

Proletarian Era

Volume 46 No. 22
July 1, 2013

Organ of the SOCIALIST UNITY CENTRE OF INDIA (COMMUNIST)
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Price : Rs.2.00

Uttarakhand calamity

What lies at the root of the unprecedented rain-induced destruction?

Heaps of horribly mutilated dead bodies around the inundated eighth century Kedarnath Temple and helpless, vacant looks in images of victims still surviving, stench of human and cattle corpses lying in open or yet to be found, filling the air with omens of outbreak of epidemic, scenes of massive terrible land- and rock-slides and mudflows producing several feet thick mud and rubble cover to wipe out human habitation, tremendous swells in rivers washing away bridges, trucks, houses not to speak of living beings and above all, the total unpreparedness, lack of coordination and in fact, callousness of the government and local administration to face such eventualities : such news, or images of the recent calamity in the small Himalayan state of Uttarakhand in print or electronic media have shocked and shaken the entire country. As yet, rescue teams could reach hardly a few spots. The speaker of Uttarakhand Assembly

admitted a toll of about 10000 people after his visit to the affected areas in the catastrophe that struck the region from June 14, more so from June 16 for a few days, leaving additional thousands stranded to date in pilgrim and tourist centres. But the government is remarkably silent on the condition of several hundreds of villages and their people of the seven affected districts that have lost connectivity with the rest of the state. These include at least 60 villages of Rudraprayag, Chamoli and Uttarkashi districts that have been totally wiped out with entire habitations in the swirling waters of the Bhagirathi, the Alaknanda and the Mandakini rivers. Obviously actual figures of both dead and surviving would be much higher. Left in remote parts of extremely difficult mountainous terrains which have further lost connections from these latest devastating slides and have thus gone further out of reach of rescue teams, those

surviving await fateful ends in the biting cold of the Himalayas without shelter, food or potable water, fearing outbreak of epidemic. Different units of military are trying to rescue people from the more accessible tourist and pilgrim

centres. Barring that there does not seem to be any government or administration at work or even existing. Even now there is hardly any urge to take up serious drive to identify the dead bodies or combing

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SUCI(C) strongly opposes doubling of price of natural gas solely to swell the coffer of a monopoly house at the cost of increased pauperization and wretchedness of the suffering multitude

Comrade Provash Ghosh, General Secretary, SUCI(C), issued the following statement on 29 June, 2013 :

We strongly oppose the most draconian move on the part of the Congress-led central government to unilaterally and arbitrarily double the price of natural gas, a major input for the production of fertilizers and power, from 4.2 dollars to 8 dollars per mbtu (million British thermal unit) by meekly surrendering to the blackmailing of Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Industries which was deliberately keeping production of natural gas in the KG-D6 gas basin below the stated target till the government yielded to its demand for hefty price increase. It is also learnt that the government has plans to raise the gas price further from the announced \$8 mbtu in the first year to \$10 mbtu in the second year, \$12 mbtu in the third year and \$14 mbtu in the last two years which is exactly what Reliance was asking for as this would translate into an additional profit of Rs. 1,62,000 crore for it based on a rough estimate of accrual of at least 74 million US dollars to its kitty for every dollar increase in gas price.

Doubling the price of the natural gas would hold the common people in ransom as it would entail a jump rise in prices of fertilizers, power, and cooking gas to start with and shall gradually impact prices of other petro-products including petrol-diesel as well and also formidably increase inflationary pressure to make life already torn apart by unabated price spiral of essential commodities coupled with continuous dip in income, yet more hellish. This devilish proposal of the Indian bourgeois government once again shows how it is shamelessly engaged in adopting one after another anti-people pro-monopolist savage fiscal measures on a regular basis and that too bypassing parliament and outside the purview of budget.

We call upon the people to rise in protest and build up countrywide powerful movement to force the despotic government withdraw the decision, lock, stock and barrel.

Individual assassination and revolutionary politics

For quite some time, there has been a spurt in incidents of individual assassination, serial bomb blasts in public places, and important installations, blowing of railway tracks and bridges, spraying bullets at crowded bus and ambushes with sophisticated ammunitions, which are beside sniffing away specific targets are also taking heavy toll of innocent lives. Various terrorist groups, separatist-secessionist-communal outfits are allegedly behind all such despicable acts of killing and violence. On certain occasions, some of such outfits admit to have engineered such ghastly acts. And in all these incidents, it is the hapless common people pressed under the grinding wheel of ruthless capitalist oppression who are at the receiving

end. They are either getting killed or sustaining grievous injuries, loss of property, persecution and torture and are constantly haunted by a fear of falling victim to such mindless frenzies, murderous attacks and planted violence any time, any day, anywhere. Of late, those who call themselves 'Maoists' are also found to be indulging in such activities. On 25th May last, an armed gang of about 150 people attacked the convoy of around 20 vehicles on the Bastar-Sukma national highway in Chhattisgarh and killed, besides a few ruling party leaders and security personnel, around 20 poor tribal citizens. Within a couple of days, an explosion in a railway compartment at Jamui district, 170 km away from Patna of Bihar, claimed three precious lives of common

passengers. One would recall that when a bus carrying a few Special Police Officers (SPOs) was attacked in Dantewada district of Chhattisgarh, three years back, 40 persons including many innocent passengers died on the spot. In the same year, Howrah-Mumbai Jnaneswari Express train was

derailed because of a sabotage act near Jhargram in West Bengal and that caused death of 140 innocent travellers and grievous injury to several hundreds. People are also bearing the brunt and that too dearly of the worst form of counter-terrorism unleashed by the state's

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Capitalist onslaught wreaking havoc in people's life

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security forces, in the name of wiping out the terrorists, insurgents and anti-national groups. While the downtrodden and have-nots find it increasingly difficult to reconcile with this perpetual threat to their life and property, the thinking people wonder how could such dastardly and diabolic acts be undertaken in the name of Marxism and waving red banner.

Spectacle of unbearable suffering and misery

This spectre of terror and horror is cast on the masses at a time when every walk of their life, economic-political social-cultural, is besieged with unbearable suffering and fast degeneration. Spiralling price line, rising unemployment, massive job loss, non-receipt of remunerative prices of agricultural produces, plummeting income and escalating fiscal savagery grip their economic life. All hard-earned democratic and political rights are systematically robbed, voice of protest muzzled. Minimal education, healthcare, sanitation and civic amenities even potable water is unavailable. Starvation deaths, suicides, malnutrition, rising crime and atrocities on women, female and child trafficking, sex-perversion, drug addiction, all-pervasive corruption, fast erosion of finer senses and human attributes mark fast degeneration in socio-cultural arena. Deprivation, denial, persecution, miscarriage of justice, hassles and harassment at every stage are turning life virtually into a *visage nightmare*. But, this escalating plight and penury, wretchedness and drudgery are neither divine endowment nor *fait accompli*. Cause is rooted in the obtaining capitalist system based on exploitation of man by man. All evils, maladies and aberrations, sufferings and predicament are bred by this ruthlessly oppressive system. The entire socio-political structure is designed to protect the vile class interest of the ruling capitalists who are building empires on the skeletons of the exploited multitude. So, the question of emancipation from this strangulating life condition is inextricably linked with overthrowing the deadweight of outmoded capitalism by revolution. To accomplish this anti-capitalist revolution, it is imperative that the toiling masses are dawned upon by revolutionary consciousness, imbued with correct revolutionary ideology, give birth to correct revolutionary party and leadership, close their rank and build up

revolutionary struggle in course of intensifying the class and mass struggles under correct revolutionary leadership.

And lest the oppressed people should be dawned upon by that revolutionary consciousness and spurred on to revolutionary movement, there is a well-woven ploy on the part of the rulers to cripple them mentally and culturally, inculcate social alienation in them, disunite them by fomenting all kinds of divisive mentalities and warped mindsets, overwhelm them with parliamentary illusion, make them blind ally of fanaticism or fatalism, and above all, stoke up base instincts to lure them off to a world of perverse pursuit so that their moral backbone is demolished and they are aborted into animal existence dispossessed of the power to protest and dissent. This is the grandiose design of dying capitalism!

