

Delhi Convention Against Imperialist Onslaught and for Peace

In view of the growing neo-colonial onslaughts and threat of war by the imperialists, particularly the US imperialists; a people's convention held on 16th May last in New Delhi at Gandhi Peace Foundation Hall, expressed deep concern and resentment against the US imperialist design of interference into the internal affairs of other countries to the extent of forcing them to change their domestic laws and absolute US supremacy in a bid to give shape to a 'unipolar world'.

Eminent personalities in the field of education, literature, art, law and jurisprudence, science, medicine and social service among others attended the convention. The attendance of Cuban Ambassador Ms. Sonia Lena and Counsellor Mr. R. P. Victor added greater anti-imperialist dimension to this convention. At the outset a four-member Presidium was formed with justice V. R. Krishna Iyer in the chair. Other members of the Presidium included Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, ex-vice Chancellor, Calcutta University, Danial Latifi, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court, and Mudrarakshas, renowned Hindi litterateur.

As a token of solidarity with the heroic Cuban people of their fight against manifold US imperialist onslaught, intrigue and subversion, quite a

good contingent of babyfood and medicines collected by the Medical Service Centre was handed over by justice V. R. Krishna Iyer to the Cuban representatives.

A resolution condemning the growing imperialist attack, particularly of the US, and calling upon the people to stand united against all those onslaughts on the sovereignty and interference into the internal affairs of other countries was unanimously accepted with thunderous applause from the hall packed to the capacity. The resolution reads among others: The US government is talking of liberty, democracy and human rights but threatening independence and sovereignty of nations; trampling under foot all norms, principles, human rights and values; they are talking of 'non-proliferation' of nuclear arms and world peace but most deceptively trying to establish their supremacy in the sphere of capacity to launch nuclear and star war and to blackmail others.

The US Government has virtually imposed an embargo on Cuba, the lone voice of protest in the western hemisphere, and is pressuring other countries not to sell to her foodgrains and other

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Countrywide observance of 44th Party Foundation Day

With great enthusiasm the 44th anniversary of our beloved party the SUCI had been observed in different parts of India. Besides central rallies held in major states in the background of the present critical international and national situation, meetings and discussions were held at district and local levels. On this occasion programmes were also taken to spread the thoughts of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh far and wide and to study them again and again meticulously. Every meeting started with the song 'the Great Leader' and ended with the Internationale.

In our last issue report of the central meeting in West Bengal addressed by our beloved General Secretary, Comrade Nihar Mukherjee, was published. Herein we give reports of central programmes of other states, so far received.

Bihar

The Bihar State Committee of the party on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of the SUCI held a mass meeting on 24th April at Vidyapati Bhawan, Patna with Com. Amriteswar Chakraborty, the state party Secretary in the Chair.

Comrade Shankar Singh, member of the Politburo, SUCI was the main speaker. Comrade Singh dealt in detail with the national and interna-

tional situations and called upon the people to release movements against the growing imperialist neo-colonial attack and also against the anti-people pro-monopoly industrial and fiscal policy of the Central Congress (I) government which had been surrendering to the the USA dictates in the interest of the Indian monopoly.

He said: After the collapse of the Soviet Union and the erstwhile socialist states in East Europe and the establishment of capitalism in those countries a sea change has taken place in the international arena. Taking advantage of this painful situation the imperialists and the reactionaries have unleashed anew their campaigns and canards against communism and Marxism-Leninism. They are saying that there is no individual freedom and democracy in socialism which is an utter lie. The truth is that the common people enjoy real liberty in socialism which is aimed at protecting the interest of the 95% of the population through the dictatorship of the proletariat against the onslaught and intrigue of the 5% exploiters. And we communists disdain to conceal this truth. But the capitalists whose aim is to protect the interest of the 5% exploiters conceal this very fact and this they glorify as bourgeois democracy.

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A Review of Present Afghan Situation

Afghanistan is in turmoil. After Najibulla's attempt to flee to India failed, he took refuge in UN's Kabul office. This event led to a dramatic collapse of morale in the Army and the ruling Watan Party and major cities began to fall to the guerrilla chiefs, tribal leaders and army officers as senior army officers tried to save themselves by making pacts with the rebels. On 25th April different mujahideen groups took control of Kabul. In a closely coordinated move with the Afghan Army, Masud, the Tajik mujahideen leader, took over the key buildings in the city as other mujahideen leaders quickly seized whatever other positions they could in the centre of Kabul almost in a bloodless operation. Tens of thousands of mujahideens stormed into Kabul on that day, but by night-fall heavy fighting broke out between the Hizb-e-Islami led by Hekmatyar and Masud's coalition comprising Tajik mujahideen, Uzbek militia and most of the soldiers of the fallen government.

In the meantime Nawaz Sharif, the Prime Minister of Pakistan, took initiative for a negotiated settlement of Afghan problem. Pakistan pampered, as it were, by the US imperialists in the main has been providing major portion of aid to different mujahideen groups and this factor was used as a lever to make the mujahideen leaders agree for a negotiation. Pakistan is very much eager for a stable Afghanistan as it will provide a safe corridor to the newly independent Muslim majority countries of Central Asia, formed after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Moreover, if Afghanistan is unstable the country may fall apart like Yugoslavia and in such an eventuality the demand of a separate Pustunistan will gain momentum, jeopardising the existing Durand Line, the negotiated boundary between British India and Afghanistan. A sizable section of Pustun people live south of Durand Line within Pakistan and so Pakistan expects that a stable Afghanistan will recognise Durand Line as the boundary between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

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**MAKE SUCCESS THE 16TH JUNE
ALL INDIA GENERAL STRIKE AGAINST ANTI-PEOPLE
FISCAL AND INDUSTRIAL POLICY OF THE CENTRE**

REAL FACE OF MARKET ECONOMY

Mike and Jean Richardson, the two citizens of the United States, were relocated from Houston to Dallas, lured by a promised job. But after the family arrived, the employer changed his mind and they stood on the road-side with Jean with their baby on her lap and Mike carrying a placard written 'Need Food For Family—will work; God bless you'. This is how things are going on these days in the land of market economy.

'I was disbelieving. You're never quite ready for it. What kind of economy have we created that sacrifices people in their prime?'—says a clothing executive, 47, who was laid off after 24 years with his company. This is the rule of the day in the 'citadel' of democracy and Liberal thinking for the people at large who are being dislodged from their jobs hourly, daily, monthly. (*Time*, 18.10.90)

This is the democracy where people have no right to work, no security of job, but the industrialists and mill owners have the right to retrench, layoff or lockout. This is capitalism, the curse of modern civilization for which Bush-Major-Kohl-Miyajawa are advocating for along with Gorbachev-Yeltsin clique, their chief collaborators for the successful counterrevolution in the Soviet Union and East Europe. Much euphoria was created as if a new decade dawned with the promise of a bright and peaceful new world. Germany after unification posed the semblance of threat of the pre-war great power. In Asia Japan emerged as a new financial super power. The imperialists under the leadership of USA proudly entered into a war against Iraq trampling all international norms to teach the latter a 'good lesson'. Thus, the US and its allies triumphantly looked forward to rebuild a 'new world order' of their choice as if with none to protect or resist.

