support of the resolution all in one voice condemning the anti-people educational policies of the Central and State Governments.

The convention ended with the firm resolve of the delegates to carry forward the movement till the donation system is abolished completely. The Struggle Committee decided to meet in the near future to chalk out the programme of action. The convention called upon the students, teachers and parents to extend their whole hearted support to this movement started by AIDSO. The convention was attended by more than 200 delegates and fraternal delegates. Representatives from the remote districts of Gulbarga and Raichur also participated in the convention.

spray water in movement in dampening it the workers of the steel plant & alloy steel plant demonstrated their unprecedented support in helping the student strike of the DSP schools inclusive of 4 Girls' & Boys' High school with 30 thousand students a full success on 1st October.

The Two Visits

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President Breznev against the CPI and the CPI(M). This is due to the reason that these parties though moving in the main with some sort of understanding with Sm. Gandhi are outwardly opposing her in parliamentary politics and Sm. Gandhi faced with grim crisis and chaos and particularly internal squabbles and dissensions within her own party is attempting to somewhat blunt or neutralise even this outward opposition to her anti-people moves, which she has already introduced or is going to introduce to

protect the crisis ridden capitalist economy of the country.

From her visits to the USA and the USSR one thing is clear. No doubt Sm. Gandhi is trying to extract concessions from both the super powers to stave off the intensifying crisis in the Indian economy. But it is also a fact that India is gradually emerging as an imperialist country and she has become a major power in this region of South Asia. During her two visits Sm. Gandhi has attempted to project India as a major power of this

Comrade Debaprasad Sarkar on Sharing of the Gangawater

[Comrade Debaprasad Sarkar, MLA of our party, SUCI in West Bengal Assembly during the discussion with the Prime Minister regarding the Farakka problem in New Delhi, presented the view point of our party and the same is given hereunder—Ed. P.E.]

My submission to the Honble Prime Minister is that on the question of determining our attitude towards the solution of Farakka problem, no doubt, we all should be guided by the spirit of "give and take" with a view to strengthening amity, fraternity and unity of the people of the concerned countries—India and Bangladesh. But we fail to understand how it will be possible to materialise this spirit without an integrated approach to the whole problem. In this connection I would like to draw your attention to a particular point. Do you think it necessary to examine whether the flow of Ganga water available at Farakka

during lean period is at all sufficient to meet the minimum requirement for the survival of Calcutta port and navigability of the Hooghly after fulfilling the minimum necessity of Bangladesh as the Government of India deem fit? Because, if the flow of Ganga water at Farakka gradually becomes meagre because of indiscriminate and unrestricted drawing in the upper reaches then how will it be possible to solve the problem? Under the circumstances it is highly imperative to follow some well-conceived norm that should guide the question of sharing of Ganga water even within the country. Pending implementation of long term planning for augmentation of Ganga water when, at present, the total supply of water falls short of total requirement it is desirable that all concern connected with the sharing of Ganga water should come forward to share the suffering so that it might not be burdensome to any one.

All India Protest Day Observed in Kerala by AIDSO

Kerala Unit of the AIDSO observed September 10 as All India Protest Day throughout the State by postering, protest demonstration and extensive campaigning among the students.

In a student meeting at Trivandrum, presided over by Comrade M. Subramani, State President of AIDSO, a resolution was adopted on September 10, which demanded the withdrawal of the Bihar Press Bill and withdrawal of cases against

region and this will serve the purpose of the Indian finance capital. This shows how the internal needs of the ruling class orient the foreign policy of a country.

journalists in connection with the movement, compensation to all persons injured in the movement and institution of a high power probe body for enquiry on the assault on the fighting journalists and exemplary punishment to the guilty officers.

On September 17, a mass students' dharna before the General Post Office was held under the leadership of Trivandrum district council of AIDSO, demanding immediate withdrawal of Bihar Press Bill. Students from various colleges and schools marched in a procession which started from the University College to the GPO where the dharna was held.