Forces subserving bourgeois class interest and social democrats holding dying people to ransom

But this truth is remaining obfuscated before the people. Because, the activities of various anti-revolution forces are posing serious obstacles before development of the desired class and mass struggles by leading people astray with various diversionary tactics. Some of these forces are doing it deliberately while some others are playing spoil-sport because of being driven by wrong understanding of revolution, revolutionary theory and revolutionary process.

The Congress, one of the most trusted representatives of the ruling capitalist class and other regional bourgeois parties like the Congress, TMC, DMK, AIMMK, Mayawati-Mulayam, BJD, TDP, Akali or Shiv Sena mislead people by preaching that if they are put to power through elections, all problems of life would be solved. The BJP, another most trusted agent of the ruling class and known for its venomous communal character, also dupe people with similar counterfeit promises and hoaxes. Their sole concern is to create vote banks and keep people arrested within the precincts of bourgeois vote politics. More damaging a role is played by the pseudo-Marxists like the CPI (M), CPI. Wearing cloak of Marxism, they, as typical social democrats, are engaged in playing the role of compromise between labour and capital, the exploiter and the exploited, espousing the theory of

class collaboration in place of class struggle, emasculating fighting workers and peasants from within, and thereby cunningly shielding ruling capitalism from being exposed. If one closely follows their preachings, political overtures, moves, plans, programmes, rostrum speeches and above all, outlook of running governments, it would be glaring that the crux of their politics is election, inculcating election-orientation among the masses, working out electoral arithmetic and explore possibilities to gang up with this or that bourgeois party or combination to brighten electoral prospect. Just like any other vote-hunting bourgeois outfit, the CPI (M), CPI leaders are only busy in fostering parliamentary illusion so that accumulated wrath and indignation of people instead of finding expression in surging waves of genuine democratic movement conducive to revolutionary struggle end up in stamping on ballot paper and give them electoral benefits. And for offering such a valuable service to the ruling capitalist class and backstabbing people's cause, the pseudo-Marxists receive unstinted backing of the class, relish the status of 'official leftists' in the mainstream politics at its generosity and enjoy pelf and power at its benevolence. That is why, the great Marxist authorities have pointed out that the social democrats are now the last refuge of capitalism and it is impossible to put an end to capitalism without putting an end to social democratism.

The separatist-secessionist-parochial-chauvinist forces allegiant to the ruling bourgeoisie also do not lag behind in the sinister game of whisking the aggrieved but unaware people away from the path of democratic movement and revolutionary struggle. They talk of begetting freedom for a particular community or segment of people and remedying all their burning problems through armed struggle, ethnic cleansing, insane killing and violence and cynically pandering to ethno-exclusivism. Outwardly, it appears that they negate parliamentary vote politics and exhort people to adopt the path of struggle to achieve their demands. But they too do not train gun against devil capitalism but surreptitiously hide it and instead brand one of the sections of the toiling masses equally tormented and devastated by fierce capitalist oppression as enemy of the other section. Thus they incessantly foment racial-communal-ethnic hatred to poison mind, play off one section of the

people against another, lock them in internecine clashes, shed innocent blood and thus throw spanner in the unity of the toiling masses while ruling capitalism which is bringing devastation in the life of the people irrespective of caste, creed, ethnicity, religion, region or language remains untouched. The secessionist groups also use violence and terror in forcing people to yield to their demand for breaking away with Indian state and set up new country. So, there has been frenzied baying for blood of each other, slaying of the brethren and neighbours, precipitation of ethnic-communal hatred and rancour and even premature loss of life of many of the leaders and cadres of such divisive outfits, but not a single problem of the people has been solved but only aggravated. On the contrary, the imperative need of development of united struggle of all sections of the oppressed masses against the anti-people policies of the capitalist rulers and their governments has been seriously hampered. Naturally, these divisive forces are found extremely useful by the ruling capitalist class in operationalizing its stratagem of perpetuating divide among the oppressed people on this or that count so as to scuttle possibility of crystallization of people's struggle against its exploitative rule. So, the ruling class also backs such forces in a very subtle way. The whole of North-eastern part of the country bears eloquent testimony to this tragedy.

Disastrous consequence of activities of Naxalite forces and self-proclaimed 'Maoists'

Desired surge of wave of democratic mass movements conducive to anti-capitalist revolution which alone can bring some relief in the life of the toiling people and gradually make them conscious about the need of final emancipation from the all-pervasive crisis by revolution, is also seriously jeopardized because of the activities of those subscribing to 'Naxalite' thoughts particularly those calling themselves as 'Maoists' or followers of the thoughts of great Mao Zedong, giant Marxist authority and architect of Chinese revolution. One would recall that 'Naxalite' movement was spearheaded by CPI (ML), a split faction of the CPI (M) in the late 1960s when it, by blindly copying strategy of Chinese revolution, gave the call for seizure of power, began armed hostilities against police and

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Bourgeois parties and social democrats spreading parliamentary illusion to disorient people from path of struggle

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para-military forces and indulged in individual killings in the name of 'annihilating class enemies and landlords'. Naxalite ideologues nurtured a belief that such a strategy and 'heroic' acts would give impetus to the oppressed people to fight against the establishment and thus automatically initiate them into accomplishing revolution. But as their understanding of revolution or analysis of Indian situation was far from truth, the Naxalite movement which initially created some sensation petered away in no time. A large number of Naxalite activists were killed in action while a deep frustration gripped those who survived. A section of them ceased to be in active politics. Another section became appendage to the ruling capitalism. The CPI(ML) disintegrated into innumerable factions blaming each other for the debacle. The entire episode also disheartened and dispirited people at large to a great extent, generated a negative feeling about revolutionary politics and considerably turned them off from the path of democratic movement. The Naxalite misadventure thus caused a tremendous harm to the process of development of legitimate democratic movement and virtually strengthened the forces of reaction.

After a gap of few years, with capitalist oppression scaling further height, a couple of splinter Naxalite factions joined hands to float CPI (Maoist), a new outfit. This new party selected certain pockets of rural India particularly the terrains of six Indian provinces inhabited mostly by extremely poor and deprived tribals to set up its organization and could create some following among certain sections of these most backward people. Pushed to a sub-human existence and subjected to deprivation, denial and discrimination at every point, these hapless tribals were fuming within and also quite naturally possessed hatred against the rich and affluent. But this hate feeling against the wealthy segment is no class consciousness which needs to be acquired in course of struggle along right track. But, without taking any pains to explain what class consciousness is, what is meant by revolution, how it grows and how to conduct revolutionary movement in a concrete situation, the CPI (Maoist) leaders simply chose to impress upon these poor tribals that they could wrest their

legitimate demands, free themselves from privation and misery, only by resorting to armed struggle. As strategy, they embarked upon ambushing on the police force, attacking police barracks and stations, breaking jails and armoury, causing blasts in public places, allegedly blowing off railway tracks, indulging in selected individual assassinations and abductions, bank robberies, extortions, loots and so forth and projected those as 'revolutionary battles'. They also did not think it improper to use casteist and ethnic divides as means of mobilizing support. This apparent 'romanticism' of armed actions attracted at the outset many young tribal boys and girls towards this new outfit till the short-lived 'excitement' and 'enthusiasm' did recede. Many of them have been honest in believing that precipitation of occasional violence and individual killing would make the authorities yield to revolution triggering desired change of system. But once that was over, the state pounced on them with all its coercive machinery, combing operation was intensified, leaders and cadres fell to showering bullet of police-military, they could not withstand the pressure. A sense of depression set in them. The organization landed in total disarray. Tame surrender of many activists including leaders to the administration in the name of 'returning to normal life' surfaced in increasing number. Moreover, since the broader sections of common people were not organized by the CPI (Maoist) through the experience and lessons of sustained mass and class struggles, they remained attached to the said party so long as the latter raised their urgent demands. Well aware of the fact that the 'Maoist' cadres and peripheral supporting masses lacked revolutionary consciousness and character and were drawn into such adventurism only because rudiments of basic necessities were eluding them, the government-administration also cunningly played their 'development' card by throwing some crumbs at them. Once the ruling dispensation alongside using strong counter repressive measures, dangled carrot of development, people's attraction for the self-proclaimed "Maoist" movement changed into repulsion, sympathy to apathy. Many from within the fold of "Maoist" movement turned approver of such

cosmetic programmes of 'doling out benefits' and even had got themselves sold out to the establishment. In the process, a sizeable section of the tribal masses also alienated themselves from the 'Maoist' movement which prompted the bourgeois governments to claim success in diffusing the 'Maoist' insurgency by boosting 'development'. This is tad archaic an outcome of flawed understanding of revolution and the methodology of development of revolutionary struggle.