But soon the enchanted moment was gone, the euphoria was lost and all shook up. Decline in stock exchange, steep drop-off in profit, sweeping layoffs, slashing of payrolls, failure of banks became the order of the day. Financial experts the world over and the governments of the imperialist countries did recognise that recession was in and scrambled to find some palatable explanations. Says Kenichi Ohmae, the director of a famous Japanese Consulting firm: "This is the first time we have experienced an asset based recession. It is hitting the main engines of the economy." (*Time*, 23.3.92)

"I want to say we're in a recession, but that's not a strong enough word. In some region its a depression"—says William Hensler, chief executive of Wicks Lumber, a famous American company. (*Time*, 15.10.90)

But the protagonists of the market economy and all out privatization in our country along with their mentors in the West while floating the idea that India rightly broke through the stagnation of a traditional economy, responding to the call of the hour, paint a rosy picture of USA, UK, Germany and Japan in order to befool the working class in general. But projected the true picture of those countries, the dreadful consequences of a heartless exploitation would be crystal clear to all.

The United States

However panicky the Bush Administration may be, while election is knocking at the door, in covering up the recession as it is expressed in a statement of White House spokesman saying,

"We don't believe we're in a recession right now." Many economists contend that the slump actually began well before Iraq invaded Kuwait and the invasion was just a nail in the coffin. (*Time*, 15.10.90) Whatever be the official make-believe statements the statistics and charts speak otherwise. Now only the spectre of recession haunts the political and business leaders everywhere. Major American companies are going in for sweeping layoffs in order to cut down the expenditure. Chase Manhattan, the second largest US bank has let go 5,000 employees, i.e. 12% of its workforce. Mc Donnell Douglas the no. 1 defense contractor, has slashed its payroll by 17,000 workers or 13%. The Managers of the General Electric Plant, the manufacturer of refrigerators plan to lay off as many as 500 of its 10,800 workers because of its fall in sales. In several Mid-western and Southern states, the jobless rate has already topped 7%. From July to October, during these four months more than 5 lakhs American workers lost their job. (*Time*, 15.10.90) In Massachusetts an estimated 18,000 people fled the state as unemployment climbed past 6%.

Some parts of the USA were more deeply mired. New England where the slump arrived a year ago has lost 2 lakh jobs since July '90 to June '91. In California the state economists predicted an average unemployment rates of 6.6% in the year of 1991. (*Time*, 17.05.91)

American Express said it would lay off 1,700 workers. Ames Department Stores, meanwhile said it would close 77 of its 448 stores and lay off about 4500 employees early next year (*Time*, 14.10.91). From October '90 to October '91 about 2.2 million workers were retrenched. As high as 2.5 lakhs American citizens were thrown out of their jobs in November '91. (*Financial Express*, 16.12.91) The total unemployment rate rose to 7.1% in December, the highest in 5½ years. (*Times*, 20.01.92)

The situation is so appallingly bad that the President himself had to head a trade envoy to the leading industrialist countries including Japan in last January like a salesman. Japan's trade surplus with USA was \$56 billion in 1987, which declines to \$41 billion in '90 and \$36 billion in '91. Pressure was mounting from across the border on Tokyo to minimise this surplus. On the other hand, Tokyo was also fearing a trade friction with Washington. Since 7.5% of USA's trade deficit with Japan stems from the car trade, Bush prompted to visit Japan as a car-trade envoy with a hope of improving the ailing US economy. The President had also in mind to boost his dropping popularity in the election year banking on a success at the international sphere. After much haggling and even angry exchanges through hours the President could make the Japanese agree to increase imports of car components to \$19 billion per year by 1994, up from \$16 billion last. But the bulk of these cars would be US made Hondas and Toyotas. Though in a joint press conference the President described his mission as successful, Mr. H.A. Poling, Chairman of Ford Motor Co and one of the members of the delegation said that there was not anything significant in the Accord. (*The Statesman*, *Economic Times*, 10.01.92)

Once the United States out of an imperialist design in the post-Second World War period helped Japan for the rehabilitation of the latter in the international market. But after being a financial super power, it is pushing USA to a tough

competition in almost every sphere even in the USA's own soil. According to an un-sponsored survey report the finance capital of the USA working in Japan is \$179 billion against \$534 billion of that of Japan in the USA. (*Economic Times*, 09.09.91). But on the contrary, it has made Japan's economy largely dependent on the state of the USA's internal market. So any decline in the USA's market index sends ripples of pain in Japanese economy.

So Japan has to take much care for repairing any damage in the USA's national market for its own survival. During the Wall Street Crash Japan's finance minister had to travel all the way to Washington to see that dollar was not much devalued. Before the recent visit of Bush to Japan Mr. K. Watanabe, the minister of international trade and industry requested the Japan's car industry bosses to increase their ties with US car-makers. (*Economic Times*, 14.12.91) The USA once thought of reducing the exchange value of dollar with yen to raise the export of American goods to Japan but that they had to step back for the fear of further inflation. (*Newsweek*, 09.10.89)

The present recession did havoc in the US banking industry. Of the world's 20 top banks, 14 are Japanese led by giant Dai-Ichi Kanzyo, five are European and only one, i.e. Citicorp is American. Of the 50 largest banks in the world only four are American—Citicorp, Chase Manhattan, Bank of America and J.P. Morgan. US banks are rather pygmies in a world of giants. In the UK, Japanese banks have chewed up market share by buying local firms. Mitsuishi Bank purchased the Bank of California in 1989, while the Bank of Tokyo acquired the Union Bank of Los Angeles in 1988.

The US economy is entirely dependent on militarization. Even in the absence of the USSR, the Soviet bloc and the so-called cold-war the USA still spends around \$300 billion a year for military and continues to buy some superexpensive high-tech weapons (*Times*, 14.10.91). As the largest arms dealer in the world it needs local or partial war and so the main thrust of its foreign policy is to originate war among the countries. In a human rights function in Boston the former President Jimmy Carter admitted: "The worst human rights abuse in the world is the initiation of war. If you look at the last decade, where have the wars originated? They have originated in the USA."

"We have tacit approval to Israel's invasion of Lebanon. We bombed villages around Beirut. We launched a war against Grenada. We invaded Panama. We financed and orchestrated the Contra war where 35,000 people were killed in Nicaragua. We were the leading force in launching a war in Iraq without any real effort to resolve the issue peaceably." (*The Statesman*, 18.01.92)

The middle class and the poorer section of the people are the worst hit of the federal economic policies.

According to the Tax Federation, taxes will absorb a record 35.1% of America's income in 1991, up from 34.1% the previous year. (*Times*, 14.10.91) About 3.5 million people have gone below poverty line. (*The Statesman*, 30.09.91) Each year about 9 lakhs people are becoming bankrupts and this figure would soon rise up to 1 million. Confidence of the general public in government, the private sector and enterprises itself is quickly receding. We are just tired, says the Counsellor for the New York City-based conference board. (*Time*, 14.10.91). It is not known

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Unemployment, Poverty, Destitution the Order of the Day in Capitalism

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to us whether the torch-bearers of freemarket economy of our country would still advocate for it.