Flawed understanding of revolution and Indian condition

What has held and still holding the CPI (Maoist) leaders back? Dispassionately and without suffering from any pre-conceived notion or blindness, they must introspect to see whether they are really following the teachings of Mao Zedong or despite honest intentions and a pro-poor mind, are polls apart from the same? Are they helping or hindering the cause of revolution? Do they either in the theoretical formulation or in practical application demonstrate a clear idea about what is meant by revolution, the process of organizing revolution and building up of revolutionary struggle along right track shouldering the essential task of fulfilling the objective and subjective conditions of revolution so clearly postulated in the science of Marxism-Leninism?

According to Marxism-Leninism which only can show people the path of emancipation, revolution does not come by automatically, because people are oppressed and repressed by escalated capitalist onslaught. Revolution is to be organized following a scientific methodology. When people unable to bear with the sufferings and oppression desperately seek emancipation and when the endemic crisis of the prevailing capitalist economic system so accentuates as to make the very system tottering on instability automatically, objective situation of revolution is deemed to have ripened. But mere creation of favourable objective condition does not, *ipso facto*, make revolution successful. Subjective condition, too, has to be fulfilled and both must coincide. Maturity of subjective condition pre-supposes adequate preparation and favourable disposition on the part of the toiling people at large to hasten the process of revolutionary transformation of

the society. Only a correct revolutionary party built up on Leninist model and armed with correct revolutionary theory covering all aspects of life can raise the political consciousness of the people to this level and impel the vast masses on to the path of revolution through painstaking ideological struggle, steeling and tempering them through participation in class and mass struggles and decisively enlisting their support in favour of revolution. When a correct revolutionary party with a correct revolutionary theory succeeds in imbuing the masses towards revolution, gives birth to a revolutionary people's army powerful enough to confront mercenary army of the capitalist state, attains sufficient strength, both ideologically and organizationally, to lead the revolution, the subjective condition is stated to have matured for revolution.

So, it can be seen that the prerequisites for making the subjective condition of revolution is formation of a correct revolutionary party based on Leninist model, correct revolutionary theory and correct base political line. Have these prerequisites been fulfilled by CPI (Maoist)? The answer is no. It was formed by way of simple amalgamation by declaration of two split factions of erstwhile CPI (ML) comprising aggrieved Naxalite elements. Mere resolve based on pious wish, surface-level fervour of armed struggle, even readiness to sacrifice everything including life and equipping self with military training to undertake guerilla warfare cannot form a correct revolutionary party.

Next is the question of a correct revolutionary theory. By revolutionary theory, Lenin never meant just political programmes and policy of a party but a complete epistemological category developed by the central leadership of the party by dialectically coordinating the understanding and experiences of different branches of knowledge including science and covering all aspects. CPI (Maoist) leadership has not come out with any such comprehensive understanding of Marxist philosophy. The party does not have any literature on this subject nor are its leaders found to undertake any ideological campaign among the masses on this aspect. Second point is about determination

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Separatist-communal-secessionist forces are precipitating divide among people scuttling prospect of united struggle

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of the theory, stage and strategy of revolution based on the concrete analysis of concrete situation by appropriate application and concretization of the science of Marxism-Leninism on a given soil. According to CPI (Maoist), "...the character of Indian society is semi-colonial, semi-feudal. The Indian revolution would have to pass through two stages. The first must change the semi-colonial, semi-feudal society into an independent New Democratic Society." (quoted in *The Statesman* dated 7.9.2005.) It is clear that like erstwhile CPI (ML) and Naxalite leadership, CPI (Maoist) has also opted for blindly copying the Chinese model, impose Chinese condition on Indian reality and is therefore grossly incorrect in determining the concrete character and process of class struggle at work in Indian society. Concretely applying the science of Marxism in a concrete situation, great Mao Zedong clearly showed that pre-revolution China was not an independent and democratic but a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country having no parliament to make use of and no legal right to organize workers' struggles. Hence, the task of revolution there was not to go through a long period of legal struggles before launching insurrection and war, and not to seize big cities first and then occupy the countryside but the reverse. Has this any semblance with the present day Indian state structure? Rather, India, by every parameter of judgment, is a highly developed capitalist economy having already developed imperialist features and is under the singular military-administrative control of a firmly established capitalist state. Citing the difference between a capitalist country and semi-feudal semi-colonial China, Mao Zedong also warned against mechanical and dogmatic transplantation of Chinese experience. Clarifying further, he said "...there are two different attitudes towards learning from others. One is the dogmatic attitude of transplanting everything, whether or not it is suited to our conditions. ...The other attitude is to use our heads and learn those things that suit our conditions, that is, to absorb whatever experience is useful to us. That is the attitude we should adopt." (On the Correct handling of Contradictions Among the People, p. 75.) He also repeatedly emphasized that "...the correctness or incorrectness of the ideological

and political line decides everything." (SW. Vol. P-441) He elaborated that if one's base political line meaning delineation of the enemy is incorrect, one's downfall is inevitable notwithstanding all revolutionary vocabularies, struggling mind and burbling in fervour of desired revolution. On the contrary, if one's line is correct, one is bound to gain political power in the days to come and lead revolution to success.

Individual assassination and individual terror

It is evident that the CPI (Maoist) leadership is somehow determined to repeat the same mistake and invite same consequences. Besides flawed theoretical formulations, the party reportedly reiterated its belief "in the 'annihilation of class enemy' and in extreme violence as a means to secure organizational goals." (South Asia Terrorism portal) The CPI (Maoist) leadership, as it appears, concurs with the argument that terrorist acts weaken the capitalist state machine and so assist the revolutionary process. So, its field activities in the name of following 'mass line' and stressing on 'squad actions' comprise individual assassination and unleash terror. It is pertinent to recall that under erroneous ideological-political positions it was announced by the Naxalite leaders in 1960s that "all class and mass organizations are highways to revisionism" which, as is evident, is endorsed by CPI (Maoist). Hence, according to it, armed struggle can be, axiomatically, the only possible response to a repressive state and in the given context, such armed struggle means occasional ambushes, individual killings and unleashing a reign of terror in select pockets. This strategy, it believes, would automatically spur a political movement and even a political revolution. One has to understand the philosophical muddle behind such thought. Instead of viewing the ruling capitalist class as a whole as enemy, the CPI (Maoist) leaders like erstwhile Naxalites identify a few individuals as 'class' enemies and plan to eliminate them. This line of summary execution of individual policemen, bourgeois political leaders, members of landed gentry or bureaucracy in isolation would not and cannot change the system rather shields capitalism. Proletarian revolutionaries do not need to terrorize people to ram home

political advantage or scare them to join revolutionary struggle. To those imbued with proletarian class consciousness, the fight against the bourgeoisie is impersonal and is a class fight. Their hatred is against the class—not personally against any individual. Through sustained, painstaking philosophical-ideological struggle and intensifying class and mass struggles, they gradually temper people for revolution. There is no short cut to this. On the contrary, the viewpoint of the CPI (Maoist) leadership smacks of the theory of spontaneity, negation of the need of protracted ideological struggle to free people from the clutches of the defenders of bourgeois system as well as the need of protracted class and mass struggles.