Japan

Akis Koiso, a Fuji Bank employee for the last 30 years could not get any promotion because of his book, *Memoirs of a Fuji Bank Employee*, his account of the rotten life of a salaried man at the bank. In the book he wrote, "When I was younger, I used to work such long hours that I would sleep all weekend, and had no time whatsoever for my family. And this was no different from anyone else at Fuji." A female colleague of his died of Karoshi as did a branch manager of Kobe. Another Fuji Bank employee threw himself into a river because he could not stand the stress of working so hard. This day, this is the normal working condition in any Japanese firm. According to the labour standards law of Japan no employer can force an employee to work more than 8 hours a day. But normally they have to turn up for work at 8 am and do not arrive home before midnight. The Japanese workers thus are sacrificing their lives due to the unscrupulous profit craze of their employers. In fact, the working condition in any Japanese concern is inhuman of worst kind. According to the media, the Japanese labours have become economic animals for their basic human needs. To work in overtime is statutory in any workplace in Japan and though payment is not made for all work-hours. During work-time if any worker even goes to respond the nature's call, his colleague has to compensate by overworking for that time. The average Japanese labour still clocks 2159 work-hours per year, some 200 more than Americans and 500 more than Germans. (*International Business Week*, 02.03.92). In many industries, the executives have to spend even all the days in a week in the plant site and cannot even spare to go home. (*The Statesman*, 09.01.91)

And now in the period of economic slump the working condition and job security have further deteriorated. Foreign workers holding in the construction and service industries are being laid off in large numbers. Shedding part-time workers and slashing overtime have become the order of the day! Overtime hours have been dropped by 17.8%—the steepest fall since 1975 (*Time*, 23.03.92). The pre-conditions imposed by Japan for investing in British firms caused much discontent among the British Trade Unions. For, bidding OK to those pre-conditions virtually means saying no to strikes for ever. (*Times*, 02.04.90). Sumitoma Metal, one of the world's largest steel makers reduced its work-force by 9000 in 1990. (*Economic Times*, 15.04.92).

Since the end of World War II the Japanese monopoly houses, banking on the sentiment of national humiliation for its defeat in the War, drove a steamroller of exploitation over the workers at large in the name of national interest and helped the country emerge as an economic super power in the world. From 1986-90 Japan has been the world's healthiest industrial economy by outgrowing every other OECD nation every year. Inflation was low, incomes were strong and unemployment was non-existent. (*Newsweek*, 22.03.92) Real GNP growth was 5% a year fuelled by rapid monetary growth, record low interest rates, soaring stock market and surging prop-

erty prices. Companies invested as if capital cost nothing. Securities firms tried to manipulate the financial markets as if to do so was both safe and legal. But soon the bubble was burst. One fine morning in January 1990 when the Tokyo stock market began its almost 50% fall the Japanese woke up to see that recession was in. It was so far unheard in their country since 1974-75. (*The Economic Times*, 14.03.92)

Germany

Germany like Japan after the defeat in World War II carefully nursed and repaired its war-devastated economy with the help of USA and emerged as largest economic power in Europe. But the current recession has overturned all preconceptions. Though Mr. Helmut Kohl and Co are trying to attribute the cause of present slump on their efforts to finance the restructuring of erstwhile East Germany, the fact is that the West Germany authorities are considering their eastern neighbour as the West's colony since unification. Whatever may be the cause behind the slump, in reality the deficit in the Federal budget is gradually increasing from 29 billion D'marks at 1985 to 100 billion Dimarks at 1990 before unification and 135 D'marks at 1991. (*Newsweek*, 24.11.90 & 17.02.92)

The decline in Germany has seriously affected the other EEC members. Germany accounts for 21.4% of Belgium's exports, 27.6% of The Netherlands, 19% of Italy and 20% of Denmark. Thus as it pursues a highly restrictive monetary policy with elevated interest rates, its European dependent countries are facing helplessness and overall gloom is spreading. The recent nationwide strike speaks eloquently of this.

Britain

Like all other major economies dark clouds are hovering over the British economy. Once the great imperialist power, Britain, having been stripped off of almost all of its colonies after the War, has lost its supremacy in the world market. Now it is the worst victim of the global economic slowdown among the leading economies.

Since Margaret Thatcher assumed office in 1979, the UK, once the strong proponent of the theory of Welfare State, was put on the top gear of market economy and an allout privatization was taken recourse to. But this measure, the so-called Thatcherism only brought more distress to British economy. In 1980, unemployment rose above 2 million for the first time since the Great Depression of '30s. From the brink of complete erosion of Thatcher's popularity, came to her rescue the Falkland War. Today as a tail of US imperialism, the UK is lending blank cheque support to all US piracies and war-designs all over the world including the recent criminal war against Iraq. But all this could not save the plunging British economy. The inflation was 8.9% in 1991 against 4.2% in '87. (*Newsweek*, 03.12.90)

In 1989, Mrs. Thatcher announced plans to close 20 unprofitable coal mines in Britain. The Government had sold off \$57 billion worth of state owned enterprises including British Steel and British Airways. (*Newsweek*, 03.12.90). Unemployment is skyrocketing. The renowned General Electric Company dropped 13,500 work-

ers from its payroll in order to raise its profit from \$4 million to 3.4 billion dollar. (*Economic Times*, 06.12.91) Mr. Wigglesworth, Chairman, Confederation of British Industry (CBI) forecast that manufacturers would continue to shed job at a rate of 6,000-7,000 a week. (*Economic Times*, 02.08.91) The British unemployment currently stands at 8.5% (*Time* 14.10.91).

Education, health and other welfare budgets were the worst hit of Thatcherism. In the historic Oxford University some departments were closed due to non-sanction of budgetary grants. Medical and health-care facilities are continuously curtailed and health services are coming under creeping privatisation. A very heart-rending event was reported in a letter to the editor of the *Guardian*. The writer's wife, a patient of cancer was admitted to a government general hospital. After the ailment was diagnosed the hospital authorities suggested to shift the patient to a private nursing home which charged fees of \$300 per week. The plea was that the patient should be shifted to a non-acute bed and almost all the beds in the hospital were 'acute' ones. The gentleman asked the editor with surprise: How much more acute can an illness be than one that is killing you in quick time? The person appealed to all concerned in vain. He writes: 'After three months my wife settled the matter by passing away and I trust they made good use of the bed.' (*Guardian Weekly*, 27.10.91)

All this is a very short account of what is happening in the citadels of western democracy. The rosy picture drawn by the proponents of free-market economy is nothing but a fuss. That the West means all happiness, all freedom, all heaven and no sorrow, no botheration as have been the idea among a section of people in our country is all but a hoax. In reality, capitalism means destitution, endless exploitation, inhuman oppression, unemployment, degeneration, corruption, uncertainty of life and all such negative aspects of life.

Workers' Protest meeting in TN

On 30th April a mass meeting was organised at Neyveli Lignite Corporation Complex under the auspices of the UTUC (LS), TN State Committee. Hundreds of workers from Lignite Mines attended the meeting. The meeting was organised condemning the Central government's secret move to hand over Lignite Mine, one of the eight reserved public sectors, to Birlas and foreign companies. Comrade Achintya Sinha, Secretary, All India Committee, UTUC (LS), and Comrade Arulanandan Samy, Secretary, TN UTUC (LS) were the speakers.

May Day observed in TN

01.05.92: On the occasion of the historic May Day a mass meeting was organised at Madurai under the auspices of the UTUC (Lenin Sarani), Tamil Nadu State Committee. Hundreds of working people from several industries joined the meeting in organised processions. They hailed socialism and called upon the people to build up movements to overthrow capitalism-imperialism. Comrade Achintya Sinha, Secretary, UTUC (LS), All India Committee, delivered speech as the main speaker. Other speakers were Comrade Jagannathan, President and Comrade Arulanandan Samy, Secretary, UTUC (LS) TN State Committee. The speakers condemned the different aspects of the New Industrial Policy and upheld the significance of the May Day.

Foundation Day observed

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He said : The real face of this bourgeois democracy is unemployment, hunger, destitution and deprivation, unbridled inflation, wage freeze, lock out, etc. which have engulfed the whole capitalist-imperialist world. But socialism has been able to abolish all these things substantiating the truth discovered by Marx that communism is the destiny of mankind.

The tragic setback the communist movement is facing today is an outcome of long drawn policy pursued by the revisionist leadership of these countries.

On the national situation he said the so-called new economic policy pursued by the Narasimha Rao government has made the door wide open for the entrance of the foreign multinationals into the Indian economy with the hope that the Indian monopolists will get entry into the other parts of the world dominated by the imperialists. But their hopes will soon be shattered, he said.

Comrade Singh criticised the role played by the CPI(M) and the CPI which are propagating against the foreign capital but at the same time overtly and covertly supporting the monopolists of our country. The truth remains that to frustrate the entry of the multinationals into the Indian economy it is necessary to fight against the national monopolists who are inviting them in their own interest. He concluded with the appeal to strengthen the SUCI, the genuine party of the proletariat.

Madhya Pradesh

Bhopal:

The State Organising Committee of Madhya Pradesh, SUCI organised a mass meeting on 28th April at Shahjahan Park, Bhopal to observe the 44th anniversary of the party foundation day. Comrade Shankar Singh, Politburo member of the party, was the main speaker.

Rising to speak Comrade Singh while tracing the history of development of capitalism in our country, brilliantly but lucidly dwelt on how Indian capitalism in the process of development of state monopoly capitalism gave birth to a financial oligarchy who were ruling the country with the grinding wheels of capitalist exploitation. In the political terminology, rule of finance capital was termed as rule of imperialist power. Indian ruling class, though backward in comparison to traditional Western imperialist powers, nonetheless, has emerged as junior partner in the imperialist camp with hegemonistic designs in the subcontinent in particular and South Asia in general. With anguish and pain Comrade Singh explained that the ruling Indian bourgeoisie could emerge as fascistic force for lack of democratic mass movements conducive to establishment of true socialism, which was the only guarantee of eradication of people's abject poverty and all sorts of woes. Instead, the people was misled by bourgeois opposition parties and social democratic parties to think election politics within the parliamentary ambit as the panacea for all problems confronting their life.

The meeting was presided over by Comrade Badshah Khan, Central Staff member. Others who attended the meeting were Comrades Asoke Ganguly, Alok Pratap Singh and K. D. Sharma.

Sagar

On 24th April the Foundation Day of our Party was observed under the auspices of Sagar District Committee. On this occasion a meeting was organised in front of the Municipal School. Comrade Haranaryan Patsariay presided over the meeting. Comrade K. D. Sharma was present as the main speaker.

Haryana

At the call of the SUCI Haryana State Organising Committee, a meeting was held on 24th April, at Bhiwani Stand, Rohtak. An exhibition of quotations of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh was organised in this connection, which attracted attention of the people.

In this meeting, presided over by Comrade Balwant Singh, Secretary, State Organising Committee, Comrade Ashutosh Banerjee, Member, Central Committee, SUCI was the main speaker.

At the beginning Comrade Satyawan, member, State Organising Committee, inter alia, threw light on mass movements conducted by the SUCI in Haryana. He reiterated the appeal to all Left and democratic parties to build up protracted united movement on the basis of common programme and code of conduct.

Comrade Balwant Singh, in his speech, condemned rape of two girls in Kurukshetra and demanded exemplary punishment to the culprits.

Comrade Ashutosh Banerjee said : Our country has been passing through a very critical economic and political situation. The Congress (I) govt. at the Centre backed by the BJP is implementing the utterly anti-people fiscal and industrial policy. The Government more and more has been inviting multinational imperialist capital here, and is allowing it, in collaboration with Indian monopoly, to invest in majority equity shares. For super profit they are exploiting cheap labour power, national resources and throwing millions out of job by means of higher technology and computerisation. The 'exit' policy is a severe assault on the working class. The Government has allowed foreign capital to invest 24 per cent share in agriculture, meaning complete ruination for the poor peasants. All these policies, Comrade Banerjee stressed, must be resisted unitedly. But the tragedy is that although the Congress (I) is a minority these policies get passed, and that is only due to the virtual brazen treachery of the Opposition.

Explaining the international situation Comrade Banerjee said : Although capitalism has been restored in erstwhile Soviet Union and East European Socialist countries, socialism is still existing in China, Viet Nam, North Korea, Cuba etc. We must dispel this confusion as created by the imperialists that socialism is a 'failure'. We must fight this falsification and establish, through painstaking uncompromising battle, the invincibility of Marxism-Leninism and the nobility of Communism.

He said bringing delegates from Cuba, Iraq, China, Bangladesh and Nepal on one platform at the recently held 18th All India Conference of the UTUC (LS) is a great achievement and they are definitive steps towards building up anti-imperialist international forum.

Comrade Banerjee also dealt with the historical background of the formation of the SUCI.

Other parties, claiming to be Marxist-Leninist, but in reality petty bourgeois or revisionist parties, have maligned this great ideology, for which we are now paying. Our party has developed with a different stuff. In this party simply by reading books one cannot become a leader. One who does not conduct a fierce struggle to identify oneself with class, party and revolution, one cannot become a leader of the first rank in this party. For him party is life, he will live, work and die for revolution. In him there cannot be any urge for private property and no private property mental complex. There cannot be any room for self praise, sycophancy or sense of "I am the party".

Comrade Banerjee called upon the party organisers and workers to plunge into an all-out struggle to develop as a true communist basing on the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh.

Orissa

The Orissa State Committee observed the occasion, among others, through a central gathering in Cuttack on 24th April at Kala Vikash Kendra. Apart from the common people, thousands of peasants, workers, students, youth and people from other strata marched through different streets of the city and converged in meeting presided over by Comrade Jagabandhu Baral, State Secretariat of the party.

Comrade Suresh Dasgupta, member, Central Committee, SUCI, the main speaker of the meeting in his speech severely condemned the US imperialist machinations in trampling under foot all norms of democracy, sovereignty and human rights and values. The recent barbaric war imposed on Iraq and the economic sanctions on Libya and Cuba are few examples of the growing US imperialist menace emboldened as a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union. Not only it is endangering the sovereignty of nations and world peace but also interfering in the internal affairs of the countries in order to shape out their economic structure to serve its imperialist interest, he said. He called upon the people to build up movements against imperialism, particularly the US imperialism as also the Narsimha Rao government which has unabashedly surrendered to the US imperialists after taking IMF and World Bank Loans in the interest of Indian monopoly houses.

Two resolutions, one condemning US neocolonial attack, moved by Com. Raghunath Das and seconded by Com. Binapani Das, and the other the Central Congress (I) government's anti-people industrial and fiscal policies, moved by Com. Uddhab Jena and seconded by Com. Mayadhar Nayak, all members of the State Secretariat of the party, were unanimously adopted.

Assam

Under the auspices of the SUCI, Assam State Committee, the 44th Party foundation day was observed on the 24th April at Lakhiram Baruah Sadan, Guwahati. At this big public meeting Comrade Asit Bhattacharya, Member, Central Committee, SUCI in course of his speech, strongly condemned the reign of terror and suppression let loose by the state Congress (I) Government and firmly upheld that a policy, totally devoid of persuasion, and based on sheer force, would very definitely push the country towards further disintegration. Comrade Asit Bhattacharya, pointing out the total unpreparedness of the people of Assam towards undertaking any responsibility

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Soviet Revisionists betrayed real interest of Afghan people

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On 27th April the representatives of most of the main mujahideen factions met in Peshawar in Pakistan and agreed to a cease-fire and establishment of a provisional government to replace the collapsed regime of Najibulla.