It is pertinent to recall the teachings of the great Marxist authorities in this regard. In a letter in 1880, Marx wrote to Engels, "...Reign of Terror. We think of this as the reign of people who inspire terror; on the contrary, it is the reign of people who are themselves terrified. Terror consists mostly of useless cruelties perpetrated by frightened people in order to reassure themselves." According to Lenin, terrorism reflects 'an utter failure to understand the mass movement and a lack of faith in it'. In 1880s, a group known as Narodniks in Tsarist Russia, abandoned mass revolutionary work among the peasantry and the working class and adopted, as method of combating Tsardom, the policy of assassination of individuals by individual terrorism. Lenin gave them a good dressing through intense ideological battle and showed how the Narodniks diverted the attention of the working people from the struggle against that class as a whole, hampered the revolutionary initiative and activity of the working class and the peasantry and retarded the process of creation of a revolutionary party of the working class. He clearly distinguished terrorism (by which he meant "violence") during a mass uprising from the adventurist "individual terrorism" that did not have mass support and stated that "The history of the Russian revolution shows that a party always resorts to individual terror when it does not enjoy the support of the masses." Explaining further, he observed that "The philosophy of the anarchists is bourgeois philosophy turned inside out. Their individualistic theories and their

individualistic ideal are the very opposite of socialism. Their views express, not the future of bourgeois society, which is striding with irresistible force towards the socialization of labour, but the present and even the past of that society, the domination of blind chance over the scattered and isolated small producer".Their tactics (i.e., of the anarchists — Ed.) ... amount to a repudiation of the political struggle, disunite the proletarians and convert them in fact into passive participators in one bourgeois policy, or another". ("Socialism and Anarchism", in: "CW, Vol. 10; p. 73). He further added that "predilection for terrorism is most intimately linked with the fact that, from the very outset, they have always kept, and still keep, aloof from the working class movement, without even attempting to become a party of the revolutionary class which is waging the class struggle". ("Revolutionary Adventurism"; CW Vol. 6; p. 189) Hence, "Calls for terror...are merely forms of evading the most pressing ...namely, to organize all-sided political agitation." ("What Is to be Done", SW Vol. 2; p. 96-97) He also clarified that "We must get the workers to understand that while the killing of spies, agents provocateurs and traitors may sometimes of course, be absolutely unavoidable, it is highly undesirable and mistaken to *make a system of it*." (Footnote to: 'Letter to a Comrade on Our Organizational Tasks', CW Vol. 6; p. 245, italics ours) And he made it very clear that "Bolshevism grew, took shape and became hardened, in long years of struggle against petty-bourgeois revolutionariness, which smacks of, or borrows something from, anarchism, and which in all essentials falls short, of the conditions and, requirements of the sustained proletarian class struggle". ("Left-wing' Communism, an Infantile Disorder", SW, Vol. 10; p. 70). Elaborating further, Stalin showed that "The point is that Marxism and anarchism are built up on entirely different principles... According to the tenets of anarchism, the emancipation of the masses is impossible until the individual is emancipated. Accordingly, its slogan is: 'Everything for the individual'. The cornerstone of Marxism, however, is the masses, whose emancipation, according to its tenets, is the principal condition

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Uttarakhand**Was the catastrophe simply rain-induced or largely man-induced?***Contd. from page 1*

operation to look for corpses still remaining under rubbles or elsewhere to rot, create pollution and lead to epidemics adding more misery to the living. The Chief Minister of the Congress government of the state has been compelled to admit that they have not given effect to the minimum of the repeated recommendations and warnings from the CAG (Comptroller and Auditor General) and Damage Control department to set up and keep alert an emergency damage control system fitting to and required for the mountainous terrain of this sort. On the contrary, even after this catastrophe, the power-that-be in charge of the affairs have started endless blame game. Sensing people's critical mood, bourgeois political parties of the state or beyond it are found to scramble for gaining upper hand over the others. Everybody agreeing that it is important to save the Himalayan region, nobody seems to be going beyond beating about the bush.

Rather, the governments, the administration and the vested interests are busy in showing that the disaster was an unavoidable natural calamity. True there have been excessive early monsoon rain, cloud bursts and associated hazards like landslides, bursting of rock bodies like that of Kedar dome or glacier lake outburst floods (GLOFs), which deluged the Kedarnath temple or the likes that acted behind the catastrophe. At the same time, it should be pointed out though worst-affected areas experienced heavy rainfall of 340-370 millimetres within 24 hours on this June 16-17 last, it was far from unprecedented. Uttarakhand has recorded single-day rainfall in excess of 400 mm several times recently, including 450 mm in 1995, and 900 mm in 1965. Cloudbursts, floods and rapid swelling of rivers too are rather annual features of the region. This time, however, the floodwaters, laden with lakhs of tonnes of silt, boulders and debris from dam construction, found no other outlet than hundreds of villages and towns. The GLOFs, like the one which deluged Kedarnath, are now taken as a consequence of human-induced climate change. Even it has been revealed that both the state- and Centre-controlled meteorological or other related institutes did not pay any attention to the repeated

warnings of very heavy rain to take up timely preventive measures like evacuating people from vulnerable areas or preventing them from proceeding to those.

The reasons for the catastrophe as deciphered by the governments-administration-bureaucrats do not

that the top soil of this mountainous area is generally loose and thus susceptible to landslides. Only lush vegetation can hold it tight. But without caring for these, vegetation is removed and high rises are built essentially on this top soil, roads are constructed and allowed to carry

reservoirs built on the rivers of the state. In Uttarakhand already, 70 dams have been built, including 23 mega-projects generating 100 MW or more. A few hundred more dams, almost bumper-to-bumper along major rivers are in various stages of commissioning, construction or



Medical camp at Rudraprayag, Uttarakhand by Medical Service Centre (right) and Comrade Krishna Chakraborty, Polit Bureau member, SUCI(C), flagging off the relief van in Delhi

stand to scrutiny. On the contrary, the more the evidence and information are coming out, it is becoming clearer that the catastrophe is largely a man-made, man-induced one and not a simple natural calamity. Uttarakhand has been ruled by the BJP and then the Congress succeeding it. During both the regimes by the two major parties of the country and with patronage from their leaders and governments, this Himalayan-sub Himalayan state has turned into a paradise for the land sharks, tourism promoters, powerful lobby of hydel power projects, road-building contractors and such others. The parties, in their turn, have liberally pampered these with a view to gaining some mileage in getting hold of vote banks. Thus, in the name of promoting tourism industry, tourist spots have been set up indiscriminately, number of tourist centres doubled. These have drawn a nearly fourfold increase in number of tourists, especially including religious tourists visiting the state during the last decade, reaching almost two-and-a-half times Uttarakhand's entire population. To accommodate this, there has been a rampant growth of multistoried hotels, lodges, dharamshalas and other ancillary constructions on it. Even the so-called religious institutions have freely erected high-rises. For that land has been grabbed, forests cleared, trees felled, rocks blasted, sand mined illegally from river beds. Courses of springs have been conveniently changed, structures built on the brink of the rivers. It is well known

heavy traffic. The entire process is thus intrinsically dangerous, vulnerable to slides and slumps. All these have naturally disturbed the subtle environmental balance of this hitherto virgin area. Blastings have loosened the ground, deforestation has laid the soil bare making it susceptible for mud flow and removed vegetation cover that used to partially hold the torrential flow of water during monsoon, particularly flash floods. Natural courses of rivers and streams changed, to force them break through human habitations. It is quite natural for a state like Uttarakhand already well-known for picturesque exquisite natural beauty of glaciers, mountains, lakes, springs, rivers etc., to draw more and more tourists with improved facilities for tours. But that would also require that the governments and the administration drew up serious studies and projects based on scientific analysis and evaluation of environmental-ecological problems-prospects and potentialities. It was necessary both to provide fillip to tourist influx as well as to see that the hype does not tell adversely upon the nature, local people, ecological balance of the area and such aspects. As it appears without doing anything in these regards, the government and the administration have simply allowed the profit-hunters to make money by any means even shoving the local inhabitants into death.