The formula of April 27 provided for a group of 30 mujahideen commanders, 10 clerics and 10 nominees of the mujahideen parties to take over in Kabul immediately. The interim government would be headed by Sibghatullah Mojaddedi, a Peshawar-based opponent of Najibulla and who professes neutrality between the main Mujahideen factions. This group would remain in power for two months before handing over to a leadership council headed by neutralist leader Burhanuddin Rabbani, which would in turn remain in power for next four months. The intervening six-month period would be used for creating an Islamic Council comprising several hundred members who would elect an interim government.

This pact ran into trouble on the next day when a group of mujahideen leaders questioned some of the provisions of the pact, including the timing of the transfer of power from Mojaddedi's Council. This pact has many loopholes and it is not clear how the dispute, if any, will be settled. But whatever might be the objectives of the mujahideen group representing the Pustuns, the events in Kabul suggest that the pact is holding good. Sibghatulla Mojaddedi arrived in Kabul on 28th April as per the terms of the pact and he was welcomed by Tajik military commander Ahmed Shah Masud, the mujahideen leader, whose control of the most of the northern part of Afghanistan led to the toppling of Najibulla. Mojaddedi was declared president on 28th April but the situation was still confusing as Hekmatyar was not reconciled to the new arrangement and his men blocked supplies to Kabul on May 2. Troops of Hekmatyar shelled Kabul on May 4.

It was clear from the start that the ultimate aim of Masud, the Tajik mujahideen leader, was to prevent the capital falling into the hands of Pustun Mujahideen troops including Hekmatyar's Hizb-e-Islami. Masud had forged an Islamic Jihad Council along with General Rashid Dostan, onetime ally of Najibulla and who commanded 20,000 Uzbek militia men for this purpose of preventing the Pustun mujahideens. This Jihad Council controlled all Afghan provinces from Central Asian border to Kabul. From then on the stage was set for battle in Kabul between the real holders of power and between the northern and the southern mujahideens. But it seems clear by the end of April that Hekmatyar's forces in Kabul were succumbing to the far stronger combination of Masud and the Uzbek militia. A ceasefire between the fighting groups ensued on May 5. It is seen from a report on May 9 that Hekmatyar has agreed to meet Rabbani who is to become the next president after the two-month period of Mojaddedi was over as per the pact. It is seen from Press report that Hekmatyar met Masud at an unknown place outside Kabul on May 9 and one spokesman told reporters that Hekmatyar was to join the government.

In order to properly understand the Afghan situation, it is worthwhile to turn a few pages of recent Afghan history. In 1974 as a culmination of series of events the monarchy was overthrown in Afghanistan and the country was declared to be a republic. Md. Daud became the first president of this newly founded republic. In 1978 this dodder-

ing regime was overthrown by pro-Soviet forces in a coup and Nur Md. Tarakki being backed by the Soviet Union seized power from Md. Daud. The Soviet Union hailed this change as "April Revolution".

This transfer of power through coup with the help of foreign power naturally worked as an obstacle to the normal process of fulfilling the national aspiration of the Afghan people. Incidentally it may be mentioned here that through an all-out mighty anti-feudal struggle covering social, political, cultural and economic aspects of society for achieving the task of democratic revolution was yet to develop in Afghanistan, still it is to be noted that people's national aspiration was gradually developing as democratic concepts had been gradually thriving within the society and they were getting organised to liberate themselves from the feudal bondage. The overthrow of monarchy in 1974 would not have been successful, had there been no social support behind this move. But the Soviet intervention worked as an obstacle to this normal process of development of the Afghan national aspiration. Within a very short time bloody civil war engulfed the entire country. The different mujahideen groups took control of most of the countryside and defection from the army and the police became an everyday affair. Moreover, the ethnic minority groups broke into rebellion. In such a chaotic situation, Mr. Hafizulla Amin seized power in a coup in September, 1979. So long there had been no direct Soviet military intervention and the Soviet Union played its card by using the pro-Soviet elements within Afghanistan. But after Amin's seizure of power, the Soviet Union militarily intervened in Afghanistan. Mr. Amin was dislodged and executed and Babrak Karmal was installed as president of Afghanistan. This act of the Soviet Union greatly injured the patriotic feeling of the Afghan people and however harder the Soviet Union was trying to impose the Soviet inspired revolution on the Afghan people, the stiffer became the opposition of the Afghan people from the feeling of national humiliation and armed anti-Communist operations backed by the US imperialists, the Pakistani military dictatorship and by the other western powers began. Soviet military campaign was further intensified and as a result all the forces—the forces of reaction, the forces of religious fanaticism and the outmoded conservative elements i.e. all forces which obstruct social progress and people's emancipation from the feudal bondage got an upperhand. Playing with the people's spontaneous reaction against Soviet military intervention these forces came to the fore in the leadership. Thus the Soviet military intervention prepared the ground for reactionary backlash.

Even before the withdrawal of the Soviet military it was clear that the days of Karmal regime were numbered. Soviet commitment to the defence of Kabul regime gave way in 1986 and the Soviet troops started pulling out of Afghanistan and Karmal was replaced by Najibulla who began to cultivate an image as a moderate. But despite major constitutional concessions made by Najibulla in 1990 armed mujahideens, funded and backed by Pakistan, the US and other Western powers refused to let up their offensive. Still the doddering Najibulla regime was somehow continuing though in a limping manner, but within weeks of collapse of the Soviet Union there was a revolt in northern Afghanistan by army units

and militia groups, once considered loyal to Najibulla regime. A cut off in Soviet arms supply tilted the balance in favour of the rebel groups which continued to receive aid from Pakistan and Iran.

At this stage the UNO tried for a peace process based on the establishment of a joint council of mujahideen representatives and members of the ruling Watan Party and this idea mooted by the UNO quickly gathered steam and Najibulla was forced to announce on March 18 last that he would resign after the installation of the interim government. But this peace process initiated by the UNO was outmanoeuvred by the mujahideen field commanders who sensed weakness in President Najibulla's offer of resignation. From mid-March onward they were making plans to take control of the entire country. Events after Najibulla's attempt to flee the country and later his decision to seek refuge in a UN office in Kabul have already been narrated herein above.

Though the US imperialists and other Western powers were providing all sorts of aid to different mujahideen groups through Pakistan, yet it is apparent now that Masud and his combination are enjoying at present their support and so Hekmatyar has rather been forced to agree for a negotiation with Rabbani. Hekmatyar and his Hizb-e-Islami have been painted as fundamentalist but news from Kabul confirms that Masud is no less fanatic. There might be some difference in degree. Already the Islamic laws have been promulgated in Kabul and women are debarred from appearing in public unless they are totally covered with 'borkha'. In all probability the Afghan people will have to pass through a reactionary revivalist phase.

But this would not have been the historic destiny of the Afghan people had not the revisionist leadership of the erstwhile Soviet Union experimented with their queer idea of exporting revolution to Afghanistan. In an article on Afghanistan in our earlier issue dated 15th February, 1980, we analysed this Trotskyite Trend of the Soviet revisionist leadership and once again denounced the out and out revisionist character of the Soviet leadership. In accordance with the teachings of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, the great leader of the proletariat, we showed in that article that the queer idea of implanting 'revolution' in a country by installing a chosen regime through coup d'etat by combining military, bureaucracy or a section of the bourgeoisie was nothing but Trotskyite conspiratorial interventionist policy which worked as a trend within modern revisionism. Revolution can neither be exported nor imported. Lenin and Stalin fought tooth and nail against the idea and gave defeat to the Trotskyite theory of permanent revolution. Revolution in a country will have to be brought about by organising political, economic, social and cultural movements from the grassroots levels. But the Soviet inspired 'revolution' in Afghanistan was imposed from above and from outside without doing any groundwork in political, economic, social and cultural field.

Moreover, the Soviet revisionist leadership was at that time pursuing a hegemonistic policy in blatant violation of Marxist-Leninist principles and by following the policy of both collusion and contention with the US imperialists was intervening in the internal affairs of other countries with that aim in view. The Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan was not prompted by any urgency to protect revolution, but its sole object was to

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24th April

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for any revolutionary transformation and for carrying out any form of armed struggle, urged the ULFA brethren to feel the imperative necessity of coming back to the path of militant democratic movement for realising people's just demands. Comrade Bhattacharya firmly opined that failure to realise this pertinent fact was tantamount to playing with knowingly or unknowingly the precious lives of hundreds of patriotic bright young men and women of Assam with the clear knowledge that nothing would come out of such noble sacrifices nor an iota of problems of Assamese people would be solved even despite this bloodshed.

Earlier the meeting adopted a resolution moved by Comrade Nazmul Haque, MLA and supported by Professor Bhupendra Nath Kakati, both being members of the State Committee of the party which pointing out the experience of earlier bifurcation and dismemberment of Assam when Nagaland, Mizoram and Meghalaya were carved out of Assam where the lot of common downtrodden people remained where they were, strongly expressed itself against any further bifurcation and dismemberment of Assam and stressed the imperative necessity of building up militant mass movement for bringing relief to the downtrodden people. The second resolution moved by Comrade Chandralekha Das and supported by Comrade Suratzaman Mandal, both being members of the state committee of the party which was also unanimously adopted by the meeting emphasised the imperative necessity of Left democratic parties coming forward to develop mighty people's movement against the blatantly pro-monopolist, pro-multinational policies of the Narasimha Rao Government.

Comrade Siddheswar Sharmah, a prominent Trade Union Leader and member of the state committee of the party, presided over the meeting.

Karnataka

Karnataka State Committee of the party organised a public meeting on the occasion of the 44th historic foundation day at Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Malleswaram, Bangalore, on April 26, 1992. Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Member, Central Committee was the main speaker. He said: In the absence of the mighty USSR, the US imperialists are trying to shape up a unipolar world in which the USA will be 'super' super power. Their unjust war on Iraq, sanctions against Cuba, enchainning India by means of IMF and World Bank conditionalities, pointing accusing finger at China on human rights while they themselves are violating them in their own country, are all due to absence of Soviet Union, a consequence of the long-drawn devastating revisionist process, initiated by Khrushchev and giving final shape by Gorbachev-Yeltsin counterrevolutionary clique.

Comrade Chakraborty strongly criticised the Central Congress (I) Government's new industrial and fiscal policy and its succumbing to World Bank-IMF pressures, which served only the Indian monopolists and the multinationals. He said: In this grave situation which demands united democratic mass movement the BJP is engaged in playing with communal fires. In their narrow parliamentary interest, while the BJP and parties like CPI, CPI(M) have allowed the anti-

people Congress policies to be implemented, it is the SUCI alone which is holding high the banner of movement.

Comrade Radhakrishna, Secretary, Karnataka State Committee, presided over the meeting.

Andhra Pradesh

The A. P. State Organising Committee of our Party on the occasion of the SUCI Day held a public meeting on 28th April 1992 at Hyderabad. The meeting took place at Sultan Bazar Park, Kothi.

Comrade Murahari, Secretary, Hyderabad District Organising Committee, in his Presidential address appealed to the people not to fall prey to the imperialist-capitalist propaganda against Marxism-Leninism and socialism. He said that the present setback was only a temporary phenomenon and communist movement would definitely come out victorious of the present impasse.

Comrade K. Sridhar, Secretary, A.P. State Organising Committee in his speech said: All the Opposition parties including the CPI and CPI(M) are practising the politics of consensus virtually helping the capitalist class to continue their exploitative rule.

Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Member, Central Committee, SUCI, the main speaker of the meeting, said: After the Second World War, defeating fascism, the arch enemy of civilization, there emerged a powerful socialist camp led by the Soviet Union which was in a position to impose peace on the imperialist countries. But now taking advantage of the setback in socialist states the US imperialists in particular have intensified their neocolonial attacks threatening the sovereignty of small and developing nations. Today world peace is in danger. So development of militant mighty peace movement against neocolonial attack and threats of war is imperative today.

Discussing on national situation Comrade Chakraborty exposed the nasty game of the Congress (I) minority Government headed by Mr. Narasimha Rao in collusion with the Opposition to protect the monopoly interest of this crisis-ridden capitalism.

He appealed to the people to develop united mighty democratic mass movement against the anti-people policies of the central and state governments.

Rajasthan

Under the auspices of the SUCI, Jhunjhunu District Organising Committee, the foundation anniversary was observed on 29th April last at Pilani through organising a mass meeting. Comrade Girjeswar Singh, Secretary, Rajasthan State Organising Committee, SUCI, presented his speech in the meeting, which was presided over by Comrade Mahasingha. Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, Central Staff Member, SUCI, delivered her speech as the main speaker. She said that due to the fall of socialism in Soviet Russia and East European States, the USA now had got unbridled scope to lord over the world. As a result the underdeveloped capitalist countries of Asia, Africa, Latin America had been the naked victims of neocolonial attacks. She called upon the people to unite all the anti-imperialist forces and launch protracted battle against US imperialism.

On 1st May, another meeting on this occasion was held at Jaipur, organised by the Jaipur District Organising Committee. Comrade Giri-

jeswar Singh presided over the meeting and Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee was present as the main speaker. In the meeting the other speakers were Comrade Madho Singh and Comrade Kesoram Patan, both of Jaipur Weaver Services and Comrade Devisankar Malaviya, Assistant Secretary, Sahakari Sugar Mill Labour Union. Workers, students and youths were also present in this meeting in good numbers besides others.

Tripura

The SUCI Day was observed on 24th April at Kaman Choumohani Crossing, Agartala, under the auspices of Tripura State Organising Committee, SUCI. Comrade Milan Majumdar, Secretary, presided. Comrade Chhaya Mukherjee, Central Staff Member, the main speaker, in her speech exposed the anti-people character of the Central's general and rail budget and new economic and industrial policy and called upon all the Left and democratic parties and forces to develop country-wide powerful united movement against them.

Uttar Pradesh

The SUCI Foundation Day was observed through a public meeting held in Jaunpur District, at the campus of S.B. Inter College, Badlapur. Before the meeting a huge well-decorated procession marched through the road attracting common people's attention. The meeting was presided over by Comrade Jagdish Ch. Asthana, Jaunpur District Secretary, SUCI and member U.P. State Committee. Comrade V. N. Singh, State Secretary, in his speech explained the historic responsibility, national and international, that had devolved on the SUCI in the context of achieving anti-capitalist socialist revolution. The other speakers were Comrade M. K. Sharma, Secretary, Allahabad District Committee, Comrade Jagannath Verma, Secretary Sultanpur District Committee, Comrade Beohan Ali, Secretary, Pratapgarh District Committee.