More dangerous has been the effects of high-capacity (10 to 100 megawatt) hydel power projects associated with dams and their

planning. Such projects involve drilling huge tunnels in the hills by blasting rocks, placing enormous turbines in the tunnels, cutting down forests extensively to build water channels, large scale blasting of hills to make room for reservoirs and approach roads, townships and other infrastructure, and laying transmission lines by other destructive methods. Naturally these operations weaken the rocks and ground around, affect the ground water table below creating void underneath. The projects, thus, turn out to be areas of more frequent landslides, of more susceptibility to events like earthquake. Incidentally Uttarakhand itself lies on an earthquake prone zone. Besides, the projects including the reservoirs need change in course of rivers and streams to the extent of even more than several hundred thousand meters. As it was pointed out by the CAG in 2010 when the BJP was in power that the huge number of power projects would leave no water in large stretches of the Alaknanda and Bhagirathi riverbeds that merge to form the Ganga downstream. All villages settled along the river basin would then be uprooted. This report was never even tabled in the state Assembly by the same BJP or the succeeding Congress governments. Neither the Parliament with the Congress-led UPA government at the helm of affairs did anything to persuade or instruct the state properly about the warning. The CAG warned that . . . 'No specific measures had been planned/designed . . . to cope with

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UTTARAKHAND

Greed generated by capitalism is destroying even the prized asset of India, the Himalayas

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the risk of flash floods. The adverse consequences of such floods are acute as they cannot only damage the project structures but can cause loss of lives in low-lying downstream areas...', a warning that was corroborated by the occurrence of at least 27 major flash floods (in contrast to a single major one in more than two earlier decades). Also no lessons seem to have been learnt either from the great earthquakes of Uttarkashi (1991) and Chamoli (1998), or recent major flash floods and other monsoon-related disasters in Uttarkashi and Rudrapur districts, each involving death and destruction.

The said power stations, public or private enterprises, have several hundred crores of rupees of investment including both Indian and foreign capitals; most ridiculously, a majority of the projects have been awarded to companies that had neither the financial capacity nor were they remotely connected with constructing and running of power plants. These even include knitwear companies and cycle manufacturers. The privileged power-merchants investing huge amount are liberally slicing off lucrative returns to the political leaders of both the Congress and the BJP. On the contrary, scientists concerned with environmental, geological and other problems, on the other hand, have repeatedly raised cautions for catastrophic effects these projects

after a couple of initial meetings. The government has reduced the environmental impact assessment and appraisal processes to a farce. It routinely rejects the recommendations of the statutory Forest Advisory Committee. The country has a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and under it, a National Disaster Management Force (NDMF), set up with much ado and on huge budget for setting and maintaining, the latter including expenses for the members. The prime minister himself is the chairperson of the NDMA and a Congress leader from of the party's High Command's choice and trust is the vice-chairperson. The member of the NDMF are of the rank of state ministers of the central cabinet. But such a powerful body of the NDMF has conveniently whiled away over two years in setting up a centre for action in this earthquake-prone region simply making lack of funds a plea. Even in the present case the NDMF team took two days to reach the spots. The NDMA was supposed to coordinate damage control and rescue work, though that was the feature that came out as most striking by its absence.

It is now clear that the natural hazardous processes like cloud bursts, torrential rain in mountains and flash floods downstream, swell and overflow of river and landslides and mudflows which are neither unexpected nor uncommon in the Himalayan terrains, could play so freely this time on a ground

roads, dams etc. Then, it is the greed of tourism promoters that drove them to create an unusually fast hype in tourism, in which thousands of tourists rushed to visit such a vulnerable place as this mountainous region even during the monsoon when flash incidents are likely to occur any time at any place. It is the greed of the so-called religious merchants that lead them to tread the same path, rather adding the flavour of religious tourism promoting pilgrimage with an accompanying media hype. It is the greed of the strong power-lobby that encouraged them to take up ambitious projects at the cost of environment, even human life and livelihood, in the name of development.

So the hand of man which worked behind this catastrophe was driven by greed of the capitalists, investors, businessmen, promoters-realtors, land-sharks and their associates and henchmen. And how could these unscrupulous, law-breaking profit-hunters not only nurture their greed, but also to satiate it could go to any extent of action? Could it be possible without the tacit approval and even connivance of the governments, central or state and the local administration under them? Why did the administration allow thousands of tourists and pilgrims to visit such a vulnerable place during the monsoon? Have the administration or the governments including the central one shown the least seriousness in probing what

profit-hungry law breakers to carry on their activities that have brought in a catastrophe of the present magnitude taking life of several thousands of people, making manifold more homeless, jobless, destitute. So they remain criminally callous, if not play truant themselves even when these greedy profit hunters care a fig for law, even when they affect environmental balance miserably to the detriment of the entire local population or even the country, even when they change the course of rivers and streams, indiscriminately fell trees, blast out rocks, drill huge tunnels weakening the ground. The callousness to the suffering of people, does not remain confined to the local powers-that-be. At this grave hour for the country, behaviour, utterings and activities of the leaders in Delhi do not betray any sign of serious concern, leave aside pain for the hapless victims, however loud they may announce observance of 3-day national mourning for them. Nor do they take any real pain to commit that they would see such things won't recur.

Capitalism is facing acute crisis and recession, yet hankers for maximum profit and frantically strives for keeping the system on. The capitalists are not leaving any social, activity or field of life, economy, politics, science, education, games, and others from their octopus-grip of profit-hunting. Big multinationals are sneaking into the retail trades of different



Observance of condolence (at Ahmedabad, Gujarat)(extreme left) and relief collection at Angul, Odisha (centre) and Kolkata for victims of Uttarakhand catastrophe

may bring about; the present calamity simply corroborates the truth in their warnings.

It is not just the Uttarakhand government, but the Centre, too, that is to blame for this. While Uttarakhand Disaster Management Authority has never met since it was formed in October 2007, the National Ganga River Basin Authority, led by the Prime Minister, to monitor development in the Ganga river basin has not met

amply prepared by human handiwork. The moot question is why and how could man commit such a grievous act as disturbing this unique and beautiful mountainous region. The answers are plain and simple.

It is the greed of land sharks and their associate realtors-promoters-construction contractors that lead them grab lands indiscriminately and flouting all rules and norms for construction of houses, hotels,

caused this calamity? All the answers are in the negative frame.

The government, be it the state or the central, be it run by the Congress or the BJP or by any other bourgeois or social democratic parties, are presently frantic about clinging to power or grabbing it, as totally subservient political agents-managers and brief-holders of the capitalist class. So, in Uttarakhand too, they have allowed the unscrupulous businessmen, greedy

countries, even trades of vegetables, and such other consumables, to scramble as much as they can ruining the local small traders- villagers. Uttarakhand calamity has come as the latest example of this trend. Particularly during the last decade the Himalayas has become their prey. Here they lure the tourists with the beauty of this gorgeous mountain ranges and provide them with facilities to enjoy the nature and its

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INDIVIDUAL ASSASSINATION**Individual Terror and Individual Anarchism Run Counter to Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong's thoughts**

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for the emancipation of the individual. That is to say, Marxism holds the emancipation of the individual is impossible until the masses are emancipated. Accordingly, its slogan is: "Everything for the masses!" ("Anarchism or Socialism?", CW1; p. 299). This is how Lenin and Stalin repudiated individual terror and individual anarchism and showed how they run counter to the most basic principles of Marxism.