Gujarat

The party foundation day and May Day was observed on 1st May in Ahmedabad at Apna Bazar Circle in the evening. It was presided over by Comrade Kanu Bhai Kharadia. Comrade Dwarka Nath Rath, In-Charge of Gujarat State Unit, was the main speaker. Comrade Vismay Shah, Secretary, Ahmedabad District Organising Committee and Comrade Ayaram Verma also delivered speeches. A resolution on drought situation in Gujarat criticising the indifferent attitude of the Congress (I) Government in providing drinking water to 12,000 drought-affected villages was adopted and appealed to people to come forward to help the drought victims and develop mighty movement.

Tamil Nadu

On the occasion of 44th foundation day of our beloved party SUCI local meetings were conducted in many places in Madurai District.

A Hall meeting was held at Nagarkoil on 19th April. Comrade Jaganathan, State Secretary of SUCI, Tamilnadu was the main speaker. Comrade Muthupandian, an organizer of the party presided over the meeting. Comrade Palanisamy, State Committee member of the party also spoke.

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Central TUs' Call

Make All-India Strike on 16th June a grand success

Delhi, 10th May : A workers' convention was held at Mavlankar Hall, Delhi condemning the anti-working class new industrial policy, neo-colonial attack of the imperialists and others.

Comrade Samar Mukherjee, veteran CITU leader, presided over the convention. Comrade Sunil Mukherjee, Secretary, All India Committee, UTUC(LS) was on the Presidium.

Two thousand delegates from different trade unions affiliated to central trade union organisations and from national level federations attended the convention. Among the speakers were Comrade Ashutosh Banerjee, Vice-President, All India

Committee, UTUC(LS) and Comrade M.K. Pandhey, General Secretary, CITU.

The convention called upon the working class and the people to make the All India General Strike on June 16, 1992 a grand success.

After the convention was over the delegates went to the Prime Minister in a procession and courted arrest.

In the context of today's mounting assault of the capitalist class on the working people the joint TU Convention and law breaking raised hopes of a powerful protracted united movement against the exploiters.

Protest meeting at Sultanpur, UP

On 16th April last a protest meeting was held at Azad Park against the Central government's anti-people industrial policy and Central and Railway budget. SUCI and RSPI (ML) participated in it.

Comrade S. Verma, Secretary, Sultanpur District Committee, SUCI stressed building up united movements against Central government's anti-people policies.

Comrade Banshraj Tewari of RSPI(ML) urged to launch a mighty movement to overthrow capitalism and establish socialism.

Comrade Jaiprakash Mauriya, a student leader participated in the meeting. Comrade Kedarnath Pal, another speaker, pointed out the possible retrenchment of employees through City Development Ministry's proposals.

24th April observed

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Comrades from Kanyakumari and Tirunelveli districts attended the meeting.

Usilampatti taluk level public meeting was held at Karumathoor on 22nd April 1992. Comrade Surendran, State Committee member, SUCI was the main speaker. Comrade Maharajan presided over the meeting. Comrades Gokulan, Malaichamy, Kannan also spoke.

Vadipatti taluk level meeting was conducted at Alanganallur on 25th April. Comrade Anandhan, Secretary, Madurai-Dindigul Districts of the party was the main speaker. Comrade Nehru presided over the meeting. Comrade Palanisamy, State Committee member and Comrade Pasumpo also spoke.

District level public meeting was held at Batlagundu on 27th April on behalf of Madurai-Dindigul district committee. Comrade Jaganathan, State Secretary of SUCI, Tamilnadu was the main speaker. Comrade Palanisamy presided over the meeting. Comrade Surendran, State Committee member, SUCI, Comrade Gopal, Comrade Sekar also spoke on the occasion.

On May 1, a district level public meeting was held at Tirupparankundram on behalf of UTUC (LS), Madurai-Dindigul district committee. This meeting was addressed by Comrade Jaganathan, State Secretary of SUCI Tamilnadu and Comrade Achintya Singha, Secretary All India Committee UTUC (LS), was the main speaker. Comrade Rajan, District President of UTUC (LS) presided

Delhi Convention

(Continued from page 1)

essential commodities. It is nakedly interfering into the internal affairs of present-day Russia. ...

Now after ruining Iraq the Bush Administration is adopting all sorts of criminal ways and means including a ban on oil export by Iraq, to force her surrender totally....

The US Government ... has been perpetuating acts of State terrorism, violence and subversions all over the world....

Taking advantage of India's needs for loan, the imperialists, through their financial institutions like the I.M.F. and the World Bank, have imposed humiliating terms which the Indian Government has swallowed in the narrow interest of the Indian monopolists and has shifted its entire burden onto the shoulders of the toiling people with the catchy slogan of 'Globalisation' of the economy....

In short, the US imperialism – the chieftain of the world imperialist camp today, has appeared as the greatest enemy of mankind and because of its growing-aggressive moves, independence and sovereignty of nations are greatly threatened and the world situation has been made so volatile that the danger of war has increased manifold....

This Convention also calls upon all anti-war, anti-intervention people to come forward and actively co-operate to build up mighty peace movement within the country with a view to help developing and strengthening world peace movement anew and thus guarantee world peace ...

This Convention also appeals to the people to generously contribute babyfood, medicine and money to extend help to the heroic people of Cuba engaged in a death-defying struggle who, besides moral support, need material help in their fight against US imperialism.

A new committee named "Front Against Imperialist Neo-Colonial Attacks and Threats of War and for Peace" was formed with the following office bearers : President : Justice V. R. Krishna Iyer, Members of the President. Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, Justice O. Chinnappa Reddy, Danial Latifi and Pritish Chanda. Joint Secretaries : Dr. Sanjoy Bhasin and Hardip Singh; Treasurer : Ashutosh Banerjee. A 21-member Executive Committee was also elected. The convention decided to release a campaign against growing imperialist menace and threat of war on an all India scale and as a prelude to all this state level programmes of conventions, demonstrative campaigns and movements would be taken up under the aegis of the committee.

Behind the success of the convention and the collection of babyfood and medicine worked the appeal by renowned personalities – Dr. Vishu Prabhakar, Dr. Satchidananda Routroy, Mudrarakshas, Justice Krishna Iyer, Justice Chinnappa Reddy, Mr. Danial Latifi, Dr. Sushil Kr. Mukherjee and many others in different walks of life throughout the country.

icity of the Cong (I) Government at the Centre and anti-people policies of BJP-led government at the state and the neo-colonial attacks of US imperialism on Cuba, Iraq, Libya and other countries. It was supported by the leaders of the different constituents of the May Day Committee.

At the start of the meeting the leaders paid tribute at the martyr's column and at end an effigy of President Bush was burnt as a mark of protest against the recent policies of the American government.

Bhopal MSS achieves victory

The MSS in Bhopal registered strong protest against the price rise of milk and condemned the utter callous and snobbish attitude, typical of a bureaucrat, of Mrs. Hitendra Kumari, Director of Bhopal Dugdha Bikas Nigam, who commented outrageously, 'Children of the poor do not drink milk.' In this connection a delegation of 15 MSS representatives met Mrs. Hitendra Kumari on Thursday, 7th May, 1992. The MSS handed over to her a memorandum, consisting 500 signatures of women of different strata, collected from different localities of Bhopal.

The Director, after discussion, conceded to the demands that supply of standard milk would not be stopped and arrangements would be made for economy packets containing milk of about 200 / 250 millilitres. She also assured that price would not be hiked in future.

Among the representatives were Mrs. S. D. Tripathi, Sandhya Roy, Sita Promod, Manju Allavat, Srimati Sahu, Kalpana Barai, Jolly Sarkar and others.