Like Lenin and Stalin, Mao Zedong also sounded the caution against slipping into terrorism in the name of class struggle. It may be added that lest his description of the anti-Japanese invasion war as "war of annihilation" be misconstrued by anyone, he made it clear that in the then specific condition of China, "campaigns of annihilations are the means of attaining the objective of strategic attrition. In this sense war of annihilation is war of attrition. It is chiefly by using the method of attrition through annihilation that China can wage protracted war". (*On Protracted War*, SW, Vol. II, pp. 174-175) Here, the annihilation sought was of a mercenary army of the enemy, not stray individuals. While resorting to individual killing and precipitating sporadic violence in the name of conducting revolutionary battle, the self-declared Maoists like their Naxalite predecessors point at a quotation of Mao Zedong that "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun" and makes it a point of justification of their action which comprises individual assassination and precipitates terror. By doing so, they never think that such connotations of theirs are not only presenting a wrong understanding of revolutionary politics but even allowing the forces of reaction and vested interest to denigrate Marxism-Leninism in general and also a gigantic Marxist authority and great leader of the proletariat like Mao Zedong as if he was a protagonist and architect of individual terror and killing. In the specific context of pre-revolution China, Mao had observed that "...because of the feudal division of the country, those which have more guns, have more power. Placed in such an environment the party of the proletariat should clearly see to the heart of the matter." Hence, "...without armed struggle the proletariat and the communist party would have no standing at all in China, and it would be impossible to accomplish any revolutionary

task" (SW, Vol. II, p-222-24) But was such an observation in negation of the fact that it is the people imbued with correct ideology not constitute the most powerful gun in the revolutionary battle? Mao himself provided the clarification, "...the so-called theory that 'weapons decide everything'... constitutes a mechanical approach... weapons are important factor in war, but not the decisive factor, it is the people, not things, that are decisive. The contest of strength is not only of a military and economic power, but also of a contest of human power and morale." ("On protracted War", SW, Vol. II, p.143).

Call of premature revolutionary uprising

Another aspect which merits reference is the timing for giving call for revolutionary uprising. As we have shown above, revolution can come by only when both subjective and objective conditions mature. Prior to that, call of revolution is tantamount to parading in misadventure and throwing unprepared masses before the wolves of reaction. That is why Lenin said, "Victory cannot be won with the vanguard alone. To throw the vanguard alone in the decisive battle, before the whole class, before the broad masses have taken up a position either of direct support of the vanguard, or at least of benevolent neutrality towards it, and one in which they cannot possibly support the enemy, would be not merely folly but a crime. For this, the masses must have their own political experience." (Left Wing Communism, an Infantile Disorder) Mao Zedong also observed that a revolution does not take place just because a party decides to have it. So, he had warned: "Some comrades, disregarding the subjective and objective conditions, suffered from the malady of revolutionary impetuosity. They will not take pains to do minute and detailed work among the masses, but riddled with the illusions, want only to do big thing. This is remnant of Putschism (i.e., relying on a small section of masses and attempting to series of local uprisings). (SW, Vol. II, p-107) Clarifying further, he said that, "If we tried to go on the offensive when the masses are not yet awakened, that would be adventurism. If we insisted on leading the masses to do anything against their will, we would certainly fail. If we did not advance when the masses demand

advance, that would be Right opportunism." ("A Talk to the Editorial Staff of the Shansi-Suiyuan Daily", SW, Vol.2 p. 243). He also taught, "If a man wants to succeed in his work,...achieve the anticipated results, he must bring his ideas into correspondence with the laws of the objective external world; if they do not correspond, he will fail in his practice. After he fails, he draws his lessons, corrects his ideas to make them correspond to the laws of the external world, and can thus turn failure into success." ("On Practice", SW, Vol. I, pp. 296-97) Comrade Shibdas Ghosh, Founder General Secretary of the SUCI(C), an eminent Marxist thinker and worthy continuator of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin-Mao Zedong, while pointing out the theoretical flaw of the Naxalites, observed that "what the Naxalites are actually practising nowadays in the name of revolution...and ...trying to pass off as Mao Zedong's thoughts...in essence, virtually negates the indispensable necessity of conducting painstaking ideological-political struggles...and holds that if the revolutionaries...engage in stray individual terrorism that will attract the masses towards revolution, and the revolutionary organizations will automatically grow up...But these have nothing to do with Mao Zedong and his thoughts. Rather, these so-called theories are totally alien to Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong's thoughts...by indulging in such activities in the name of Mao, which are not consistent with Mao's teachings though, they are lowering the prestige...of such a great leader as Mao Zedong himself in the eyes of the politically unconscious and uninformed masses." (CW, Vol. II p.246-47) Unfortunately, like the erstwhile Naxalite leaders, the present leadership of the CPI (Maoist) shows no sign of imbibing these invaluable teachings but carries out their agenda of individual assassination and spread of terror.

Outcome is ominous

The outcome is ominous. On the one hand, the parochial-communal-secessionist forces who either constitute bourgeois forces or subserve bourgeois class interest in the ultimate analysis are scaring people, precipitating mutual distrust and disharmony among various sections of the toiling masses, while on the other, the CPI (Maoist) leadership, by orchestrating isolated

violence, planted blasts and individual killing, could be against its own intentions, is pushing people away from the ideology of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. Thus, the handiwork of the class enemies as well as the fallout of pursuit of an utterly wrong line by so called followers of Mao Zedong are proving to be equally damaging to the cause of revolution, the course of emancipation of the oppressed people, as such acts of theirs are turning people hostile to politics and scuttling the process of democratic movement to surge forth. Not only that. Such terror acts and mindless violence apart from discrediting Marxism-Leninism, also provide the pretext to the oppressive capitalist rulers to strengthen its coercive state apparatus with more arms, promulgation of more draconian laws and descend upon the people worst form of state terrorism in the name of combating violence, flushing out terrorists, and containing anti-national forces, fissiparous tendencies, secessionist moves and insurgency. As a result of all this the people, scared and confused, on many occasions turn into tacit approver of all such anti-democratic highhandedness of the state and government presuming that it would restore normalcy in their life and put an end to the reign of terror and anarchy. Had there not been any handle provided to put forth such pretexts, all these adopted measures and unleashed counter-terrorism by the bourgeois state and government would have aroused vigorous opposition from the working people. In this respect, the CPI (Maoist) leaders, howsoever good may be their intentions but because of their ignorance about correct ideology and methodology of revolution, objectively end up hiding the fact about capitalism being in state power, ruling capitalism being the root of all evils, thereby they are serving the bourgeois class interest and giving a handle to the ruling class to release a vile campaign against communism and malign, even lampoon the giant Marxist authorities like Lenin, Stalin and Mao.

Secondly, what is extremely tragic is that many young boys and girls, in absence of due political consciousness, had rallied behind the separatist-communal-parochial and such other divisive forces, blinding themselves in frenzied rancour, wasting their fighting spirit

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INDIVIDUAL ASSASSINATION

Revolution will not see the light until correct revolutionary party emerges and leads it

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and courage in spraying bullets on their own brethren belonging to other communities and above all, getting killed in thousands in adventurist combats with highly sophisticated army. Similarly, the apparent fervour of revolutionism, bravery and chivalry brought within the vortex of Naxalite movement thousands of youths and students, blooming and vibrant; they sincerely dreamt of a system change and were ready to give up everything including bright career, conventional family ties and did not hesitate to take on the repressive state machinery and gave away their precious lives. This is repeated in the misadventure of the CPI (Maoist) as well. In the process, the country is losing untimely a band of fearless and lively youth who could have in association with the correct revolutionary party, transformed themselves as ardent soldiers of revolution and accelerate the process of revolution along right track. What a great loss to real revolutionary movement! That is why, genuine Marxist-Leninists repudiate individual terrorism not on the grounds that terrorism — in the sense of striking terror into the enemy — is unethical, but because acts of individual terrorism immensely harm the cause of revolution.

Spurt of democratic movement — worst casualty

So, we see that the need of the hour is to create waves of legitimate democratic movement of the people which, in course of intensification along right direction and under correct revolutionary leadership, would gradually be elevated to the stage of class struggle and ultimately following fulfilment of both objective and subjective conditions of revolution as mentioned earlier, would culminate in accomplishment of anti-capitalist revolution to usher in the desired emancipation of the people. Parliamentary illusion spread by the vote-oriented political parties including pseudo-Marxists, precipitation of divisiveness and frenzy by the communal-parochial forces of different hues and the policy of individual killing and orchestrated violence being pursued by the CPI (Maoist) are posing stumbling block before this objective process of revolution. Staying out of the ambit of conscious democratic mass

movement to press for their just demands, the level of political consciousness of the masses is also on a steady dwindle, paving the way for various pernicious thoughts, warped mindset and fascistic machinations to tighten their grip. It is proving exceedingly difficult to bring the panick-stricken people back on to the path of legitimate democratic movement conducive to building up the cherished revolutionary struggle. And the ruling class is seizing the opportunity to make them believe that Marxism-Leninism is inimical to their interest and they have nothing but election to fall back upon. The powerful propaganda machinery of the ruling capitalist class is also seeking to create an impression that all variants of politics is nothing but disturbance, disruption of normalcy, a profession of certain self-seekers, criminals and violence-breeders and hence, they should fight shy of it.

Call to the people to imbibe truth

Suffering people must understand that neither parliamentarism, nor blind alley to divisive mindset, nor indulgence in meaningless violence or what Mao Zedong said 'Putschism' would beget them any relief. Only course left before them is to embrace the path of building up powerful sustained organized democratic movement rising above all divisiveness, free from all falsified notions, based on higher proletarian culture and morality and under correct revolutionary leadership. No ideology or mooring other than Marxism-Leninism can show them the way. Neither the vote-begging social democrats masquerading themselves as Marxists nor the confused misdirected ultra-adventurists calling themselves 'Maoists' represent correct revolutionary line of Marxism-Leninism. Starting from Marx, Lenin, Stalin, Mao to Shibdas Ghosh — everyone has sounded caution about these two deviations and surrogates of such deviant lines. Similarly, the secessionist-communal-parochial agitations triggering worst form of fratricidal conflicts and communal and individual killings ought not to be confused as democratic movements. So, it is extremely important that people's movements do not land in the grip of such forces, lose direction and fizzle out. A crushing

defeat is to be inflicted upon the arch communal and other separatist-chauvinist-parochial-secessionist forces through persistent ideological campaign associated with development of torrents of democratic movements on the burning demands of life. In similar process, the vote-based pseudo-Marxists are to be isolated from the masses and the incorrect base political line of the CPI (Maoist) is to be exposed. We end with some historic observations of Comrade Shibdas Ghosh : "Although outwardly there appear to be many opposing forces in politics...but viewing the situation from the context of ultimate struggle, I hold, only two contending forces are there in politics—one for revolution, the other opposing revolution—in whatever nomenclature might it be posed. One is the politics of countering revolution...other is the politics of organizing revolution" (SW Vol. III, p 532-33), "to uphold the nobility of the red flag, the noble symbol of revolution and communist ideology, and to lead the anti-capitalist

socialist revolution of our country through to success.... SUCI (C) has emerged through a long and arduous struggle with all the qualities of a communist party" (SW, Vol. II, P. 278), "Out of discontent of workers, peasants and all exploited masses, revolution will again and again try to surge ahead in waves after waves. In waves after waves it will try to burst forth. The contradiction within society will deepen and sharpen many times more, calling for radical transformation of this order. It will beseech our consciousness, it will appeal to humanity that revolution is the necessity. Still, revolution will not come, again and again it will recede, it will go astray, and reaction will again and again gain by that — revolution will not see the light until the revolutionary party emerges, capable enough to lead revolution." (SW, Vol. III, p.390-391) We call upon all to respond to this fervent appeal, uphold the banner of the SUCI (C), intensify class and mass struggles and pave the way for Indian revolution.

Peasants of Khagaria in Bihar on war path against forcible land grab

At Mansi in the Khagaria district, Bihar, an all-out conspiracy has been hatched to snatch fertile land from the peasants and hand over the same to private companies like Pristine Logistics and Infra Projects Pvt. Ltd., alleged to be enjoying patronization by the leaders of ruling dispensation, by flagrantly violating article 11 A of Land Acquisition Act. Rising in protest, the peasants of Khagaria have resolved to wage relentless struggle under the banner of Upjau Bhoomi Bachao Sangharsha Samiti (UBBSS: Struggle Committee to Save Fertile Lands) to thwart the sinister move.

A massive dharna was organized jointly by the Sarvadaliya Samiti, Khagaria (All party Committee) and UBBSS held before District Magistrate, Khagaria on June 6, 2013. It demanded stopping of forcible grabbing of peasants' lands in unjustified and unlawful manner, arrest of the culprits involved in the attack on the struggling peasants,

withdrawal of false cases against the protesters, removal of the camp of Pristine Company from lands of the peasants and immediate release of the arrested protesters including Kamal Kishore Yadav, Convener, UBBSS. The dharna was presided over by Sita Ram Ray and conducted by SUCI (Communist) leader Comrade Jitendra Kumar. In course of addressing the dharna Comrade Arun Kumar Singh, senior leader, SUCI (C), urged the peasants to take lessons from the historic struggle of Singur-Nandigram movements and build up a powerful sustained organized movement against this unlawful land grab in connivance of ministers, a section of ruling MLAs and administrative officials. Former MLA Satya Narayan Singh and Comrade Indradeo Ray, SUCI (C) State Committee Member also spoke among others. A delegation from the Dharna met DM to submit a memorandum with a 7-point charter of demands.

AISEC Meet chalks out programme of countrywide movement against brazen attack on education

All India Save Education Committee (AISEC) was formed on 26 July, 2000 when distinguished educationists, jurists, and others came together to build up powerful movement to thwart the disastrous National Policy on Education 1986 (NPE '86) brought to bear on the people by the then Union Government. Since its formation, every time the Government launched an attack on education, this Committee with Justice V K Krishna Ayer as the President, organized people in many a movement in different parts of the country against the sinister design lurking behind the policy-measures of the Government at the Centre and in the States. Of late, the Central Government has launched a fresh attack on education camouflaged behind the so-called Right to Education by way of abolishing pass-fail system in the schools, making secondary and higher secondary examinations optional, extending duration of graduation to four years, stressing more on private universities running

self-financing courses and so forth alongwith introduction of sex education at middle-school level set to wreak havoc on social ambience by crushing the moral backbone of young generations who are right on the verge of beginning their social life .

To intensify countrywide movement to resist this fresh bout of onslaughts on education and save education from the impending calamity, AISEC organized its fourth meeting in Kolkata on 16 June last at the Veterinary College Hall with Asit Bhattacharyya, all India Vice President on the chair. Around 80 delegates from various states attended the Meet and resolved to build powerful resistance movement both at national and state levels involving education-loving conscientious people. At the outset, the conference observed a minute's



silence in the memory of Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee, Member of the Presidium, Shri Dipankar Roy, General Secretary and other members who passed away in between and recalled their exemplary contributions in advancing the movement. Besides co-opting a number of new members, the Meet also elected Prof. Gouri Shankar Ghatak as the General Secretary till next All India conference. In conclusion, Asit

Bhattacharyya very briefly but brilliantly dwelt upon the historic necessity of building up the save education movement and showed that attack on education is nothing but an attack on human consciousness and to cripple people from within so as to prolong the existing oppressive exploitative system. He called upon all to imbibe this necessity and leave no stone unturned to unleash the movement in right earnest.

UTTARAKHAND

Mobilise people's opinion to put pressure on government to avert future debacles

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beauty, albeit at the very high cost of the land, even life of the local people. They lure the pilgrims by the traditional call of visiting the abode of gods, to find at any moment that they have been thrown into the dungeons of hell. They lure the local residents with the promise of easy money from the tourists, only to fan up greed in them to exploit the tourists by any and every means. After all they themselves have set up examples of how profit can be earned without caring for any norms, values, even prevailing rules. They lure countrymen with the promise of development with electricity and roads in inaccessible terrains and such others, keeping the truth concealed that this development is coming not only at the cost of local people's life and livelihood, but also destroying the very terrain itself and leaving its effect on the country downstream as well as to the posterity to suffer.