May Day observed jointly at Allahabad

UTUC (LS) observed May Day jointly with AITUC, CITU, AICCTU, HMS, Central Government Employees Coordination Committee, State Government Employees Coordination Committee, Public Sector and Private Sector Employees Unions, Bank Employees Union, NRMU and High Court Employees Union under that banner of 'May Day Committee' at Allahabad. The Committee was formed to observe the May Day through a joint meeting of the organisation on 24th April '92 at the Recreation Hall of Postal Office of Allahabad with Com. N. K. Sharma of UTUC (LS) as Secretary and Com. Anugraha Narayan Singh of CITU as convener. Before the meeting large processions came to 'Civil Lines Chouraha', the spot of the meeting. A large procession of workers organised by UTUC (LS) reached the meeting place at 6 pm.

The main resolution, which was moved by Com. N. K. Sharma the leader of UTUC (LS) and the Secretary of May Day Committee, severely criticised the New Economic and Industrial Pol-

SUCI ON TINBIGHA TRANSFER

Resolution adopted at the meeting of the West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI on 20th May, 1992 in Calcutta.

The SUCI, West Bengal State Committee, expresses deep concern at the tense situation recently created in the Mekhligunge P S area on the Tinbigha corridor question.

Even 45 years after the independence, many a problem between Indian and East Pakistan (later on Bangladesh), including distribution of Ganga waters and the exchange of enclaves etc. have been kept unresolved.

This meeting of the State Committee holds that the present Tinbigha problem too is a product of the above mentioned conspiracy of the ruling clique. 95 enclaves of Bangladesh lie within India and 126 Indian enclaves within Bangladesh. The people of those enclaves, being isolated from the mainland masses of the two respective countries, have been facing various difficulties for long. Long time back, it was decided in the Nehru-Noon Pact that there would be a total exchange of these enclaves. Had this been implemented, the present strong tension centring round the Tinbigha issue would not have arisen.

The State Committee holds that consideration of the problem of two enclaves in isolation without total exchange of the enclaves has created the present Tinbigha problem. Despite many limitations, the people of the two countries in Kuchlibari and Dahagram-Angarpota have been living in mutual amity for the last 45 years. If the Tinbigha corridor is now created through administrative coercive measures, people of both the countries adjoining this sensitive corridor would live with bitterness and apprehension. As a result, instead of being solved, the problem would be further complicated and Tinbigha would become an "internationally sensitive" area giving rise to newer problems in future.

The State Committee considers that the peculiar decision to have Indian sovereignty and permanent lease right of Bangladesh over the Tinbigha corridor and the movement of the people of the two countries through the corridor at fixed hours of the day by the clock would subject the poor and ignorant rural people of both the countries to harassment and arbitrary oppression by the corrupt administration leading to increase of tension and bitterness—and the ruling cliques and fundamentalist forces of the two countries will take advantage of this.

The State Committee notes that the Central Government proposes to grant the Tinbigha corridor on the plea of ensuring amity between the

two countries but on many an important problem like the distribution of Ganga waters, either no effective steps have been taken towards the solution or the issues are being evaded.

The State Committee holds that the reactionary exploiting class in power in both India and Bangladesh have not only been perpetrating armed onslaughts upon the mass movements in the two countries for long in order to destroy them, but have also been making use of communalism to destroy unity of the people within the country and have been engaged in nefarious attempts to divert the attention of the people from the basic problems of the country by fomenting jingoistic nationalism among the two peoples through engineering conflicts between the two neighbouring states on various issues. Besides, in accordance with the imperialist character of Indian bourgeoisie, Indian expansionism and bid for economic and political dominance are at play in this subcontinent, against which the legitimate grievances of the peoples of Bangladesh and other small countries are being utilised by their ruling classes to divert and lead astray the democratic movements in the respective countries.

The State Committee holds that the Indian Government, in the name of implementing 'international treaty', is creating the Tinbigha problem in the very interest of the ruling Indian capitalist class. On the other hand, the ruling clique of Bangladesh is utilising it in the interest of the exploiting class there in order to misguide the democratic movement and brighten its image. Again, we cannot but note that the communal and fundamentalist force of the two countries are kindling the flame of communal passion in the interest of the respective exploiting ruling classes. The role of the BJP and other communal forces centring round the Tinbigha issue cannot but cause grave concern. The ruling cliques of the two countries are thus benefited by this at the cost of the unity, interest and democratic movement of the peoples of the two countries.

The State Committee is pained to note that the CPI(M)-led Left Front Government of West Bengal, instead of opposing this conspiracy of the Central Government, is according support to it thus endangering the interest of Leftism and democratic movement.

The State Committee holds that the forcible leasing out at Tinbigha without paying heed to the opinion of the local people would be an undemocratic step which would further increase tension and ultimately benefit the communal and reactionary forces.

The State Committee holds that the peoples of the two countries will have to build up mass movements against their respective Governments on demands of total exchange of the enclaves and resolution of all conflicts between the two coun-

tries so that the ruling classes cannot preserve the animosity and bitterness between the two peoples, the communal and fundamentalist forces cannot raise their ugly heads and good relations and amity between them may grow and flourish.

The West Bengal State Committee of the SUCI demands of the Central Government : Let an all-party meeting be immediately convened to discuss the total exchange of the enclaves of the two countries and the other problems.

Afghanistan

(Continued from page 5)

establish Soviet hegemony over that country. So one can easily see what should have been the reaction of the people of a country having a feudal face in all aspects of the society. The natural process of the development of the national aspiration of the Afghan people got a severe jolt and the entire country reeled back into reaction.

In the article on Afghanistan in the earlier issue on 15th February 1980 it was also pointed out that as a result of the revisionist policy of the Soviet leadership, the democratic process and the communist ideology even in rudimentary form that were gradually flourishing within the Afghan society would face obstruction and normal process of development of Afghan society would be jeopardised, creating a fertile ground for fundamentalism to thrive. Now this has come true. No matter, which group or combination of groups came to power, all of them without exception would preach fundamentalism, difference in degree in fanaticism notwithstanding.

The Afghan people will have to understand that the real problems in their life will not be solved by any of these groups who are quarreling among themselves to come to power. Today the fundamentalist forces cannot even unite the people. They will only spread obscurantist ideas. These mujahideen groups will only perpetuate the fratricidal strife among the different nationality people living within Afghanistan creating perpetual hindrance to the forging of unity of the people. The people of Afghanistan will have to realise that they will have to advance along the historically and scientifically proven path of the development of human society. The normal process of development of the Afghan society that was reversed as a result of the Soviet intervention, has again to be brought on rail by defeating the forces of fundamentalism. So in a situation when there is darkness everywhere, it is the duty of the Left and democratic forces within Afghanistan to create a democratic counter-current by painstakingly organising the masses on the burning issues confronting the life of the people. While in struggle the people uplift themselves politically, socially and culturally and it is the political conscious people who can resist reaction. No one can turn the wheels of history in the opposite direction for good and it is the task of Afghan people to understand the hidden laws of social change of history. The present reverses in Afghanistan must be set right by the Afghan people themselves through surge of democratic mass movements. This is the only course and there is no other way out.

Corrigendum

In the *Proletarian Era* dated 24th April last in the news of joint demonstration held in Delhi on 15th April protesting US embargo against Libya the CPI(M) was not a participant. We regret the inadvertent inclusion of the CPI(M) in the news.—Editor *Proletarian Era*

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