So this is how the drive of capitalists for so-called development is being manifested! The nexus of the capitalists of the country and abroad, the realtors, the tourism touts, the power merchants and even the merchants of religion are building the high

rises of development by blasting out the foundation of the age-old mountains which are then left to stand with a heavy top with eroded bottom. They are setting up beauty spots leaving scars on the face of nature by diverting the natural courses and shapes of its elements, water bodies or forests whatever they be. So long as capitalism will exist, this will go on in some form or other, now fast and rampant, or then under pressure of criticism, slow and restrained. The governments, the political managers of this corrupt, profit-hunting, heartless ruling class, will only stand mute, oblivious, criminally callous, negligent of duties and themselves shamelessly indulging in, thus conniving with all the misdeeds of the wrong-doing capital owners, profit hunters.

Right now the media is replete with studies and comments on the Uttarakhand calamity. In fact, the media could not keep silence on face of tremendous resentment and intense adverse criticism of people centring round the gruesome event that has occurred as an outcome of the designs and activities of the capitalist class. The governments too are under pressure. But it is feared that soon in a few

days time the matter will be toned down, media would be losing their steam and sting and the government would release the sigh of relief to get into its shell of inactivity, rather tacit support to the wrong-doers to carry on things as usual.

So to ensure that life of common people is not endangered again in such a miserable way, it is necessary to create strong people's opinion across the country and organize the grief-stricken people of Uttarakhand as well as common people of the country standing in fraternity with them. Along with that, right now what is urgent and necessary are : Without any attempt to shove the incident beneath the carpet, more extensive and war-footing rescue and search operations need be taken up to find out dead or marooned. Every immediate effort must be made to determine the correct identity of the dead, local residents, tourists or pilgrims. Their respective families must be adequately compensated for the loss. Thousands of hapless surviving victims, who have lost their land-home and livelihood must be properly and adequately rehabilitated in the quickest possible time on the basis of extent of their loss. Those seriously injured must

be given proper treatment at the government expenses. Extensive and sincere efforts must be made to see that epidemics do not set in from the corpses still left under rubbles or elsewhere. For thorough, truthful and impartial investigation of this tragic event, not a usual eye-wash, a high-power body must be framed with judges and scientists to determine the causes of the calamity and prescribe steps to prevent recurrence. Damage control machineries state- or centre-controlled and their personnel responsible for failure to issue necessary warnings and take adequate measures to prevent or at least minimize the loss of life and property must be identified and meted out proper punishment.

The Himalayas is the pride for the entire people of the country; the human population that has lived through centuries in different parts of this region and contributed their mite to maintain this coveted asset of the people and the country in its true flavour, needs the Indian fraternity to stand by them at this hour of their utter distress, to save from being exploited by the greedy capitalists in future. This is the message that emanates from the sad catastrophe of Uttarakhand.

IACC joins Irish Anti-imperialist Forum at Belfast to protest against the G8 Summit

Comrade Manik Mukherjee, member, Polit Bureau, SUCI(C) and General Secretary of International Anti-Imperialist Coordinating Committee (IACC) attended the Irish Anti-imperialist Forum (IAF) at Belfast, Northern Ireland, organized to protest against the G8 Summit at Lough Erne in Northern Ireland on June 14-15. On June 14, immediately before the IAF meeting, the host organizers, the Republican Sinn Fein Party (RSF) held a successful White Line Picket demanding release of political hostage Martin Corey, and showing support for the Republican prisoners in Maghaberry jail. Delegates from the Irish Republic and several other countries participated. In the first session of the IAF on June 14 afternoon Comrade Manik Mukherjee addressed the assembly. In his brief speech he mentioned that the global capitalist-imperialist economy has plunged into a deep crisis, and severe recession has gripped all capitalist countries. Competition between the imperialist powers for shares in the shrinking world market has become more and more fierce. The capitalist class is trying to come out of the crisis by launching more and more ruthless attacks and vicious persecution on the working masses on the one hand, and on the other hand by enacting crisis management measures like GATT and WTO to somehow patch up a regulated trade system and division of market according to strength of capital. In all imperialist countries militarization of economy has emerged as a desperate measure for artificial stimulation of the crisis-ridden economy. As a result, engineering local and partial wars has become a compulsive necessity

of imperialism. Hence there is now a heightened urgency of building up a militant peace movement and integrate it with the struggle against capitalism-imperialism. The G8 Summits are conclaves of the top imperialist powers, where each power tries to push its own agenda and wrest maximum advantage, and also crafts tactical alliances and signs trade agreements. There is fierce competition on who would have the right to plunder which corner of the world. They attempt to come to an agreement on how to share the spoils of aggression and exploitation. At the same time such meetings are used to push privatization-liberalization as a political instrument of the imperialist strategy. The current G8 Summit is being held in Northern Ireland, a glaring example of imperialist military occupation. The Irish people have a long history of militant fight against British imperialism, and the battle is still continuing. Hence it is fitting that this Anti-imperialist Forum is being held at Belfast. This Summit is being held at a time when the danger of imperialist attack on Syria is hovering in the background. The assembly of anti-imperialists from different parts of the globe in the IAF declares its strongest opposition to the neo-liberal economic policies of the G8 Summit, and demands in one voice an end to imperialist aggression and occupation in every part of the world. Let us pledge to intensify the struggle against imperialism in every country and dedicate ourselves to coordinate these struggles for releasing a mighty united, militant, global movement against imperialism.

The following organizations



Comrade Manik Mukherjee at the IAF at Belfast on 14 June

attended the programme : From Ireland: Republican Sinn Féin; Celtic League, Éire Branch; Greater Ardoyne Residents Collective; Peace And Neutrality Alliance; Shell2Sea; Campaign Against Household and Water Taxes; Release Martin Corey Campaign; International: International Anti-imperialist Coordinating Committee (IACC); National Democratic Front of the Philippines; International League of Peoples' Struggle; Halk Cephesi, Turkey; James Connolly Association, Australia; Liberation

Naísúnta, USA. The intimidation and harassment by the British police and security forces could not dampen the militant spirit of the anti-G8 protesters and delegates and the Irish Anti-imperialist Forum was successfully held.

On 16 June Comrade Manik Mukherjee attended the annual Wolfe-Tone-Commemoration for Theobald Wolfe Tone, the founder of Irish Republicanism and the leader of the 1798 Uprising for Irish freedom, held at Sallins, County Kildare, West of Dublin.



SUCI(C) rally in support of the Bihar Bandh called by SUCI(C) and other left parties on 27th June last in protest against police firing on and killing of 7 innocent villagers of West Champaran district who rose against an incident of abduction of one youth on 7th June



An sit-in-demonstration against the rising incidents of rape, gangrape and atrocities on women including the latest ghastly gang rape and murder of a 20-year old college student of Kamduni village of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, was held jointly by the Shilpi-Sanskritk Karmi-Buddhijibi Mancha (Forum of Artistes-Cultural Activists - Intellectuals), which was formed during legendary Singur-Nandigram movements and since then has been boldly reflecting the voice of the civil society against each and every attack on human rights, culture and morality and Nari Nigraha Birodhi Nagarik Committee (Citizens' Committee Against Atrocities on Women), at College Square, Kolkata, on 20th June last. Among those who participated and addressed the gathering were Tarun Sanyal, Bibhas Chakraborty, Miratun Nahar, Aparna Sen, Kaushik Sen, Partha Sengupta, Pratul Mukherjee, Sukharanjan Sengupta, Sujato Bhadra, Keshwar Jahan, Pabitra Gupta, Dilip Chakraborty, Sunanda Sanyal, Sameer Aich, Nanigopal Poddar, Amitava Chatterjee and other renowned personalities. In picture is Aparna Sen, acclaimed film director and actor, addressing.



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